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## UNEDITED VERSION

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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Thirty-first session**  
Geneva, 5–16 November 2018

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

**Saudi Arabia**

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in English.

## **Introduction**

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-first session from 5 to 16 November 2018. The review of Saudi Arabia was held at the 1st meeting, on 5 November 2018. The delegation of Saudi Arabia was headed by the President of the Human Rights Commission, H.E. Dr. Bandar Al Aiban. At its 10th meeting, held on 9 November 2018, the Working Group adopted the report on Saudi Arabia.
2. On 10 January 2018, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Saudi Arabia: Belgium, China and Tunisia.
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 Saudi Arabia:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/KSA/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.6/31/KSA/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/31/KSA/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Portugal on behalf of the Group of Friends of NMIRF's, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, United States of America and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Saudi Arabia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

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

[To be completed by 23 November 2018]

### **A. Presentation by the State under review**

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

5. During the interactive dialogue, 96 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

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

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by Saudi Arabia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fortieth session of the Human Rights Council.**
  - 6.1. **Continue to accede to additional international treaties on human rights (State of Palestine);**
  - 6.2. **Give continuity to the work of the high-level government commission in order to evaluate the possibility of acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, with the objective of ensuring the commitments to the full respect for human rights (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
  - 6.3. **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Mexico), (France), (Morocco), (Latvia), (Estonia), (Portugal), Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Costa Rica) (Ukraine \$1) (Romania); Become a party to the ICCPR (New Zealand);**

- 6.4. Consider acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Côte d'Ivoire), (Afghanistan); Continue considering the accession to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Tunisia);
- 6.5. Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mexico), (France), (Morocco), (Portugal), Accede to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Costa Rica), (Ukraine), Become a party to the ICESCR (New Zealand);
- 6.6. Consider the accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Afghanistan); Continue considering the accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Tunisia);
- 6.7. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons against Enforced Disappearance (Mexico);
- 6.8. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Family Members (Mexico);
- 6.9. Set a clear time frame for the ratification without reservation of ICCPR, ICESCR, OP - CAT and OP – CEDAW and review all reservations in CRC and CERD (Czechia);
- 6.10. Consider the accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Afghanistan);
- 6.11. Accelerate the process of ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Burundi);
- 6.12. Ratify and ensure implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.13. Ratify the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);
- 6.14. Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, allow for the full applicability of Art. 20 and 21 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Austria);
- 6.15. Continuing efforts towards the accession to the relevant international instruments of civil, political and cultural rights (Iraq);
- 6.16. Accede to international human rights treaties such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (Myanmar);
- 6.17. Continue implementing the recommendations accepted in the universal periodic reviews of 2009 and 2013, and in particular, ratify the two international covenants (Spain);
- 6.18. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and take immediate measures, in the interim, to eradicate the death penalty, especially prohibiting the execution of minors or adults who committed crimes when they were minors (Uruguay);
- 6.19. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Croatia);
- 6.20. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);
- 6.21. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);
- 6.22. Define and criminalize torture in line with Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ratify

the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Hungary);

6.23. Ratify the human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, in particular the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons against Enforced Disappearances; the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Honduras);

6.24. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ghana);

6.25. Show leadership in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) by ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention on domestic workers of the International Labor Organization (Haiti);

6.26. Consider acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);

6.27. Consider accelerating its processes towards accession to and ratification of more core human rights conventions including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families (Philippines);

6.28. Early ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);

6.29. Ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees; the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Honduras);

6.30. As previously recommended to consider ratification of Rome Statute for International Criminal Court (Latvia);

6.31. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute (Liechtenstein);

6.32. Withdraw the reservations on Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and take actions to modify discriminatory attitudes towards women, such as the male guardianship system (Czechia);

6.33. Repeal its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and eliminate domestic provisions regulating legal capacity, divorce and guardianship systems and inheritance that currently discriminate against women, and advance women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights (Estonia);

6.34. Withdraw its reservation to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which gives precedence to the sharia (Liechtenstein);

6.35. Consider further amendments in its legal frameworks in compliance with the international human rights standards (Afghanistan);

6.36. Implement the recommendations presented by human rights treaty bodies (Bahrain);

6.37. Continue engaging with the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to implement all its recommendations on remaining issues, especially the withdrawal of the general reservation to the Convention (Finland);

