



General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 November 2015

Original: English

UNEDITED VERSION

Human Rights Council

Thirty first session

Agenda item 6

Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Federated States of Micronesia

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

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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 twenty-third session from 2 to 13 November 2015. The review of the Federated States of Micronesia was held at the 1st meeting on 02 November 2015. The delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia was headed by H.E. Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations, Mrs. Jane J. Chigiya. At its 10th meeting held on 06 November 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on the Federated States of Micronesia.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Federated States of Micronesia: China, Côte d'Ivoire, and Estonia.

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 the Federated States of Micronesia:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/23/FSM/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.6/23/FSM/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/23/FSM/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Germany, Lichtenstein, Mexico, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to the Federated States of Micronesia through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia, Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia H. E. Mrs. Jane J. Chigiya thanked for the opportunity to appear before the Universal Periodic Review Working Group to share the Federated States of Micronesia's progress and challenges in improving the livelihoods of its people, and in addressing the many recommendations offered in the previous cycle UPR.

6. She stressed that in preparation for the second UPR report, the Government created an inter-departmental Task Force this year that included civil society, to take up the review and analysis of the recommendations and pledges made in the first review. The Task Force undertook wide consultations in the development of the second national report to the UPR. A number of national and state consultations preceded the establishment of the Task Force this year, and laid the ground work for the Task Force. A matrix was developed to assess the work done and work needed to move the country towards its commitments. In this regard, she thanked development partners, regional agencies and the UN entities that

provided public awareness activities, guidance, advice and funding support in the drafting and completion of the second national report to the UPR.

7. The head of the delegation noted that the Federated States of Micronesia was a federation comprised of four autonomous States, i.e., Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap, with Pohnpei State being the seat of the Government.

8. She stated that the Constitution is the supreme law of the land, which guarantees the rights to life, liberty, equal protection, and due process of the law. It also guarantees non-discrimination, especially on the basis of sex, race, ancestry, national origin, language, or social status, as well as the right to property. It also provides for freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, association, petition, non-establishment of religion and its free exercise. It further protects the rights of persons with disabilities, the rights of defendants through the presumption of innocence, and the right against self-incrimination and double jeopardy. It also prohibits capital punishment.

9. She emphasized that the Federated States of Micronesia was a young nation with a population estimated to be 102,000: there are 607 islands, and 76 inhabited islands and 531 uninhabited islands spread over a longitudinal distance of approximately 1,549 nautical miles just north of the equator. The widely dispersed islands present a unique challenge to governance and service delivery.

10. She also emphasized that since the last UPR, the Government had made every effort to review the remaining core human rights treaties. She went on to state that the treaty ratification and implementation process continued to be a challenge for the Government, not only with human rights treaties but with any treaty deemed important to the nation. The reporting and financial obligations would continue to command the Federated States of Micronesia's attention. The Federated States of Micronesia learned from experience about the importance of a bottoms-up approach, which is naturally slow but it ensures that the work will be comprehensive and inclusive.

11. The head of the delegation informed the Human Rights Council that the Federated States of Micronesia had completed the ratification process for the OP-CRC-AC; its CEDAW report was submitted; part of the reservations placed on maternity leave was addressed through Public Law 16-15, where the national Government grants paid maternity leave up to six weeks; the Family Health and Safety Study was completed; the Child Protection Baseline Report was launched; Chuuk State passed its Age of Consent Law; a nation-wide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Policy was adopted; the Trafficking in Persons Act was enacted; and that it signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

12. She also highlighted that the role of women in the society continued to evolve. The Federated States of Micronesia had seen a number of women in the highest positions under the public service and thus involved in decision-making. Women continued to be prominent in the private sector. Women were more visible at the State and Municipal level where the direct impacts of their positive influence were felt at the grass roots level.

13. She added that this year, a number of women contested seats in the National Congress. The temporary special measures had become topics of discussion in the biannual Women's Conferences and also with the members of the National Congress in public hearings when the resolution was first introduced and also taken up in subsequent years. The issue would continue to be a topic of much debate among the Micronesian women. Public awareness campaigns about the importance of women's participation and contribution to decision-making positions in all branches and levels of government and society would be an ongoing activity.

