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Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

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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 October to 11 November 2016. The review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was held at the 3rd meeting, on 1 November 2016. The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was headed by the Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs, Delcy Rodríguez. At its 10th meeting, held on 4 November 2016, the Working Group adopted the report on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

2. On 12 January 2016, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: Kyrgyzstan, Mexico and Nigeria.

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 the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela:

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

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

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

## I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

### A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stated that the 1998 revolution had been a revolution for human rights and that the 1999 Constitution set out a path that was based on the concept of a constitutional State for human rights. Two models in the world and in the region were standing in contrast to each other: the capitalist model, which was the main instrument for human rights violations, and the model for transformation, which had not only a different view of modes of production but also a different conception of the human being. Since the previous review, the capitalist imperial force had tried to end the transformations taking place in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela by increasing and intensifying the war against the country. The United States had selected the country as an imperial target, aiming to alter the universality of the Venezuelan human rights model through a destabilization process.

6. The national human rights model in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was irreversible because it stemmed from the citizens, who had taken ownership of the country's transformation. The main enemy of the revolution was the capitalist model, which violated human rights worldwide, caused violence and was mainly responsible for

the destruction of the planet. Moreover, it caused unequal distribution of wealth and inequity and increased the gap between the rich and the poor.

7. Large corporations concentrated capital, capitalism led to the destruction of nation States and a worldwide campaign was needed in support of nation States.

8. The Human Rights Council had to be fixed so that it could be a really effective instrument for human rights.

9. The neoliberal model was a failure, and the alternative social model, which had been successful, was being questioned by powers that were unwilling to accept the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as a reference.

10. Despite campaigns against it, the revolution was in favour of human rights. There had been achievements, including the awarding of prizes for hunger eradication, and statistics illustrated the transformations in gender equality, education, health and nutrition. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations had recognized the effective and ongoing efforts made to fight poverty.

11. The harassment against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had to cease. The Government had adopted the accepted recommendations from the universal periodic review and created a national human rights plan.

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

12. During the interactive dialogue, 102 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

13. India noted the creation of the National Human Rights Council and requested the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to share details about progress made by the national monitoring and follow-up system.

14. Indonesia commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for improvements in access to education and health and the establishment of institutions to advance women's rights.

15. The Islamic Republic of Iran acknowledged the National Human Rights Council and the national plan for the prevention of torture.

16. Iraq commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for facing up to the economic challenges and its clear position in defence of the right to peace and solidarity.

17. Finland noted with concern the current situation regarding the economic and social challenges of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, especially the scarcity of basic medicines and medical supply, and emphasized that international norms on freedom of expression had to be complied with.

18. Israel noted that the situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had worsened, with more impunity and denial of justice, as shown by the denunciation of the American Convention on Human Rights.

19. Italy acknowledged the measures aimed at developing a legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.

20. Jamaica commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its commitment to human rights and encouraged it to continue to strengthen State institutions.

21. Japan welcomed the implementation of social policies, including for improved access to education, housing construction and poverty reduction.

22. Kenya commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the efforts already made to implement the recommendations.
23. The Lao People's Democratic Republic commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its national human rights plan and for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol.
24. Latvia noted the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and the concerns expressed regarding restrictions imposed on freedom of expression.
25. Lebanon commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its efforts in leading a diplomacy of peace and defending just causes around the world, particularly that of the Palestinian people.
26. Liechtenstein recognized the efforts made to combat gender-based violence and violence against children.
27. Malaysia acknowledged the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for mainstreaming a gender perspective, empowering women and ensuring access to education for persons with disabilities.
28. Maldives recognized the efforts made in the area of women's rights and encouraged the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to reach out to its international partners and OHCHR for assistance.
29. Mauritania welcomed the adoption of the national human rights plan and the plan for the prevention of torture.
30. Mexico welcomed the creation of the National Human Rights Council, the national human rights plan and the legislative advances in health and education.
31. Montenegro welcomed the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and noted the concerns of OHCHR regarding human rights violations.
32. Myanmar noted that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had been certified free of measles and rubella and that free high-quality education was being provided in most parts of the country.
33. Namibia appreciated the continued efforts by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to strengthen successful cooperation and solidarity agreements with African countries.
34. Nepal recognized the achievements of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the socioeconomic areas of poverty reduction, education, health and child nutrition, among others.
35. The Netherlands was worried about a rise in arbitrary arrests aimed at preventing investigative journalism and the publication of articles resulting from such journalism.
36. New Zealand noted the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, welcomed the national human rights plan and noted that freedom of expression remained a major challenge.
37. Nicaragua welcomed the dialogue with the opposition initiated by the Government and sponsored by the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and the Holy See.
38. Nigeria acknowledged the cooperation extended by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the existence of a human rights legal framework. It noted the adoption of the Racial Discrimination Act.
39. Germany welcomed the ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It noted with concern the political and social situation.

40. Pakistan welcomed the incorporation of a human rights approach in all public policies and the human rights laws in force.
41. Peru noted the role played by civil society in the development of public policies and the establishment of the National Human Rights Council.
42. Philippines appreciated that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela continued to adhere to principles of democracy and urged it to address the remaining human rights challenges.
43. Portugal welcomed the fact that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and had accepted visits from the majority of special procedure mandate holders.
44. Qatar commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its cooperation with the United Nations human rights system and the implementation of a number of accepted recommendations arising from the universal periodic review.
45. The Republic of Korea noted the establishment of national mechanisms to prevent torture and improve prison conditions and hoped they would promote the fundamental freedoms of Venezuelans.
46. The Executive Secretary of the National Human Rights Council, Larry Devoe, stated that the Government had adopted structural measures to continue with the full implementation of human rights. In 2014, the President, Nicolás Maduro, had created the National Human Rights Council, an institution of the highest level, to ensure human rights-based public policies.
47. The Minister of People's Power for Health, Luisana Melo, explained that the "Barrio adentro mission" had been created to prioritize primary health care and ensure 100 per cent health-care coverage during the first half of 2017. She added that there had been a significant increase in health-care facilities, from 5,346 in 1998 to 23,146 in 2016.
48. The Minister of People's Power for Women and Gender Equality, Blanca Eekhout, stated that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had the fifth-highest enrolment rate in higher education worldwide, and that more than 60 per cent of those enrolled were women. She added that female unemployment had dropped from 16 to 7.5 per cent and that 60 per cent of pensioners were women.
49. The Russian Federation praised the Government for its work to improve the enjoyment by Venezuelans of their economic, social and cultural rights.
50. Saudi Arabia welcomed the programmes to reduce poverty and broaden access to education opportunities for all, including the Robinson missions to combat illiteracy.
51. Senegal saluted the efforts to strengthen the human rights framework through social inclusion policies and the establishment of the National Human Rights Council.
52. Singapore recognized the introduction of a national human rights plan to follow-up on the accepted recommendations arising from the universal periodic review and strengthen the human rights institutional framework.
53. Slovenia thanked the Government for its work aimed at improving the human rights situation.
54. South Africa commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its efforts to eliminate discrimination, including by passing legislation regarding the rights of indigenous peoples.