- 6.38. **Intensify cooperation with Special Procedures Mandate Holders (Georgia);**
- 6.39. **Cooperate fully with human rights mechanisms including by issuing a standing invitation to HRC special procedures mandate holders (Germany);**
- 6.40. **Set a date for a visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Greece);**
- 6.41. **As previously recommended to consider to strengthen cooperation with the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to pending visit requests, and consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders (Latvia);**
- 6.42. **Strengthen international and regional cooperation in the area of human rights (Sudan);**
- 6.43. **Immediate lifting of unilateral coercive measures imposed on the State of Qatar (Qatar);**
- 6.44. **Continue to work on amending and developing domestic laws in line with the international human rights standards (Lebanon);**
- 6.45. **Create high quality institutions to ensure measuring progress made in the area of human rights (Sudan);**
- 6.46. **Intensify efforts to develop human rights education system and to strengthen the culture of human rights (Uzbekistan);**
- 6.47. **Continue the implementation of national plans and policies that are designed to promote and protect human rights in the country (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 6.48. **Adopt a national strategy for equality between women and men and women's empowerment, as well as the corresponding plan of action (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 6.49. **Guarantee due process and ensure that the law enforcement system is not abused to harass individuals (Czechia);**
- 6.50. **Broaden the establishment of mechanisms for receiving and monitoring complaints related to domestic violence, protect victims and provide them with justice and rehabilitation as well as all forms of assistance, including legal assistance (Djibouti);**
- 6.51. **Guarantee the compatibility of the national human rights strategy with the international standards, especially those core human rights treaties to which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a party to (Egypt);**
- 6.52. **Intensify training programmes related to the treaty on Human Rights which the Kingdom has joined (Kuwait);**
- 6.53. **Continue cooperation with OHCHR on mainstreaming human rights education and training (Philippines);**
- 6.54. **Continue measures to strengthen the capacity of national human rights protection mechanisms (Uzbekistan);**
- 6.55. **Establish a National Human Rights Plan with support of the international community (Costa Rica);**
- 6.56. **Increase independence of and allocate more resources to its Human Rights Commission in order to bring it into line with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);**
- 6.57. **Expedite efforts for the proposed formulation of its national human rights strategy to protect and promote human rights (Pakistan);**

- 6.58. **Expanding programs and educational curricula of human rights principles (Iraq);**
- 6.59. **Continue to strengthen efforts to promote human rights education in the country (Maldives);**
- 6.60. **Develop statistical indicators to enable measuring progress in the field of promotion and protection of human rights and identify challenges and gaps in the legislative and judicial system to ensure that the national human rights strategies comply with international standards (Egypt);**
- 6.61. **Implement the MoU for technical cooperation concluded recently between the Kingdom and the IOM to strengthen cooperation in combating and preventing human trafficking (Bangladesh);**
- 6.62. **Consider developing legislation countering hate speech and all discrimination forms (Lebanon);**
- 6.63. **Continue efforts to promote gender equality (Morocco);**
- 6.64. **Work towards eliminating all forms of gender based discrimination (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.65. **Ensure women's equality with men before the law and the enjoyment of all human rights, including the rights to freedom of movement, education, employment, marriage, and protection from violence in the home and family (Iceland);**
- 6.66. **Ensure women's equality with men before the law in the enjoyment of all human rights, including the rights of freedom of movement, education, employment, marriage, and redress for violations (Belgium);**
- 6.67. **Consider including measures aimed at ensuring increased efficiency and accountability of public service into its national development strategy (Azerbaijan);**
- 6.68. **Ensure humanitarian assistance reaches Yemenis in need (Australia);**
- 6.69. **Work with other implicated parties to facilitate a permanent and peaceful end to the conflict in Yemen (Canada);**
- 6.70. **Continue the appreciated humanitarian efforts of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Yemen);**
- 6.71. **Ensure full and total consideration of international humanitarian law (France);**
- 6.72. **Strengthen its compliance with the international humanitarian law in its actions taken outside of its territory (Peru);**
- 6.73. **Take all possible additional measures to protect civilians in Yemen and ensure unimpeded humanitarian and commercial access to Yemen (Germany);**
- 6.74. **Take all necessary measures to reach a peaceful political solution to the conflict in Yemen, in collaboration with all the parties concerned and with the support of the United Nations (Haiti);**
- 6.75. **Immediately halt the conflict in Yemen and implement the recommendations made by the Group of Eminent Experts (Iceland);**
- 6.76. **Respect the right of self-determination of Yemeni people and to make all efforts to arrive to a peaceful solution to the conflict (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.77. **Stop committing war crimes and end the serious violation of international humanitarian and human rights law, including all attacks against civilians and civilian targets; and also provide remedies and effective reparation to all victims and their families in Yemen (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