14. The head of the delegation noted that in September this year, the international community adopted the 2030 Agenda envisioned to be transformative and leave no one behind. The National Strategic Development Plan (SDP) continued to guide the Federated States of Micronesia's social and economic development efforts. The Federated States of Micronesia was of the view that human rights are central to any effort to achieve sustainable development. It was working towards building on the unfinished work of the MDGs and updating, mainstreaming and harmonizing the National Strategic Development Plan. In this regard, she also noted that a number of national policies such as the Youth Policy and Disability Policy would expire this year and next year, and that the Federated States of Micronesia would start its second CRC report this month.

15. She emphasized that the Federated States of Micronesia believed that this approach would ensure ownership and accountability and that it looks to international development partners for their technical and financial assistance in its effort to collect and analyze data, advocacy work on human rights and appropriate policy and legislative reforms.

16. The head of the delegation stated that the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC confirmed that climate change is a result of human induced activities. She emphasized that climate change had created frequent and intensified typhoons in the region noting that early this year, typhoons Maysak and Dolphin hit three out of four states in the Federation - Chuuk State, Yap State and Pohnpei State in late March, early April and May respectively. The typhoons affected 30,000 people, threatened food and water security, and destroyed infrastructure. There were a number of casualties, and families had to be relocated so that students can finish their education during the school year. She further noted that this had set back the Government's efforts to continue to improve the livelihood of its people. For a small island country like the Federated States of Micronesia, it was difficult to talk about human rights without touching on the link between the adverse impacts of climate change and the right to develop, live and exist as a nation.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

17. During the interactive dialogue, 38 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

18. The Philippines noted with appreciation the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the commitment of Micronesia to intensify its efforts in the protection of women and children from domestic violence. It noted that the Federated States of Micronesia had been vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, which presented a challenge to the realization of the human rights of its people.

19. Poland commended the Government for the progress made in the coverage of sanitation and for reducing infant and under-five mortality. It noted the efforts to reduce the risk posed by sexually transmitted infections and HIV through preventive health service. Poland was concerned about the high rate of human trafficking and the lack of federal legislation on domestic violence.

20. Portugal welcomed the enactment of an anti-trafficking law. However, it remained concerned at the prevalence of cases of violence against women. It welcomed the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC.

21. Sierra Leone commended the Federated States of Micronesia for the adoption of the Trafficking in Persons Act and for guaranteeing gender parity in access to education. It encouraged the Government to put in place legislation ensuring that the minimum age of consent for marriage is the same for boys and girls, and to increase access of women to reproductive healthcare services especially in all rural communities. It also encouraged the

Government to submit its overdue report to the CRC and to seek further technical assistance in order to meet its objectives under the OP-CRC-SC.

22. Slovenia acknowledged the efforts to eliminate discrimination and all forms of violence against women and children, including through the national plan of action to promote gender equality and strategies to address gender-based violence. Nonetheless, Slovenia noted with concern that domestic violence continued to be one of the primary human rights issues facing the country.

23. Spain recognized the challenges faced and efforts made by the Federated States of Micronesia to overcome the effects of climate change on the enjoyment of human rights noting the Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Policy. It highlighted the ratification of two Optional Protocols to the CRC and congratulated Micronesia for initiatives such as the Family Health and Safety Study.

24. Timor-Leste acknowledged the efforts and commitments set forth in the strategic development plan 2004-2023, which outlines key development sectors, including climate change awareness programme and mitigation strategies.

25. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland acknowledged the capacity and resource challenges facing the Government, especially given the impact of climate change. It welcomed efforts to eliminate violence against women and children and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CRC. The United Kingdom noted with concern increasing instances of trans-national crime, including forced labour and human trafficking, and encouraged the Government to seek technical assistance from the United Nations bodies in tackling those issues.

26. The United States of America recognized the advances and efforts made by the Government to combat trafficking in persons, including the passage of national and state anti-trafficking-in-persons laws. It stressed a need for ensuring the enforcement of the laws, including by prosecuting and convicting those engaged in trafficking within the maritime borders of the Federated States of Micronesia.

27. Uruguay highlighted the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC and the completion of the process for the ratification of the OP-CRC-AC. It welcomed the fact that the Government was considering the ratification of the ICRMW and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. Uruguay also commended efforts by the Government to develop a national gender policy.

28. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the efforts made to comply with its human rights obligations, despite the numerous challenges faced because of its geographical dispersion and climate change. It highlighted the ratification of several international instruments and the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in 2012. It appreciated the efforts made to implement UPR recommendations, which requires technical assistance and international cooperation as requested by the country.

29. Algeria congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia for enacting the Trafficking in Persons Act in 2012. It expressed appreciation for the national policies, in particular the strategic development plan, the national policy for gender equality, and the policy on disabilities. Algeria also highlighted the efforts made in the framework of the Federated States of Micronesia's Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Policy.

30. Argentina thanked the Federated States of Micronesia for its national report and recognized the progress made since the last UPR review.

31. Australia congratulated Kosrae State on establishing the Kosrae State Family Protection Act 2014, the first law to criminalize domestic violence in the Federated States

of Micronesia. It welcomed the commitment to fostering gender equality. Australia was pleased to be working in partnership with the Federated States of Micronesia through the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development programme, which aims to improve the political, economic and social opportunities for Pacific women.

32. Brazil welcomed the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC, along with continuing improvements in statistical data concerning the protection of children. It encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to ratify the OP-CRC-AC. Brazil commended increased national efforts to promote gender equality. It appreciated, in particular, the publication of the first report on violence against women. Brazil remained nonetheless concerned that no woman had ever been elected to Congress.

33. Canada welcomed the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC. It encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to continue to build its capacity to address human rights issues, specifically discrimination against women, and domestic violence and child neglect. It welcomed the commitment to the principles of equality and non-discrimination. However, Canada noted that legal and social discrimination persisted, particularly in the area of sexual orientation. It encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to adopt measures to address remaining gaps.

34. China noted with appreciation that the Government put in place a strategic plan for economic development, paid high importance to the protection of the rights of children, youth and women, and took measures to combat human trafficking. It noted the adoption of preventive measures against disaster risks and climate change.

35. Costa Rica recognized the Federated States of Micronesia's leadership in the abolition of the death penalty. It noted challenges faced because of climate change, and encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to strengthen its capacity in this area highlighting the importance of taking into account human rights concerns in its responses to the issue. It also urged the Federated States of Micronesia to put in place a programme for human rights education that makes it possible to tackle the cultural obstacles that could affect women's equal enjoyment of rights in society.

36. Cuba noted that the Federated States of Micronesia united 607 islands, which had suffered the negative consequences of climate change. It highlighted progress in human rights, in particular the policy on disabilities, the ratification of several international human rights instruments and the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act. Cuba urged the international community to respond positively to the Federated States of Micronesia's request for assistance to coordinate its human rights initiatives at the national and state levels.

37. Cyprus commended the Government for its efforts to ensure the enjoyment of human rights. In particular, it welcomed the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act, as well as the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

38. Denmark noted that the Federated States of Micronesia supported the recommendations to ratify the CAT asking for an elaboration on the concrete steps taken to honour this commitment. Denmark also highlighted that the CAT Initiative stood ready to explore avenues to assist the Government in advancing on this issue.

39. Djibouti welcomed the efforts made by the Government to strengthen the protection of human rights, as well as the measures taken to implement UPR recommendations received during the first UPR cycle.

40. Estonia commended the Federated States of Micronesia on meeting its obligations through the incorporation of human rights principles into national policies. Estonia welcomed the Federated States of Micronesia's first research effort to father comprehensive

information on violence against women encouraging it to translate the collected data and findings into national legislation to better protect women and children from violence, including gender-based violence. Estonia also encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to continue its efforts to become party to all the main international human rights instruments and cooperate with special procedures by issuing a standing invitation.

41. Fiji noted the Federated States of Micronesia's work towards the adoption of a National Gender Policy and the 2014 Family and Health Study to consider the prevalence of gender-based violence. Fiji stated that it had had similar experiences as the Federated States of Micronesia in relation to the intersection between custom, customary attitudes and gender inequality, and that its own experience had been to mainstream gender and to ensure that legislation removes barriers to reporting on gender-based violence. Fiji also recognized that domestic violence and the abuse of children within the family remained largely unreported as a result of social, cultural and institutional barriers.

