



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
07 May 2014

Original: English

UNEDITED VERSION

Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Nineteenth session
Geneva, 28 April – 9 May 2014

Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Costa Rica

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1–4	3
I Summary of the proceedings of the review process	5–127	3
A. Presentation by the State under review	5–19	3
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review	20–127	5
II. Conclusions and/or recommendations.....	128–130	14
Annex		
Composition of the delegation		26

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its nineteenth session from 28 April to 9 May 2014. The review of Costa Rica was held at the 11th meeting on 5 May 2014. The delegation of Costa Rica was headed by H.E. Ms. Gioconda Ubeda Rivera, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship. At its 17th meeting held on 8 May 2014, the Working Group adopted the report on Costa Rica.
2. On 15 January 2014, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Costa Rica: Argentina, Botswana, Viet Nam.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Costa Rica:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/19/CRI/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Costa Rica through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR. A summary of additional questions made by Angola, France, Ghana, Hungary, Iceland, Italy and Canada during the interactive dialogue is to be found in section I.B of the present report.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. Costa Rica indicated that it was a great responsibility to give account of the compliance with and implementation of its international human rights obligations. In its second national report, Costa Rica had provided information on the follow-up to the recommendations received in 2009. In 2010, it had also presented an additional document with its position on the recommendations, and in 2012 it had presented a mid-term report on progress made and specific compliance with some of the recommendations.
6. In preparing the second national report, 21 institutions from the Executive Branch, which formed the Inter-Institutional Committee on Follow-Up to and Compliance with International Human Rights Obligations (CIIDDHH) were involved. The Judicial Branch, the Office of the Ombudsman, the Supreme Electoral Court and the Legislative Assembly had also participated as observers. The CIIDDHH had now been institutionalized as a mechanism for consultation and dialogue, through an Executive Decree, and with a permanent consultative body for civil society.
7. Costa Rica was pleased to inform that since the last review, it had ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED), the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, the ILO Convention No. 189 concerning decent work for domestic

workers, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure. It had also signed and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) on a communications procedure, which the delegation hoped would soon be approved by the Legislative Assembly.

8. Costa Rica is a middle-income country that since 1949 had consistently invested in education. Costa Rica had achieved in 2011 a literacy rate of 97.6 per cent. The country had also a program of cash transfer which was conditional on students remaining in the formal education system. Costa Rica hoped to increase the income of poor families, thus paving the way for access to education and ensuring universal secondary education. It would also be a step towards reducing poverty, combating drop-out and exam failure, and also tackling child labor.

9. Costa Rica had an internationally recognized quality universal health system, which was reflected in the average life expectancy of 79.3 years and in the low rate of child mortality. In 2011, 97.5 per cent of the population had their own water supply and nine out of ten persons had drinking water. The right to water had been recognized by the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice and in March of the current year, a new law on water resources was approved by on first reading.

10. Despite the aforementioned progress, Costa Rica faced challenges stemming from the structural situation which was reflected in the social inequality and inequity, as well as the increasing rate of organized crime in the region.

11. The delegation reported on a number of important mechanisms established and strengthened, legislation, policies and programs adopted for the care and protection of the most vulnerable population groups, thereby promoting social inclusion.

12. The rights of children and adolescents were seriously affected by new phenomena of growing importance, such as sexual exploitation, sexual abuse and adolescent pregnancy, in particular when they were linked to abusive relations with adults. The lead body in this area, the Patronato Nacional de la Infancia PANI (National Child Agency), conducted policies, programs and projects for the comprehensive protection of minors and their families, in coordination with other institutions and NGOs. Nevertheless, it was important to continue strengthening those programs.

13. Costa Rica was also working to mainstream a gender perspective in all areas and had carried out a number of initiatives in State bodies to build a society based on principles of gender equality.

14. With regard to specific population groups, indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, migrants and refugees are a segment of the population for which the State has had to take targeted measures. As part of the Durban Conference of 2001 and following the first review in 2009, Costa Rica was pleased to announce that it had adopted a national policy for a society free from racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and its action plan for 2014-2019. There was currently also a proposal for a reform of the Constitution which would declare Costa Rica to be a multiethnic and pluricultural nation.

15. Costa Rica had a strong judicial system which granted rights to persons, independent of their nationality, and which was strengthened through numerous rulings of the Constitutional Chamber, guaranteeing the efficiency of the standards related to the migrant population. Furthermore, over the previous four years, Costa Rica had been elaborating a new Migration Act and a comprehensive migration policy with a human rights perspective in order to achieve the integration of these population groups in society. As a result of the above, the conditions of migrants in Costa Rica significantly improved between 2000 and 2011.

16. Regarding the refugee population, Costa Rica had a long humanitarian tradition and a long experience in integration of refugees. UNHCR collaborated closely with Costa Rica.

17. Costa Rica had also been discussing ways to guarantee the rights of the LGBTI population. Activities were being carried out and initiatives were being developed, in which civil society had played a fundamental role.

18. Another area, in which the role of civil society had been important, was in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. Following the first review, Costa Rica had promulgated a series of Executive Decrees which sought to improve the living conditions of persons with disabilities.

19. The delegation briefly referred also to the national institutions which guaranteed compliance of human rights in Costa Rica. Reference was made to the existence since 1989 of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court and the Office of the Ombudsman created in 1992, and which had been accredited with an 'A-status' by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. The delegation further informed that in compliance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OP-CAT) in 2014, Costa Rica had signed a law to create the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture, which would contribute to improving overcrowding and living conditions for detainees. The new preventive mechanism was administratively assigned to the Office of the Ombudsman, but with financial independence as well as independence of functionality, which guaranteed its operation without any interference. Reference was also made to the National Coalition against Illicit Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons, made up of 21 public institutions.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 89 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report. All written statements of the delegations, to be checked against delivery on the United Nations Webcast archives,¹ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council when available.²

21. The United States of America commended Costa Rica for its efforts to address prison conditions and combat child labor, but remained concerned about exploitation of children, prevalence of violence against women and trafficking.

22. Uruguay recalled that Costa Rica was a stable and consolidated democracy. It acknowledged progress in addressing migration issues and noted the reduction in the use of administrative detention.

23. Turkmenistan identified as a good practice the establishment of the CIIDDHH, which had provided areas of exchange for civil society.

24. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) welcomed the country's efforts to address poverty, as well distribution of wealth and social exclusion. It acknowledged efforts improve the conditions of indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, migrants and refugees.

¹ United Nations Webcast archives at <http://webtv.un.org/watch/costa-rica-review-19th-session-of-universal-periodic-review/3537639868001/>.

² Available on the UPR Extranet at <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/upr/Sessions/19session/CostaRica/Pages/default.aspx>.