- 6.78. **End immediately the blockade of Yemen and respect international humanitarian law and allow and facilitate rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian relief for civilians in need especially innocent children (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.79. **Fully cooperate with the UN human right mechanisms to investigate-allegations of violations of international humanitarian and human rights law in Yemen (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.80. **Protect civilians, particularly children, in all military operations in Yemen, take precautionary measures and prevent indiscriminate use of force (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.81. **Create legal mechanisms which would allow full, impartial and independent inquiries into human rights violations committed by the Coalition Forces while conducting operations in Yemen accompanied by implementation of an on-the-ground, real time mechanism to help avoid civilian victims (Poland);**
- 6.82. **Continue implementation of the Saudi Vision 2030 to promote sustainable economic and social development so as to lay a solid foundation for the people to enjoy all human rights (China);**
- 6.83. **Continue working to improve the living standards of the population with the implementation of the Vision of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for 2030 (Cuba);**
- 6.84. **Pursue efforts to promote right to development including the effective implementation of the Vision 2030, and adopt a human rights approach when enforcing this vision (Jordan);**
- 6.85. **Continue to make progress in the implementation of Saudi Vision 2030 (Oman);**
- 6.86. **Complement the ambitious agenda for sustainable development and social reforms (Poland);**
- 6.87. **Remove provisions in the 2017 counter-terrorism law that call for incommunicado detention (Canada);**
- 6.88. **Reform the laws on counterterrorism, anti-cybercrime and associations as well as the law on press and publications to guarantee the right to freedom of speech and expression and freedom of peaceful association, to fully reflect commitments under international human rights law (Finland);**
- 6.89. **Put an end immediately to financing terrorist groups such as M.K.O, Al-Ahwazi, Jaishul- Adl in our region and stop the expansion of Takfiri ideology (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.90. **Ensure that the country's counter-terrorism legislation complies with international human rights norms, including revising the broad definition of terrorism and no longer making it applicable to non-violent expressions (Norway);**
- 6.91. **Amend the legal definition of terrorism to ensure that it does not lend itself to the prosecution of women's rights defenders, non-violent human rights activists, political dissenters and other persons merely for exercising their human rights (Austria);**
- 6.92. **Ensure that the treatment of persons suspected of acts of terrorism strictly complies with international human rights law and abolish the Public Prosecutors' discretion to forbid detainees' access to a lawyer (Austria);**
- 6.93. **Narrowly define "terrorist", "terrorism", and "public order" in the Counterterrorism and cyber crime laws so as not to criminalize expression, association, or peaceful assembly (United States of America);**

- 6.94. **Abolish the death penalty and until then place an interim moratorium on imposing and enforcing the death penalty while also introducing a legally-binding age of minority (Australia);**
- 6.95. **Adopt an official moratorium on the death penalty and revise provisions that call for its mandatory imposition or its application for crimes not involving intentional killing (Brazil);**
- 6.96. **Adopt a moratorium on the application of death penalty, in particular for those who were minors at the time of committing the crime (Chile);**
- 6.97. **Start a review of criminal legislation in order to reduce the crimes for which the death penalty can be applied (Chile);**
- 6.98. **Urgently adopt a moratorium on the application of the death penalty (Costa Rica);**
- 6.99. **Reduce the number of offences punishable by death, commencing with non-violent drug smuggling and abolish it for minors (Cyprus);**
- 6.100. **Outlaw the death penalty for crimes committed by persons under the age of 18 and for non-serious crimes, such as adultery or protest - related crimes (Czechia);**
- 6.101. **Declare a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition and expressly prohibit the condemnation of minors to the death penalty in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child that Saudi Arabia has ratified (France);**
- 6.102. **Consider the establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty (Georgia); Consider introducing a moratorium of death penalty (Italy);**
- 6.103. **Announce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition (Ireland); Establish a full moratorium on the use of the death penalty, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Mexico); Impose a moratorium on the use of capital punishment with a view to abolish it (Sweden); Establish a moratorium on executions as a step to abolish the death penalty (Norway); Establish a moratorium on the death penalty (Iceland);**
- 6.104. **Immediately declare a moratorium on the death penalty (Slovenia);**
- 6.105. **Adopt a moratorium on executions of persons condemned to the death penalty as a step prior to the abolition of the death penalty, as recommended previously (Spain);**
- 6.106. **Establish a moratorium on executions of death penalties with a view to its complete abolishment and commute all existing death sentences (Liechtenstein);**
- 6.107. **Forego the application of the death penalty or at least restrict it to the most serious crimes (Germany);**
- 6.108. **Take the necessary measures to remove death penalty from its national legislation and establish an official moratorium of all executions (Argentina);**
- 6.109. **Abolish death penalty and amend laws imposing a mandatory death sentence (Montenegro);**
- 6.110. **Ensure that capital punishment is not imposed; ensure strict compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child prohibiting the death penalty for offences committed below the age of eighteen and review the cases of prisoners currently under a death sentence with the aim of commuting their sentences (Austria);**
- 6.111. **Place an absolute ban on death sentences against persons below the age of 18 at the time when the offence was committed (New Zealand);**