55. South Sudan welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol and noted that early pregnancy remained a major challenge.
56. Spain welcomed the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and the enactment of the national human rights plan.
57. The State of Palestine praised the efforts made to improve the quality of education and the reform of the law for the protection of girls, boys and adolescents.
58. The Sudan commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its commitment to and positive engagement with the universal periodic review and appreciated the positive steps taken since the previous review.
59. Sweden was concerned about poverty, hunger and public health. It regretted the use of excessive violence by security forces.
60. Switzerland was concerned by recent developments in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and by the continuous deterioration of the human rights situation.
61. The Syrian Arab Republic asked about the political effects of protecting the rights of indigenous peoples and how their lands had been demarcated.
62. Tajikistan recognized the efforts of the Government to improve the human rights situation despite the economic difficulties faced by the country. It welcomed the establishment of the National Human Rights Council.
63. Thailand commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its efforts to broaden the human rights legal framework and recognized the constraints on resources caused by the economic crisis.
64. Timor-Leste welcomed the approval of the national plan for the prevention of torture. It remained concerned by the high numbers of cases of trafficking and violence against women.
65. Togo noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Government to follow up on accepted recommendations received during the first universal periodic review.
66. Tunisia noted with appreciation the submission of periodic reports to the treaty bodies, which showed respect for those committees.
67. Turkey requested further information on the legal and administrative initiatives taken in the areas of education, poverty reduction, gender equality, anti-discrimination, health care and adequate housing.
68. Uganda noted with appreciation the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, the passing of the Racial Discrimination Act and the increase in the health budget.
69. Ukraine expressed concern about the situation on the ground and called for protection of the rights to work, food, health, freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.
70. The United Arab Emirates praised the efforts made on the socioeconomic and cultural fronts and in the fight against extreme poverty.
71. The United Kingdom inquired about the implementation of the recommendations made by the treaty bodies. Concerned by the political, economic and security challenges, it urged all sides to engage in a constructive dialogue.
72. The United Republic of Tanzania commended the Government for its commitment to delivering 2 million additional housing units by 2019.

73. The United States raised a concern with regard to the human rights situation in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the continued detention of persons who participated in peaceful protests.
74. Uruguay acknowledged the efforts made to reduce extreme poverty and social and economic inequality.
75. Cuba acknowledged the progress made in protecting and promoting human rights and recommended that indigenous peoples be consulted.
76. Yemen stressed the need to pursue efforts to promote human rights, particularly those of indigenous people.
77. Zimbabwe noted the human rights advances made since the first cycle of the universal periodic review.
78. Algeria praised the efforts made to implement the recommendations accepted during the first cycle of the universal periodic review and the 10 voluntary commitments.
79. Angola noted the detailed information provided in the national report describing the progress made since the first cycle of the universal periodic review.
80. Argentina urged cooperation with OHCHR and all human rights mechanisms. It expressed concern about allegations of excessive use of force and extrajudicial executions.
81. Armenia noted the pending visit requests from special procedure mandate holders. It encouraged the full implementation of international human rights obligations.
82. Australia was concerned by the limitations imposed on freedom of expression, particularly the violent and arbitrary arrests of opposition leaders, students and public activists.
83. Austria shared its concerns on various human rights issues, including arbitrary detention, lack of fair and transparent procedures, overcrowding in prisons and the crisis in the food and health sectors.
84. Azerbaijan welcomed, inter alia, the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and the preparation of the national human rights plan.
85. Bahrain welcomed the measures taken since the previous universal periodic review. It inquired about the steps taken to increase school attendance rates for children and access to quality education.
86. Bangladesh noted the actions taken to continue fighting poverty and the establishment of a quota system for persons with disabilities, as recommended during the first cycle of the universal periodic review.
87. Belarus congratulated the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for its progress in reducing extreme poverty, its success with the housing programme and its global approach to gender equality.
88. Belgium stressed the need to achieve further progress in terms of access to the health-care system, in particular to sexual and reproductive health services.
89. The Plurinational State of Bolivia recognized the profound transformation brought about by the progress made in social policies aimed at the most vulnerable sectors of the population.
90. Brazil noted with great concern the evolution of the human rights situation.
91. Burundi congratulated the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on progress achieved in terms of improving gender equality and addressing violence against women.



92. Canada welcomed the positive measures taken to improve human rights issues but remained gravely concerned by the increase in civil, political, economic and social rights violations.
93. Chile noted with appreciation the creation of the National Humans Rights Council and encouraged the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to ensure that it had the human and financial resources to fulfil its goals.
94. The Minister of People's Power for Prison Services, María Iris Varela, said that her Ministry had enhanced the prison infrastructure to eliminate overcrowding, introduced a new penitentiary and disciplinary system, and provided for family support and prisoner rehabilitation. An exponential reduction in prison violence had been achieved and intensive training courses were provided for prison staff.
95. The Attorney General, Reinaldo Muñoz, said that the declaration of a state of economic emergency was in line with the Constitution and article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It had not been declared to seek a derogation from internationally protected human rights but to guarantee the right to basic goods and services and protect the most vulnerable groups.
96. The electoral authority within the National Electoral Council, Sandra Oblitas, said that in 2015 the customs and languages of indigenous peoples and communities had been recognized in more than 28,000 identity documents. Over 80 per cent of voters had participated in the five inclusive and transparent electoral processes conducted between 2012 and 2016.
97. The Vice-Attorney General, Alis Boscán, said that the Special Act to Prevent and Punish Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment had been invoked to address unlawful conduct by law enforcement officers. The Commission for Justice and Truth had located the remains of many victims of enforced disappearances committed between 1958 and 1998, as well as some survivors. It had also investigated acts of violence perpetrated by law enforcement officers in 2014, in respect of which criminal proceedings had been instituted or completed.
98. Perpetrators of femicide had been prosecuted under the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence. Criminal proceedings had also been instituted or completed against law enforcement officers charged with grave violations of women's rights, including homicide.
99. During the period under review, 786 law enforcement officers had been charged with homicide and 989 with torture or ill-treatment.
100. China commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for adopting policies and measures on the prevention of torture, indigenous peoples' rights and equality.
101. Colombia welcomed the first national plan for the protection of sexual and reproductive rights and made recommendations to safeguard prisoners', migrants' and children's rights.
102. Costa Rica noted with appreciation the adoption of a national human rights plan. It expressed concern about freedom of expression and the independence of State powers, among other issues.
103. Viet Nam supported efforts made to overcome hardships and to continue pursuing national development, including through the full protection and promotion of human rights.
104. Czechia made recommendations.

105. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea extended its solidarity to the Government and people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in their struggle to defend national sovereignty.
106. Denmark expressed concern about the 2004 Act on Social Responsibility in Radio, Television and Electronic Media, which granted the authorities control over media content.
107. The Dominican Republic underscored achievements in human rights, particularly the creation of institutions to promote the rights of women.
108. Ecuador welcomed efforts to comply with the recommendations arising from the universal periodic review, particularly the design and implementation of and follow-up to the national human rights plan.
109. Egypt highlighted the efforts of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to promote economic, social and cultural rights and welcomed its cooperation with treaty bodies.
110. El Salvador underscored the implementation of public policies in favour of human rights and highlighted efforts made to follow up on the recommendations arising from the universal periodic review.
111. Eritrea recognized the advocacy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on the need to adhere to the universal periodic review process and welcomed its commitment to human rights.
112. Estonia encouraged the Government to attach more importance to implementing the national human rights plan, responding on time to treaty body requests and conducting regular consultations with civil society.
113. Ethiopia noted with appreciation efforts to improve economic, social and cultural rights and the adoption and implementation of the 2011 Racial Discrimination Act.
114. Ireland welcomed the submissions to the treaty bodies and expressed concern about the fact that the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention had found cases of arbitrary detention, including of opposition politicians.
115. France made recommendations.
116. Georgia remained concerned by the situation of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. It encouraged the Government to strengthen its dialogue with United Nations mechanisms.
117. Norway was concerned about the persecution of opposition leaders and limits imposed on freedom of expression through constitutional mechanisms. It recognized the role of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the Colombian peace process.
118. Ghana noted with satisfaction measures taken to implement the recommendations made during the first cycle.
119. Guatemala expressed concern about reports on lack of independence and impartiality among the judiciary and indoctrination in schools and universities.
120. Haiti expressed its deep gratitude to the Government for its solidarity, in particular with the provision of emergency aid following Hurricane Matthew.
121. The Holy See acknowledged the positive steps taken by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela but was concerned about the political and social situation in the country.
122. Iceland was concerned about the social situation and about the harassment of those critical of government policies.

123. Libya welcomed the recommendations accepted during the first cycle of the universal periodic review, highlighted the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and commended the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the progress made in free education.

124. The Vice-Minister of People's Power for Internal Affairs, Justice and Peace, Hanthony Coello, said that training courses for police officers included such topics as human rights and regulations governing the progressive and differentiated use of force. From 2013 to 2016, a total of 4,684 officers had been dismissed for breaching such principles.

125. The right to demonstrate peacefully was guaranteed. The violent guarimba demonstrations in 2014 had failed to meet that criterion. Various factors, including criminal developments in Colombia and the conduct of opposition political leaders, had led to a surge in the number of criminal gangs. Since 2015, 145 operations had taken place and 2,640 offenders had been detained.

126. Major progress had been achieved in recent years in the fight against drugs, and the homicide rate had declined.

127. The Minister of People's Power for Indigenous Peoples, Aloha Núñez, said that the Presidential Council of Indigenous Peoples and Communities had elected 1,569 leaders who respected ancestral customs and that the Institute of Indigenous Languages promoted ancestral languages and knowledge. The Government, recognizing the right to ancestral territory, had granted 102 collective land titles.

128. The Vice-Minister for International Communications of the Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs, William Castillo, stated that freedom of expression was guaranteed and no Venezuelan journalist or member of a non-governmental organization had been detained or prosecuted for his or her professional activity.

129. Five million computers had been provided free of charge to primary and secondary schools in the past five years. A programme to promote technological literacy for all citizens had recently been launched.

130. Pascualina Curcio from the Ministry of People's Power for Planning, explained that assaults on the Venezuelan economy by national and transnational corporations had led to shortages of essential goods. However, Bolivarian policies had succeeded in containing the impact of the assaults. The current unemployment rate of about 6 per cent was the lowest recorded over the previous three decades. Since 2011, poverty had declined by 7 per cent and extreme poverty by 27 per cent.

131. Magistrate Carmen Zuleta de Merchán of the Supreme Court of Justice stated that 2,409 judges had been appointed to courts of first instance, including new courts addressing violence against women. Of the new judgeships created since 2011, 70 per cent were held by women. Steps were being taken to regularize all provisional judgeships and 700 judges were attending courses leading to a human rights diploma. The Constitutional Court was mandated by the Constitution to guarantee social peace and the rule of law.

132. The Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs, Ms. Rodríguez, announced the presentation of voluntary pledges and commitments that, because of word limits, would be made explicit in the addendum to the report to be adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session. She added that the Bolivarian model of social reform fully guaranteed human rights. She trusted that the Council and the multilateral human rights system would successfully address existing challenges and build a new world order that curtailed the devastating impact of the capitalist model. The Bolivarian revolution was irreversible and committed to the promotion of a culture of human rights.

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

133. The following recommendations will be examined by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council:

133.1 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal)**;

133.2 Consider ratifying the **Convention against Torture, signed in 2011 (Senegal)**;

133.3 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Estonia) (Guatemala) (Italy) (Montenegro) (New Zealand) (Portugal)**;

133.4 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Georgia)**;

133.5 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Kenya)**;

133.6 Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Denmark)**;

133.7 Conclude the ratification process of the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Turkey)**;

133.8 Take measures towards the ratification of the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (El Salvador)**;

133.9 Consider ratifying the **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Philippines)**;

133.10 Continue intensifying the measures to reduce early pregnancy, strengthening training on sexual and reproductive rights (**Dominican Republic**);

133.11 Ratify the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, paying particular attention to these problems in prisons (France)**;

