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**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Twenty-sixth session**  
Geneva, 31 October–11 November 2016

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

### **Zimbabwe**

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\* 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, held its twenty-sixth session from 31<sup>st</sup> October to 11 November 2016. The review of Zimbabwe was held at the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting on 2 November 2016. The delegation of Zimbabwe was headed by the Vice-President and Minister for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Mr. Emmerson D. Mnangagwa. At its 10<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 4 November 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on Zimbabwe.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Zimbabwe: Kenya, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Arab Emirates.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Zimbabwe:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ZWE/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.6/26/ZWE/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/26/ZWE/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America was transmitted to Zimbabwe 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 delegation reiterated that the commitment of the Government of Zimbabwe to its human rights obligations, and its appreciation for the universal periodic review mechanism.

6. Since the last review, the National Steering Committee was established comprising of Government and other multi-stakeholder representatives. A National Plan of Action for the implementation of accepted recommendations was adopted, with the National Steering Committee monitoring the process. A mid-term report on the progress made in the implementation of recommendations was submitted.

7. The effects of climate change have adversely affected the implementation of social and economic rights. The negative impact of the drought required redirecting resources from national social programmes to providing food to over eight hundred thousand vulnerable households. Although the continued imposition of economic sanctions by some western countries has severely limited the fiscal space and economic growth which have compounded the challenges to mobilise resources for social services, the Government has installed initiatives including the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Zim-ASSET), which is the economic blue print for achieving sustainable

and equitable economic and social development. A Monitoring and Evaluation Framework has also been adopted to measure developmental efforts.

8. In partnership with the World Bank, the Government has embarked on the Ease of Doing Business project, to improve the international ranking of the country as a sound investment destination.

9. To ensure food security, the Government, in partnership with the private sector, embarked on a Special Maize Production programme.

10. Since the previous review, Zimbabwe adopted a new Constitution in 2013 which was lauded for its foundational democratic elements and its expanded bill of rights. The Constitution brought about the establishment of the Constitutional Court. The alignment of all legislation was in progress. The Constitution obligates the Government to ensure that all international conventions, treaties and agreements to which Zimbabwe was a party are incorporated into domestic law. In this regard, a Ratification and Domestication Strategy was adopted to accelerate the ratification and domestication processes.

11. Zimbabwe has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its optional protocol, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, the Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. Reports were submitted to CEDAW, CRC and to the Committee for African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

12. The Government has prioritised programmes aimed at promoting public awareness of human rights, which took the form of radio programmes and exhibitions. The Constitution has been widely distributed with abridged versions available in eight languages and in Braille. The Constitution was also available on the Government's website.

13. The institutionalization of the promotion of human rights was achieved through the establishment of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission. The Zimbabwe Media Commission and Zimbabwe Gender Commission have been operationalized, while the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission has been further strengthened. Enabling legislation to operationalize the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission was before Parliament.

14. Nine additional resident magistrates' courts in six provinces were established. Legislation to designate all magistrates' courts as small claims courts was before Parliament. The legal aid programme has been decentralised.

15. The delegation responded to advance questions. On the issue of early marriage, the delegation stated that the Constitution sets the age of marriage at 18 years, which was confirmed by the Constitutional Court. The marriage laws were being aligned with the Constitution.

16. On the issue of birth registration, the delegation stated that 206 birth registration sub offices have been opened. Schools also assist pupils to obtain birth certificates.

17. On the issue of food security, the delegation stated that drop-in centres have been established in five major towns which distribute food for children living in the streets. Food is also allocated to orphans, children in need of food in rural areas, families headed by children and children with disabilities. The Home Grown school feeding programme for children in schools was being rolled out in phases starting with infant learners.

18. There was progress in decreasing the HIV prevalence. The Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission Strategy for 2014-2018 focused on pregnant and lactating women, as well as adolescent girls and young women. The Government will be launching the Global Framework to HIV Prevention, Care and Treatment. The National AIDS Trust Fund was

being channelled towards, amongst other things, prevention and community engagement in care and treatment. Youth Friendly Corners were being established in health facilities to meet the needs of unmarried adolescents.

19. On the issue of child sexual abuse, the delegation stated that the legal and structural framework was sufficient to protect children from such abuse.

20. On the issue of the death penalty, the delegation recalled that at the previous review, Zimbabwe accepted recommendations to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. However, during the consultative process for the drafting of the 2013 Constitution, the majority of the people favoured the retention of the death penalty, which resulted in a delay in ratifying this Convention. The 2013 Constitution nevertheless provides for the enactment of a law to restrict the use of the death to male convicts between the ages of 21 and 70 years and only for convictions of aggravated murder. Nation-wide campaigns on the effects of the death penalty were on the way.

21. Although the ratification of Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, was still under consideration, the content of the Convention has been incorporated in the 2013 Constitution and in domestic law.

22. The disappearance of Itai Dzamara was being investigated and the authorities were working with his family and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights in that regard.

23. The National Peace and Reconciliation Commission will become operational by the National Peace and Reconciliation bill, to be tabled during the current session of Parliament.

24. All Independent Commissions were now being funded directly from Treasury which has strengthened their independence. The Constitution guarantees the independence of the Commissions. A stringent and transparent process of removing Commissioners from office guarantees their tenure of office.

25. Zimbabwe Electoral Commission was independent. The Government did not interfere with the Commission's operations and supported it in the discharge of its mandate.

26. The right of women to inherit or acquire land and other property was provided for in law. Wives and daughters may now inherit from the estates of their deceased husbands and fathers. Also, the Constitution called on the Government to promote the full participation of women in all spheres, including land ownership, equal to that of men.

27. The mandate of the Gender Commission includes the monitoring of gender equality and investigating violations of rights relating to gender. Relevant laws were being re-aligned with the 2013 Constitution to ensure equal representation of women in all institutions. There was a legal framework in place to combat domestic violence.

28. It was not the policy of the Government to distribute food on partisan lines. The Government has adopted a zero tolerance policy towards the politicization of food aid and has put in place stringent measures against such malpractices.

29. Whenever the prison population exceeded the holding capacity inmates were transferred from closed prisons to spacious farm prisons. Those measures were complemented by Clemency Orders which were periodically issued by the President. A new Prisons and Correctional Service Bill was being finalized to improve prison conditions, create community correctional centres and increase the number of correctional facilities.