- 6.112. Amend the Juvenile Law in order to prohibit the death penalty for all persons under 18 at the time of committing the offence in line with article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Belgium);
- 6.113. Prohibit the application of death penalty to minors (Argentina);
- 6.114. Abolish the death penalty and adopt an immediate de facto moratorium, especially for individuals under 18 years of age (Portugal);
- 6.115. Abolish the death penalty and corporal punishment (Switzerland);
- 6.116. Adopt further steps to prevent torture, cruel and degrading treatment in prisons and detention centres (Belarus);
- 6.117. Implement legal reforms to ensure proper legal process and to prevent secret and indefinite detention (Australia);
- 6.118. Abolish all forms of corporal punishment for all persons, including children and detainees, in all settings (Estonia);
- 6.119. Repeal laws that allow stoning, amputation, and flogging of children (Montenegro);
- 6.120. Continue efforts to prevent harassment related crimes (Malaysia);
- 6.121. Continue with the good practice of creating electronic site on the internet network called “nafitha tawasul,” windows of communications which provides public information on persons detained in connection with security procedures; and the promotion of this initiative to the exchange of best practices of governments in the field of human rights (Jordan);
- 6.122. Consider the possibility of supporting through contributions to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Human Trafficking (Belarus);
- 6.123. Redouble its efforts to eradicate human trafficking (Burundi);
- 6.124. Continue the efforts made to combat trafficking in human beings, particularly the exploitation of children and women by fully implementing the national plan against trafficking in human beings 2017-2020 (Djibouti);
- 6.125. Accelerate the efforts to implement the National Plan to Combat Crimes of trafficking in Persons (2017-2020). (Georgia);
- 6.126. Not to relent in its efforts in combatting human trafficking (Nigeria);
- 6.127. Continue its activities in combating human trafficking (Azerbaijan);
- 6.128. Continue to implement their national strategies and plans aimed at ensuring accountability for those engaged in trafficking in persons and assist the victims and develop and enhance the national capabilities (State of Palestine);
- 6.129. Criminalize all forms of violence against women and implement effective programs for the protection of victims of these crimes (Spain);
- 6.130. While appreciating that the Kingdom deploys all its capabilities and capacities to serve the Two Holy Mosques and millions of pilgrims from all over the world, continue its efforts to ensure their protection and wellbeing (Pakistan);
- 6.131. Release anyone imprisoned solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and association and to peaceful assembly, including human rights defenders and journalists (Belgium);
- 6.132. Ensure no one remains jailed for peaceful assembly, association, or expression, and allow them to travel freely domestically and internationally once released (United States of America);
- 6.133. Provide legal assistance to the victims of human rights violations, especially to the most vulnerable among them, such as women, children, domestic servants and persons with disabilities (Pakistan);