25. Viet Nam commended Costa Rica's human rights achievements and the active cooperation with the Human Rights Council. It was concerned about human trafficking, unemployment and child labor.
26. Zambia commended Costa Rica's cooperation with OHCHR, the establishment and maintenance of the institutional bodies, the existence of comprehensive legislation on migration policy and the promotion of the rule of Law.
27. Albania welcomed the implementation of the plan of action for the protection of children and adolescents in situations of violence. It commended the measures undertaken to mainstream a gender perspective.
28. Algeria noted the adoption of the laws against human trafficking, on the abolition of corporal punishment and on strengthening the National Council for elderly people.
29. Angola noted the implementation of the recommendations of the first cycle in the areas of health and education. Angola asked about affirmative action measures taken for persons of African descent.
30. Argentina acknowledged the ratification of the CPED and initiatives to protect the elderly. It welcomed the implementation of the national policy on disability.
31. Australia welcomed steps taken to address domestic violence and the independent monitoring of prison conditions. It remained concerned about child abuse, forced labor and female subjected to domestic servitude.
32. Azerbaijan commended the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and the establishment of the CIIDDHH.
33. The Bahamas commended Costa Rica for the establishment of the CIIDDHH, measures to secure vulnerable groups' access to justice and efforts to reduce violence against women.
34. Bahrain commended the role of the Defensoria de los Habitantes. It welcomed the entry into force of the Act on trafficking, and the adoption of a preventive system to address violence against women.
35. Bangladesh commended Costa Rica's role as the Chair of the Climate Vulnerable Forum. It welcomed the provisions preserving the family as a traditional social institution. It expressed concerns at child and migrants right protection.
36. Belgium considered Costa Rica a model in Central America when it comes to respect for human rights and democratic principles. It welcomed the ratification of the CPED and the Optional Protocol to CRC.
37. Benin noted the adoption of a national policy for children and the establishment of the CIIDDHH. It urged the government to adopt measures to respect diversity.
38. Bhutan commended Costa Rica for launching national and international human rights initiatives, especially the amendment of the Violence against Women Act, and introducing the National Disability Policy 2011-2021.
39. Bolivia (Plurinational State of) highlighted institutional progress in the area of human rights. It commended the establishment of the CIIDDHH.
40. Botswana welcomed Costa Rica's efforts to address domestic violence, drug and human trafficking, sexual exploitation and child labor and its commitment to address equality and non-discrimination.

41. Brazil commended the Government for the establishment of the CIIDDHH. It welcomed the adoption of the national policy for children.
42. Bulgaria welcomed the establishment of the CIIDDHH, and the establishment of human rights programs and policies.
43. Burundi welcomed the measures taken to curb racism. It welcomed Costa Rica's commitment at the institutional and legislative levels to ensure better protection of human rights for all its citizens and foreigners living in the Costa Rican soil.
44. Switzerland considered that the human rights situation in Costa Rica is reasonable. It expressed however concerns about the sexual exploitation of women and children and detention conditions.
45. Chad welcomed the Government's submission of a mid-term review report in 2012 and the establishment of the CIIDDHH. Chad noted the policy for a racism-free society.
46. Chile highlighted the Government's commitment to the international promotion of human rights. It welcomed the creation of the National System for Prevention and Treatment of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.
47. China appreciated Costa Rica's implementation of the National Policy on Gender Equality and Equity. It welcomed ongoing measures to improve the quality of education, to ensure access to drinking water and the protection of vulnerable groups.
48. Colombia acknowledged the efforts to implement the recommendations of the first cycle and the Government's collaboration with human rights mechanisms. It welcomed the legislative and institutional strengthening evidenced in the plan for a racism-free society.
49. The Congo welcomed the Government's efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and children. Congo noted the measures taken for a society free of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia.
50. Côte d'Ivoire noted the measures to strengthen the administration of justice and to improve prisons' conditions. It welcomed the importance granted to civil society and encouraged the efforts to further develop social services.
51. Cuba recognized advances in the areas of equality and non-discrimination. Challenges remain such as inequality and inequity that enable the presence of criminal organizations in society, increasing the drug market, and trafficking in and exploitation of persons.
52. The Democratic Republic of Congo welcomed the establishment of the CIIDDHH and of the permanent body to consult with civil society. It asked further information regarding the integration of migrants and persons of African descent.
53. Ecuador recognized efforts to comply with recommendations from the first review. It expressed however concerns about the situation of migrant workers.
54. Egypt commended the delegation for the informative and comprehensive report. Egypt believes that Costa Rica has been a responsibly member of the Human Rights Council.
55. El Salvador commended Costa Rica for the progress made since the last review, which allowed the country to undertake an internal assessment of the situation in the country.
56. Estonia welcomed progress made in the field of achieving gender equality and the rights of women and children, as well as on the decriminalization of defamation. It encouraged Costa Rica to allocate adequate resources for the effective implementation of laws, policies and programs. It called for improving conditions of indigenous communities.

57. Ethiopia welcomed measures taken to fight violence against women including through the establishment of a High Level Commission to monitor compliance with the Violence against Women Act. It commended the promulgation of the Trafficking in Person Act.

58. France welcomed the ratification of CPED, as well as Costa Rica's engagement at the international level in favor of the abolition of the death penalty. France asked about measures envisaged to address overcrowding in prisons and reintegration of detainees, as well as the rate of violent crimes.

59. Germany welcomed the adoption of a rights-based National Policy for Children and Adolescents. It remained concerned about the protection of children and the protective mechanisms at the local level, as well as about overcrowding in the prison system.

60. The delegation welcomed the comments which sought to contribute to the strengthening of the promotion and protection of human rights.

61. Regarding the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW), Costa Rica indicated that it had previously felt that the existing laws, complemented by a resolution of the Constitutional Chamber, provided for the true protection of migrant workers and their families. Costa Rica indicated however that the issue would be taken up again with greater impetus and therefore it appreciated recommendations in that regard.

62. Responding to comments made by Ecuador, Costa Rica indicated that it would not be able to accept recommendations or statements that were not supported by the reality. It could be that there were isolated cases, which happened in every country, but it would not accept that there was a policy or systematic actions of xenophobia.

63. In line with Costa Rica's voluntary commitments during the last review, and under the framework of the Third World Conference against Racism held in Durban, Costa Rica had adopted the National Policy for a Society free of Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia, which sought to change Costa Rica into an inclusive and more respectful society, sensitive to sociocultural and ethnic diversity. The Policy was the result of a joint process between the State and civil society, under the principle "nothing about us without us", which targeted as a priority persons of African descent, indigenous or native peoples, and migrants and refugees. The preparation took place under the framework of the CIIDDHH and was supported by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

64. Addressing comments on indigenous peoples, Costa Rica recognized that it had challenges. It recognized that the existence of a favorable judicial framework was insufficient for the due protection of the rights of communities, if it were not accompanied by State policies and actions, which sought the effective application and compliance of the standards to which the State itself had committed. Costa Rica shared information about recent positive experience with indigenous communities in the South.

65. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and CERD had made various observations and recommendations to Costa Rica relating to the situation of indigenous peoples, in particular since 2011. Those recommendations echoed the concerns and claims of the indigenous peoples and coincided significantly with the efforts that the State was undertaking to tackle their situation.

66. Ghana commended the measures taken to improve the care and respect towards the elderly and to improve access to water and sanitation by all. It asked about the impact of such measures.

67. Guatemala commended Costa Rica for progress made, in particular with regard to addressing the issue of domestic violence. It shared the opinion of CEDAW and CRC on the importance of ratifying the ICRMW.
68. Honduras commended Costa Rica for the national report. It appreciated progress made since the previous review efforts, in particular with regard to addressing the issue of migration.
69. Hungary took positive note of the ratification of the CPED, as well as of the National Commission on the Improved Administration of Justice and the Access to Justice Commission. It asked about the impact of established bodies on the implementation of the Brasilia Regulations Regarding Access to Justice for Vulnerable People.
70. Iceland encouraged Costa Rica to strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons. It was concerned about the inadequate protection of sexual and reproductive health and rights. It raised questions on the implementation of programs ensuring child protection and on measures to eliminate discrimination against LGBT people.
71. India welcomed the measures to promote inclusive social practices and respect for diversity including the National Policy for a Society free of Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Xenophobia. It expressed concern about the rights of indigenous peoples and acknowledged challenges due to rising poverty economic disparities.
72. Indonesia commended Costa Rica for prioritizing efforts to combat trafficking in persons. It appreciated various measures and policies for the promotion and protection of migrants, including the enactment of legislation.
73. Iraq commended Costa Rica on its accession to a number of international human rights instruments, including the CPED and the adoption of a number of laws such as the act to combat trafficking in persons as well as the law prohibiting corporal punishment of children and adolescents.
74. Ireland commended the establishment of the CIIDDHH and the Permanent Body for Consultation with Civil Society. It welcomed the efforts to combat human trafficking, racism and racial discrimination. It noted however, reported concerns that the indigenous population continues to suffer discrimination.
75. Iran (Islamic Republic of) noticed that there is no mechanism for the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making regarding their well-being and development. They noted that discrimination and violence against women and children continues.
76. Italy appreciated Costa Rica's establishment of the CIIDDHH, as well as measures to combat violence against women. It asked about Costa Rica's prospective to include education on indigenous cultures in the national school curriculum.
77. Japan appreciated the ratification of CPED, the enhancement of the national justice system, the establishment of the CIIDDHH and efforts to protect vulnerable groups including children.
78. Libya commended the efforts made to promote and protect human rights through the ratification of a number of international human rights instruments. It appreciated the adoption of policy on the elderly and the establishment of institutions to combat trafficking.
79. Liechtenstein welcomed progress in addressing violence against women. It noted with concern reports regarding mistreatment of children by teachers, as well as by police officers when in detention and incidents of intra-family and sexual violence. It urged Costa Rica to ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute as soon as possible.
80. Malaysia acknowledged Costa Rica's efforts to advance women's rights, to address violence against children and adolescents, and to combat trafficking in persons. It

commended the establishment of the High Level Commission to monitor compliance with the Violence against Women Act.

81. Maldives applauded establishing the CIIDDHH. It noted positively the important legislation adopted and the engagement in environmental rights as a human rights obligation, maintained by Costa Rica.

82. Mauritania noted the commitment and cooperation of Costa Rica with United Nations mechanisms through the ratification and accession to different instruments. It commended the measures to guarantee the rights of vulnerable groups, particularly women and children.

83. Mexico recognized efforts made to protect refugees and treatment of asylum seekers. It appreciated the cooperation with human rights mechanisms that have visited the country. It hoped that Costa Rica would soon submit due reports to treaty bodies.

84. Costa Rica had implemented a series of initiatives to build a society based on the principle of gender equality. An example was the establishment of the 2007-2017 national policy which also had the support of women's organizations and other sectors from the civil society. Costa Rica had also elaborated gender-equality policies in various national institutions and provided gender-sensitive training. Steps were being taken to combat gender stereotypes through the media. In accordance with the recommendation 91.2 of the previous review, INAMU had disseminated a first report on the situation of women's rights in 2011.

85. In response to concerns raised by some delegations on the issue of violence against women, Costa Rica had established a High Level Commission to monitor compliance with the Violence against Women Act and a comprehensive care system for victims. Costa Rica reported that abuse and assault against women had been criminalized in 2011, an internal register of perpetrators had been created, the initial period of protection measures had been raised to one year, access to justice for victims had been strengthened and the criminal authorities had been authorized to apply measures in the absence of specialized domestic violence courts. In 2013, an emergency plan had also been defined to reduce gender-related murders of women.

86. In response to concerns made by some delegations, Costa Rica regarded the protection and promotion of the human rights of children as a fundamental pillar of State action. The National Policy for Children and Adolescents 2009–2021 set the strategic focus of the State to promote, protect and ensure the human rights of all children.

87. Costa Rica had also elaborated a national strategic framework, "Road Map to make Costa Rica a country free of the worst forms of child labor", which promoted coordination among corresponding initiatives with a direct or indirect impact on the prevention and eradication of child labor.

88. The rights of LGBTI persons were one of the challenging areas. Debate had been growing in Costa Rica on the recognition of the rights arising from the union of two persons of the same sex. Concerning recommendation 91.4 made by Spain in the context of the first review, relating to the right of transsexual persons to identify themselves in keeping with their gender identity, Costa Rica noted that in 2010 the Supreme Electoral Court had issued a decree which set out that "everyone had the right to enjoy respect for their image and sexual identity when a photograph was taken for their identity card". Costa Rica acknowledged the challenge to change cultural attitudes. A protocol on harassment, bullying and cyberbullying in secondary schools had also been prepared.

89. With regard to the issue of indigenous education, Costa Rica indicated that a subsystem of indigenous education was created within the Ministry of Public Education. Costa Rica had invested, with the support of the World Bank, in infrastructure in

indigenous territories, and had prepared an educational program which met the aforementioned principles.

90. Some administrative actions had been taken to address the issue of overcrowding in the prisons. Some detainees were able to complete their sentences using non-custodial measures, and efforts had been made to improve conditions in some of its prisons. The State recognized that there was still a significant process to be concluded.

