

**Responses to Recommendations**

**NORWAY**

Review in the Working Group: 2 December 2009  
 Adoption in the Plenary: 17 March 2010

**Norway's responses to recommendations (as of 01.04.2010):**

<b>In the Report of the Working Group:</b>	<b>In the Addendum:</b>	<b>During the plenary:</b>	<b>Summary:</b>
44 REC accepted; 1 rejected; 46 pending	Out of the 46 pending, 24 accepted (among which 2 were transformed as a voluntary commitment and thus considered as accepted), 5 accepted in part (underlined in blue) and 17 rejected	No additional information provided	Accepted: 73 Rejected: 18 No clear position: 0 Pending: 0

**List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/13/5:**

**“105. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by Norway and the recommendations listed below enjoy the support of Norway:**

A - 1. Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) (Argentina);

A - 2. Consider the possibility of signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/consider (New Zealand, Slovenia, Chile **1**, China **2**, Mexico **3**), with priority, (Italy) **4** ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and ensuring its full implementation in domestic law (New Zealand);

A - 3. Consider the possibility of signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/consider (Chile); ratifying (Chile **5**, Mexico **6**) the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED);

A - 4. Continue its efforts with regard to the gender policy and, more concretely, specialize in programmes in the area of education against gender violence for professionals in law enforcement and the judiciary (Spain);

A - 5. Further strengthen human rights education and training for police officers (Viet Nam);

A - 6. Pursue the integration of human rights education and training in school programmes and other sectors such as the administration of justice and the police (Morocco);

A - 7. Consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), human rights treaty bodies and special procedures with respect to asylumseekers and irregular immigrants, especially children (Jordan);

A - 8. Step up its efforts to adequately address the issues of gender inequality and gender-based violence through appropriate and concrete institutional, structural, cultural and awareness-raising measures (Mauritius);

A - 9. Consider stepping up efforts to combat persisting stereotypical cultural attitudes on the role of men and women and continue improving access to the labour market and education for women (Malaysia);

A - 10. Continue in the advancement of empowering women, particularly to ensure that the representation of women in political and public organs fully reflects the diversity of people in Norway, including migrant workers, migrant women and women who belong to minorities (Cuba);

A - 11. Take steps to address pay gaps between men and women and other forms of discrimination against women (Ghana);

A - 12. Continue paying special attention to the situation of women migrant workers (Colombia);

A - 13. Implement all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination faced by persons belonging to minorities and persons with an immigrant background (Sweden);

A - 14. Continue and intensify its efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of de facto discrimination against immigrants based on ethnicity (Canada);

A - 15. Adopt appropriate measures to comprehensively counter any type of discrimination against migrants (Uzbekistan);

A - 16. Improve the collection of hate-crime data by law enforcement authorities and encourage victims to report hate crimes and incidents (Egypt);

A - 17. Continue efforts to collect and generate disaggregated data on actual manifestations of racism and discrimination with a view to evaluating the situation regarding racial, ethnic and minority groups in Norway (Brazil);

A - 18. Consider continuing to ensure that children are not discriminated against on the basis of their religion or ethnic backgrounds (Malaysia);

A - 19. Strengthen its policies to protect the rights of migrants and minority groups and ensure the integration of those groups into Norwegian society (Netherlands);

A - 20. Continue its process of supporting integration for newly arrived immigrants, particularly those from ethnic minority backgrounds (UnitedKingdom);

A - 21. Improve, with more in-depth efforts, the conditions of young gays and lesbians who live outside large cities and for those who live in multicultural communities (Colombia);

A - 22. Consider to continue addressing allegations of discriminatory treatment, including on the grounds of ethnicity, by law enforcement officials (Malaysia);

A - 23. Strengthen its efforts to ensure that the necessary capacity is provided to make sure that pre-trial detention is dealt with according to international standards (Netherlands);

A - 24. Look into the need for concrete measures, on the basis of detailed statistical data, to reduce the duration of preventive detention (Switzerland);

A - 25. Ensure that all detainees and prisoners, including those who are mentally ill, are given access to appropriate care, including where necessary by being transferred to specialized health institutions (Italy);

A - 26. Strengthen measures to improve the welfare and conditions of detention of children in conflict with the law (Philippines);

A - 27. Take further measures to ensure that rights of children deprived of their liberty are fully protected, including by ensuring that children shall be deprived of their liberty only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time (Sweden);

A - 28. Face up to the challenges and establish appropriate measures to deal with the situation of children in the juvenile justice system, taking fully into account the best interest of the children concerned and ensuring their smooth reintegration into society (Mauritius);

A - 29. Take measures to control domestic violence, specifically for the rights of women (Argentina);

A - 30. Strengthen its preventative measures in the areas of rape and domestic violence, looking more deeply into the statistical data to better understand the causes, developing effective policies and targeted prevention campaigns, education and awareness-raising among young people and adopting measures that are geared to changing the models and patterns that result in stereotyping of women (Belgium);

A - 31. Maintain a strong focus on the issue of domestic violence and implement systematic measures to protect the victims of domestic violence (Italy); strengthen efforts to combat domestic violence and violence against women (Ghana);