133.12 Study the possibility of ratifying or adhering to the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay)**;

133.13 Ratify the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as early as possible (Japan)**;

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

- 133.14 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Ukraine);**
- 133.15 **Ratify the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute (Liechtenstein);**
- 133.16 **Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia);**
- 133.17 **Continue strengthening the system of the effective response and to follow up the international obligations that the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela took upon itself in the field of human rights (Iraq);**
- 133.18 **Ensure full respect of the institutional balance established by the Constitution, and take the necessary measures to restore as early as possible the prerogatives of the elected parliament (France);**
- 133.19 **Continue efforts to ensure that its domestic legislations are in line with international human rights standards (Philippines);**
- 133.20 **Adopt and implement the law on transparency, disclosure and access to public information drafted by the joint committee in April 2016 (Denmark);**
- 133.21 **Effectively implement the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence (Estonia);**
- 133.22 **Take all necessary measures so that the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence is effectively implemented (France);**
- 133.23 **Give full effect to the Law on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence, guaranteeing their effective access to justice (Spain);**
- 133.24 **Strengthen the domestic legal framework to prevent and punish human rights violations committed by transnational corporations and other enterprises (Ecuador);**
- 133.25 **Implement the law against corruption (Timor-Leste);**
- 133.26 **Create a legislative framework for the protection of human rights defenders (Georgia);**
- 133.27 **Reform the Education Act in order to achieve its compliance with international standards on the protection of the right to autonomy and academic freedom (Slovenia);**
- 133.28 **Continue to work towards creating an environment of mutual trust so that the achievements and the investments made by the Government and people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela will not be lost (Jamaica);**
- 133.29 **Continue with the policy of dialogue and openness with all social movements concerned with human rights, as well as with civil society organizations (Lebanon);**
- 133.30 **Continue the dialogue with the different Venezuelan stakeholders in a spirit of respect, peace and reconciliation, and with a view to achieving the political and economic stability of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, which will allow further progress in the promotion and protection of all human rights for all Venezuelan women and men (Nicaragua);**

- 133.31 Continue taking actions to punish human rights violations, such as against the right to food or the right to peace, committed or promoted by actors in the business sector, which are pushing political agendas of destabilization (Nicaragua);
- 133.32 Continue the policies developed to combat the actions of economic aggression against the Venezuelan people, and guarantee its human rights, in particular those of the most vulnerable groups (Nicaragua);
- 133.33 Continue its measures aimed at better taking into account vulnerable groups in public policies (Senegal);
- 133.34 Intensify the coordination mechanisms to the highest level for the execution and follow-up of human rights-related public policies (Sudan);
- 133.35 Continue efforts to achieve a fair socioeconomic order to continue the struggle against social disparity, promoting equality (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 133.36 Continue efforts to establish a national monitoring and follow-up system in the field of human rights in order to assess the relevance of national policies (Tunisia);
- 133.37 Continue working to ensure coordination between various relevant national mechanisms for further integration of human rights principles (Tunisia);
- 133.38 Continue efforts to implement the development policy as defined in the Act on Missions, Great Missions and Micromissions of 2014 (United Arab Emirates);
- 133.39 Engage in a constructive dialogue with the National Assembly, with agreed outcomes on economic and governance challenges by July 2017 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 133.40 Engage in a dialogue among all Venezuelans, including the opposition, to resolve political divisions, the economic crisis and the humanitarian situation (United States of America);
- 133.41 Continue developing actions to protect the human rights of all people from the economic aggression developed against the country (Cuba);
- 133.42 Strengthen the mainstreaming of human rights across the whole spectrum of national public policy (Zimbabwe);
- 133.43 Continue to improve the protection and promotion of human rights in the country (Azerbaijan);
- 133.44 Continue efforts to hold a national dialogue to strengthen constitutional democracy, a participant and protagonist in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Burundi);
- 133.45 Continue to support the national dialogue facilitation mechanism promoted by UNASUR, in which three former presidents and a representative of the Holy See participate (Burundi);
- 133.46 In its commitment to democratic principles and values and the defence of human rights, make the greatest efforts to ensure a national dialogue that facilitates guaranteeing full respect for human rights, independence of powers and institutional strengthening of the country (Chile);

133.47 Consolidate and boost effective implementation of commitments to protect and promote human rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights (Viet Nam);

133.48 Make further contributions to genuine dialogue and cooperation among countries, in respect of principles of international laws, with a view to establish conditions favourable to national endeavours in protecting and promoting human rights (Viet Nam);

133.49 Continue to exert all efforts for a peaceful resolution to the serious political tension, which is the source of a multitude of humanitarian and social concerns (Holy See);

133.50 Continue improving the performance of the national human rights institution in accordance with the standards set out in the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Indonesia);

133.51 Continue its efforts to consolidate national institutions and mechanisms set up for the promotion and protection of human rights in the country (Nepal);

133.52 Intensify efforts to ensure the appropriate functioning of the organization in charge of receiving gender-based violence complaints (Egypt);

133.53 Introduce an inclusive process involving all relevant stakeholders in developing the national human rights plan of action (Indonesia);

133.54 Continue its endeavours to implement the national human rights plan (Islamic Republic of Iran);

133.55 Expedite the process to finalize the national plan of action for children and adolescents (2015-2019) (Maldives);

133.56 Fully implement its national human rights plan to strengthen institutional coordination and monitoring of human rights policies in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, particularly with regard to social protection programmes that support older persons and persons with disabilities (Singapore);

133.57 Continue working with organizations and social movements in the implementation of the national human rights plan, taking into account the vast and inclusive consultation process that led to its approval (Sudan);

133.58 Continue implementing the 2016-2019 national human rights plan (China);

133.59 Adopt a national action plan on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security (Portugal);

133.60 Continue its efforts to finalize the national plan for the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents (2015-2019) (State of Palestine);

133.61 Finalize the national plan of action for children and adolescents and establish a pertinent monitoring mechanism for its implementation (Turkey);

133.62 Develop and make public clear indicators to monitor progress in the implementation of the national human rights plan and allocate necessary resources to support implementation (New Zealand);

- 133.63 Continue its effort to create human rights training for national public defence personnel (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 133.64 Take the necessary measures to strengthen capabilities for the promotion and protection of the environment (Togo);
- 133.65 Continue deepening the ongoing consultations of the human rights institutions of the State with social organizations and non-State actors (Cuba);
- 133.66 Enhance the State's capacity to protect human rights while managing crises, catastrophes and disasters and preparing to rescue (Bahrain);
- 133.67 Continue implementing training programmes on human rights for officials, including for the personnel in charge of receiving and processing gender-based violence complaints (Bangladesh);
- 133.68 Encourage the implementation of an inclusive social policy framework for the enjoyment of all rights, notably the rights of people in vulnerable situations, and foster the training of all law enforcement officers in order to maintain peace (Haiti);
- 133.69 Strengthen the humanistic policies of cooperation and solidarity with the people from the region of the Caribbean and Latin America (Haiti);
- 133.70 Continue to strengthen its leadership in the multilateral framework in favour of a diplomacy of peace and in South-South cooperation for the promotion of human rights (Burundi);
- 133.71 Improve legislation, policies and guidelines regarding human rights education and training for the legal and justice system (Malaysia);
- 133.72 Promote and increase training programmes for security personnel, including human rights education and training (Austria);
- 133.73 Establish a participatory and inclusive mechanism with civil society to follow up on the universal periodic review recommendations (Mexico);
- 133.74 Continue cooperation with United Nations human rights mechanisms and treaty bodies (Myanmar);
- 133.75 Continue to constructively cooperate with the universal mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and to dialogue with social and human rights organizations (Tajikistan);
- 133.76 Further strengthen the institutions and mechanisms to ensure the implementation and follow-up of human rights public policies (Togo);
- 133.77 Work towards concluding the ongoing exercise to create a national human rights monitoring and follow-up system (Zimbabwe);
- 133.78 Accept the visits requested by the United Nations special procedure mandate holders and the OHCHR Regional Office for South America (Japan);
- 133.79 Cooperate with the special procedures of the Council, schedule pending visits as soon as possible, including of the representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and ensure the independence of the Ombudsman of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Costa Rica);



