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

Honduras

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its twenty-second session from 4 to 15 May 2015. The review of Honduras was held at the 9th meeting on 8 May 2015. The delegation of Honduras was headed by S.E. Doctor José Ramón Hernández Alcerro, Secretary of State, General Coordinator of Government. At its 14th meeting held on 12 May 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on Honduras.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Honduras: Namibia, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea.

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 Honduras:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/HND/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/HND/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/HND/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, was transmitted to Honduras through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review (UPR). Additional questions raised during the dialogue by Montenegro, India and France are summarized in section I.B below.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Secretary of State Coordinator General of Government noted that Honduras submitted its first report to the universal periodic review mechanism, in 2010. Since then, Honduras has been implementing the recommendations it received. As a demonstration of their commitment to human rights, in 2013, Honduras submitted a voluntary mid-term progress report.

6. With the assistance of the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Honduras also led an extensive consultation process for the development of a public policy and the adoption of a National Human Rights Action Plan 2013-2022.

7. Honduras noted that the national report for the second review under the universal periodic mechanism, was elaborated following broad discussions at national level, including with the civil society.

8. In the last five years, Honduras held two general elections with the participation of new political forces from a broad ideological spectrum. As of today, Honduras participates fully in all international forums and has diplomatic relations with more than a hundred

countries. Commercial and financial exchanges and services have also allowed Honduras to have a positive economic growth. The delegation noted that progress on citizen security and social protection programs are very important for Honduras.

9. The delegation reported that it had implemented 106 recommendations of a total of 129 recommendations received in 2010. Other 20 are in the process of being fulfilled and only 3 recommendations, have so far not been implemented. These numbers speak of the commitment of Honduras to human rights and have been achieved through a series of efforts highlighted during the presentation and in the second national report.

10. Honduras recognizes that the UPR offers an invaluable space for dialogue with civil society and the international community. The composition of the delegation attending the UPR, reflects the work of all institutions in the field of human rights.

11. Reference was made to progress made in the development of policy and institutional framework, as well as cooperation with human rights mechanisms.

12. Among others, reference was made to the amendments introduced to domestic legislation to define the crimes of disappearance of persons, torture and the crimes of discrimination and incitement to hatred in accordance with international norms.

13. The National Human Rights Commissioner was appointed through a competitive public process. The Executive Branch created the Secretariat for Human Rights and the Commission of Truth and Reconciliation. A National Human Rights Action Plan was adopted.

14. Honduras made serious effort to submit due reports to treaty bodies. In the framework of the open invitation to special procedures, visits by five special rapporteurs and working groups were made and their recommendations were taken into account in the National Human Rights Action Plan. Honduras has also complied with judgments of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

15. Since the first cycle, the National Congress ratified six core international human rights instruments and withdrew reservations about the status of refugees.

16. The delegation noted that Honduras has been the victim of the aggression of organized crime and it has taken forceful measures to combat it. Honduras stopped being the main bridge for the traffic of drugs between South and North America and is no longer the most violent country in the world. Honduras has managed to make significant progress in protecting, first of all, the right to life. The national police has been subjected to a process of profound reform. Honduras has also reinforced the public security system with the approval of a legal and institutional framework that has enabled the reduction of killings and violence in general, although there is still a lot to do.

17. A national policy for the prevention of violence against children and the youth of Honduras has also been adopted.

18. Between 2014 and 2015 there was no murder or death violent linked to social conflicts.

19. Regarding the protection of persons at risk, Honduras has complied with measures recommended by the Inter-American Commission and precautionary provisional measures issued by the Inter-American Court. The National Congress approved the law on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators, and operators of Justice which is being regulated in a participatory and inclusive manner. The law provides for a series of preventive measures, and protection of emergency according to the type of risk of each person and the creation of the protection system within the Secretariat of Human Rights.

20. Measures against trafficking in persons, contained in the recently passed law have also been introduced.
21. A special mention requires the creation and integration of the National Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment. The Committee has established itself as a national, independent institution with administrative, technical and budgetary autonomy.
22. Regarding democracy and participation, the National Congress amended the Constitution to allow the plebiscite, the referendum and the citizen initiative to introduce bills. A constitutional amendment was also made to include the guarantee of habeas data as a mechanism of protection of private data and rights to honour, privacy and personal image.
23. The impeachment and the right to freedom of association are also guaranteed as part of the constitutional reform.
24. In relation to the rights of indigenous peoples, Honduras promotes access to land. The Secretariat of Energy,
25. Natural Resources and Environment is currently working with the Confederation of Autochthonous peoples of Honduras in the elaboration of a draft law on the prior and informed consultation for indigenous peoples.
26. The National Commission against Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related forms of intolerance has also been reactivated.
27. With regard to the population of sexual diversity, Honduras has prioritized the implementation of actions in the National Human Rights Action Plan in favour of this group. Among others, actions include legal reforms, awareness-raising and training.
28. In the areas of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as efforts to combat poverty, the Constitution was amended to include the right to water and sanitation. Among others, Honduras launched a Plan for the prevention of pregnancy in adolescents, strengthened the public education and adopted legislation to address the impact of climate change.
29. Honduras created the Directorate on Children, Adolescents and Family (DINAF) issues that has an agreement with local governments to launch the national system of protection of children, articulating local and national level actions. It is also in the process of ratifying the Hague Convention concerning the protection of children and cooperation in respect of inter-country adoption. The special criminal justice program, favouring alternative measures, has been created by DINAF. DINAF also monitors all social reintegration programs. Special criminal justice programs have been introduced by Honduras in the Partnership Plan for Prosperity.
30. The protection of children against abuse is a principle incorporated in the Constitution. The National Congress also approved a comprehensive reform of the Codes of Childhood and Adolescence and of The Family, taking into account the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.
31. The delegation referred to the request made to the High Commissioner to open an OHCHR country office in Honduras. Honduras believes that the Office will contribute to strengthening the national system for the protection of human rights. It will open up spaces for dialogue, monitor and report objectively on the human rights situation in the country. The High Commissioner will also provide technical assistance to institutions in Honduras.
32. On its part, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice reported that the National Congress had created the Council of the Judiciary and judicial career, which eliminated the possibility of discretionary or political appointments. To balance the right of citizens to

demand accountability for the conduct of judicial officials, all decisions of the Council of the Judiciary can be reviewed before ordinary and constitutional courts.