42. With respect to the issue of ratification of the remaining core human rights instruments, the head of the delegation reiterated that the Federated States of Micronesia had prepared a matrix on implementation which aims to identify responsible government departments or agencies for such implementation and focus areas.

43. Regarding submission of the report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, she confirmed that the Federated States of Micronesia would be starting its drafting the second report to the CRC this month. She also added that there is a need to focus its resources on the Child Protection Baseline Report, which will help identify the key areas that the Federated States of Micronesia needs to focus on and to focus resources.

44. With respect to the issue of violence against women, she stated that to implement provisions of CEDAW, the Federated States of Micronesia believed that the Family Health and Safety Study completed in October would help the country to gather information, and focus attention and resources on needed areas.

45. With regard to areas requiring constitutional amendment, the head of the delegation stated that such constitutional amendments would be made subject to its national constitutional amendment process.

46. The head of delegation also highlighted the need for technical cooperation, which will enable the Federated States of Micronesia to address its weaknesses in public education and advocacy work on human rights issues.

47. France commended the Federated States of Micronesia for acceding to the OP-CRC-SC. It also welcomed the adoption of an action plan to combat trafficking.

48. Georgia commended the Government for introducing nationwide integrated disaster risk management and climate change policy and the climate change law. It welcomed the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012, as well as the ratification of the CEDAW and the CRC.

49. Germany noted the progress made such as the ratification of the Optional Protocols to the CRC, protection of victims of human trafficking and in the fields of disabilities. Germany also appreciated the Government's commitment to combat domestic and sexual violence at the national and States' level.

50. Indonesia commended the Federated States of Micronesia on the signing of the CRPD, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act, and the approval of the Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Policy. Indonesia welcomed the submission of its CEDAW country report in June 2015. Indonesia also noted the measures taken to address violence against women and the increased representation of women in leadership and decision-making positions at the local and national level. Indonesia also

supported the development of a National Gender Policy. Indonesia acknowledged the challenges faced by the Federated States of Micronesia, including effects of climate change and disaster risks.

51. Ireland commended the Federated States of Micronesia for ratifying the OP-CRC-SC and for completing national procedures for ratifying the OP-CRC-AC urging the ratification of other core international human rights instruments, in particular the ICCPR and the ICESCR. Ireland appreciated efforts being made to tackle violence against women, including the 2014 Family Health and Safety Study. In this regard, Ireland encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to use the recommendations arising from the Study to formulate a comprehensive national policy to tackle violence against women. Ireland also urged the Federated States of Micronesia to amend its laws to ensure the equal protection of all citizens from discrimination on gender, sexual orientation and gender identity and disability. Ireland further regretted that progress had not yet been made in implementing the accepted recommendations of the previous cycle review to establish a national human rights institution.

52. Israel congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia for the progress made since the last UPR, including the launching and planning of several national policies such as the National Youth Policy, the National Policy on Disability and the National Policy on Gender. Israel also commended the Federated States of Micronesia on important research initiatives such as the Child Protection Baseline Report and the Family Health and Safety Study. Israel also commended the Federated States of Micronesia on the signing of the CRPD, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012, and the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC.

53. Maldives commended the Federated States of Micronesia for enacting the 2012 Trafficking in Persons Act and various State policies, as well as for the progress made in reducing infant and under-5 mortality. Maldives also took positive note of the strategic plan for improving education in the country expressing hope that efforts would be made to improve the quality of education and resources available. Maldives urged the Federated States of Micronesia to seek technical support and best practices from the UN and international community for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.

54. Montenegro welcomed the efforts made to strengthen the institutional and legislative framework for human rights, including the adoption of the National Anti-Human Trafficking Law and the plans to review and update both the National Youth Policy and National Disability Policy. Montenegro also expressed hope that the Federated States of Micronesia will introduce federal legislation criminalizing violence against women. Montenegro also commended the Federated States of Micronesia on the ratification of the OP-CRC-SC and the intention to finalize the ratification of the OP-CRC-AC. At the same time, Montenegro expressed concern that most of the core human rights treaties had not been ratified.