91. Additional information on efforts to address the issue of trafficking in persons was provided. As indicated earlier, the Act on Trafficking and Related Activities, which established the National Coalition against Illicit Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons, was promulgated. The Law strengthened punishments for abductions of minors and added the crimes of sexual tourism. The crime of labor exploitation was categorized, and the penalty was worse if the subject was under the age of 18 years. The Law established procedures for care of minors, and established the right of victims to bring civil actions to request reparation. The actions of the Law came under the National Coalition, which was made up of 21 institutions. The Law also created a specific fund, which came from taxes to be paid when leaving the country by tourists or nationals. In the area of prevention, information campaigns were being carried out.

92. Referring to a recurring issue during the interactive dialogue, reference was made to the international jurisdiction of crimes categorized in Costa Rican legislation, which included the possession and production of pornographic material involving minors, and human trafficking and smuggling. The Penal Code, in Article 6, established the possibility of initiating procedures for acts punishable abroad and applying Costa Rican law in various cases, including in those for which the result of the punishable act took place fully or partially within the country, or acts committed abroad that were committed by a Costa Rican national.

93. Montenegro welcomed progress regarding efforts to address the issue of violence against women and the implementation of a High Level Commission to monitor compliance with the Violence against Women Act. It welcomed steps in combating human trafficking.

94. Morocco commended Costa Rica for their openness. It took note of challenges faced in relation to structural inequalities, criminality, violence, poverty and unequal distribution of wealth.

95. The Netherlands welcomed progress made in the field of protecting women against domestic violence by adopting a national response and prevention system. It was concerned about the suffering of the LGBT community as a result of discrimination.

96. Nicaragua commended for progress made by Costa Rica in addressing human rights, in particular to address discrimination and xenophobia, as well as with regard to the adoption of the Comprehensive Migration Policy.

97. The Niger noted that Costa Rica had ratified several international instruments and passed various pieces of legislation to improve the human rights situation. It welcomed the institutional framework to improve the judiciary.

98. Norway commended the 2010 Immigration Act and the establishment of the CIIDDHH. It wished to echo CEDAWs recommendation to consider reviewing the law related to abortion to guarantee access to abortion when pregnancy is a result of rape.

99. Pakistan commended Costa Rica for its efforts to establish the CIIDDHH, prevent violence against women and children, ensure gender equity and access to education, health care, and combat racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia.

100. Paraguay welcomed progress made by Costa Rica in addressing human rights issues, in particular with regard violence against women, trafficking and child labor. It commended the creation of the Inter-Agency Commission for the Follow-up and Implementation of International Human Rights Obligations.

101. Peru appreciated efforts made by Costa Rica, in particular, the ratification of CPED, the creation of the CIIDDHH, the national plan to address racial discrimination and xenophobia and efforts to address the trafficking of persons. It offered to share their experience regarding the regulation of the right of indigenous peoples to be consulted.

102. The Philippines recognized the efforts to implement the UPR recommendations through national mechanisms and the adoption of different legislations concerning violence against women and trafficking. It acknowledged the progress made with regard to migration issues.

103. Portugal welcomed the establishment of the CIIDDHH, and measures to protect persons who suffered from persecution in their countries of origin due to their sexual orientation. It welcomed measures to prevent school dropout and low attendances.

104. Romania acknowledged the update on the evolutions, commending the reinforcement of the legal framework for the protection of human rights since 2009 and the ratification of a number of international instruments.

105. The Russian Federation appreciated Costa Rica's report recognizing the efforts made to implement the recommendations from the first cycle. However, it acknowledged that problems continue to exist; therefore, it made recommendations in this regard.

106. Rwanda commended progress made by Costa Rica in addressing the phenomenon of migration and violence against women. It applauded the initiatives being undertaken to combat gender stereotypes.

107. Senegal appreciated efforts aiming at the realization of economic and social rights, to combat violence against vulnerable sectors of the population, and for the protection of children and adolescents victims of violence.

108. Serbia commended Costa Rica for the implementation of the recommendations from the first review, in particular in areas of combating violence, trafficking in persons and protection of minors. It took note of affirmative actions with regard to equality and non-discrimination. It suggested Costa Rica to reduce prison overpopulation.

109. Sierra Leone noted that Costa Rica provides a good example of the need to divert military spending to development. It was concerned by the high incidences of trafficking in children and urged Costa Rica to rise the age of sexual consent to 18 and formulate new strategies to reduce the prison population.

110. Singapore noted achievements in combating violence against women that have helped to reduce gender-related murders of women. It further took positive note of Costa Rica's emphasis in improving access to health care, especially women.

111. Slovakia welcomed efforts to improve human rights protection, including of children. It commended Costa Rica for the ratification of OP-CRC-IC. It took positive note of activities to fight child labor.

112. Slovenia welcomed Costa Rica's active cooperation with international human rights bodies. It commended Costa Rica for its human rights record and the establishment of the CIIDDHH.

113. Spain commended Costa Rica for progress made in protecting women's rights, including the establishment of the Task Force to follow-up on the implementation of the Act to Criminalize Violence against Women.

114. Sri Lanka took note of efforts to address violence against women. It noted difficulties faced by Costa Rica in relation to criminal organizations, drug markets and trafficking in persons and recognized efforts taken by the Government.

115. State of Palestine congratulated Costa Rica for progress made in the promotion and protection of human rights since the first cycle. It welcomed the commitment of Costa Rica to improve the quality of life of people and to develop a culture of respect and non-discrimination in the country.

116. The Sudan commended the accession to different human rights treaties and the adoption of related legislation, in addition, to paying particular attention to issues regarding the protection of vulnerable groups. It commended the various efforts to combat trafficking.

117. Canada asked the delegation to inform on the initiatives to continue fighting racism, particularly against persons of African descent, indigenous communities, migrants and refugees.

118. Thailand was pleased to learn about the establishment of the CIIDDHH and the permanent body for consultation with civil society.

119. Togo took note with satisfaction of important actions undertaken by Costa Rica since the first review to ensure the effective enjoyment of human rights by the population of the country.

120. Trinidad and Tobago acknowledged the challenges and efforts to enhance Costa Rica's framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, including development of programs and policies targeting specific groups.

121. Tunisia appreciated efforts undertaken since the last review of Costa Rica, inter alia, with regard to the ratification of international and regional human rights instruments, and the adoption of national policies.

122. Uzbekistan welcomed the establishment of the CIIDDHH. It expressed concern, inter alia, at the vulnerable situation of women, discrimination against indigenous, children of African descent and the high number of juvenile prisoners. It noted allegations of ill-treatment of children by police and prisoner officers.

123. Ukraine commended Costa Rica for its efforts to promote and protect human rights, ensure rule of law and its compliance with the international human rights standards. It encouraged Costa Rica to maintain further activity, in particular related to child labor.

124. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed Costa Rica's ongoing emphasis on protecting children from abuse and urged Costa Rica to ensure that all offenders are prosecuted. It encouraged Costa Rica to strengthen efforts to safeguard women from domestic violence and to further reduce discrimination against LGBT.

125. The delegation appreciated the comments and recommendations made with regard to children and young persons who were victims of organized crime. It noted that Costa Rica was working to guarantee their protection.

126. The delegation was grateful for the spirit of dialogue and cooperation in which the country's challenges were identified. The current exercise was especially enriching, above all because, prior to the meeting, an internal review of the human rights situation in the country had been carried out, and which had enabled Costa Rica to identify the areas in which efforts needed to be made.

127. Costa Rica was committed to the work of the Human Rights Council. It had always defended civil society's participation at national level and also at the Council. Costa Rica commitments were reflected in the country's standing for re-election for the Council, for which it hoped to count on the support of the States.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

128. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue enjoy the support of Costa Rica, which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:

- 128.1. Consider accession to ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines)
- 128.2. Ratify ILO Convention No. 189 (Sierra Leone);
- 128.3. Ratify ILO Convention No. 189 on decent work for domestic workers (Uzbekistan);
- 128.4. Finalize without further delay, the 5th report to CESCR, the 6th report to the Human Rights Committee and the 3rd report to CAT, overdue since 2012 (Norway);
- 128.5. Submit its outstanding reports to CESCR, the Human Rights Committee and CAT (Sierra Leone).

129. The following recommendations will be examined by Costa Rica which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 27th session of the Human Rights Council in September 2014:

- 129.1. Ratify the international instruments to which it is not yet a party (Benin);
- 129.2. Consider the ratification of the international instruments to which it is not yet a party (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 129.3. Consider the possibility of ratifying ICRMW (Uruguay); /Consider ratifying ICRMW (Albania); / Consider becoming a party to ICRMW as recommended previously (Azerbaijan); /Consider acceding to ICRMW (Chad); /Consider the ratification of ICRMW (Ghana); (Indonesia);/Consider ratifying ICRMW (Nicaragua); (Niger); (Rwanda); (Sri Lanka);/ Consider accession to ICRMW (Philippines);
- 129.4. Sign and ratify ICRMW (Honduras); /Ratify ICRMW (Argentina); (Ecuador); (El Salvador); (Guatemala); (Paraguay); (Sierra Leone);
- 129.5. Favourably consider ratifying ICRMW (Algeria);
- 129.6. Consider ratifying ICRMW and harmonizing the domestic legislation with international norms (Senegal);
- 129.7. Complete the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR (Slovakia);
- 129.8. Ratifies the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR (Portugal);
- 129.9. Take further measures for the harmonization of legislation and policies with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the children affected by migration (Albania);
- 129.10. Further elaborate provisions in its legislation on the justifiability of the right to education (Bulgaria);

**Conclusions and recommendations will not be edited

- 129.11. **Implement the recommendation of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples concerning the bill for the autonomous development of these peoples and the restitution of lands to indigenous communities (Congo);**
- 129.12. **That the Legislative Assembly adopts the Law 14.352 on Autonomous Development of indigenous peoples (Spain);**
- 129.13. **Adopt a law guaranteeing the rights of indigenous people in the country (Uzbekistan);**
- 129.14. **Revise the law on abortion in order to identify other circumstances in which abortion could be permitted, particularly abortion in cases of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest (Belgium);**
- 129.15. **Amend the current law to legalize abortion after rape (Switzerland);**
- 129.16. **Take steps to guarantee full and effective recognition of sexual and reproductive rights, notably through the decriminalization of voluntary interruption of pregnancy (France);**
- 129.17. **Elaborate clear medical guidelines on access to legal abortion and consider reviewing the law relating to abortion, including to ensure access to legal abortion in cases of pregnancies resulting in rape (Iceland);**
- 129.18. **Consider reviewing the law related to abortion to guarantee access to abortion when pregnancy is a result of rape (Norway);**
- 129.19. **Introduce legislation to create a legal and permanent basis for the ‘Defensoría del los Habitantes’ set up to protect human rights defenders, including providing it with an adequate budget and financial autonomy (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 129.20. **Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (International Criminal Court) and to ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute (Estonia);**
- 129.21. **Achieve the harmonization of the national legislation with the Rome Statute (Tunisia);**
- 129.22. **Continue efforts aimed at harmonization of legislation and public policies with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ukraine);**
- 129.23. **Criminalize all forms of trafficking of children (Honduras);**
- 129.24. **Enact regulations to the 2013 Law establishing a referral mechanism for victims of trafficking to enable them to apply for asylum, where appropriate (Ireland);**
- 129.25. **Introduce in the criminal code the crime of trafficking of children, particularly of those trafficked for commercial and sexual exploitation purposes (Mexico);**
- 129.26. **Enact a new water law as soon as possible, giving effect to this right as recommended by the Independent Expert on the issue of human rights and environment and the Independent Expert on water and sanitation (Spain);**
- 129.27. **Consider undertaking a comprehensive review of its normative framework on sanitation, with a view to ensuring the establishment of a coherent and comprehensive system for the collection, management, treatment**

and disposal of wastewater in order to prevent the contamination of rivers and other water streams (Egypt);

129.28. Provide the necessary resources to the Defensoria de los Habitantes, which constitutes the national prevention mechanism provided for under OP-CAT, so that it can fully implement its mandate (France);

129.29. Extend the scope of the activities of the National Preventive Mechanism under the OP-CAT, in order to include those places of deprivation of liberty too, which are not under the authority of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Public Security, Interior and the Police (Hungary);

129.30. Take effective measures to generate inclusive social practices, to ensure the observance of the human rights of indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, migrants and refugees (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

129.31. Further strengthen the social and comprehensive protection programs carried out by the National Board for Children through increased resources, in order to achieve greater effectiveness in their management (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

129.32. Ensure the integration and effective implementation of strategies on drop-out rate reduction, child labour elimination and poverty alleviation (Viet Nam);

129.33. Continue efforts aimed at ensuring that all the rights of children and adolescents, including girls in particular, in the area of freedom of expression and opinion, as well as addressing the special needs of children with disabilities, indigenous children, migrant children and other children in situation of vulnerability (El Salvador);

129.34. Guarantee the effective protection of child rights in offline as well as online by amending the relevant national laws if necessary and providing adequate resources (Estonia);

129.35. Further enforce the implementation of a comprehensive child protection system, especially for those suffering from violence, forced labour and sexual exploitation (Germany);

129.36. Ensure stronger coordination between entities dealing with issues relating to children and to provide sufficient resources at the national as well as local level, including the provision of temporary shelters (Germany);