30. The Inter Ministerial Taskforce on Legislative Alignment has been established and tasked with coordinating the alignment all laws with the 2013 Constitution. The Electoral Act has already been revised by the General Laws Amendment Act and the Zimbabwe

Electoral Commission now has the responsibility for registering voters, compiling voters' rolls and registers and ensuring the proper custody and maintenance of the rolls. A polling station based voted registration process has been established.

31. Criminal defamation was no longer a crime as it was struck down by the Constitutional Court. Broadcasting licences for private broadcasters and commercial radio stations were issued. Licences for community radio stations will be issued after the digitalisation of broadcasting services.

32. The law on interception of communications was being revised to prevent the unauthorised collection, processing and transmission of personal data and the interception of communications.

33. The freedoms of expression, association and assembly were not absolute and must be exercised peacefully and with due respect for the rights of others. The Government will continue to ensure that such freedoms were enjoyed by all without causing any harm or prejudice to other people.

34. The enforcement of civil court orders was the responsibility of the Sheriff of the High Court and not the police. However, where the Sheriff of the High Court was hindered in carry out his duty the assistance of the police may be enrolled to maintain peace and order

35. With regard to the concern of human rights abuses by the security forces, reported cases were investigated and alleged perpetrators prosecuted. Victims may also institute civil litigation against the perpetrators. New law was being drafted to provide for an independent complaints' mechanism to address complaints against members of the security forces.

36. The delegation concluded its response to advance questions by emphasising that Zimbabwe was committed to working with the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council. All outstanding requests for visits to the country will be considered on their merits.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

37. During the interactive dialogue, 86 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

38. The Netherlands applauded Zimbabwe's adoption of a new Constitution. It was concerned by the increase of reported incidents infringing on fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in it.

39. New Zealand was concerned about the use of excessive force by government forces and called on Zimbabwe to ensure that the right to freedom of expression is respected and to support an open political space.

40. Niger was pleased with the adoption of the new 2013 Constitution and noted with satisfaction the strengthening of Zimbabwe's legislative and institutional framework in the area of human rights.

41. Nigeria commended Zimbabwe for accepting the majority of the recommendations of its first UPR and acknowledged its National Plan of Action for their implementation. It was also encouraged by Zimbabwe's bold step on economic development.

42. Denmark expressed concern about the lack of freedom of assembly and association and the lack of space for civil society space. It was also concerned about the absence of a constitutionally aligned policy framework for the justice institutions.

43. Pakistan welcomed Zimbabwe's strengthening of its institutional human rights' framework. It also noted its measures to promote the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.
44. Uruguay expressed the hope that the new 2013 Constitution would have a positive impact on the enjoyment of human rights by the people of Zimbabwe.
45. Philippines welcomed the expansion of the Declaration of Rights in the 2013 Constitution. It was concerned that limited funding and restricted mandate impinged the effectiveness of Zimbabwe's Human Rights Commission to monitor children rights and receive and investigate complaints from children in a child-sensitive manner.
46. Portugal welcomed Zimbabwe's ratification, since its first UPR, of two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.
47. The Republic of Korea welcomed Zimbabwe's adoption of the 2013 Constitution and the implementation of the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable and Socio-economic Transformation.
48. The Russian Federation noted the improvement Zimbabwe's legislative framework on human rights. It welcomed the establishment of inter-ministerial committees to combat sexual violence and trafficking in persons and the steps taken to improve prison conditions.
49. Rwanda commended Zimbabwe's efforts to implement the recommendations of its first UPR under difficult conditions as well as its efforts to promote gender equality and combat gender based violence.
50. Senegal noted the progresses made by Zimbabwe since 2011 and welcomed the multipartite composition of the steering committee on the UPR.
51. Serbia commended Zimbabwe's participatory approach in preparing its national report and encouraged it to continue aligning its laws with the new Constitution and Declaration of Rights.
52. Sierra Leone commended Zimbabwe for the adoption of a new Constitution and noted that harmful practices such as child marriage have since been banned.
53. Slovenia appreciated the presentation of Zimbabwe's national report and commended it for the efforts made since its last UPR review.
54. South Africa recognized Zimbabwe's progress in promoting and protecting human rights despite the economic sanctions that severely constrained its ability to implement its human rights obligations.
55. South Sudan recognized Zimbabwe's cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms and called upon the international community to support it with financial and technical assistance.
56. Spain highlighted the importance to implement the Domestic Violence Act and regretted the temporary suspension of the right to demonstration recognized in Section 59 of 2013 Constitution.
57. Sudan commended Zimbabwe's positive engagement with the UPR and appreciated the positive steps taken since the last review despite the economic challenges caused by the economic sanctions imposed by some western countries.
58. Swaziland commended Zimbabwe for strengthening and, where necessary, creating the institutions to implement the recommendations received in 2011. It also congratulated Zimbabwe for outlawing child marriages.

59. Sweden thanked Zimbabwe for replying to its advanced questions. It noted that the alignment of national laws to the new Constitution had been slow and, in parts, unsystematic.
60. Switzerland indicated that the implementation of the new Constitution was of particular importance in light of violations to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.
61. Syrian Arab Republic welcomed the commitment by the government to accord priority at the policy level to the development of human rights.
62. Thailand welcomed the adoption of the 2013 Constitution and the ratification of several human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
63. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia asked for an update on measures taken to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
64. Timor-Leste welcomed the enactment of the Sexual Offences Act, the constitutional provision establishing the age of majority at 18 years, and the prohibition on forced marriages.
65. Togo welcomed the creation of new institutions including, the Constitutional Court, the National Prosecuting Authority, the Zimbabwe Gender Commission and the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission.
66. Tunisia welcomed measures taken to promote human rights, particularly the ratification of international human rights instruments and steps taken to implement recommendations from the first cycle.
67. Turkey appreciated the legislative improvement in protecting human rights. It welcomed the adoption of policies on gender, children and the Gender Commission Act.
68. Uganda urged the unconditional lifting of the damaging economic sanctions. It noted Zimbabwe experienced food insecurity but lacked capacity in social protection.
69. Ukraine was concerned about excessive force against peaceful demonstrators and regretted that the Gender Commission and National Peace and Reconciliation Commission was not operational.
70. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland called for an investigation into concerns regarding political violence and partisan distribution of food aid, and for the prosecution of alleged perpetrators.
71. The United Republic of Tanzania commended achievements, notably the new constitution, and the establishment of the Constitutional Court and of a number of commissions.
72. The United States of America expressed concern about restrictions on freedoms of expression and assembly and increased politically motivated violence, as well as the failure to hold security forces accountable.
73. Panama noted that climate change is a threat to the rights related to the environment and encouraged Zimbabwe to promote a greener economy.
74. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted efforts to improve the quality of education, and initiatives to provide housing and to support small farm owners.