- 133.80 Issue a standing invitation to the United Nations special procedure mandate holders and the representatives of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Finland);
- 133.81 Respond positively to all pending visit requests of special procedures and extend a standing invitation to the mandate holders (Latvia);
- 133.82 Extend a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Montenegro);
- 133.83 Extend a standing invitation to special procedures (Peru);
- 133.84 Extend a standing invitation to the Council's special procedures (Portugal);
- 133.85 Accept outstanding visit requests by special procedures, and consider extending a standing invitation to regional and international bodies for human rights protection (Spain);
- 133.86 Issue a standing invitation to the Human Rights Council special procedures (Ukraine);
- 133.87 Extend a standing invitation to all the Human Rights Council special procedures (Uruguay);
- 133.88 Invite representatives of international human rights organizations to visit the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, including by issuing a standing invitation to the United Nations special procedures (Australia);
- 133.89 Issue a standing invitation to all United Nations human rights special procedures (Austria);
- 133.90 Extend an open and standing invitation to all special procedures (Chile);
- 133.91 Issue a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders (Georgia);
- 133.92 Allow visits from special procedures representatives of the Human Rights Council and other relevant human rights institutions and mechanisms, as previously recommended (Norway);
- 133.93 Issue a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders and facilitate without delay a visit by the Special Rapporteur on torture, as well as all other pending visit requests from special procedure mandate holders (Ghana);
- 133.94 Extend standing invitations to all special procedure mandate holders of the United Nations (Guatemala);
- 133.95 Invite representatives of international human rights organizations to visit the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, including by issuing a standing invitation to the United Nations special procedures and work with OHCHR on a truth commission (Iceland);
- 133.96 Issue an invitation to OHCHR for an official visit by November 2017 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 133.97 Open up channels of dialogue and cooperation with all human rights mechanisms of the United Nations and with OHCHR (Argentina);

- 133.98 **Reconsider its decision to denounce the American Convention on Human Rights and to return to the jurisdiction of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (Uruguay);**
- 133.99 **Review its decision to denounce the American Convention on Human Rights and participate constructively in the inter-American human rights system (Brazil);**
- 133.100 **Reverse its decision to withdraw from the American Convention on Human Rights (Georgia);**
- 133.101 **Strengthen its efforts to prevent all forms of discrimination (Timor-Leste);**
- 133.102 **Continue combating all forms of discrimination and promoting gender equality (Thailand);**
- 133.103 **Continue efforts towards gender equality and equity (Philippines);**
- 133.104 **Intensify its actions in guaranteeing the right to equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression (South Africa);**
- 133.105 **Keep the policies adopted to ensure the participation of women in all public affairs, including in the exercise of public posts (Dominican Republic);**
- 133.106 **Continue paving the road to eradicate stereotypes that favour discrimination against women in the media (Eritrea);**
- 133.107 **Continue to adopt measures to ensure gender equality and step up the role of women in social and political life in the country (Belarus);**
- 133.108 **Prevent all forms of discrimination, especially discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, ensuring equal treatment particularly in schools, health services and the armed forces (Israel);**
- 133.109 **Ensure full and effective implementation of public policies to eradicate racial discrimination in all its manifestations by strengthening the National Institution against Racial Discrimination and the National Council for the Development of Afrodescendant Communities of Venezuela (South Africa);**
- 133.110 **Include and consult people of African descent when adopting programmes and policies to promote their rights (South Africa);**
- 133.111 **Conduct an educational awareness campaign among the population in order to eliminate all socioeconomic and legal barriers to facilitate the people of African descent to effectively enjoy their rights (Angola);**
- 133.112 **Adopt measures to ensure that people can change their legally recognized gender without sex-reassignment surgery (Israel);**
- 133.113 **Ensure respect for and protection of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons through measures such as the decriminalization of homosexual relations in the armed and security forces, the recognition of same-sex couples and the right to change identity for transgender people (Spain);**
- 133.114 **Intensify national efforts to address continued high levels of violence, a common challenge in our hemisphere (Jamaica);**

- 133.115 Take measures to reduce the number of homicides, address the level of impunity and stop the abuses by the security forces (Sweden);
- 133.116 Go beyond the advances made in reparations and attention to those who have suffered political violence triggered by non-State actors (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 133.117 Strengthen measures to ensure the investigation and sanctioning of all politically motivated acts of violence that have occurred in the country in recent years (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 133.118 Adopt measures to prevent and eliminate the excessive use of force, such as summary executions on the part of the security forces, and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Argentina);
- 133.119 Redouble its efforts to end extrajudicial killings and ensure that those crimes are investigated promptly, thoroughly and impartially, and that alleged perpetrators are brought to justice (Ghana);
- 133.120 Continue efforts to combat criminal violence and to investigate and adjudicate all accusations of human rights violations, in particular regarding extrajudicial executions and the excessive use of force by civilian authorities (Holy See);
- 133.121 Ensure a proportional use of force by security forces and ensure that cases of torture are investigated and that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Italy);
- 133.122 Monitor law enforcement in an effort to eradicate corruption and investigate the use of excessive force, as well as the patterns of widespread extrajudicial killings committed by the police and vigilante groups (Maldives);
- 133.123 Continue reinforcing the work of the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Russian Federation);
- 133.124 Make further efforts to conduct a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation of allegations of arbitrary detention and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials in response to protests, with a view to ensuring accountability for perpetrators (Republic of Korea);
- 133.125 Make proportional use of force during protests and proceed to the immediate release of political prisoners (Spain);
- 133.126 Adopt additional measures to improve prison conditions, eliminating overcrowding and raising the standards of quality within prisons (Italy);
- 133.127 Ensure that all prisoners are provided with the minimum standards of humane treatment and that the conditions of all prisons and detention centres meet international human rights standards, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) (New Zealand);
- 133.128 Further develop the implementation of a new prison system which covers all the prisons throughout the country (Algeria);
- 133.129 Redouble its efforts in the implementation of the plan to rehabilitate detainees through the improvement of national prison system (Angola);