129.37. Adopt appropriate public policies to protect and promote children rights and to implement the National Child Protection System in an effective and coordinated manner (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

129.38. Continue guaranteeing a solid coordination between institutions responsible for addressing issues regarding children (State of Palestine);

129.39. Continue with its policies of gender equality and equity mechanism in all areas (Bhutan);

129.40. Continue, in line with what is described in its national report, its efforts to provide greater access to education and employment, in order to reduce the conditions for the progression of criminal organizations (Cuba);

129.41. Increase the financial resources allocated to bodies in charge of fighting drugs, alcoholism and drugs dependence, in order to curb crime and violence in the society (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

- 129.42. Take necessary measures for the realization of women rights in rural and remote areas (Pakistan);
- 129.43. Pay special attention to the needs of women in rural and remote areas (Rwanda);
- 129.44. Continue its constructive engagement with civil society in its UPR process and on other human rights issues (Bhutan);
- 129.45. Develop awareness campaigns on equality and non-discrimination (Chile);
- 129.46. Put in place measures to eliminate harmful traditional practices and raise awareness for attitudes change in relation to discriminatory gender roles (Botswana);
- 129.47. Reinforce efforts to eliminate the discrimination against indigenous children, Afro-descendants, migrants and persons with disabilities (Nicaragua);
- 129.48. Ensure Effective protection against violence and discrimination against women, and implement awareness-raising campaigns about changes in traditional attitudes and discriminatory gender roles (Albania);
- 129.49. Continue carrying out its efforts to achieve gender equality and tackle discrimination against women in law and practice (Colombia);
- 129.50. Strengthen its domestic mechanisms, especially towards eliminating acts of discrimination and violence against women and girls (Maldives);
- 129.51. Step up policies to combat discrimination of women in the labour market, particularly with regard wage disparities and the concentration of women in low-paid jobs (Paraguay);
- 129.52. Pursue efforts to combat structural racism and prosecution perpetrators of racist acts (Togo);
- 129.53. Establish policies and programmes aimed at combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination in the education system (Ecuador);
- 129.54. Seek to expand its targeted measures to reduce discrimination against persons of African descent and indigenous peoples (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 129.55. Designs awareness-raising campaign on cultural diversity, on countering racial discrimination, xenophobia and all other forms of intolerance and promoting inclusiveness, social cohesion and respect for the values of diversity (Turkmenistan);
- 129.56. Consider ways to widen and enhance the effectiveness of measures to promote social inclusion and diversity, guaranteeing the full and effective exercise of human rights by indigenous people, persons of African descent, migrants and refugees, and eradicating all forms of racial discrimination, racism and xenophobia (Brazil);
- 129.57. Undertake policies aiming at combating all forms of discrimination, notably those targeting indigenous peoples (France);
- 129.58. Intensify public education campaigns to counter structural racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance and to

punish perpetrators of racist acts taking into account the fact that Costa Rica is a state party to the Genocide Convention and the Rome Statute (Ghana);

129.59. Further intensification of its efforts to eliminate structural racism and racial discrimination in all its forms (India);

129.60. Design awareness-raising campaign on cultural diversity and continue its efforts to end discrimination and xenophobia against minorities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));

129.61. Strengthen the measures for indigenous populations and persons of African descent against all forms of discrimination, and ensure their promotion and visibility in society (Niger);

129.62. Continue with its efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, as well as set up mechanisms to prosecute perpetrators of racist acts (Pakistan);

129.63. Strengthen measures on combating discrimination against indigenous and migrant children, and children with disabilities, as well as investigate all cases of ill-treatment of children by police officers and prison guards (Azerbaijan);

129.64. Intensify efforts to eliminate discrimination against indigenous children, Afro-descendant children, migrant children and children with disabilities (Tunisia);

129.65. Double efforts to eliminate discrimination against minority children, including children of African descent and children with disabilities and to improve their socio economic conditions as earlier recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Ghana);

129.66. Step up efforts to eliminate discrimination against indigenous children, Afro-descendant children and migrant children (Guatemala);

129.67. Guarantee the birth registration of all indigenous and migrant children and issuance of identity documents that would allow them to have access to social services (Honduras);

129.68. Enhance efforts to improve the rate of registration of births among indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups (Senegal);

129.69. Continue the measures to combat discrimination against LGBTI persons (Argentina);

129.70. Design awareness raising policies and programs regarding prevention of discrimination of LGBT and to provide equal rights for LGBT. In practical terms this means providing better access to justice for people whose rights have been infringed because of their gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation; it also means allowing cohabitation contracts to same sex couples in order to remove inequalities relating to inheritance, health care, social security; and finally it means removing discriminatory provisions from the Criminal Code and other laws and regulations (Netherlands);

129.71. Conduct public awareness policies and programmes, in cooperation with the civil society, to change cultural paradigms and attitudes in order to encourage and promote respect for LGBTIs and to fight against prejudice and discrimination against LGBTIs (Slovenia);

- 129.72. **Fight discrimination against LGBT persons both in law and practice, which impacts on the possibilities of education, justice and access to health services, with emphasis on the difficulties faced by trans people (Uruguay);**
- 129.73. **Improve prison conditions by reducing overcrowding, improving sanitation, increasing access to medical care, and reducing the incidence of violence among prisoners (United States of America);**
- 129.74. **Address overcrowding and harsh conditions in prisons (Australia);**
- 129.75. **Take concrete measures aiming at reducing overcrowding in the prisons of the country and ensuring that conditions of detention are in conformity with the human rights of persons deprived of their liberty (Switzerland);**
- 129.76. **Continue to take effective measures to improve detention conditions and limit over-crowdedness in detention centers, including those administered by the migration authorities (Egypt)**
- 129.77. **Take further action to improve prison conditions, especially to account for the specific needs of women and children in detention (Germany);**
- 129.78. **Take necessary measures to improve the human rights situation of inmates by improving conditions in prison establishments, including by ensuring appropriate infrastructure (Japan);**
- 129.79. **Implement measures to improve sanitation conditions and prevent overcrowding in administrative detention centres, especially those under the authority of migration authorities (Mexico);**
- 129.80. **Reform the penitentiary system in order to lessen the prison overcrowding and to ensure the necessary sanitary conditions to the inmates, to enhance access to medical services and reduce to a minimum and investigate harsh treatment or abuse of authority of prison personnel (Russian Federation);**
- 129.81. **Carry on with the implementation of concrete measures to significantly reduce prison overcrowding in Costa Rica, and address the non-separation of minor and adult detainees (Canada);**
- 129.82. **Strengthen efforts to address violence against women, including sex trafficking, by improving prevention efforts, providing comprehensive specialized services to survivors, and continuing to investigate and prosecute instances of criminal violence against women (United States of America);**
- 129.83. **Continue efforts to fight violence against women and children (Algeria);**
- 129.84. **Strengthen its efforts to address the serious and ongoing problem of domestic violence (Australia);**
- 129.85. **Provide effective protection against violence and discrimination against women, in line with an accepted UPR recommendation (Egypt);**
- 129.86. **Continue efforts to eradicate violence against women (El Salvador);**
- 129.87. **Reinforce the fight against domestic violence, by strengthening the administration of justice (France);**