33. Honduras created the figure of National Judges who deal with organized crime cases, to protect judges from external influence. It is also part of an OAS judicial program which aims at strengthening access to justice. Through CAPRODEM, the judiciary has also put into practice, with the participation of civil society, coordinated actions to assist women victims of violence. The Public Defender has also assigned human resources to assist women, including through awareness-raising for the empowerment of women deprived of their liberty.

34. The President of the Supreme Court of Justice referred to the case of the judges separated from their posts in 2009, coinciding with the institutional crisis in Honduras that same year. He reiterated that the decision by the Supreme Court of Justice was based on the verification of the Commission's various violations of the disciplinary provisions to which such former officials were subject to. At the time, the former officials had access to legal recourses, which so far have not been exhausted yet.

35. The President of the Legislative Commission on Human Rights noted that the National Congress of Honduras has legislative functions, and also oversight functions of the work of public authorities. It plays an essential role in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Congress has created spaces of dialogue and consultations with civil society, NGOs and other interested groups which have generated a considerable number of legislative proposals.

36. Close cooperation is maintained with United Nations entities and the international community in general. The Congress is working on a priority basis on issues related to the fulfilment of the rights of children, education, security, development, LGBTI groups, indigenous communities and Afro-descendants, environment and gender issues. It has identified as a challenge the construction of a legislative agenda, agreed with institutions and with civil society.

37. The Congress has also the responsibility of ensuring that institutions with a responsibility to protect and promote human rights, such as the Supreme Court of Justice, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the National Human Rights Commissioner, have the necessary resources to implement their respective mandates. The Congress also plays a role in the selection of persons in these positions, and receives their annual reports. It has the responsibility of publicly assessing their performance.

38. The Secretary of State for Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization reported that in 2012, the law on the national prison system was adopted. It created the National Penitentiary Institute and assigned resources for the construction of four new prisons to reduce prison overcrowding and contributed to the governance of 29 centres of deprivation of liberty. A new corps of correctional officers has also been created.

39. The Human Rights Secretariat, together with the National Penitentiary Institute and the advice of the Human Rights Advisor of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, has been coordinating the development of a first national policy on the penitentiary, which is expected to be completed soon. The General Regulation of the law of the national penitentiary system was approved and at present, the National Penitentiary Academy is being designed. The provision of food, access to hydro-sanitary and electric systems in detention centres has also been improved.

40. In 2014, the National Institute of Migration for the implementation of the law on migration and the immigration policy was created. One of the main achievements has been the introduction of the immigration control biometric system and the establishment of a mechanism for combating trafficking.

41. Honduras has also tackled the emerging migration of unaccompanied minors. Through the institutional and inter-sectorial coordination under the leadership of the First Lady, the Special Commission for Migrant Children offers comprehensive services of reception, health assessment, counselling support, training for work, school reintegration, emergency food aid, and also economic aid so that children and family units can return to their places of origin. These actions have resulted in a substantial reduction of unaccompanied children.
42. The Minister of the National Women's Institute noted that Honduras has a huge determination to make structural changes in favour of women's equality. The elaboration of the Second Plan on Gender Equality and Equity, was led by the National Institute for Women (INAM) through a national consultation process. The INAM is currently implementing an advocacy strategy and strengthening institutional mechanisms.
43. Honduras has established Gender Units in the Judicial Branch, the Secretaries for Health and Safety, as well as Gender Commissions in different municipalities. Processes are also coordinated in Municipal Offices for Women.
44. Honduras has incorporated femicide in legislation and imposed penalties on the perpetrators of this crime. The Law Against Trafficking of Persons and a National Plan Against Violence Towards Women were also adopted.
45. Honduras has also launched a public-awareness campaign to eradicate the practices of sexual harassment at work, covering public offices and the private sector.
46. A Protocol for the Comprehensive Assistance to Women Victims of Violence and a technical guide for use by health officials and justice operators have been developed. Shelters in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula have also been established.
47. Honduras has also adopted a law on equality of wages between women and men. There is a dialogue with the feminist movement, which allows the State to provide a better social impact and to promote better quality of life for women in Honduras.
48. The Undersecretary of Labour and Social Security referred to the Second National Plan of Action for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour. It envisages the creation of national structures, ratification of international norms, harmonization of national legislation and strengthening of national capacities and knowledge. A roadmap to make Honduras a country free from child labour and its worst forms was adopted. An agreement was recently signed with the United States of America, to implement a program called "Bright futures" with an investment of \$ 7.5 million in four years.
49. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security has the responsibility of ensuring that the employment conditions are decent. Efforts are being made for the professionalization of the General Direction of Inspection through various regulatory proposals such as the law on inspection and an ILO audit process.
50. A Tripartite Commission was also created to follow up on the compliance of the action plan on the Free Trade Agreement with the United States.
51. Honduras has also signed an agreement for the promotion of investment, protection of employment, health and access to housing for workers of the Honduran *maquila* textiles sector.
52. A social protection system framework law has also been approved. Thanks to the promotion of investment of the private sector and reactivation of the agricultural and housing sectors, and different government placement programs, new job opportunities were generated. Efforts are also underway, together with the National Congress, to improve the employability of young people. 2015, has set as a goal the generation of 200,000 job opportunities.

53. The Undersecretary of State in the Offices of Development and Social Inclusion referred to the policy of social protection and the Better Life program, targeting people in condition of poverty and extreme poverty, with components of healthy housing, such as water filters, latrines, ecological ovens, construction of cement floors, storage of water, roofs and solidarity bags with food, which have benefited more than 100 thousand families.

54. Other programs included the productive micro-enterprises and family farming, the Presidential Better Life Bonus program and the School Lunch program.

55. Honduras is currently holding consultations for the elaboration of a policy against racism and racial discrimination to ensure indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants social and political participation and the exercise of intercultural citizenship, as well as the right to bilingual intercultural education, right to health, land and natural resources.

56. A public policy and Strategic Plan to guarantee the human rights of persons with disabilities was also adopted. Honduras has also subscribed to the Programme of Action of the Americas Decade for the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities.