- 133.130 Continue with the efforts in the realization of the national plan to bring the penal system in conformity with the international standards (Russian Federation);
- 133.131 Adopt all urgent measures to ensure better conditions of detention for the high number of people currently detained, many of whom have not benefited from the guarantees of due process (Argentina);
- 133.132 Swiftly take action to improve conditions of detention, in particular to reduce excessive use of force and overcrowding in line with the Nelson Mandela Rules (Austria);
- 133.133 Ensure that no one is detained arbitrarily and that all persons who are charged with an offence have access to a fair and impartial trial, while ensuring the independence of the judiciary (New Zealand);
- 133.134 Release persons detained or arrested for political reasons and refrain from and prevent all forms of violence and retaliatory action, evictions, deportations, detention and coercion (Australia);
- 133.135 Refrain from recourse to arbitrary detention and follow due process in all judicial cases, in accordance with international standards, in particular with relation to the arbitrary arrest of political opposition members, who should be immediately released (Brazil);
- 133.136 End the practice of arbitrary detention, release all political prisoners with immediate effect and implement the recommendations issued by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, including in opinion No. 26/2014 (Canada);
- 133.137 Respect the due process and human rights of persons deprived of liberty, especially those who find themselves in that condition due to the complex political situation (Colombia);
- 133.138 Release persons arbitrarily detained and ensure that all complaints of torture and ill-treatment of detainees are investigated promptly, thoroughly and independently (Ireland);
- 133.139 Increase the efforts to fully implement the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence, coordinate the programmes and institutions that address violence against women and effectively combat all forms of violence against women (Liechtenstein);
- 133.140 Combat violence against women through coordinated and comprehensive preventive measures and ensure access to justice and remedy for victims (Malaysia);
- 133.141 Take all the necessary measures to prevent and combat violence, including violence against women, by establishing a coordinating body for programmes and institutions created to address violence against women (Slovenia);
- 133.142 Give priority to the full implementation of the Act on Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence and adopt the draft bill on trafficking in persons (Timor-Leste);
- 133.143 Step up efforts to prevent discrimination and violence against women and girls (Ukraine);

- 133.144 Continue efforts to prevent and sanction violence against women (Egypt);
- 133.145 Take serious measures to end violence against women and children (Bahrain);
- 133.146 Take specific targeted measures to eliminate violence against women and girls, including the establishment of a coordinating body (Namibia);
- 133.147 Improve the human rights system protecting young people and children and take measures to prevent juvenile delinquency (Belarus);
- 133.148 Make progress in the prevention and mitigation of the negative impact on the rights of children and adolescents caused by different sources of violence (Colombia);
- 133.149 Set measures to prevent violence against children and prohibit corporal punishment of children (Liechtenstein);
- 133.150 Consider the recommendation of various treaty bodies regarding the elimination of pre-military training in schools (Peru);
- 133.151 Continue the efforts to combat human trafficking, including through cooperation and coordination with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Qatar);
- 133.152 Adopt a national plan to combat human trafficking (Belarus);
- 133.153 Strengthen its efforts to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, supported by the bill on human trafficking (Dominican Republic);
- 133.154 Work to ensure the independence of the judiciary and to continue with the efforts to fight crime using a preventive approach and a human rights perspective (Mexico);
- 133.155 Take appropriate measures to secure the independence of the judiciary, including by amending the regulatory framework providing for such independence (Namibia);
- 133.156 Take steps to ensure the independence and impartiality of judges and prosecutors, under all circumstances and in all cases, including by remedying the provisional status of the majority of judges and prosecutors (Netherlands);
- 133.157 Restore the rule of law and the independence and impartiality of the judicial system (Germany);
- 133.158 Redouble its efforts to guarantee the autonomy, independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Republic of Korea);
- 133.159 Take steps to ensure the full independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Spain);
- 133.160 Take the necessary measures to respect the separation and independence of powers, including of the National Electoral Council, Parliament and the judiciary, in particular of the Supreme Court of Justice (Switzerland);
- 133.161 Fully respect representative democracy, the separation of powers, legal rights, due process, universal human rights and the role of civil society groups and regional bodies (Australia);

- 133.162 **Take urgent action to ensure the full independence, autonomy and impartiality of the judicial system and the electoral authority, especially with regard to the Supreme Court of Justice and the National Electoral Council (Brazil);**
- 133.163 **Restore the independence and impartiality of the judiciary by appointing impartial, qualified judges and magistrates in accordance with its legal and constitutional requirements (Canada);**
- 133.164 **Ensure the independence of the branches of government, in particular the electoral and judicial branches, ensure due process and avoid arbitrary arrests (Costa Rica);**
- 133.165 **Ensure the independence of the judiciary and enact a comprehensive review of legislation and practice aimed at guaranteeing the right to a fair trial for everyone, including opposition leaders and those critical of the Government (Czechia);**
- 133.166 **Ensure the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and police authorities and allow all parties to exercise their rights before the judiciary (France);**
- 133.167 **See that the legitimate independence of public powers is respected in accordance with its international commitments (Holy See);**
- 133.168 **Continue with the efforts to investigate and punish all those responsible for the acts of violence that occurred in 2013 and 2014, ensuring access to justice and effective judicial protection for victims (Cuba);**
- 133.169 **Continue to strengthen the investigative policies and strategies and the correct application of appropriate penalties for violations of human rights (Angola);**
- 133.170 **Strengthen sound inclusive policies for training those in charge of providing legal aid to the low-income population through the National School for Public Defence (Egypt);**
- 133.171 **Continue promoting women's and minorities' access to justice in order to enhance equal opportunities for all citizens (Ethiopia);**
- 133.172 **Continue to implement measures to give free legal assistance in case of gender-based violence (Angola);**
- 133.173 **Ensure that the due process in all trials is guaranteed, in accordance with international standards (Guatemala);**
- 133.174 **Conduct thorough and independent investigations in cases of human rights violations and ensure victims' access to justice (Uruguay);**
- 133.175 **Guarantee the right to privacy of private and personal communications according to international standards (Kenya);**
- 133.176 **Take the necessary steps to ensure that all operations of intelligence agencies are monitored by an independent oversight mechanism (Liechtenstein);**
- 133.177 **Ensure that the birth registration system is further improved and supported by awareness-raising activities, in order to achieve registration for all (Turkey);**