- 129.88. Spearhead public policies, procedures and guidelines with a focus on the comprehensive protection of women from violence (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 129.89. Enhance its efforts to comprehensively address the issue of violence against women by, *inter alia*, putting in place preventive measures such as education and awareness raising (Japan);
- 129.90. Increase efforts to implement the laws on violence against women and to extend the area of influence of the National Institute for Women, providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence (Liechtenstein);
- 129.91. Introduce as a crime domestic and intra-family violence and take the necessary measures to ensure the training of relevant authorities (Mexico);
- 129.92. Address problems in applying the Violence against Women Act within the courts towards effectively criminalizing violence against women (Montenegro);
- 129.93. Further improve the application of the Act criminalizing violence against Women (Netherlands);
- 129.94. Intensify its efforts in realizing gender equality through conducting awareness-raising and public educational campaigns with a view to bring about changes in such attitudes, and underlining that all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, are unacceptable (Norway);
- 129.95. Criminalize domestic violence (Paraguay);
- 129.96. Create a national programme to counter violence against women, in particular domestic violence (Russian Federation);
- 129.97. Continue its efforts to combat gender-based violence to provide a safe living environment for women and girls (Singapore);
- 129.98. Continue with its efforts to effectively implement the law on criminal sanctions for violence against women and to pay special attention to ensuring coordination among institutions providing assistance and support to victims (Slovenia);
- 129.99. Provide legal assistance and support to victims of domestic violence, including outside of the metropolitan area (Slovenia);
- 129.100. Allocate sufficient funds for the effective application of the Law on the Criminalization of Violence against Women (Spain);
- 129.101. Undertake effective awareness-raising campaigns to address violence against women (Spain);
- 129.102. Enhance its efforts for the protection of children from all forms of violations including domestic violence and sexual exploitation (Sudan);
- 129.103. Continue its efforts to eliminate threats, discrimination and violence against women and girls, by improving, *inter alia*, the implementation by the courts of the Law criminalizing violence against women and the availability of legal assistance for all victims of domestic violence (Canada);
- 129.104. Take steps to expand the provision of legal assistance to victims of domestic violence beyond metropolitan areas (Trinidad and Tobago);

- 129.105. Expand programs to eliminate the worst forms of child labour to reach more children in agriculture and children exploited in prostitution (United States of America);
- 129.106. Strengthen its actions to curb sexual exploitation of children (Bangladesh);
- 129.107. Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of programs to protect children's rights at the local level, particularly as regards violence, commercial sexual exploitation and child labour (Belgium);
- 129.108. Take steps to prevent violence against children, in particular in school, family and penitentiary environments, and engage effectively in the prosecution of all those involved in such violence (France);
- 129.109. Strengthen its efforts to combat domestic violence and violence against children and adolescents (Italy);
- 129.110. Increase efforts to implement the legal framework regarding ill-treatment of children, child labour and sexual exploitation of children (Liechtenstein);
- 129.111. Step up measures to ensure stronger coordination between agencies dealing with issues relating to children in order to eliminate violence, commercial sexual exploitation and child labour (Malaysia);
- 129.112. Combat child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse, and further advance strategies to eliminate the discrimination against indigenous, minority children and children of African descent (Sierra Leone);
- 129.113. Continue efforts to prevent and eliminate child labour and if necessary, to adopt further measures in this area (Slovakia);
- 129.114. Ensure effective implementation of the Act on human trafficking and migrants smuggling and the adoption of appropriate legal, administrative and preventive measures aimed at creating effective policy and institutional framework for combating the exploitation of persons, especially women and children (Bahrain);
- 129.115. Continue the actions aimed at fighting trafficking in persons (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 129.116. Strengthen up measures to combat trafficking in children, facilitate access to justice, and enhance victim protection and assistance in line with the CRC recommendation (Botswana);
- 129.117. Criminalize all forms of trafficking in children; facilitate access to justice and provide compensation for child victims, and enhance victim protection and assistance (Egypt);
- 129.118. Strengthen measures taken to combat trafficking in persons, in particular children and women (Ethiopia);
- 129.119. Take measures to ensure the effective implementation of the comprehensive legal framework to combat trafficking in persons and improve assistance to victims of trafficking especially women and children (India);
- 129.120. Ensure continuous progress in its efforts to combat trafficking, including through the full implementation of the trafficking in Persons Act as well as awareness raising campaigns (Indonesia);

- 129.121. Strengthen measures for the respect the rights of the child and protect the children against sexual exploitation and illegal trafficking (Libya);
- 129.122. Takes the necessary measures to ensure that the law concerning trafficking is effectively implemented (Montenegro);
- 129.123. Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking of persons, particularly women and children, including through prevention actions (Morocco);
- 129.124. Develop a national plan of action to combat trafficking in human being (Russian Federation);
- 129.125. Continue efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and reinforce measures to provide adequate assistance to victims (Slovakia);
- 129.126. Take immediate steps to strengthen measures to protect children from all forms of violence, including trafficking in children (Sri Lanka);
- 129.127. Continue its efforts in the area of countering trafficking in persons and all associated violations to the rights of the victims (Sudan);
- 129.128. Combat more effectively the sexual exploitation of children and child labour, by improving the implementation of the February 2013 Law against smuggling and trafficking in persons, and by strengthening coordination among the agencies comprising the national coalition against trafficking in persons (Canada);
- 129.129. Ensure the full prosecution of all forms of trafficking and modern slavery of children so as to deliver on its commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2015 and all forms of child labour by 2020, paying particular attention to persons from minority groups and in vulnerable situations (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 129.130. Step up efforts to improve the protection of the rights of women and children, notably by criminally prosecuting those responsible for the violations (Switzerland);
- 129.131. Strengthen the actions aimed at fighting criminal organizations, drug trafficking and human trafficking (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 129.132. Intensify efforts to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of child sexual abuse and provide specialised assistance to victims (Australia);
- 129.133. Strengthen efforts in the fight against trafficking in women and girls as well as the exploitation of prostitution, and harmonize legal procedures of prosecutions against traffickers (Belgium);
- 129.134. Intensify efforts to investigate and prosecute cases of human trafficking including forced labour (Australia);
- 129.135. Ensure that women victims of violence have prompt access to justice and that the acts of violence are adequately prevented, investigated, punished and redressed (Bahrain);
- 129.136. Consider, in the area of administration of justice, the protection of children and adolescents in juvenile detention centres (Zambia);
- 129.137. Take further measures to address the full fruition by children of their human rights, notably in what regards the juvenile justice system and cases of child labour (Portugal);