55. Morocco highlighted the fact that the Federated States of Micronesia had set up several sectorial policies, including the strategic development plan and the national policy for gender equality. Morocco also welcomed legislative reforms undertaken as exemplified by the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in 2012. It appreciated the Federated States of Micronesia's action on its national policy on disability and national youth policy and its engagement in the fields of education, health, and protection of children.

56. Namibia noted the impacts of climate change on the enjoyment of human rights in the country. Namibia also noted the launch of the Child Protection Baseline Report in October 2014 accompanied by the Atlas of the 2013 Child Equity Social Indicators. Namibia also commended the Federated States of Micronesia on the 2014 Family Health

and Safety Study, the first research effort to gather comprehensive information on violence against women.

57. The Netherlands welcomed the positive steps taken towards equal rights for women, notably efforts to promote the participation of more women in political decision-making positions. The Netherlands noted that the Federated States of Micronesia accepted the recommendations regarding reservations to CEDAW during the first UPR however these reservations remained in place.

58. New Zealand noted the accession to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in 2011. New Zealand remained concerned at the rate of domestic violence stating that increased efforts are required to counter it. New Zealand also noted that the OHCHR had urged the Federated States of Micronesia to introduce federal legislation criminalizing violence against women. Further, New Zealand noted that the Federated States of Micronesia accepted the recommendation to ratify the ICCPR and the ICESCR, but this had not yet taken place.

59. Panama highlighted the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in 2012 and the creation of a multidisciplinary UPR Task Force through a presidential order. It also noted training carried out on gender in 2015 so as to define and implement a national policy on gender, as well as measures put in place to implement laws on trafficking in persons and the development of procedures to identify victims of trafficking.

60. Mexico expressed appreciation for the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in 2012 and the introduction of a bill in Congress in 2014 for the creation of an Office of Gender Affairs. It also congratulated the Government for giving priority to developing a national gender policy and presenting its national report on the CRC.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

61. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by the Federated States of Micronesia and enjoy the support of the Federated States of Micronesia:

61.1. Engage with the United Nations and development partners when technical support is required (Timor-Leste);

61.2. Continue to engage multilateral, regional and bilateral partners with a view to build its capacity and its resources for the effective implementation of its anti-human trafficking programmes as well as disaster risk reduction measures and climate change adaption and mitigation programmes (Philippines).

62. The following recommendations will be examined by the Federated States of Micronesia which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the 31st session of the Human Rights Council in March 2016:

62.1. Ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties, in particular ICERD and its Optional Protocol, ICCPR and its Optional Protocols, CAT and its Optional Protocol and CRPD (Portugal);

62.2. Ratify the ICCPR and the other core international human rights instruments, as well as their optional protocols (Sierra Leone);

**Conclusions and recommendations will not be edited

- 62.3. Continue its engagement by ratifying other international instruments, in particular ICERD (Algeria);
- 62.4. Strengthen its legal framework by acceding to the international human rights promotion and protection instruments, to which it is not yet party, notably the ICCPR and the ICESCR (France);
- 62.5. Continue its engagement by ratifying other international instruments, in particular ICRMW (Algeria);
- 62.6. Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Poland; Montenegro);
- 62.7. Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two optional protocols (Estonia);
- 62.8. Ratify the ICCPR and ICESCR and their corresponding optional protocols (Spain);
- 62.9. Redouble its efforts for the ratification process of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Indonesia);
- 62.10. Consider ratification of the ICESCR and ICCPR as soon as possible (Namibia);
- 62.11. Ratify the ICCPR and ICESCR (New Zealand);
- 62.12. Pursue and complete accession to core human rights covenants, including in particular the ICCPR, ICESCR, CERD and CAT, as previously recommended (Germany);
- 62.13. Ratify the ICCPR, the ICESCR, as well as the CAT (Costa Rica);
- 62.14. Ratify the ICCPR also with a view to help ensure equal rights of, and end discrimination against LGBTI persons (Netherlands);
- 62.15. Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Poland);
- 62.16. Withdraw its reservations to CEDAW (Portugal; Netherlands)/ Withdraw all reservations to CEDAW (France)/Lift the reservations of the Federated States of Micronesia to CEDAW (Fiji);
- 62.17. Review the reservations made to CEDAW with the objective of withdrawing them, in particular those that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the said international instrument (Uruguay);
- 62.18. As a follow-up to recommendations Micronesia accepted in the course of the first UPR cycle, put forward a concrete plan with regard to the withdrawal of all reservations made to the CEDAW Convention (Germany);
- 62.19. Consider removing all reservations under the CEDAW and take all necessary measures to ensure full implementation of the provisions of the CEDAW (Namibia);
- 62.20. Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Denmark);
- 62.21. Sign and ratify the CAT, the ICPED, the ICERD (Uruguay);
- 62.22. Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its optional protocol, and prohibit all

corporal punishment of children in all settings, including at home environment (Estonia);