- 133.178 Continue efforts towards the universalization of birth registration in a progressive manner and the consolidation of the right to an identity by prioritizing minorities (Ethiopia);
- 133.179 Bring all legislation concerning communication surveillance in line with international human rights standards and, especially, ensure that all communications surveillance are tested for necessity and proportionality (Liechtenstein);
- 133.180 Guarantee the rights of Colombians affected by the land border closure, including family reunification and recovery of their belongings (Colombia);
- 133.181 In the general framework of substantial respect for fundamental rights and the principles of democracy and the Constitution, ensure freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and protect the activities of human rights defenders, political activists and journalists (Italy);
- 133.182 Take concrete measures to ensure free reporting by the media and ensure due process and the independence of the justice system (Japan);
- 133.183 Remove all restrictions, in law and in practice, which prevent full enjoyment of the rights to freedom of expression and association and create an enabling environment for civil society (Latvia);
- 133.184 Take legal and administrative measures to ensure the right to freedom of expression in accordance with international obligations (Mexico);
- 133.185 Ensure the right to freedom of opinion and expression for all journalists and media groups, including by effectively investigating allegations of intimidation and attacks and by prosecuting perpetrators (Netherlands);
- 133.186 Take steps to ensure the right to freedom of expression, including by ensuring that journalists can carry out their work independently while protecting their well-being (New Zealand);
- 133.187 Safeguard the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the freedom of movement for political opponents and journalists (Germany);
- 133.188 Permit genuine expression of dissent by releasing political prisoners, allowing the elected National Assembly to carry out its functions and permitting peaceful protest and independent media reports (United States of America);
- 133.189 Safeguard the rights to peaceful assembly, freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of the press (Brazil);
- 133.190 Provide effective guarantees for the full exercise of freedom of expression and information recognized in the Constitution and in international instruments ratified by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Chile);
- 133.191 Pay careful attention to the calls made by the High Commissioner to ensure adequate protection of political opponents, human rights defenders and others who face threats for their work, as well as to seek, through constructive dialogue, solutions that respect the rule of law and constitutional guarantees to all Venezuelans to exercise their fundamental rights (Costa Rica);
- 133.192 Ensure a free and enabling environment for the work of civil society organizations and create a strategy to protect human rights defenders

and civic activists, ensuring they are not persecuted, harassed or publicly stigmatized for their work and the exercise of their rights (Czechia);

133.193 Protect and promote freedom of expression, ensure the safety of journalists and promptly respond to alleged violations in this regard (Estonia);

133.194 Guarantee freedom of expression (Georgia);

133.195 Ensure that nobody is penalized for exercising their rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression, investigate all allegations of acts of intimidation, threats and attacks and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Guatemala);

133.196 End the harassment of those who are critical of government policies and drop any politically motivated charges against them (Iceland);

133.197 Consider enacting a law that guarantees access to public information (Peru);

133.198 Guarantee freedom of expression and free access of citizens to public information (Spain);

133.199 Intensify its efforts to increase access to public information (Sudan);

133.200 Take all the necessary steps to ensure the prompt and independent investigation of all allegations concerning intimidation, threats and attacks against journalists, media workers and human rights defenders (Ireland);

133.201 Continue with the successful policies for the democratization of the radio spectrum, by granting concessions to community media (Nicaragua);

133.202 Respect the fundamental rights of individuals, including the rights to freedom of expression and association and respect the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention, as well as the procedural guarantees (Switzerland);

133.203 Ensure the rights to freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly, both online and offline, in particular by revoking the use of military force to control public order and ceasing State security raids such as Operation Liberation and Protection of the People (Canada);

133.204 Explicitly and publicly recognize the legitimacy of the work of human rights defenders, including by making public statements recognizing their contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law (Belgium);

133.205 Adopt measures preventing reprisals against individuals and groups cooperating with international human rights mechanisms and ensure impartial investigations into all allegations of reprisal and accountability for reprisals (Czechia);

133.206 Take all necessary measures to guarantee the exercise of the work of human rights defenders and take measures to fight impunity for perpetrators of attacks and threats against them (France);

133.207 Ensure impartiality and due process in the procedures by which broadcasting laws are enforced (Finland);



- 133.208 **Take all the necessary measures to ensure that journalists are not subject to violence and reprisals for their work (Portugal);**
- 133.209 **Ensure that journalists and the media are able to conduct their work freely and independently (Uruguay);**
- 133.210 **Enhance the protection of journalists while guaranteeing their independence (Austria);**
- 133.211 **Fully guarantee freedom of expression and free access to information and protect journalists against threats and attacks (France);**
- 133.212 **Ensure that it grants the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in accordance with its international obligations (Sweden);**
- 133.213 **Enhance the political participation law (Lebanon);**
- 133.214 **Continue promoting democracy in the country and gender equity in political parties (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 133.215 **Respect citizens' constitutional right to recall a referendum by allowing the collection of signatures to proceed (United States of America);**
- 133.216 **Pursue inclusion policies to promote participation of social movements and organizations in designing public human rights policies (Algeria);**
- 133.217 **Promote equal participation in political and public affairs as a key means of overcoming the current political and humanitarian crisis (Czechia);**
- 133.218 **Channel social, political and institutional conflicts through dialogue and democratic participation, while ensuring judicial independence and the separation of powers (Norway);**
- 133.219 **Continue to provide resources and develop strategies for youth development, including for the achievement of a greater higher education completion rate for all, the retention of pregnant girls and adolescent mothers in school, the provision of technical and vocational skills and the expansion of social and economic opportunities for youth (Malaysia);**
- 133.220 **Protect trade union rights and the independence of trade unions (Peru);**
- 133.221 **Continue with the implementation of human rights in order to achieve a dignified standard of living and work with all movements, social organizations and civil society (Iraq);**
- 133.222 **Continue with the implementation of its national strategy of environmental protection (Tajikistan);**
- 133.223 **Redouble its efforts to improve the economy (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 133.224 **Continue its efforts to reduce the number of families suffering from extreme poverty through social programmes (Saudi Arabia);**
- 133.225 **Continue policies to reduce poverty and eradicate malnutrition and food shortages (Dominican Republic);**
- 133.226 **Continue efforts to reduce poverty through social programmes focused on human rights (Dominican Republic);**