57. The Undersecretary of Human Rights and Justice noted that after the first UPR, Honduras led a broad process of consultation to design and adopt the National Human Rights Action Plan 2013-2022, which incorporates and transforms into strategic actions over 1200 recommendations, including from the civil society, the human rights treaty bodies and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

58. The first phase of a Human Rights Observatory, to measure progress on human rights issues and to facilitate the reporting to treaty bodies and the society in general, is also underway. Honduras is currently also designing an integrated monitoring and evaluation system to assess the impact of the National Human Rights Plan of Action.

Honduras is committed to continue the dialogue and citizen's participation. It will share the outcome of this second review and promote the implementation of recommendations.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

59. During the interactive dialogue, 60 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

60. Guatemala commended the creation of a Human Rights Secretariat and the adoption of a National Human Rights Action Plan. It shared the concern of CERD regarding the loss of the A-status by the National Human Rights Commission.

61. The Holy See acknowledged Honduras' efforts to bring national legislation into greater conformity with the international human rights instruments, especially those relating to the prevention of enforced disappearances and torture, the national human rights institution and the ratification of several instruments.

62. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela appreciated Honduras' decisive commitment to address challenges and highlighted progress made since the first review.

¹ <http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-council/universal-periodic-review/watch/honduras-review-22nd-session-of-universal-periodic-review/4224969251001>

² <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/upr/Sessions/22session/Honduras/Pages/default.aspx>

63. Indonesia welcomed Honduras' efforts to set up mechanisms to further promote and protect human rights including the adoption of the Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights (2013-2022) and looked forward to full implementation of this plan.
64. Ireland was deeply concerned at the climate of violence and insecurity affecting human rights defenders in Honduras, including reports that they continued to be subject to serious physical assault, and that impunity for human rights violations remained pervasive.
65. Italy welcomed the adoption of the Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights (2013-2022) and actions taken to provide human rights training for military personnel and the police to combat violence against women and children.
66. Lebanon welcomed Honduras' desire to work towards the promotion of human rights for its people and welcomed its accession to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
67. Madagascar welcomed the participative and inclusive approach of Honduras in drafting its national report as well as the advances in combatting poverty, social protection, improving the quality of education, health and the protection of vulnerable persons.
68. Mexico recognized progress, in particular the strengthening of the legislative framework. It valued efforts for the strengthening of the public security system and the reforms introduced to the electoral law.
69. Montenegro commended Honduras for a comprehensive reform of legislation covering children, families and women in the sphere of justice. It welcomed the willingness for the opening of an OHCHR country office. Montenegro asked about measures taken to improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups with a view to reduce the negative impact of migrant flows.
70. Namibia congratulated Honduras on the creation of a specific ministerial portfolio for human rights with responsibility for facilitating dialogue with the international human rights community and on the adoption of the Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights (2013-2022).
71. The Netherlands appreciated the ratification of the Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights to Abolish the Death Penalty and other measure taken. It was concerned that there was an environment in which vulnerable groups were victims of threats, violence and sometimes murder and at the number of social conflicts relating to mining or hydro-electrical projects.
72. Nicaragua commended Honduras for introducing legislative and institutional reforms to strengthen the human rights protection. It encouraged Honduras to consolidate its national human rights action plan taking into account the outcome of the second review.
73. Nigeria welcomed the introduction of various government policies aimed towards the establishment of a public policy and national plan on human rights and improvement in the security situation.
74. Norway noted efforts to bring national legislation in line with international obligations and the elaboration of a Public Policy and National Plan of Action on Human Rights. It expressed concern about the removal of four judges by the Congress.
75. Panama expressed its appreciation for the implementation of recommendations from the first review. It commended Honduras commitment to cooperate with the international human rights mechanisms, which is reflected in the standing invitation issued to the special procedures.
76. Paraguay welcomed the establishment of a national mechanism for the follow-up of the UPR recommendations. It took note of progress made in the development of legislation.

It expressed concern about the vulnerability of women, children and migrants, including non-accompanied children.

77. Peru highlighted progress made by Honduras, notably the adoption of the national human rights action plan, the ratification of the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, as well the harmonization of domestic legislation with their international obligations.

78. The Philippines noted the multi-year national human rights action plan; efforts to align domestic legislation with international human rights standards; and the ratification of human rights conventions. It expressed concern about the unaccompanied children leaving Honduras.

79. Poland welcomed the latest constitutional and legal reforms. It expressed concerns about cases of violence against journalists and judges, and the lack of independent investigations of those cases.

80. Portugal noted the amendment of the Criminal Code that brought the definition of torture in line with international standards and the adoption of the Education Act providing for free and compulsory education. It expressed concern about violence against women.

81. Qatar stated that considerable progress had been made in harmonising national legislation with international standards. It noted efforts that had been made to enhance security and public order.

82. The Republic of Korea noted the policies for vulnerable groups, the revision of the definitions of torture and enforced disappearances and the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

83. Romania noted the efforts that had been made to implement recommendations from the first review. It congratulated Honduras for cooperating with the human rights mechanisms, particularly special procedures.

84. The Russian Federation welcomed the implementation of international treaties. It noted the adoption of National Plan of Action for 2013-2022 and supported efforts taken to establish a human rights department within the Cabinet of Ministers.

85. Rwanda noted the establishment of a human rights portfolio in the Cabinet, the implementation of a vast majority of recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights 2013-2022.

86. Sierra Leone urged Honduras to develop incentives for the participation of poor, marginalized communities; implement laws prohibiting hate crimes and violence against women of African descent; and seek funding to address the problems of drugs and human trafficking.

87. Singapore acknowledged the progress made in reducing the murder rate, commended Honduras for its commitment to protecting the rights of women, and recognised the efforts taken under the Better Life Programme to provide housing upgrades and improvements.

88. Slovenia welcomed efforts to bring the legislation in line with international standards. It noted that CERD deplored the assaults of indigenous and Afro-Honduran leaders and journalists, and also noted that the draft bill on protection of human rights defenders.

89. Spain underscored the readiness of Honduras to open an OHCHR country office. It was concerned about high levels of violence against women and girls, and the high impunity rate in these cases.