62.23. Ratify the OP-CRC-AC (France);

62.24. Ratify the third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Spain);

62.25. Harmonize the national legislation with CRC and article 16(2) of CEDAW by passing a legislative amendment to raise the minimum age of consent to marriage for girls to 18 years (Montenegro);

62.26. Ratify the ICPPED (Argentina);

62.27. Ratify the CRPD (Spain)/ Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities at the earliest opportunity (Australia);

62.28. Continue its efforts in order to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Israel);

62.29. Ratify the CRPD and incorporate it into national law (New Zealand);

62.30. Urge the Federated States of Micronesia to ratify the CRPD and its Optional Protocol, and incorporate them into its domestic legislation (Panama);

62.31. Ratify the CRPD and repeal any legislative provision that limits the full enjoyment of the rights of this sector of the population (Mexico);

62.32. Take all necessary measures towards acceding to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Cyprus);

62.33. Align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and ratify the Rome Statute and the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Estonia);

62.34. Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (France);

62.35. As appears in its second national report, urge the Federate States of Micronesia to continue studying the possibility of applying for membership of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), with a view to ratifying its fundamental conventions (Panama);

62.36. Continue to improve domestic laws in order to ensure international legal obligations in accordance with international norms and principles (Timor-Leste);

62.37. Continue efforts towards bringing national laws related to women and children in line with its obligations under international human rights law (Georgia);

62.38. Take immediate steps, including if necessary by requesting appropriate technical assistance to establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ireland);

62.39. Establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Portugal);

62.40. Strengthen its efforts in establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Indonesia);

62.41. Develop human rights education and training and include the aspects of women's and children's rights in education curricula (Slovenia);

- 62.42. Encourage pursuing efforts to overcome the backlog in the submission of periodic reports (Djibouti);
- 62.43. Extend a standing invitation to special procedures, as previously recommended (Portugal);
- 62.44. Analyse the possibility of issuing an open invitation so that the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council can visit the country (Mexico);
- 62.45. Ensure equality of all persons before the law, by including gender, sexual orientation and disability as grounds for non-discrimination in relevant constitutional or legal provisions (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 62.46. Continue working towards the creation of a national gender policy (Cuba);
- 62.47. That the proposed National Gender Policy should incorporate gender mainstreaming policies in all aspects of Federated States of Micronesia domestic law and policy (Fiji);
- 62.48. Speed up the finalization and implementation of the National Gender Policy (Maldives);
- 62.49. Strengthen its advocacy measures to educate and empower women, especially those who are in rural or hard-to-reach communities (Philippines);
- 62.50. Eliminate all laws and practices that discriminate against women and promote equal treatment of girls and boys (Cyprus);
- 62.51. Take the necessary measures to review its domestic legislation so as to guarantee the prohibition and sanction of discrimination in all its forms, especially on the basis of gender, sexual orientation and disability (Argentina);
- 62.52. Design and implement policies to prevent and combat discrimination on any grounds, including based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Brazil);
- 62.53. Include sexual orientation in non-discrimination laws and equality initiatives (Canada);
- 62.54. Prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender, disability and sexual orientation in the Constitution (Mexico);
- 62.55. Introduce federal legislation criminalising violence against women (Portugal);
- 62.56. Establish federal legislation criminalizing violence against women in all four states (Sierra Leone);
- 62.57. Improve data collection regarding domestic violence and gender-based violence (Slovenia);
- 62.58. Undertake awareness-raising and education on violence against women (Slovenia);
- 62.59. Deepen legislative endeavours in the fight against gender-based violence, within as well as outside of marriage (Spain);