75. Zambia commended action taken to implement recommendations from the universal periodic review, particularly bringing together stakeholders in the development of a national plan of action to implement recommendations.
76. Algeria welcomed the new Constitution. It efforts made to protect children and encouraged Zimbabwe to implement its national policy on the rights of the child.
77. Angola noted that the government had implemented macroeconomic measures to overcome the unjust sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe, and welcomed cooperation with human rights mechanisms.
78. Argentina urged the government to make progress in aligning its national legislation with its international obligations and continue acceding to human rights treaties.
79. Armenia welcomed steps towards human rights education and awareness-raising. It was concerned about the sexual abuse and harassment of girls on their way to school.
80. Australia commended the adoption of a new Constitution and supported Zimbabwe's Human Rights Commission. It was concerned about freedom of expression and assembly.
81. Bangladesh noted steps to implement recommendations received during the first UPR and encouraged Zimbabwe to sustain the momentum. It noted challenges, including HIV/AIDs and capacity constraints.
82. Belarus congratulated Zimbabwe on its new Constitution based on principles including the rule of law, and the ratification of several human rights instruments.
83. Belgium welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution. It remained concerned about the persistence of harmful laws and practices against women and children.
84. Botswana highlighted challenges relating to high rates of maternal, neonatal and child mortality, as well as of stunting and malnutrition among children under the age of 5 years.
85. Brazil noted the adoption of a new Constitution. It encouraged the continued alignment of national legislation to the Constitution and international law.
86. Burundi noted the strengthening of the legislative institutional framework, the human rights awareness and training policies, efforts to incorporate human rights instruments in domestic law, and the reforms to the judicial sector.
87. Canada was concerned about reports of reprisals against those who have criticized the Government. It stressed the importance for the Government to protect freedom of expression.
88. Chile welcomed the commitment by Zimbabwe to protect human rights with the adoption of the 2013 Constitution and the acceptance of the recommendations from the 2011 universal periodic review. It encouraged the adoption of measures to honour the commitment.
89. China commended the adoption of a new Constitution. It welcomed the adoption of policies to promote development. China expressed its concerns over the economic sanctions that were in place and called upon the international community to assist Zimbabwe with development.
90. Congo noted that Zimbabwe has consolidated its institutional framework codified in the new constitution. It commended Zimbabwe for the ratification of relevant international instruments.

91. Costa Rica was concerned about the prevalence of patriarchal attitude and practices that violate the rights of women, discrimination, and the lack of access to education and health services.
92. Cuba stated that despite the human rights challenges that were worsened because of the unilateral coercive measures imposed on the country, Zimbabwe has made significant progress with, amongst other, the adoption of the Constitution.
93. Czechia expressed its appreciation for the informative presentation including the response to some of its advance questions.
94. Democratic People's Republic of Korea requested to know about the impact of economic sanctions on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in the field of public health.
95. Norway welcomed the presentation of Zimbabwe's national report. It noted with concern the high number of arrests of human rights defenders and peaceful protesters and the continued restrictions on freedom of expression.
96. Djibouti noted the measures taken since the last review, particularly the ratification of human rights treaties. It welcomed the adoption of a new Constitution.
97. Ecuador expressed the hope that the 2013 Constitution, the relevant national institutions, as well as the adoption and implementation of updated laws, will all strengthen democracy and the human rights system.
98. Egypt acknowledged the enactment of a Constitution with safeguards for human rights. It commended the establishment of institutions and frameworks to protect human rights.
99. Ethiopia commended the wider institutional infrastructures and policy measures in the protection of the human rights. It welcomed the launch of Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation Plan for the period 2013-2018.
100. France welcomed the measures taken since the first review, especially the adoption of the Constitution which enshrined fundamental freedoms and the ratification of the CRPD.
101. Germany expressed concern that many laws are not yet aligned with this new constitution and that in practice human rights are repeatedly violated by state officials and security forces.
102. Ghana commended Zimbabwe for establishing its Constitutional Court, National Prosecuting Authority, Zimbabwe Gender Commission and National Peace and Reconciliation Commission via adoption of its 2013 Constitution.
103. Guatemala recognised Zimbabwe's efforts to promote and protect human rights and its establishment of the National Human Rights Commission. It was concerned that the latter lacks sufficient human and financial resources.
104. The Holy noted the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation, the Non-Formal Education Policy, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Human Trafficking.
105. India urged Zimbabwe to align its laws with the 2013 Constitution, strengthen juvenile courts, increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility and reduce gender segregation and wage gap.
106. Indonesia welcomed the adoption of a new Constitution. It noted the Constitution's prohibition of torture, right to personal security and implementation of migrant rights.

107. The Islamic Republic of Iran noted the adoption of the new Constitution in 2013, the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act (2014) and the creation of the Inter Ministerial Task Force on Human Trafficking.
108. Iraq commended the measures taken to implement the recommendations from the first review, and the adoption of a new Constitution.
109. Ireland encouraged the alignment of legislation with the Constitution. It was concerned by the high rate of child marriages, while welcoming the Constitutional Court's ruling that child marriage is unconstitutional.
110. Italy welcomed Zimbabwe's reviewed National Gender Policy, while noting its draft National Child Rights Policy and its absolute prohibition of torture.
111. Japan urged Zimbabwe to strengthen the rule of law and implement the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation. It welcomed its constitutional prohibition of child and forced marriage.
112. Kenya commended Zimbabwe for its efforts to implement the UPR first cycle recommendations and its commitment to the human rights mechanism. It encouraged Zimbabwe to pursue this approach.
113. Libya noted efforts to implement accepted recommendations from the first review. It also noted reforms in the judicial system, including the establishment of the Constitutional Court.
114. Madagascar commended Zimbabwe's ratification of several international human rights instruments and adoption of its 2013 Constitution, which strengthens guarantees on civil, political, social and cultural rights.
115. The Maldives commended Zimbabwe for its engagement in the UPR process and its adoption of the 2013 Constitution founded on human rights and the rule of law.
116. Mauritius welcomed Zimbabwe's adoption of the 2013 Constitution and expanded Declaration of Rights, its achievements in women's rights and its guaranteed right to education.
117. Mexico invited Zimbabwe to continue cooperation with the Human Rights Council's Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies. It welcomed the fact that the new Constitution sets the age of majority at eighteen.
118. Montenegro noted concerns about domestic and sexual violence and requested to know about the activities undertaken to bring perpetrators to justice and provide assistance to victims.
119. Morocco welcomed the adoption of a new Constitution in 2013 and noted with satisfaction the ratification of several conventions.
120. Mozambique welcomed the key national priorities, initiatives and commitments to improve human rights. It encouraged Zimbabwe to continue to engage with key institutions and appealed for the lifting of sanctions on Zimbabwe.
121. Myanmar acknowledged the positive steps taken to increase respect for the rights of its citizens. It noted the promotion of health care services and the development of rehabilitation services.
122. Namibia encouraged Zimbabwe to ensure that the Organ for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration fully implements its mandate, as well as the effectiveness and independence of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission.