90. Sweden welcomed Honduras' decision to request the establishment of an OHCHR country office. It welcomed the amendment of the Penal Code to incorporate femicide as a specific crime. It was concerned about violence against women and impunity for perpetrators. It noted the concern of the SRon violence against women regarding the ban on abortion.
91. Switzerland welcomed Honduras' upcoming opening of an OHCHR country office. It considered that the engagement of human rights defenders must be better protected. It was also concerned about the increasing militarization of the country.
92. Thailand commended Honduras on establishing the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. It took positive note of the reduction of murder rate over the past years and the enactment of the Basic Education Act. It encouraged Honduras to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and the Optional Protocol to the CRC.
93. Timor-Leste welcomed the establishment of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, and the adoption of the National Action Plan on Human Rights.
94. Trinidad and Tobago commended the establishment of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the mobile magistrates' courts, the re-distribution of State land to the benefit of indigenous and Afro-Hondurans and the enshrinement of the right to water and sanitation as a constitutional right.
95. Turkey welcomed Honduras' Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights, the Gender Equality and Equity Plan, and cooperation with UN Special Procedure Mechanisms. It welcomed the opening of an OHCHR office.
96. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed Honduras' criminal code amendments. It was concerned about the intention to use military police to tackle security, and continued high levels of impunity and difficulties by significant sectors of society in accessing justice.
97. The United States of America congratulated Honduras for its goal of opening an OHCHR Office, its accord with Transparency International and the passing of a law to protect human rights defenders. It urged continued efforts to strengthen the justice and security sectors.
98. Uruguay commended Honduras for the adoption of a comprehensive reform of the Code on Children and Adolescents, and the Family Code. It welcomed the adoption of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and the bill of protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials.
99. India commended the adoption of the Public Policy and National Action Plan on Human Rights and of other plans and measures. It encouraged Honduras to continue its efforts to make its national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles and welcomed the announcement of the opening of an OHCHR office later in 2015. India asked the delegation to share information on the issue of unaccompanied child migrants.
100. Algeria welcomed Honduras' 2014-2020 Plan for Human Dignity (*Vanguardia de la Dignidad Humana*), establishment of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, reduction in violence against women and cooperation with treaty bodies.
101. Angola welcomed the National Policy on the Prevention of Violence against Children and Young Persons in Honduras and the reformed Penal Code. It was concerned about violence towards minority groups.
102. Argentina commended Honduras for the harmonization of domestic legislation with international human rights norms, including the amendment introduced to the Criminal Code and the definition of enforced disappearance as a specific offence.

103. Australia welcomed Honduras' establishment of a special court against domestic violence. It noted concern about violence against women. It urged Honduras to implement recommendations of the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders' and of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

104. Austria welcomed Honduras' approval of the Human Rights Public Policy and National Action Plan. It was concerned about attacks against journalists and impunity in this regard. Austria remained worried about shortcomings in the administration of justice, and ongoing discrimination against indigenous, Afro-Honduran and LGBTI persons.

105. Belgium welcomed Honduras' opening of an OHCHR country office. It was however concerned about challenges, in particular with regard to the independence of the justice system and the fight against impunity, violence against women and freedom of expression.

106. Brazil commended Honduras for a comprehensive reform of the legislation on right of children, families and women and welcomed steps taken to reduce violence against women.

107. Canada encouraged Honduras to continue its efforts to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and justice sector officials and also encouraged it to reduce overcrowding in prisons and juvenile detention centre by respecting maximum occupancy rates and taking other measures.

108. Chile was concerned about the perseverance of violence, intimidation and attacks against human rights defenders, judges, prosecutors and journalists. It welcomed the discussion and adoption of a Law on the subject.

109. China appreciated that Honduras had implemented recommendations from the first review and welcomed its cooperation with Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures and the Inter-American Human Rights protection system. It noted the challenges faced by Honduras in human rights protection and requested the international community to provide technical and financial support.

110. Colombia underscored efforts to comply with recommendations from the previous UPR cycle in particular the Human Rights National Plan of Action, and actions related to previous recommendations made by Colombia on the fight against LGBTI persons.

111. Costa Rica stated that Honduras' commitment would be strengthened with the establishment of an OHCHR country office and welcomed the Human Rights National Plan of Action. It expressed concern about the high level a violence, particularly against women, journalists and human rights defenders.

112. Cuba underscored the adoption of the Social Protection Policy in 2012, the Law on Protection Benefits and Regularization of Informal Activity and the Law on Vaccines which have been developed under important challenges, including structural poverty conditions, inequality and iniquity.

113. The Czech Republic thanked Honduras for its presentation and made recommendations.

114. Denmark recognized Honduras' efforts to break the vicious circle of human rights violation, but was concerned about reports that the human rights situation had worsened since the first UPR. It regretted the decision to downgrade certain relevant ministries and was concerned at reported impunity for attacks on LGBTI persons.

115. Ecuador welcomed reforms on the Criminal Code, particularly those related to enforced disappearance, torture, discrimination and incitement to hatred. It welcomed

measures adopted to strengthen the Judiciary, through the Council on the Judiciary and the Judicial Career.

116. Equatorial Guinea welcomed amendments to the Constitution which have extended participatory democracy mechanisms through the system of popular initiatives. It also welcomed efforts to integrate into its decision making a human rights-based approach taking into account the wide contributions of civil society organizations.

117. Estonia commended the National Action Plan on Racism and Racial Discrimination and expressed concern that indigenous and Afro Honduran women continue to face multiple forms of discrimination. It invited Honduras to ensure that human rights defenders can freely carry out their activities without unfair restrictions or fear of reprisals.

118. France asked about the follow-up to the efforts taken to improve the conditions of detention in Honduras.

119. Germany acknowledged the partial reforms made to the Penal Code. It expressed concern about persistent human rights violations, particularly regarding the right to life, widespread impunity and discrimination against women, children, LGBTI persons and indigenous population.

120. To conclude, Honduras thanked States for their participation in their second review, and for their comments and recommendations. Honduras believes that the UPR generates opportunities to assess progress and challenges and opens spaces for a improving human rights in the country.

121. Honduras is committed to having a permanent mechanism to follow-up on the UPR commitments. It is currently working on the establishment of a Human Rights Observatory and will strengthen the role of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to respond to the various reports that the State is committed to submit. Honduras will also create a monitoring and assessment system for the National Human Rights Plan of Action and continue the dialogue with civil society.