- 133.227 Continue to implement policies and programmes to guarantee the rights to education, health and food, in addition to combating poverty (El Salvador);
- 133.228 Continue implementing sound public policies to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger as acknowledged by specialized United Nations agencies (Bangladesh);
- 133.229 Take immediate action to ensure essential levels of food supply protecting the most vulnerable groups from hunger and nutritional problems (Belgium);
- 133.230 Step up efforts to guarantee national food production and promote urban and family agriculture to achieve food sovereignty (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 133.231 Take all necessary measures to ensure the rights to food, water and sanitation for its people, as well as continued basic medical supplies and health services (Thailand);
- 133.232 Ensure cooperation with international actors to help address the situation of food insecurity and public health (Sweden);
- 133.233 Increase its activities towards the full realization of the right to health (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 133.234 Continue efforts to improve health and education services to ensure equal access for all citizens (Myanmar);
- 133.235 Urgently address the shortage of medical services and satisfy people's basic necessities in the spirit of the 2015 recommendations by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Germany);
- 133.236 Ensure the availability and quality of health services (Peru);
- 133.237 Redouble its efforts to ensure that its citizens fully enjoy the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health possible, including through international cooperation (Singapore);
- 133.238 Ensure the immediate and urgent provision of essential medicines and medical materials to its population, including by deploying necessary resources and by accepting international assistance and cooperation (Canada);
- 133.239 Continue its efforts for universal access to health care, strengthen the national public health system and pay attention to preventive health (China);
- 133.240 Continue developing relevant international cooperation agreements to ensure universal access to medicines (El Salvador);
- 133.241 Continue incrementing the amount of health establishments (Eritrea);
- 133.242 Take action to alleviate the burden on the health-care system (Norway);
- 133.243 Develop and implement effective policies to address the crisis in the health sector and shortages of food, and make those policies publicly known (Iceland);

- 133.244 **Increase the efforts to reduce maternal mortality, prioritizing actions that promote access to sexual and reproductive health centres (South Sudan);**
- 133.245 **Take additional measures to fight early pregnancies (Togo);**
- 133.246 **Adopt a comprehensive programme on sexual health and reproductive rights based on human rights and World Health Organization standards and allocate sufficient resources for its implementation (Belgium);**
- 133.247 **Ensure full and equal access to modern contraceptives throughout its territory, including in peri-urban, rural and indigenous territories (Denmark);**
- 133.248 **In the border area, strengthen the enjoyment of the right to health, particularly with the prevention and treatment of malaria, dengue and HIV/AIDS (Colombia);**
- 133.249 **Continue implementing measures to prevent HIV transmission (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 133.250 **Continue its increasing investment in education (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 133.251 **Continue updating curricular content and methods (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 133.252 **Continue the improvement and enhancing of the use of information and communications technologies in education (Qatar);**
- 133.253 **Take the necessary measures to ensure that education promotes respect for human rights and participation in a free society (State of Palestine);**
- 133.254 **Regularly publish updated socioeconomic data, including on health and nutrition, especially by strengthening existing national instruments, such as the Venezuelan system of food and nutrition surveillance (Switzerland);**
- 133.255 **Pursue its policies to increase schooling at all levels and through all educational systems (Algeria);**
- 133.256 **Continue implementing the good policies for improving the education infrastructure (China);**
- 133.257 **Continue implementing the recommendations arising from the national consultation on quality education (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 133.258 **Share experience for eliminating illiteracy (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 133.259 **Ensure that education promotes the full respect of human rights and the active participation in a free society (Guatemala);**
- 133.260 **Continue its efforts and successful measures to ensure full access to education and health care for all its citizens, especially disadvantaged groups (Dominican Republic);**
- 133.261 **Ensure inclusive education in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Israel);**

133.262 **Adopt more innovative approaches to teen pregnancies and continued schooling of teen mothers through the sharing of experiences and best practices with partners (Jamaica);**

133.263 **Adopt legislation to punish the dissemination of ideas based on racial hatred or superiority, incitement to racial discrimination or any racially motivated act of violence, as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Israel);**

133.264 **Address the specific needs of children with disabilities in all areas, in particular education (Slovenia);**

133.265 **Continue promoting and disseminating information on the rights of persons with disabilities, as well as the use of sign language and Braille (Ecuador);**

133.266 **Implement the Convention on the Rights of Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto (Kenya);**

133.267 **Protect the rights of indigenous peoples through the implementation of prior consultation mechanisms as established in the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Peru);**

133.268 **Continue enhancing the school infrastructure for indigenous communities in order to guarantee an increase in intercultural and bilingual education centres (South Sudan);**

133.269 **Continue implementing mechanisms for the prior consultation and participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making related to the enjoyment of their ancestral rights in accordance with its domestic law (Cuba);**

133.270 **Continue moving forward in land demarcation and indigenous environment, taking into consideration the characteristics of each indigenous people (Yemen);**

133.271 **Continue to implement the necessary measures to achieve sustainable management of its natural resources, in line with the respect for environmental rights and the rights of indigenous peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

133.272 **Continue implementing policies for the sound expansion and strengthening of special indigenous jurisdiction (Eritrea);**

133.273 **Redouble efforts to ensure the enjoyment of human rights of all migrants, ensuring decent and fair treatment regardless of their immigration status (Colombia);**

133.274 **Ensure the timely access to consular assistance under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963 (Colombia).**

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 the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was headed by Ms. Delcy Rodríguez Gómez, Vice President for Political Sovereignty, Security and Peace / Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members:

- María Iris Varela, Minister of People's Power and the Penitentiary Service;
- Luisana Melo, Minister of People's Power for Health;
- Blanca Eekhout, Minister of People's Power for Women and Gender Equality;
- Aloha Núñez, Minister of People's Power for Indigenous peoples;
- Jorge Valero, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela before the Office of the United Nations in Geneva, and other International Organisms with headquarters in Geneva;
- Francia Coello, Magistrate, Vice President of the Criminal Appeals Chamber of the Supreme Justice Tribunal;
- Alis Raquel Boscán, Vice Prosecutor General of the Republic;
- Reinaldo Muñoz, Prosecutor General of the Republic;
- Sandra Oblitas, Electoral Authority of the National Electoral Council;
- Larry Devoe, Executive Secretary National Human Rights Council;
- Sandino Marcano, Spokesperson of the Vice Presidency for Social Development and Revolution of the Missions;
- Rubén Darío Molina, Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Integration, Ministry of People's Powers for Foreign Affairs;
- Coronel Johan Hernández Lares, Vice Minister of Food Production of the Ministry of the People's Power for food, and President of Corpodvmercal;
- Hanthony Rafael Coello Bello, Vice Minister for Internal Policy and Legal Security, the Ministry of Popular Power for Internal Affairs, Justice and Peace;
- Elsie Rosales, Legal Adviser for the Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs;
- Carmelo Borrego, Legal Adviser of the Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs;
- Ilenia Medina, Ambassador and advisor to the Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs;
- Pascualina Curcio, Ministry of the People's Power for Planning;
- William Castillo; Vice minister of International Communication; Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs;
- Félix Peña Ramos, Ambassador, Permanent Alternate Representative, Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;
- Edgardo Toro Carreño, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.