123. Israel noted that Zimbabwe had many overdue reports to human rights monitoring mechanisms.

124. The delegation of Zimbabwe, in response to questions, stated that western imposed sanctions have led to a general decline in health service delivery, especially in maternal and child nutrition. It has also slowed down the economy and resulted in a brain drain which has affected service delivery.

125. An Inter-Ministerial Committee on human rights and International humanitarian law has been established to prepare state party reports. A number of reports have been drafted and will be submitted in due course.

126. The right to free and basic education will be progressively achieved as resources become available. In the interim, parents were funding their children's education, within their means. Where parents did not have the means to fund their children's education the Government, together with development partners, provided funding for those children under the Basic Education Assistance Module.

127. In 2010, a Women's Develop Fund was established to enable women to access funds without collateral. A women's micro finance bank was in the process of being set up. Also, a financial inclusion strategy has been adopted which will ensure that financial institutions develop products tailored for the needs of women.

128. A national policy on domestic water and sanitation was launched in 2013. Work was on the way to assess the needs in urban areas while installing and rehabilitating bore holes in rural areas was in progress.

129. There were no political prisoners. As regards the death penalty, there were 90 inmates on death row and there were no executions for over a decade. Ten petitions for clemency were recently granted. A paper on the abolition of the death penalty will be prepared for debate.

130. The Government was mindful of the imperative need for constitutional, legislative and administrative measures that were in line with international human rights instruments and standards.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\***

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

**131.1. Continue to ensure the implementation of ratified human rights treaties (Pakistan);**

**131.2. Fully implement the 2013 Constitution and in particular in his operationalization of its key institutions including the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (Republic of Korea);**

**131.3. Endeavour to implement fully the Constitution and operationalize the key human rights promotion institutions that it establishes (Ghana);**

**131.4. Strengthen the institution to enable Zimbabwe to defend its sovereignty and protect the human rights of its people (Syrian Arab Republic);**

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\*\* The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- 131.5. Accelerate implementation of the new Constitution and alignment of relevant legislation, including for the various Commissions established under the Constitution (Australia);
- 131.6. Speed up the process of reviewing and aligning the laws to the Constitution (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 131.7. Harmonize all laws with the Constitution of 2013 and ensure they are implemented in full accordance with human rights (Germany);
- 131.8. Accelerate the process of alignment of its national legislation with the new Constitution and incorporate its international commitments in domestic law (Congo);
- 131.9. Sustain efforts to align domestic legal framework with the international human rights standards (Philippines);
- 131.10. Expedite the review and alignment of national laws to the new Constitution (Uganda);
- 131.11. Pursue national efforts to align the national legislation with the new Constitution (Egypt);
- 131.12. Accelerate the process of reviewing and aligning its domestic laws to the Constitution, particularly those pertaining to the prohibition of torture and the elimination of violence against women (Thailand);
- 131.13. Accelerate the process undertaken to align its legislation with the new Constitution (Togo);
- 131.14. Actively pursue the work of compliance of laws and regulations on human rights with constitutional provisions and take necessary measures to fully guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful demonstration and assembly (France);
- 131.15. Review the legislation to ensure its full compliance with the international obligations of Zimbabwe and with the country's Constitution with regard to the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly and the elimination of discrimination against women (Czechia);
- 131.16. Continue the positive work on the domestication of human rights treaties as indicated in the Mid-Term report (Mauritius);
- 131.17. Continue taking measures to integrate international human rights laws and standards (for treaties it is a party to) into the framework of its domestic law (Maldives);
- 131.18. Align domestic legislation with the obligations under the CRPD and adopt measures to ensure inclusive education and access to public buildings to people with disabilities (Israel);
- 131.19. Review and align the laws of Zimbabwe to the 2013 constitution, including in relation to section 61 on freedom of expression and freedom of the media, and ensure their implementation (Netherlands);
- 131.20. Update national legislation in line with its international commitments, especially with regard to gender-equality, protection of the rights of the child and combating violence and forced marriage (Tunisia);
- 131.21. Fully incorporate CEDAW into its domestic legal system (South Africa);

- 131.22. Amend all statutory and customary law to establish the minimum age of marriage at 18 years and take concrete steps to implement this legislation, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Belgium);
- 131.23. Step up efforts towards expansion of mandate and provision of adequate resource to the national human rights institution (Philippines);
- 131.24. As previously recommended, provide the necessary resources and technical capacity for Zimbabwe's Human Rights Commission to function as provided for in the Constitution (Australia);
- 131.25. Ensure adequate means, both financial and material, of the Human Rights Commission and the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission to enable them to fully and effectively fulfil their mandates (Germany);
- 131.26. Take proper measures to ensure that the National Human Rights Commission is fully compliant with the Paris Principles (France);
- 131.27. Continue efforts to ensure the effective operation and full independence of the Human Rights Commission in keeping with the Paris principles (Djibouti);
- 131.28. Continue efforts towards the capacity building of the national human rights institution (Ethiopia);
- 131.29. Accelerate efforts to ensure the full operationalization of the Zimbabwe Gender Commission (South Africa);
- 131.30. Take all necessary measures including to ensure the full operationalization of the Zimbabwe Gender Commission without delay, to ensure that women are not subjected to violence, including sexual violence (Sweden);
- 131.31. Take legislative measures to guarantee the independence of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission and to ensure it is provided with the necessary powers and resources to effectively fulfill its constitutional mandate (Switzerland);
- 131.32. Further enhance the role of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (Tunisia);
- 131.33. Enhance the role of a national authority working on the promotion and respect of human rights (Egypt);
- 131.34. Establish a credible, independent electoral commission capable of registering eligible voters on a nation-wide basis ahead of the 2018 elections (United States of America);
- 131.35. Continue to develop policies aimed at promoting and protecting human rights and realising the welfare and development of the population (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 131.36. Strengthen further national information campaigns on rights and responsibilities (Togo);
- 131.37. Continue to mobilise resources and technical support to enhance the capacity to fulfil its human rights obligations (Nigeria);
- 131.38. Continue to implement policies for development of its people under SDGs including measures taken for equal opportunities for women's participation in economic development of the country (Pakistan);