122. Honduras acknowledged that while it has made some progress during the last years, there are structural, institutional and cultural challenges that it still needs to overcome. With the support of the friends of Honduras, the country hopes to build a country which is free from extreme poverty, educated, healthy, democratic, safe and without violence.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

123. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below enjoy the support of Honduras:**

123.1. **Continue working towards the harmonization of its domestic legislation with the international human rights instruments to which it is a State Party to (Nicaragua);**

123.2. **Draft guidelines to report violations of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty through the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture (Panama);**

123.3. **Allocate adequate resources for the implementation of its national human rights action plan (Philippines);**

**Conclusions and recommendations will not be edited

- 123.4. **Adopt new concrete measures for the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan of 2013, in order to sustain the decrease in crime rates in the context of strengthening the rule of law (France);**
- 123.5. **Consider developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by the OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies (Portugal);**
- 123.6. **Strengthen the functioning of the National Commission against Racial Discrimination Racism, Xenophobia and other forms of Intolerance in favour of inter-cultural dialogue, tolerance and awareness-raising programmes (Argentina);**
- 123.7. **Step up awareness campaigns through the national plan of action to combat racism and racial discrimination that is currently being drafted (Panama);**
- 123.8. **Strengthen the institutional framework undertaken for the benefit of indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples (Equatorial Guinea);**
- 123.9. **Effectively implement the Gender Equality and Equity Plan 2010-2022, by allocating technical and financial resources to achieve the envisaged objectives as well as the reopening of the emergency "line 114" to provide care to women victims of gender violence (Spain);**
- 123.10. **Implement policies and programs that promote tolerance and non-discrimination against LGBTI persons, and to guarantee the compliance with the current norms in order to punish offences and violence motivated by prejudices (Uruguay);**
- 123.11. **Strengthen its national institutions in charge of the promotion and protection of human rights, with a view to fostering access to justice, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, such as women, older persons, children, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, people of African descent and the LGBTI community (Brazil);**
- 123.12. **Develop a national action plan to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including specific actions to strengthen the implementation of ILO convention no. 169 (Netherlands);**
- 123.13. **Support the efforts of the national mechanism for the follow-up of UPR recommendations through the establishment of an online monitoring system (Paraguay);**
- 123.14. **Cooperate closely with the OHCHR office to be soon established in the country while implementing UPR recommendations (Czech Republic);**
- 123.15. **Submit the overdue report to the relevant UN treaty bodies (Sierra Leone);**
- 123.16. **Reply in a timely manner to all thematic special procedure communications (Montenegro);**
- 123.17. **Improve birth registration system and be supported by awareness-raising activities, in order to sustain the rise in registration numbers, especially in rural areas (Turkey);**
- 123.18. **Undertake awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to promote tolerance and to address violence against the LGBTI persons (Slovenia);**

- 123.19. Strengthen actions that aim at eliminating cultural patterns that discriminate against women, promoting adequate access to judicial protection in order to prevent that cases of violence affecting their life, health and integrity remain unpunished (Chile);
- 123.20. End discrimination in law and practice against indigenous and Afro-Honduran people and strengthen protection for LGBTI persons (Austria);
- 123.21. Take appropriate measures to improve living conditions and address the issue of overcrowding in prisons and other detention centres, as well as to reduce violence between and among prisoners (Republic of Korea);
- 123.22. Take effective measures to bring conditions of detention in line with international standards, in particular by reducing overcrowding and inter-prisoner violence (Austria);
- 123.23. Implement the recommendations contained in the 2013 report of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on the Status of Persons Deprived of Liberty in Honduras, and that the national penitentiary policy is finalised and implemented accordingly (Denmark);
- 123.24. Consider widening the criminal legislation, not only criminalizing cases of femicide, but also all cases of violence against women (Guatemala);
- 123.25. Create specialized courts responsible exclusively for cases of domestic violence which are particularly problematic (Guatemala);
- 123.26. Take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Criminal Code offence of gender-related killings of women and to guarantee effective access to justice for women who are victims of violence, as well as their protection (Ireland);
- 123.27. Guarantee protection and effective access to justice to women victims of violence, including by ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice and by providing sufficient resources and targeted training to law enforcement, the judiciary and health-service personnel (Italy);
- 123.28. Prevent and punish all forms of violence against women and girls; and consolidate a higher representation of women in management and decision making positions (Peru);
- 123.29. Ensure adequate budget allocation to the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (Sweden);
- 123.30. Guarantee the protection and access to justice for women who are victims of violence (Belgium);
- 123.31. Step up efforts aimed at effectively preventing violence against women, including rape, domestic violence and sexual harassment (Panama);
- 123.32. Take adequate and necessary measures to address violence against women (Portugal);
- 123.33. Respond effectively to all forms of violence against women including by providing law enforcement official with gender training (Sweden);
- 123.34. Reduce violence against women and increase the number of shelters for battered women (Trinidad and Tobago);

- 123.35. **Take specific measures to protect women from being victim of discrimination and violence, including the appropriate investigation of such cases as well as the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators (Turkey);**
- 123.36. **Take measures to ensure full protection of children at all levels and in all spheres and to ensure that the institutions tasked to implement such measures are adequately funded and resourced in order to carry out this function effectively (Namibia);³**
- 123.37. **Defend children's rights by ensuring that the Directorate of Childhood, Adolescent and Family has the appropriate legislative framework and financial resources to meet its mandate, and by implementing policies and programmes to protect children, adolescents and returned child migrants (Canada);**
- 123.38. **Re-establish its police unit specialized to combat human trafficking and sexual exploitation (Timor-Leste);**
- 123.39. **Adopt necessary measures to guarantee fair justice for all (Nigeria);**
- 123.40. **Strengthen the judiciary by implementing a transparent, merit-based and clearly defined selection process for supreme court justices (United States of America);**
- 123.41. **Ensure transparency and impartiality in the appointment process of judges, implementing clear procedures and objective criteria and ensure that judicial staff are not subject to political interference (Switzerland);**
- 123.42. **Effectively fight impunity against the perpetrators of the crimes against judges, journalists and human rights defenders and conduct effective investigations of human rights violations in these cases (Poland);**
- 123.43. **Guarantee that all complaints regarding human rights violations and other abuses committed by the police, armed forces or members of private security companies are subject to, in a brief period of time, independent and exhaustive investigations; and that those responsible for such violations are brought to justice and that the victims have access to reparations (Belgium);**
- 123.44. **Enhance the Criminal Code which punishes hate crimes (Lebanon);**
- 123.45. **Take further measures for the effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of hate crimes against LGBTI persons and women, including femicides, as well as crimes against human rights defenders, journalists, justice workers and campesino community members in Bajo Aguán (Norway);**
- 123.46. **Exhaustively investigate the killings of women on gender grounds (Spain);**
- 123.47. **Ensure that all hate crimes are categorised as such and thoroughly investigated (Denmark);**
- 123.48. **Redefine clearly the role of the military police as a temporary measure and to step up the professionalizing process of the national police to ensure the protection of human rights in all their work (Switzerland);**

³ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: Take measures to ensure full protection of children at all levels and in all spheres, including military operations, and to ensure that the institutions tasked to implement such measures are adequately funded and resourced in order to carry out this function effectively (Namibia).

- 123.49. Enhance efforts to create a safe environment for human rights defenders and journalists (Italy);
- 123.50. Ensure freedom of expression and take steps to end threats and attacks against journalists and human rights defenders, including LGBTI defenders (Australia);
- 123.51. Establish effective mechanisms to guarantee the safety of human rights defenders, judges, prosecutors and journalists, and ensure that acts of violence which in many cases result in deaths, intimidation and attacks against them, do not remain unpunished (Chile);
- 123.52. That the implementation of the new law on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials is allocated sufficient resources and without it being necessary to resort to civil society contributions (Switzerland);
- 123.53. Implement the new law (on the protection of human rights defenders, journalist, social communicators and justice officials) through an open consultation and participation process with civil society (Switzerland);
- 123.54. Approve and implement a law on the protection of journalists, human rights defenders, those working in the judicial system, and provide adequate human and financial resources to establish an effective state mechanism to protect those at risk (Belgium);
- 123.55. Improve the effectiveness of prevention, investigation and prosecution of all forms of attacks against human rights defenders, journalists, lawyers and judges in order to lower their incidence and to tackle impunity for these crimes (Czech Republic);
- 123.56. Ensure that a robust law protecting human rights defenders, journalists and justice officials is adopted and effectively implemented and that its impact is regularly assessed (Czech Republic);
- 123.57. Further promote the participation of Afro-Hondurans and the indigenous communities in the public sphere (Sierra Leone); Step-up socio-economic policies to enable the active participation of people of African descent in economic, social and political sphere (Angola);
- 123.58. Take necessary measures to achieve the social reintegration of boys, girls and adolescents victims of armed gangs (Paraguay);
- 123.59. Improve the precarious situation of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendent communities (Estonia).
124. The following recommendations enjoy the support of Honduras which considers that they are already implemented or in the process of implementation:
- 124.1. Fully adapt their legislation to the Statute of the International Criminal Court (Spain); Fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia); Fully implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into national law (Portugal);
- 124.2. Elaborate a legal framework regarding disciplinary proceedings (for judges) (Norway);
- 124.3. Develop laws against racial discrimination (Lebanon);
- 124.4. Continue its efforts to reform laws on the rights of women and children in the justice sphere (Qatar);

- 124.5. Adopt laws protecting freedom of expression and freedom of the media (Lebanon);
- 124.6. Strengthen the legislative process underway related to the education sector (Equatorial Guinea);
- 124.7. Strengthen the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles (Guatemala); Continue efforts in ensuring that CONADEH (National Human Rights Commission) be strengthened to be in line with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);
- 124.8. Take concrete actions to implement the Public Policy and National Plan of Action on Human Rights and to ensure that all forms of discrimination against Afro-Honduran Peoples and other minority groups is eliminated (Namibia);
- 124.9. Take concrete measures to implement the Public Policy and National Plan of Action on Human Rights, including the assigning of appropriate funding (Norway); Take all measures necessary to put the public policy and the National Human Rights Action Plan into practice (Uruguay); Pursue the implementation of the Public Policy and the National Action Plan for Human Rights 2013-2022 (Algeria);
- 124.10. Involve civil society more actively in developing national human rights policies, strategies and action plans (Germany);
- 124.11. Continue with the effective implementation of measures to combat discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, particularly through the implementation of differentiated approaches to guarantee the enjoyment of the rights of LGBTI persons (Colombia);
- 124.12. Continue efforts to address gender-related killing of women and girls (Rwanda);
- 124.13. Strengthen normative standards and measures aimed at eliminating domestic violence perpetrated against women (Sierra Leone);
- 124.14. Continue to strengthen legislative and policy measures to counter violence against women (Singapore);
- 124.15. Continue efforts to reduce violence against children and young persons (Rwanda);
- 124.16. Continue with your policy to reduce violence against children and young people (Algeria);
- 124.17. Provide comprehensive child protection, particularly for unaccompanied minors, by addressing the problems that give rise to their migration, and often to their exploitation, and also affording them the means by which they may be repatriated (Holy See);
- 124.18. Take additional measures to prevent the poor and marginalized children from early entry into the labour market and provide incentives for them to enrol in school (Thailand);
- 124.19. Take further measures to ensure those Hondurans living abroad, particularly as regards to child's protection, and providing comprehensive protection for migrant boys, girls and non-accompanied adolescents once they are repatriated (Uruguay);