A - 32. Pursue efforts to counter trafficking in women and children (Belarus);

A - 33. Evaluate its 2006-2009 national plan of action against trafficking of women and children to determine which actions were effective and should be continued in the future (France); evaluate the measures taken with regard to the action plan concerning combating human trafficking and strengthen its efforts in this regard through follow-up measures (Netherlands);

A - 34. Ensure that foreign students are not being arbitrarily deprived of the right to education in universities on their own free choice and interest (Islamic Republic of Iran);

A - 35. Take further steps to adopt special and concrete measures to ensure the adequate development and protection of the Sámi people (Denmark);

A - 36. Implement effectively the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Islamic Republic of Iran);

A - 37. Respect the rights of refugees, especially the principle of nonrefoulement (Congo);

A - 38. Take measures to guarantee proper and genuine analysis of each refugee petition on a case-by-case basis (Argentina);

A - 39. Respect freedom of expression and religion and non-stigmatization of some sectors of society in combating terrorism (Congo);

A - 40. In the context of measures taken to counter terrorism, pay closer attention to the right to privacy in the legislative process (Switzerland);

A - 41. Continue its efforts in the domain of development aid, in particular in favour of the least developed countries (Morocco);

A - 42. Continue to support developing countries in fighting poverty through its development assistance (Bangladesh);

A - 43. Continue providing assistance and sharing its experiences with other countries in the area of human rights education and training (Viet Nam);

A - 44. Continue to engage with human rights civil society groups in the followup to the universal periodic review (United Kingdom);

**106. The following recommendations will be examined by Norway which will provide responses in due time. The response of Norway to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report to be adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirteenth session:**

A - 1. Sign and ratify the newly adopted Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-CESCR); consider the possibility of signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/sign and ratify (Portugal) OP-CESCR (Argentina), allowing individual complaints of alleged violations of these rights to be heard by the Committee (Portugal);

A - 2. Ratify (Chile, Mexico) as soon as possible (France) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and create an independent national mechanism for monitoring detention centres (France);

R - 3. Consider adhering to the principles of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW) (Mexico);

R - 4. Engage in national consultations with relevant stakeholders to consider the possible ratification of the ICRMW (Philippines);

A - 5. Consider the possibility of signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/ratify (Chile) the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

R - 6. Withdraw reservations to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), within the context of Human Rights Council resolution 9/12(Brazil); consider lifting its reservations in respect of article 10 (2) (b) and (3) of ICCPR (South Africa); reconsider its reservations to ICCPR, especially with regard to article 10(2) (b) and its compatibility with article 37(c) of the Convention of Rights of the Child with regard to the separation of children from adults in detention centres (Spain); withdraw the reservations to ICCPR (Portugal);

A - 7. Incorporate the content of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) in the Human Rights Act of 1999 (Islamic Republic of Iran) and ensure that its provisions prevail over inconsistent domestic legislation as highlighted by the relevant treaty bodies (Islamic Republic of Iran); incorporate both CEDAW and ICERD in the Human Rights Act (Azerbaijan):

R - 8. Give due attention, in the welcome and trend-setting constitutional revision exercise, to the need to ensure maximum coherence, in conformity with international law, between the human rights obligations of Norway and its other international obligations, such as trade obligations undertaken at the level of the World Trade Organization (Mauritius);

A - 9. Further incorporate, as appropriate, its international obligations under human rights instruments into domestic law (Jordan);

R - 10. Incorporate anti-discrimination provisions in its Constitution, especially relating to race, ethnicity or religion, to ensure the necessary protection for persons who would be mostly affected by those discriminatory practices (Qatar);

A - 11. Strengthen legislation and improve understanding within society of the issues relating to disability discrimination (United Kingdom):

R - 12. Amend the Action Plan to Promote Equality and Prevent Ethnic Discrimination (2009-2012) and the Action Plan to Improve Standards for Roma People (June 2009) to contain policies that specifically address labour market inequalities based on ethnic origin (United States);

R - 13. Work with the Ombudsman for Children and relevant civil society organizations to create programmes to educate law enforcement officials on how to proactively address the problem of adolescents from ethnic minority backgrounds feeling stigmatized by and lacking trust in the police (United States);

A - 14. In the future, ensure the timely provision of replies to thematic questionnaires received from special procedures (Russian Federation);

A - 15. Further address challenges related to the position of women in the labour market and gender representation at all levels of society, in addressing discrimination against persons with an immigrant background (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

A - 16. Ensure that women are proportionately represented in all aspects of Norwegian political and public life, including migrant and minority women, as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Israel);

R - 17. Ensure that racial discrimination does not take place by including the criterion of race in the law against discrimination to ensure that victims of such discrimination, especially migrants, are covered (Cuba);

A - 18. Undertake a comprehensive set of measures to tackle racial discrimination and to combat resolutely all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance (Islamic Republic of Iran);

R - 19. Strengthen the 2009-2012 action plan put in place by the Government to promote equality and prevent ethnic discrimination against immigrants, their children and national minorities, by supplementary measures to remedy the causes of social disparities of those affected (Algeria);