- 131.39. **Guarantee continuing awareness raising of the Sustainable Development Goals and to make it part of the general culture (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 131.40. **Continue to do what needs to be done to put together a National Child Rights Policy (Ecuador);**
- 131.41. **Establish child protection systems in order to reduce the number of cases of maltreatment of children (Madagascar);**
- 131.42. **Continue efforts to align training programs for all government officials with international human rights law and incorporate more training in child rights in professional development courses (Holy See);**
- 131.43. **Continue its efforts in human rights training and awareness raising (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 131.44. **Continue its efforts in enhancing the capacity of the law enforcement officials in the field of rule of law and human rights, through increasing training activities (Libya);**
- 131.45. **Allow the unimpeded ability of humanitarian agencies to deliver humanitarian assistance, including food aid, to all parts of the country (New Zealand);**
- 131.46. **Continue to promote dialogue with all States on the basis of mutual respect, sovereign equality, self-determination and the right of peoples to freely choose their own political, economic and social systems (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 131.47. **Continue making efforts, with the support of the international community, to ensure that unilateral coercive measures imposed on the country be lifted (Cuba);**
- 131.48. **Cooperate closely with civil society in the follow up to this Universal Periodic Review (Norway);**
- 131.49. **Further strengthen its cooperation with human rights mechanisms, in particular the UN treaty bodies (Niger);**
- 131.50. **Submit its long overdue reports to the relevant treaty body mechanisms (Sierra Leone);**
- 131.51. **Submit overdue reports to the Human Rights treaty bodies (Ghana);**
- 131.52. **Continue efforts to strengthen gender equality (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 131.53. **Continue to strengthen its policies and measures for the empowerment of women (Bangladesh);**
- 131.54. **Continue to develop policies to protect women's rights (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 131.55. **Develop and implement the National Gender policy in order to ensure that the principle of equal gender representation is respected (Ecuador);**
- 131.56. **Ensure more effective enforcement of policies and legislation to address discrimination against and marginalization of women, and take measures to promote equal access for boys and girls to basic education (Thailand);**

- 131.57. Continue taking legislative action to eliminate the marginalization of women from socio-economic and political spheres and strengthen mechanisms for protection against gender-based violence (Maldives);
- 131.58. Continue to address the marginalization and exclusion of women in the economic, social and political spheres, with special attention paid to eliminating the harmful practice of child marriage (Republic of Korea);
- 131.59. Set up a strategy to promote the rights of women to combat discrimination against women and girls, focusing in particular on matters such as early or forced marriage, sexual violence, equal access to education and equal access to land ownership, inter alia (Mexico);
- 131.60. Act swiftly to address issues of discrimination against girls in education, especially sexual abuse and harassment of girls in schools, as well as difficulties faced by children in rural areas in accessing education (Japan);
- 131.61. Continue to adopt measures to increase the rate of issuance of birth certificates, especially in rural areas and in low-income households (Turkey);
- 131.62. Increase prompt access to birth registration and public awareness for the same (Kenya);
- 131.63. Cease ungrounded arrests and detentions as well as excessive force, torture, intimidation and harassment, interference and anti-protest discrimination (Ukraine);
- 131.64. Investigate all cases of politically motivated violence, including the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of human rights defender Itai Dzamara, and ensure that those responsible are brought to justice (United States of America);
- 131.65. Strengthen the implementation measures taken to fight child labour (France);
- 131.66. Fully implement the constitutional provisions for the protection of the rights of the child in line with international standards, also in order to further reduce the practice of child, early and forced marriages (Italy);
- 131.67. Improve the protection of children, taking measures to prevent forced and early marriage, and eliminate child labour (Israel);
- 131.68. Amend all statutory and customary laws as soon as possible to establish the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, create and implement a comprehensive national plan of action to combat the practice of child marriage and its root causes (Ireland);
- 131.69. Develop a national plan of action to stem the rise in the practice of child marriages (Madagascar);
- 131.70. Adopt measures to prevent and eradicate violence against women and girls, especially the adoption of legislation, the establishment of more shelters and the training of judges, prosecutors and police officers (Israel);
- 131.71. Adopt measures to prevent and eliminate all abuses of sexual violence against girls and women, ensuring that perpetrators are effectively held to account, including with full coordination of the Zimbabwe Gender Commission (Turkey);



- 131.72. Ensure victims of sexual and gender-based violence have access to social and legal support, and that perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence are brought to justice (Canada);
- 131.73. Provide adequate assistance and protection to women who were victims of violence (Timor-Leste);
- 131.74. Ensure strict compliance with legal provisions pertaining to the minimum age for marriage, and also prevent and investigate cases of forced marriage, bringing perpetrators to justice and guaranteeing assistance to victims (Argentina);
- 131.75. Step up its efforts to improve detention conditions in prisons and in police holding cells (Burundi);
- 131.76. Step up efforts to improve prison conditions and police cells, in order to decongest prisons (Cuba);
- 131.77. Continue its efforts in combating Human Trafficking (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 131.78. Continue its efforts to implement the National Plan on anti-trafficking and the sustainable Socio- Economic transformation 2013-2018 (Sudan);
- 131.79. Strengthen the Inter-Ministerial Committee to combat trafficking in persons to provide effective protection to victims of trafficking, particularly women and children (Belarus);
- 131.80. Provide training to judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, border guards and social workers in identifying and dealing with victims of trafficking and in anti-trafficking legislation (Israel);
- 131.81. Implement measures to strengthen the system of justice administration in order to ensure equal access, due process and to fight impunity (Chile);
- 131.82. Provide training for judges and prosecutors (Timor-Leste);
- 131.83. Train judges and prosecutors on laws related to violence against women and train police forces on the protocols to assist women victims of violence (Panama);
- 131.84. Ensure all individuals who have been detained and charged with an offense are given a fair and impartial trial, while ensuring the independence of the judiciary (New Zealand);
- 131.85. Increase the age of criminal responsibility to match international standards (Sierra Leone);
- 131.86. Expand the successful Pre-Trial Diversion Programme for juvenile offenders from the existing five provinces to ten (South Africa);
- 131.87. Take further measures to improve citizens' access to justice (Togo);
- 131.88. Guarantee full enjoyment of the right of freedom of expression and association (Ukraine);
- 131.89. Adopt measures that guarantee the rights of citizens to peaceful demonstration and freedom of expression (Chile);