- 124.20. Take measures to empower young people, particularly through education, with a view to prevent them from joining criminal and transnational gangs; and ensure their rehabilitation and social reintegration (Colombia);
- 124.21. Follow up on initiatives taken to strengthen the protection of children's rights (Equatorial Guinea);
- 124.22. Adopt measures to combat trafficking in persons, particularly women and children (Romania);
- 124.23. Continue to work on combatting against trafficking in human beings and illegal drug trafficking (Russian Federation);
- 124.24. Conduct a comprehensive review and structural reform of the administration of justice with the aim to ensure judicial independence and reduce the growing number of cases of impunity (Sweden);
- 124.25. Ensure that human rights bodies such as the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Judiciary have the necessary financial and human resources as well as human rights training to guarantee their independence and impartiality so that they can perform their work effectively (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 124.26. Continue strengthening government capacity to effectively investigate and prosecute all crimes, including labour law violations (United States of America);
- 124.27. Continue strengthening judicial and administrative measures initiated to ensure the effective investigation and punishment of those responsible for acts of violence, in particular those targeting human rights defenders (Argentina);
- 124.28. Raise the capacity and effectiveness of investigation and prosecution of all allegations of torture and ill-treatment by members of both state security forces and private companies and strengthen legal safeguards available for victims of torture and ill-treatment (Czech Republic);
- 124.29. Strengthen efforts to reform the justice and security sector with a view to fighting corruption and strengthening the independence of the judiciary, including by fostering effective supervision and disciplinary control of the criminal justice institutions and by providing adequate supply of financial and human resources (Germany);
- 124.30. Strengthen and guarantee the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the judiciary, including by adopting safeguards to prevent irregular dismissals and appointments of judges (Italy); Take measures to strengthen and guarantee the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the judiciary, including transparent and impartial procedures for appointment and dismissal of judicial officers (Namibia); Take effective measures to strengthen and guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, including by adopting safeguards to prevent irregular dismissals and appointments (Norway); Adopt measures to guarantee the independence of the judiciary (Romania);
- 124.31. Strengthen and guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary by enforcing the constitutional process for electing judges of the Supreme Court, adopting safeguard measures to prevent irregular dismissals and appointments and adopting additional anti-corruption measures (Canada);

- 124.32. **Strengthen independence and transparency of the judiciary and step up efforts to fight impunity by, inter alia, establishing a merit system of selecting and appointing judges and preventing political and other interference into their work, including arbitrary dismissals (Czech Republic);**
- 124.33. **Continue efforts towards due protection of women who are part of the victim and witness protection programs (Ecuador);**
- 124.34. **Take decisive steps to combat criminal impunity (Estonia);**
- 124.35. **Reinforce the public institutions responsible for the investigations of crimes and the execution of criminal justice, especially in the area of organized criminal activities involving drug and human trafficking, so as to create a more stable and peaceful social environment (Holy See);**
- 124.36. **Taking into account the high level of violence which persists in the county, step up efforts to fight crime and tackle impunity with a view to ensuring the rights to life, liberty and security of its citizens(Republic of Korea);**
- 124.37. **Take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the Criminal Code, which sanctions the crime of femicide (Slovenia);**
- 124.38. **Continue to strengthen the response of its criminal justice system to violent crimes against women and girls; in particular measures to support capacity to investigate, prosecute and punish such crimes (Australia);**
- 124.39. **Continue the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Lebanon);**
- 124.40. **Take effective measures to reduce and control the proliferation of firearms (Rwanda);**
- 124.41. **Continue to take measures to counter organised crime, in particular drug trafficking with a view to fostering an environment that is conducive to the enjoyment of human rights for all (Singapore);**
- 124.42. **Formulate and implement a disarmament control and reduction policy (Sweden);⁴**
- 124.43. **Tighten its regulation on civilian possession of weapons and firearms, enhance oversight on private security companies and put in place stronger safeguards to protect the safety of Honduran citizens, especially in the conflict in the Aguan River Valley (Thailand);**
- 124.44. **Increase the number of law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors receiving training specific to human rights and minority groups (Canada);**
- 124.45. **Strengthen the security apparatus through a civilian police in order to combat impunity, especially in cases of crimes against journalists and femicides, without involving the military apparatus (Costa Rica);**
- 124.46. **Continue working, nationally and internationally, in the implementation of the Central America security strategy (Nicaragua);**

⁴ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: Formulate and implement a disarmament policy (Sweden).

- 124.47. Establish a mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders (Timor-Leste);
- 124.48. Promptly and impartially investigate any allegations of violence or reprisals against journalists and human rights defenders and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable (Austria);
- 124.49. Continue to give priority to efforts aimed at the recognition and protection of journalists and human rights defenders (Colombia);
- 124.50. Respect and protect the right to freedom of expression and strengthen the protection of journalists, civil society activists and human rights defenders against attacks (Estonia);
- 124.51. Ensure provision of adequate financial and human resources for the implementation of the Law on protecting human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials and commit to reviewing its operation, including its consistency with international human rights standards, after a period of initial implementation (Ireland);
- 124.52. Ensure effective implementation of the “Ley de Protección de Defensores de Derechos Humanos, Periodistas, Comunicadores Sociales y Operadores de Justicia” and provide adequate resources to establish an effective protection mechanism for Human Rights Defenders (Italy);
- 124.53. Adopt laws and policies protecting human rights defenders and journalists; involve civil society in this process as well make available sufficient funding for implementation (Netherlands);
- 124.54. Expedite the enactment and implementation of the Bill on the Protection of Journalists, Human Rights Defenders and Justice System Workers, and provide adequate resources to establish an effective protection mechanism (Sierra Leone);
- 124.55. Ensure prompt investigations into attacks and threats against human rights defenders, indigenous people, and journalists as well as to ensure that they can carry out their activities without fear of reprisals (Slovenia);
- 124.56. Continue the proceedings relating to human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials for their full and effective protection, enabling them to perform their functions with all guarantees (Spain);
- 124.57. Guarantee that all human rights defenders in Honduras are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities according to the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Sweden);
- 124.58. Bring to a conclusion the legislative process and proceed to implement the bill on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, those working in the media, and justice officials (Uruguay);
- 124.59. Guarantee the effective implementation of the bill on the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials, including appropriate financing (Brazil);
- 124.60. Pursue the legislative work initiated in 2014 to protect journalists, human rights defenders and some members of the judiciary in the fight against crime (France); Consider approving the draft bill for the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, social communicators and justice officials (Paraguay); Continue ongoing efforts aimed at the adoption of the Law for the

Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Social Communicators and Justice Officials (Peru);

124.61. Create and further implement social policies focused on providing better education, increasing the enrolment of students and reducing the number of school drop-outs (Holy See);

124.62. Make every effort to respect the dignity of human life, especially of women and children who are most vulnerable to gross abuses (Holy See);

124.63. Continue strengthening its social assistance programmes, in favour of the most vulnerable in the country (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));