A - 20. Take extra measures to support migrants and implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Child with regard to migrants (Kyrgyzstan);

A - 21. Set up a monitoring system to ensure the rights of migrants and members of their families, especially rights to housing, employment and education (Uzbekistan);

A - 22. Take more effective measures to eliminate discrimination against noncitizens in relation to working conditions and work requirements, adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment and take further measures to reduce unemployment among immigrants (Egypt);

R - 23. Strengthen efforts to secure human rights for immigrants in irregular situations (Brazil);

R - 24. Increase its efforts to ensure respect for the fundamental human rights for people without legal status (Switzerland);

R - 25. Redouble its efforts to combat discrimination against those of foreign origin in education and employment (Qatar);

A - 26. Accord particular attention to the protection of the rights of migrant workers (Congo);

A - 27. Generate data on manifestations of racial discrimination and on the position of minority groups in society, which could help identify patterns of direct and indirect racial discrimination (Canada);

A - 28. Take effective measures for integration of migrants in Norway through, among others, non-discriminatory access to education, housing and employment (Bangladesh); take measures to improve the participation of persons of immigrant background, especially young people, in the labour market, and to improve their access to education and housing (Canada); pursue its efforts to overcome the problems faced by migrants, particularly in having access to education and to the labour and housing markets (Russian Federation); take further measures to address the problems faced in the areas of employment, education and housing by persons with immigrant background (Japan); strengthen action to improve the situation of national minorities and immigrants, especially in the areas of education, housing and employment (Ghana);

R - 29. Take necessary measures to curb the use of violence by the police force against ethnic groups (Argentina); 7

R - 30. Take necessary measures to separate incarcerated minors from adults (Algeria);

A - 31. Undertake comprehensive reporting and statistical analysis of the scale and character of violence against women and children to determine if Norway's Action Plan to Combat Domestic Violence 2008-2011 is curbing the severity of the phenomenon (Canada);

R - 32. Assess the additional measures required to eradicate domestic violence as a serious problem in Norway by developing and maintaining a comprehensive database containing information on the victims and perpetrators of domestic violence (Israel);

A - 33. Toughen liability for sexual crimes, rape and child abuse and enhance the training of those working for the protection of children's rights (Belarus);

A - 34. Continue efforts to provide appropriate assistance to victims of human trafficking and utilize the OHCHR recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking as a reference (Philippines);

A - 35. Take even further measures to continue to address issues of data on trafficking in women and girls in line with recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Finland);

A - 36. Strengthen the capacity of the criminal police to deal with crimes related to child pornography on the Internet and inform children and their parents about the safe use of the Internet (Islamic Republic of Iran);

A - 37. Continue efforts to counter corruption and particularly to look into the opportunity to adopt legislation on corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Kyrgyzstan);

R - 38. Launch, with the participation of all media, a process of reflection on the role and responsibility of the media to combat racism, xenophobia and related intolerance (Egypt);

R - 39. Considering the high number of rape cases, take all necessary measures with a view to strengthening the foundation of family and avoid resorting to measures and legislation which endanger the very foundation of the family in society (Islamic Republic of Iran);

A - 40. Review its practices concerning the removal of children from the family environment and seek alternative solutions, as stipulated by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and ensure that all children in foster care have a legal guardian, as well as establishing a unified national guardian system for unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and UNHCR (Israel);

A - 41. Introduce more efficient legal regulations obliging employers to respect immigrants' right to decent working conditions or establish a special monitoring body to support the Decent Work Agenda (Ukraine);

A - 42. Take effective measures to provide housing units in sufficient numbers for the disadvantaged and marginalized groups (Ghana);

A - 43. Show understanding and flexibility for refugees and asylum-seekers who are often in an irregular situation and face possible expulsion (Algeria);

A - 44. Continue to help the least developed countries affected by the world economic and financial crisis, and modify its development assistance to continue to increase the amount allocated for agriculture and stabilize populations in their countries of origin (Algeria);

A - 45. Intensify its solidarity efforts for the rights to food and education in countries that cannot afford to ensure this due to a lack of financial resources (Algeria);

A - 46. Take a lead role in generating global opinion in favour of "promoting human rights through fighting poverty" (Bangladesh);

**107. The following recommendation did not enjoy the support of Norway:**

R - 1. Consider the possibility of signing and/or ratifying (Argentina)/consider the ratification of (Azerbaijan)/consider acceding to (Algeria)/consider positively acceding to (Mexico)/ratify ICRMW (Chile, Nigeria), as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Mexico, Nigeria).

*Notes*

1 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Protocol (Chile).

2 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: live up to the commitment and join the CRPD at an early date (China).

3 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mexico).

4 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: give priority to the ratification process of the CRPD (Italy).

5 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: ratify CED (Chile).

6 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: ratify CED (Mexico).

7 The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: take necessary measures to curb the use of violence by the police force against ethnic groups and specifically to mitigate the use of discrimination by public forces (Argentina).

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