- 131.90. **Guarantee the free exercise of the right to demonstration, recognized in Section 59 of the 2013 Constitution (Spain);**
- 131.91. **Comply with its obligations with respect to the right to freedom of expression and information (Uruguay);**
- 131.92. **Continue to strengthen implementation of laws and policies on freedom of expression and assembly (Botswana);**
- 131.93. **Continue to take measures to ensure freedom of the media and press freedom (Namibia);**
- 131.94. **Take concrete steps to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders (Norway);**
- 131.95. **Review existing legislation in order to enhance the exercise of the freedom of assembly and of the press (Italy);**
- 131.96. **Take concrete and immediate legislative measures to ensure the free, informed and safe participation of citizens in the electoral process in keeping with its constitution and the "Principles and Guidelines Governing Democratic Elections" of the Southern African Development Community (Switzerland);**
- 131.97. **Ensure that violence directed against political activists, regardless of political affiliation, and human rights defenders will not be tolerated and that perpetrators will be held accountable in accordance with the law (Sweden);**
- 131.98. **Continue its efforts to promote sustainable economic and social development and to improve the living standards in the country (China);**
- 131.99. **Strengthen the implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Angola);**
- 131.100. **Continue consolidating its social programmes and strengthening its successful education policy (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 131.101. **Undertake efforts as set out in Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to poverty, education, health, housing and water and sanitation (Bangladesh);**
- 131.102. **Develop an effective national strategy to address poverty, social security and health (Uganda);**
- 131.103. **Continue its endeavours for development and poverty alleviation throughout the country (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 131.104. **Ensure allocation of sufficient resources for implementation of the Food Security Policy (Uganda);**
- 131.105. **Enhance social protection to ensure the delivery of food assistance and address malnutrition (New Zealand);**
- 131.106. **Continue to take agricultural productivity measures to ensure food security in the country (Ethiopia);**
- 131.107. **Implement measures to ensure that food agenda against famine caused by drought is distributed fairly and focusing especially on vulnerable people (Chile);**
- 131.108. **Continue to ensure, through an ongoing campaign or strategy, access to food and to education for all children including children with disabilities,**

children who live on the street, orphans and children living in rural areas (Mexico);

131.109. **Develop a strategy or a national plan for de-institutionalization of children from the residential care institutions to foster families (Serbia);**

131.110. **Develop a comprehensive strategy for children in street situations, using a child rights approach and addressing both prevention and response (Serbia);**

131.111. **Implement effectively the human rights to drinking water and sanitation as embodied in the Constitution (Spain);**

131.112. **Take effective measures to reduce and combat malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis (Angola);**

131.113. **Continue efforts in combating HIV/AIDS epidemic in the country (United Republic of Tanzania);**

131.114. **Continue efforts to combat diseases including malaria and HIV/AIDS by investing in pharmaceutical research and public access to treatment options (Maldives);**

131.115. **Strengthen children's access to health services, particularly as regards to HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis (Algeria);**

131.116. **Develop a long term plan to keep health personnel skilled and establish a permanent training on this matter (Panama);**

131.117. **Develop and operationalize a comprehensive strategy on preventing maternal, neonatal and child mortality (Botswana);**

131.118. **Strengthen efforts to increase women's access to health-care facilities and medical assistance in order to address the prevailing high maternal mortality rate (Ghana);**

131.119. **Continue to take further measures to enhance the health care services especially for women and children (Myanmar);**

131.120. **Upgrade primary and secondary healthcare infrastructure and increase budgetary allocation to Ministry of Health and Child Care in line with regional and international obligations (Kenya);**

131.121. **Strengthen its efforts for realizing the full immunization in cooperation with the relevant United Nations Agencies (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**

131.122. **Promote the right to education, inter alia, through combating challenges of access to schools (Armenia);**

131.123. **Eliminate all barriers to students' access to education in all provinces (Kenya);**

131.124. **Strengthen national mechanisms to allow children's access to education and health services specifically in rural areas (Morocco);**

131.125. **Ensure the allocation of sufficient resources to increase the quality of education, including improving schools' infrastructure (Turkey);**

131.126. **Continue working with its development partners to invest in education sector (South Sudan);**

- 131.127. Take further steps to provide access to education for all children (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 131.128. Continue to focus on the issue of education to ensure inclusive, high quality, accessible education for all (Belarus);
- 131.129. Further develop its education, including the improvement of access to education for persons with disability and other vulnerable groups (China);
- 131.130. Incorporate into the education system a human rights based strategy which is inclusive of children with disabilities (Panama);
- 131.131. Ensure a free and compulsory primary education by implementing the Education Act (Slovenia);
- 131.132. Continue strengthening the programme primary education and provide full school attendance by children deprived of education in primary and secondary (Iraq);
- 131.133. Promote the rights of persons with disabilities (Algeria);
- 131.134. Strengthen social inclusion measures, in particular for persons with physical disabilities (Angola);
- 131.135. Continue efforts in accordance with the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation for the period October 2013 to December 2018, which provides for a harnessing of the maximum benefit from the national natural resources in order to strengthen food security, eliminate poverty, extend social coverage and restore the infrastructure. (Russian Federation);
- 131.136. Support partnership particularly with the private sector for the implementation of the Zimbabwe agenda for sustainable social-economic development (Morocco);
- 131.137. Accelerate activities for implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 131.138. Work closely with the international community in the humanitarian response to the ongoing drought and to ensure that humanitarian aid is distributed in a non-political, non-discriminatory manner (Norway);
- 131.139. Continue efforts to implement the Zim-ASSET, in order to improve economic development and to enhance peace and security (Holy See);
- 131.140. Take steps to promote economic growth with a more equitable distribution of resources, to ensure social and economic rights for all (Norway);
- 131.141. Continue to strengthen the efforts to fight corruption (United Republic of Tanzania);
- 131.142. Continue efforts in collecting taxes (United Republic of Tanzania).
132. The following recommendations will be examined by Zimbabwe which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council in March 2017:
- 132.1. Ratify the international human rights treaties to which the country is not yet a party, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its optional Protocol, and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Brazil);