- 129.138. Consider and address the issue of reportedly high number of children and adolescents in juvenile detention centers by applying the child-friendly justice standards and encouraging the use of alternative sanctions and re-integration programmes (Serbia);
- 129.139. Continue to uphold the traditional values of family life (Bangladesh);
- 129.140. Step up measures for the protection of the rights of women and girls and take steps to establish and bolster the family regime and strengthen its legal arsenal related to family aspects (Mauritania);
- 129.141. Improve the national legislation in order to fully ensure freedom of belief, conscious and religion (Russian Federation);
- 129.142. Continue consulting and involving the indigenous people in all debates and decision-making process with direct impact on them (Romania);
- 129.143. Adopt special measures to accelerate the full and equal participation in public and political life, of women including women of African descent as recommended by CEDAW (Ghana);
- 129.144. Take all necessary measures to ensure the full implementation of ILO Convention 189 which will come into force in January 2015 (Uruguay);
- 129.145. Continue to strengthen social policies and programs targeted to the more needed sectors of the population, to improve their quality of life and ability to enter the labour market (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));
- 129.146. Continue to make comprehensive efforts in economic and social development (China);
- 129.147. Continue to prioritise eradicating poverty and further improving people living standards (China);
- 129.148. Strengthen the implementation of the existing programs for poverty eradication, especially those directed towards the most vulnerable populations (Colombia);
- 129.149. Continue the efforts to fight poverty and promote the equal distribution of wealth (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 129.150. Reinforce ongoing work to guarantee the equal social services to all (El Salvador);
- 129.151. Continue its programs aimed at poverty alleviation (Philippines)
- 129.152. Take appropriate measures to address social inequality and disparities by paying particular attention to persons belonging to vulnerable and marginalized groups and providing better access to education, health and employment (Sri Lanka);
- 129.153. Continue with the measures implemented in favour of the human right to water and sanitation, in the framework of GA Resolution 64/292 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));
- 129.154. Ensure equal access to quality healthcare services, including by promoting training and capacity building of medical personnel and students (Thailand);
- 129.155. Ensure affordable access to basic health care for all children (Egypt);

- 129.156. Continue to implement its various programmes to reduce HIV prevalence and to improve access to quality healthcare by its people (Singapore);
- 129.157. Develop clear medical guidelines on access to legal abortion (Belgium);
- 129.158. Introduce effective policies with more resources to reduce the drop-out rate at all school levels (Viet Nam);
- 129.159. Strengthen measures allowing indigenous communities to have access to education (Bulgaria);
- 129.160. Incorporate human rights education in school curricula (Bulgaria);
- 129.161. Reinforce bilingual and intercultural education models for indigenous children and include education on indigenous cultures in the national school curriculum, with a view to promoting respect for diversity (Ireland);
- 129.162. Consider adopting public policies on ensuring quality education for children and adolescents, and to further allocate adequate financial resources to this endeavor, including by focusing on reducing the number of school dropouts (Malaysia);
- 129.163. Continue to take effective measures to address this very important dimension of the realization of the right to education for all (Portugal);
- 129.164. Continue efforts to facilitate access to education for indigenous communities (State of Palestine);
- 129.165. Consider including indigenous cultures in the national education plan with a view to promote respect for diversity (State of Palestine);
- 129.166. Intensify efforts to promote access to education and extend its coverage to all levels of schooling (Ethiopia);
- 129.167. Adopt policies, programmes and affirmative action measures to improve the quality of education in rural areas specially those inhabited by indigenous peoples and communities and guarantee them access to paid employment in the public and private sector (Ecuador);
- 129.168. Consider developing programmes to reduce school dropout, increasing investment in educational infrastructure, and promoting effective programmes to address low school attendance (Egypt);
- 129.169. Continue to ensure inclusive education for children and persons with disabilities, as education would allow them to participate more fully in the development of their own communities (Thailand);
- 129.170. Ensure implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Bahrain);
- 129.171. Intensify current efforts to improve the exercise of the rights of persons with disabilities (Chile);
- 129.172. Formulate a National Action Plan to develop specific initiatives with regard to persons with disabilities (Spain);
- 129.173. Integrate programmes and projects aimed at benefiting Afro-descendant population into different development plans (Togo);

- 129.174. **Adopt effective measures to improve the socio-economic status of indigenous women and children as well as of those of African descent (Uzbekistan);**
- 129.175. **Promote and protect the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas (Bolivia (Plurinational State of));**
- 129.176. **Implement policies and measures that guarantee fully the human rights of indigenous peoples and improve their living conditions and standards (El Salvador);**
- 129.177. **Adopt legislation to recognize and regulate the right of indigenous populations (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**
- 129.178. **Strengthen its efforts to improve the socioeconomic situation of minority children (Turkmenistan);**
- 129.179. **Set up the effective mechanisms for the recovery of indigenous lands (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**
- 129.180. **Further efforts be deployed in order to fully involve indigenous peoples on decisions and policies affecting their rights, including those regarding the territories where they live (Italy);**
- 129.181. **Take concrete measures to protect the rights and promote the development of indigenous peoples while ensuring their full participation in the decision making and implementation of policies that affect them (India);**
- 129.182. **Continue its efforts for the effective inclusion of indigenous people and migrants in society (Angola);**
- 129.183. **Harmonize requirements of legislations on migration to ensure that migrants have access to justice, education, health and safety regardless of their status (Zambia);**
- 129.184. **Ensure that migrants have access to justice, education, health care and safety without discrimination (Brazil);**
- 129.185. **Continue making progress in the protection and promotion of the rights of migrants, including the safeguard of the interests of boys, girls, adolescents and women (Colombia);**
- 129.186. **Continue its efforts to develop a comprehensive migration policy with a human rights perspective (Trinidad and Tobago);**
- 129.187. **Adopt national policies that protect and guarantee the rights of all migrant workers in Costa Rica, in particular to address the needs of women and children (El Salvador);**
- 129.188. **Take into account the CEDAW recommendation to adequately address the situation of migrant and refugee women in the labour market (Nicaragua).**
130. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Costa Rica was headed by H.E. Ms. Gioconda Ubeda Rivera, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Manuel B. Dengo, Alternate Head of the delegation, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office at Geneva;
 - Mr. Christian Guillermet-Fernández, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office at Geneva;
 - Mr. Norman Lizano, Minister Counsellor;
 - Mr. Mario Vega, Minister Counsellor;
 - Ms. Shara Duncan, Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship.
-