- 62.60. Develop awareness raising programmes against the scourge of gender-based violence amongst public officials, law enforcement personnel and members of the judiciary (Spain);
- 62.61. Enact federal and state laws criminalising domestic violence (United States of America);
- 62.62. That the other States of Micronesia, including Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei, introduce legislation criminalizing domestic violence, to ensure that there is a consistent approach in protecting families and criminalizing domestic violence across the whole of the Federated States of Micronesia (Australia);
- 62.63. Strengthen awareness and prevention measures to address violence against women (Australia);
- 62.64. Implement effective measures against domestic violence, including spousal rape, bring perpetrators to justice, and develop public education campaigns in this area (Canada);
- 62.65. Adopt measures to reduce violence against women (China);
- 62.66. Introduce comprehensive legislation criminalizing violence against women, including marital rape (Germany);
- 62.67. Following the completion of the Family Health and Safety Study, continue its actions to eradicate domestic violence (Israel);
- 62.68. Develop a national action plan to combat domestic violence against women and children (New Zealand);
- 62.69. Ensure adequate protection and sheltering of women and children in need (Slovenia);
- 62.70. Ensure that federal legislation provides adequate protection for women and children, including by criminalizing violence in line with obligations under international human rights law (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 62.71. Strengthen measures to combat violence against women, as well as to prohibit corporal punishment of children and to set out the minimum age to work (Brazil);
- 62.72. Consider passing a domestic violence law which makes reporting of violence within the family and especially against women and children mandatory, and which creates a regime of family violence restraining orders designed to protect the family against further violence (Fiji);
- 62.73. Put in place a follow-up and evaluation mechanism on the situation of protection of children and strengthen the institutions working in that area (Morocco);
- 62.74. Take legislative measures to prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings (Namibia);
- 62.75. Expand education and awareness campaigns on the issue of trafficking in persons and make efforts to study human trafficking in the country (United States of America);
- 62.76. Adopt procedures to better identify victims of trafficking among vulnerable groups such as foreign workers and those engaged in prostitution (United States of America);

- 62.77. **Adopt a law on access to information in accordance with the international standards on the issue (Mexico);**
- 62.78. **Adopt domestic laws to promote and guarantee women's political representation in decision making positions (Costa Rica);**
- 62.79. **Take steps, including by implementation of gender quotas for candidates presented for election by political parties to increase women's representation in public and political life (Ireland);**
- 62.80. **Pursue efforts to increase women's representation and leadership in the decision making bodies both at the political and economic levels (Morocco);**
- 62.81. **Put in place labour laws which would include a minimum age of employment, and which protects children from commercial exploitation (Sierra Leone);**
- 62.82. **Adopt comprehensive laws against child labour (Spain);**
- 62.83. **Continue strengthening its social policies in order to raise the quality of life of its people, in particular of those sectors most in need (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**
- 62.84. **Continue efforts to improve conditions for girls, particularly with respect to the quality of nutrition, health care and education, and to their civil rights, including equitable heritable rights (Canada);**
- 62.85. **Encourage putting in place a broader social safety net designed to cover all segments of society, notably persons working in the informal sectors as well as vulnerable persons (Djibouti);**
- 62.86. **Combat malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies by ensuring the right to adequate and healthy food (Maldives);**
- 62.87. **Continue applying the measures necessary to reduce the risks of contracting infectious sexually transmitted diseases and HIV, through its preventive health care services (Panama);**
- 62.88. **Continue to combat maternal and child mortality (Djibouti);**
- 62.89. **Adopt concrete measures to prevent discrimination against persons with disabilities in the private sector and in access to services such as health and education (Spain);**
- 62.90. **Grant the Health Department with the human and material resources to enable it to offer adequate services to persons with disabilities (Spain);**
- 62.91. **Encourage the Government to develop a child-friendly centre for disaster risk protection (Timor-Leste);**
- 62.92. **Incorporate human rights considerations in the measures that are adopted to counter climate change (Costa Rica);**
- 62.93. **Continue its fight against the negative consequences of climate change (Cuba).**
63. **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 the Federated States of Micronesia was headed by Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia to the United Nations, H.E., Mrs. Jane J. Chigiya and composed of the following members:

- Ms. Stacy Yleizah, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multilateral Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs.
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