- 132.2. **Ratify other human rights conventions, particularly the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Congo);**
- 132.3. **Consider ratification of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);**
- 132.4. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment of Punishment (Netherlands);**
- 132.5. **Ratify Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatments or Punishments (Montenegro);**
- 132.6. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal);**
- 132.7. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Timor-Leste);**
- 132.8. **Ratify of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Costa Rica);**
- 132.9. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Czechia);**
- 132.10. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Djibouti);**
- 132.11. **Ratify the UN Convention Against Torture without delay (Sweden);**
- 132.12. **Consider accession to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (Namibia);**
- 132.13. **Fully respect the spirit and letter of the 2013 Constitution, and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 132.14. **Ratify UN Convention Against Torture and its Optional Protocol and domesticate it in line with the new Constitution (Kenya);**
- 132.15. **Sign and ratify the Convention Against Torture (Italy);**
- 132.16. **Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture (Denmark);**
- 132.17. **Speed up the process to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereof (Chile);**
- 132.18. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and typify torture as a crime by modifying its Criminal Code (Spain);**
- 132.19. **Ratify the Convention against Torture (Rwanda);**
- 132.20. **Ratify the OP-CAT (Rwanda);**
- 132.21. **Ratify the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as well as its Optional Protocol (Zambia);**

- 132.22. As previously recommended, ratify the CAT and its optional protocol, implement its standards into national law and take immediate and concrete actions against the practice of torture by State officials (Germany);
- 132.23. Ratify promptly the Convention Against Torture (Guatemala);
- 132.24. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CAT (Guatemala);
- 132.25. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Guatemala);
- 132.26. Ratify the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Guatemala);
- 132.27. Accept, ratify or accede, where appropriate, to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);
- 132.28. Ratify or accede, where appropriate the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);
- 132.29. Accept, ratify or accede, where appropriate, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uruguay);
- 132.30. Accept, ratify or accede, where appropriate, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);
- 132.31. Take all institutional measures required to accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (France);
- 132.32. Take all institutional measures required to accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);
- 132.33. Ratify the core international human rights instruments including CAT, CRPD, all Optional Protocols to the CRC, the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children and the first Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, and incorporate them into their national legislation (Slovenia);
- 132.34. Ratify the CAT (Sierra Leone);
- 132.35. Ratify ICRMW (Sierra Leone);
- 132.36. Ratify the ICPPED (Sierra Leone);
- 132.37. Proceed with the early conclusion of the ICPPED (Japan);
- 132.38. Proceed with the early conclusion of the CAT (Japan);
- 132.39. Issue standing invitations to the special procedures for their country visits (Japan);
- 132.40. Ratify the International Convention on the Rights of Migrants and their Families (Ghana);
- 132.41. Ratify International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Ghana);

- 132.42. **Ratify the Convention Against Torture (Ghana);**
- 132.43. **Consider ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Indonesia);**
- 132.44. **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its protocols (Portugal);**
- 132.45. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as its Optional Protocols (Portugal);**
- 132.46. **Ratify and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);**
- 132.47. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aimed at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);**
- 132.48. **Ratify the Convention against Torture and the Second Optional Protocol for the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New Zealand);**
- 132.49. **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol of the ICCPR aimed at the abolition of the death penalty (Rwanda);**
- 132.50. **Sign and ratify the two Optional Protocols to ICCPR (Turkey);**
- 132.51. **Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Turkey);**
- 132.52. **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to CAT (Turkey);**
- 132.53. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Netherlands);**
- 132.54. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal);**
- 132.55. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Costa Rica);**
- 132.56. **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Djibouti);**
- 132.57. **Consider ratifying the ICRMW (Philippines);**
- 132.58. **Consider ratifying ILO Convention 189 (Philippines);**
- 132.59. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain);**
- 132.60. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Costa Rica);**
- 132.61. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Djibouti);**
- 132.62. **Ensure that its legislation is in line with the new Constitution and the rights concerning freedom of expression and freedom of media therein, including to repeal the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Public Order and Security Act, and to license independent broadcasters (Sweden);**

- 132.63. Review and update the Public Order and Security Act and Private Voluntary Organizations Act to be in line with international human rights standards (Norway);
- 132.64. Immediately publish a timeline ensuring that legislation, including the Public Order and Security Act, the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act and relevant electoral legislation, will be aligned with the Constitution before the end of the 8th Parliament (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 132.65. Amend all discriminatory provisions and administrative regulations relating to family, marriage and divorce (Belgium);
- 132.66. Amend the draft Computer Crime and Cybercrime Bill, and the Public Order and Security Act to align with the 2013 Constitution (Australia);
- 132.67. Ensure that the National Human Right Commission is given financial autonomy as well as independence for its mandate, immunity and designation of its member according to the Paris principles (Costa Rica);
- 132.68. Guarantee the independence of the Human Rights Commission of Zimbabwe as far as the following are concerned: funding, mandate immunity and appointment of commission members, all this in accordance with the Paris Principles on the national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Guatemala);
- 132.69. Ensure that humanitarian agencies can operate in all parts of the country without undue restrictions (Republic of Korea);
- 132.70. Extend an open and standing invitation to mandate holders of the United Nations Special Procedures (Guatemala);
- 132.71. Extend a Standing Invitation to the Council's Special Procedures (Portugal);
- 132.72. Extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures (Turkey);
- 132.73. Issue a standing invitation to the special procedures (Congo);
- 132.74. Issue standing invitations to all special procedure mandate holders (Ghana);
- 132.75. Consider issuing a standing invitation to the UN human rights Special Procedures (Rwanda);
- 132.76. Allow before its next UPR, an unhindered access to the country to all Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council who requested a visit (Czechia);
- 132.77. Cooperate with the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to their requests for visits (Sierra Leone);
- 132.78. Reinforce policies to ensure that all children born in Zimbabwe, regardless of their parents' origins, are issued with birth certificates (Holy See);
- 132.79. Consider amending the existing legislation to ensure that all children born in Zimbabwe, regardless of their parents' origin are issued with birth certificates and to ensure the paternity rights of children born out of wedlock (Namibia);