124.64. Adopt institutional measures to improve the quality of life, ensuring that minors and adolescents remain permanently in the country, and preventing their unaccompanied migration. In the repatriation processes, ensure that the principle of the best interest of the child is respected and promote their effective social reintegration (Mexico);

124.65. Continue to promote and protect the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and rights of its citizens in the areas of education, health, rights of women and children, and persons with disabilities (Nigeria);

124.66. Continue further work on the protection of vulnerable groups of the population, such as women, children and youth (Russian Federation);

124.67. Strengthen the system for the protection of persons at risk, notably women and children (Angola);

124.68. Continue to focus on developing its economy, increasing employment, strengthening poverty eradication and raising the standard of living of its people (China);

124.69. Strengthen actions aimed at implementing social inclusion and development policies to reduce levels of inequality and poverty (Ecuador);

124.70. Design a comprehensive strategy with a gender and human rights perspective to assist the population that are living in situations of poverty and extreme poverty (Mexico);

124.71. Implement measures to reduce poverty and instances of social exclusion among indigenous people and Afro-Honduran communities (Trinidad and Tobago);

124.72. Continue to prioritise efforts to improve the health of its people, including through the enactment of water and sanitation services (Singapore);

124.73. Continue implementing the policy of free, public, compulsory education, redefining the length and cycles, including by allocating sufficient budget and resources (Indonesia);

124.74. Continue reforms initiated in education (Qatar);

124.75. Continue implementing concrete actions for the enforcement of the Fundamental Law on Education (Cuba);

124.76. Continue ongoing efforts aimed at enhancing the participation and consultations of indigenous peoples on public policies that affect them, fully implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the ILO Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Peru);

- 124.77. Take the necessary measures to guarantee the human rights of migrant woman and children, including single mothers and unaccompanied children (Paraguay);
- 124.78. Consider entering into bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements with concerned states to address the protection needs of unaccompanied migrant children from Honduras, including their repatriation and reintegration (Philippines);
- 124.79. Adopt measures in order to appropriately receive children and adolescents deported from another country (Poland);
- 124.80. Continue implementing measures to comprehensively address the phenomenon of unaccompanied migrant children (Cuba);
- 6.81. Pursue efforts initiated to limit the flow of migration, especially of unaccompanied children, and continue implementing the legislative framework to achieve a quality education for children (France).
125. The following recommendations will be examined by Honduras, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council in September 2015:
- 125.1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Madagascar; Montenegro; Costa Rica; ICESCR (Portugal); Consider the ratification or adhesion to the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (Peru);
- 125.2. Consider the ratification or adhesion to the Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure (Peru)⁵; Ratify the Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure (Portugal);
- 125.3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Costa Rica; Portugal; Slovenia; Sweden; Timor-Leste; Austria; Canada); Consider the ratification or adhesion to the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Peru); Consider positively the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Mexico); Ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, as previously recommended (Spain); Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Turkey); Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Uruguay); Pursue the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Chile);
- 125.4. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, establishing a communication mechanism in order to strengthen the tools in the fight against violence and discrimination against women (France); Take additional steps to guarantee equal access for women to appropriate health services, especially sexual and reproductive health services, and ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (Germany);
- 125.5. Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty thereby providing the potential for reducing the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, the illegal drug trade and high levels of violence (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 125.6. Ratify ILO Convention No.189 (Madagascar); Step up its efforts towards the ratification of other international human rights conventions, including ILO Convention No. 189 (Philippines);

⁵ The recommendation as read during the interactive dialogue: Consider the ratification or adhesion to the Optional Protocol to ICESCR; the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and the Optional Protocol to CRC (Peru).

- 125.7. **Align the Penal Code with the Code of Medical Ethics and that Honduras considers to legalize abortion in case of rape or incest (Norway);**
- 125.8. **Adopt a law on gender identity allowing legal recognition in the national register of persons in accordance with their sexual orientation and image of the persons concerned (Madagascar);**
- 125.9. **Ensure that the Gender Identity Law that is currently before Congress is adopted and implemented (Denmark);**
- 125.10. **Amend legislation to decriminalize defamation, slander and libel and convert them into matters regulated by civil law rights standards set by the United Nations and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) observations and recommendations (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 125.11. **Comply with the recommendations of the IACHR and the Commission for Truth and Reconciliation to ensure that security strategies promote prevention and are implemented by properly organised and trained civil police forces and not military force (Norway);**
- 125.12. **Uphold its commitment to introduce a comprehensive police reform plan and pass the new organic police law by June 2015, and share a benchmarked time-bound plan to remove the military from civilian police duties (United States of America).**
126. **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 Honduras was headed by S. E. Doctor José Ramón Hernández Alcerro, Secretary of State, General Coordinator of Government and composed of the following members:

- Abogado Jorge Alberto Rivera Avilés, Magistrado Presidente de la Corte Suprema de Justicia;
 - Diputado Yury Cristhian Sabas Gutiérrez, Presidente de la Comisión de Derechos Humanos del Congreso Nacional;
 - Abogado Rigoberto Chang Castillo, Secretario de Estado en los Despachos de Derechos Humanos, Justicia, Gobernación;
 - Abogado Abraham Alvarenga Urbina, Procurador General de la República;
 - S.E. Karla Cueva, Subsecretaria de Estado en el Despacho de Derechos Humanos y Justicia;
 - Licenciada Olga Margarita Alvarado Rodríguez, Subsecretaria de Estado en los Despachos de Desarrollo e Inclusion Social;
 - Abogado Ramón Fernando Carranza Discua, Subsecretario de Estrado en los Despachos de Trabajo y Seguridad Social;
 - Licenciada Ana Aminta Madrid Paz, Presidenta Ejecutiva del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer;
 - Sr. Giampaolo Rizzo Alvarado, Embajador, Representante Permanente Adjunto, Encargado de Negocios a.i., Misión Permanente de Honduras;
 - Abogada Sagrario Prudott, Jefa del Departamento de Derechos Humanos de la Secretaría de Estado en el Despacho de Seguridad;
 - Abogada Alma Yaneth Coello, Coordinadora de la Unidad de Prevención de la Violencia del Instituto Nacional de la Mujer (INAM);
 - Abogado José Rubén Pineda Rubí, Asistente de Presidencia y Jefe de Protocolo del Poder Judicial.
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