- 132.80. Scale up efforts to ensure that all children are issued with a birth certificate (Mexico);
- 132.81. Provide access to free quality health care services for all children; Abolish corporal punishment in all settings; and Strengthen child protection systems in full compliance with international human rights obligations including the implementation of national child protection programmes by December 2018 (Slovenia);
- 132.82. Abolish the death penalty in domestic law for all crimes, adopt an immediate official moratorium on executions, and commute without delay all death sentences into prison sentences (Uruguay);
- 132.83. Abolish death penalty in national legislation for all crimes (Belgium);
- 132.84. Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to fully abolish it both in practice and in law, for all cases and under all circumstances (Portugal);
- 132.85. Adopt a moratorium on the death penalty, as a first step towards its complete and full abolition (France);
- 132.86. Establish an official moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Slovenia);
- 132.87. Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (Australia);
- 132.88. Advance towards the abolition of capital punishment by decreeing a *de iure* moratorium (Spain);
- 132.89. Immediately adopt policies to guide the equitable use of the performance and accountability systems of the state justice institutions (Denmark);
- 132.90. Repeal and amend legislation that infringes on the right to freedom of expression in line with Zimbabwe's international obligations and constitution, such as the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act and the Public Order and Security Act (New Zealand);
- 132.91. Repeal or significantly reform laws that may have the effect of unduly restricting freedom of expression and the right of peaceful assembly, which include the Public Order and Security Act, the Computer Crime and Cyber Crime Bill and police bans on protests (United States of America);
- 132.92. Ensure that upcoming legislation will not limit citizen's rights to engage in free and private exchange of information on social media (Norway);
- 132.93. Make efforts to promote free and unbiased local media, including by removing restrictions on local radio broadcasts (Norway);
- 132.94. Protect civil society actors, including human rights organisations, against any harassment or persecution, including arbitrary arrest or enforced disappearance, and improve the legal framework so that it encourages and facilitates the operation of NGOs (Czechia);
- 132.95. End human rights violations and abuses against civil society, the media and political opposition; repeal the ban on public demonstrations; and ensure individuals are able to exercise their rights to freedom of expression,

association, and peaceful assembly, free from intimidation and harassment (Canada);

132.96. That the protections guaranteed by the Constitution be implemented, that a safe and enabling environment for civil society be created in law and practice and that the Government facilitate a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders (Ireland);

132.97. Guarantee freedom of assembly and association including through immediate alignment of national legislation - in particular the Public Order and Security Act - with international standards (Denmark);

132.98. As previously recommended, amend existing rules for the security forces, including the Public Order and Security Act, to ensure that the rights to peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of press can be exercised (Germany);

132.99. Promote and disseminate the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and adopt national legislation for its effective implementation; investigate threats, attacks and intimidation against human rights defenders and ensure their protection (Uruguay);

132.100. Enact specific laws and policies in order to protect the human rights defenders (Ukraine).

133. The recommendations below did not enjoy the support of Zimbabwe and have been noted:

133.1. Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Italy);

133.2. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Timor-Leste);

133.3. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court signed in 1998 (France);

133.4. Accede to and domesticate the Statute of Rome and adopt provisions to cooperate fully and promptly with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);

133.5. Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC and to accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Sweden);

133.6. Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia);

133.7. Repeal the provisions in the Criminal Code which criminalise sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (LGBTI) (Uruguay);

133.8. Rescind legal provisions that provide for the criminalization of LGBTI persons following the principle of non-discrimination (France);

133.9. Make progress both at the legislative level and in practice, in ensuring the rights and fundamental freedoms of LGBTI persons (Argentina);

133.10. Decriminalize consensual sexual relations between consenting same sex adults (Spain);

133.11. Repeal the crime of sodomy as described in the Criminal Code and Reform Act, 2006, and ensure that same sex conduct between consenting adults is not subject to criminal sanctions (Canada);

- 133.12. **Issue a standing invitation to all mandate holders under the special procedures (Madagascar);**
- 133.13. **Take measures to prevent and combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, including by decriminalizing sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex (Brazil);**
- 133.14. **Adopt measures to prevent discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity, both by state officials and non-state actors, and allow the change of gender markers on Government-issued documentation (Israel);**
- 133.15. **Prohibit discrimination against persons because of their real or imputed sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and ensure adequate protection for LGBTI persons, sex workers, and other marginalized group (Canada);**
- 133.16. **Adopt urgent measures to make progress on the elimination of all forms of discrimination, stigmatization and violence against people on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity and to promote the respect of the rights of all persons by the society (Chile);**
- 133.17. **Eliminate discrimination, stigmatization and violence against persons based on their sexual orientation and gender identity and through public dialogue promote tolerance and culture of non-discrimination (Czechia);**
- 133.18. **Enhance efforts to promote gender equality and combat all forms of discrimination including those on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy).**
134. **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 Zimbabwe was headed by His Excellency Mr. Emmerson D. MNANGAGWA, Vice-President and Minister for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs and composed of the following members:

- Hon. CC Sibanda, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office;
- H.E. T. Mushayavanhu, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Zimbabwe Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Mrs V. Mabiza Permanent Secretary for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
- Dr P. Gumbo, Permanent Secretary Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development;
- Mr C.N. Gwatidzo, Principal Director, Honourable Vice President's Office;
- Mrs M. Msika, Director, Policy and Legal Research, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
- Mr F.T Godzi, Director, Constitutional and Parliamentary Affairs;
- Mrs A Musiwa, Director, Ministry of Health and Child Care;
- Mrs A. Mufukare, Director, Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education;
- Mrs A. Manyanya, Director, Ministry of Finance;
- A.H. Machingauta, Deputy Commissioner-General, Zimbabwe Prisons And Correctional Services;
- Ass. Com. Nzombe, Assistant Commissioner, Zimbabwe Republic Police;
- F. Chimbaru, Acting Director, Civil Division, Attorney General's Office;
- Mr M. Undenge, Personal Assistant to the Honourable Vice President
- Mr C. Chishiri, Minister Counsellor, Zimbabwe Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Ms N. Ndongwe, Counsellor, Zimbabwe Permanent Mission, Geneva;
- Ms J.T. Shumba, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs(UPR Secretariat);
- Ms B. Shava, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs (UPR Secretariat);
- Ms E. Tswana, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs (UPR Secretariat);
- Mr L. Kabara, Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs (UPR Secretariat);
- M.C. Majata, Law Officer, Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare;
- Mr E. Chivasa, President's Department;
- Ms C. Bindu, Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Mr Mawomo, Ministry of Local Government;

- Mr P. Mashaie, Law Officer, Public Service Commission.
-