- 6.134. Continue facilitating to non-Muslim residents the free expression of their religious practices while respecting the religious and cultural specificity of the Kingdom (Comoros);
- 6.135. Promote the positive practices of rehabilitating those affected by extremist ideology (Oman);
- 6.136. Ensure that all Qatari citizens have the right to practice religious rites in Hajj and Umrah without any discrimination on the ground of their nationality and to remove all barriers placed in their way by the Saudi authorities (Qatar);
- 6.137. Amend or adopt legislation to ensure freedom of the press, opinion and expression (Denmark);
- 6.138. Take steps to guarantee the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and opinion without fear of reprisal, giving due consideration to women and girls (Brazil);
- 6.139. Protect the freedom of expression of all human rights defenders and foster an environment which is conducive to open debate, tolerant of dissenting voices, and protects individuals against retribution (Canada);
- 6.140. Take meaningful steps to ensure that human rights defenders, journalists, and representatives of NGOs are able to freely and fully exercise their rights to freedom of expression, opinion and association, including online, without threats or harassment (Estonia);
- 6.141. Immediately release all Human Rights Defenders, in particular women (Germany);
- 6.142. Eliminate all legal and practical obstacles to the freedom of expression and conscience of human rights defenders, thereby reconsidering the charges against prisoners who were convicted for their commitment to promoting and protecting women's rights (Netherlands);
- 6.143. Ensure a safe and enabling environment for all human rights defenders, in particular for women human rights defenders and journalists (Norway);
- 6.144. Continue to support civil society institutions and strengthening their independence which guarantee their ability to contribute in promoting and protecting human rights (Sudan);
- 6.145. Take urgent action to improve the protection of human rights defenders (Sweden);
- 6.146. Make additional efforts to promote freedom of opinion and expression (Comoros);
- 6.147. Guarantee the exercise of freedom of expression and association and release detained human rights defenders (Costa Rica);
- 6.148. Revise all legislation that restrict the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly as well as freedom of expression, and ensure these laws are in line with international standards (Czechia);
- 6.149. Amend the applicable legislation on freedom of expression and opinion, freedom of association and peaceful assembly, especially the law on combating cybercrime and anti-terrorism laws, in line with international standards in this respect, and guarantee freedom of religion, conscience and belief (France);
- 6.150. Guarantee the safety of journalists and human rights defenders and put an immediate end to the arbitrary imprisonment and arrests they face (France);
- 6.151. Bring national legislation in line with international human rights standards with regards to freedom of expression and freedom of the press and

**protect journalists and human rights defenders from intimidation, threats and arbitrary arrests (Germany);**

**6.152. Enhance measures to protect and promote the freedom of opinion and expression (Nepal);**

**6.153. Continue to promote freedom of opinion and expression, including the rights of human rights defenders and NGOs (Ghana);**

**6.154. Bring its law into line with international standards under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) for the exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Ireland);**

**6.155. Guarantee freedom of opinion and expression and safeguard the activity of human rights defenders and journalists, also by creating an environment in which they all can freely operate according with international standards (Italy);**

**6.156. Further actions to promote freedom of expression, including for journalists (Japan);**

**6.157. Establish and ensure full respect for the freedom of the press, thereby refraining from persecuting journalists and all those who voice peaceful criticism, in memory of the late Jamal Khashoggi (Netherlands);**

**6.158. Continue the steps aimed at elimination of the restrictions on freedom of expression (Romania);**

**6.159. Take measures to guarantee the peaceful exercise of freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly and to protect human rights defenders so that they can exercise their work without any intimidation (Spain);**

**6.160. Take urgent action towards media freedom in the country, including by reviewing of the 2007 Anti-cyber Crime Law (Sweden);**

**6.161. Guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association for everyone, guarantee the safety of journalists and review the judgments of those convicted for freely expressing their opinion, including human rights defenders (Switzerland);**

**6.162. Adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the free exercise of freedom of expression and press in the country, as well as to protect journalists from any act of intimidation or reprisal (Uruguay);**

**6.163. Immediately end the ban and criminalization of protests and unconditionally release anyone imprisoned solely for exercising their rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, including women human rights defenders (Iceland);**

**6.164. Take further measures to fully guarantee freedom of assembly, expression and belief (Portugal);**

**6.165. Amend the Law on Associations to bring it into full conformity with international law and standards (Belgium);**

**6.166. Fully cooperate with investigations related to the killing of Khashoggi, implement legislation that holds to account government officials who breach the law, and take further measures to guarantee freedom of opinion and expression (Australia );**

**6.167. Conduct a thorough, credible, transparent, and prompt investigation into the death of Jamal Kashoggi (Canada);**

**6.168. Collaborate with the Human Rights Council to establish a hybrid mechanism for the impartial and independent investigation into the death of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, with the participation of international experts (Costa Rica);**

- 6.169. Clarify the circumstances of the killing of Mr. Khashoggi and ensure full accountability of all those responsible for committing such heinous crime (Croatia);
- 6.170. Ensure the full and impartial investigation of incidents and violence against human rights defenders, in particular journalists, including the death of Jamal Khashoggi, and bring perpetrators to justice (Estonia);
- 6.171. Intensify training and awareness-raising programs for judges on the principles and values of human rights (Algeria);
- 6.172. Take measures to guarantee the right to freedom of expression, ensure that journalists and writers can work freely and without fear of retribution, intimidation and harassment, and that full, credible, transparent and prompt investigations of all violations of the rights of journalists take place (Greece);
- 6.173. Invite a team of international experts to participate in the investigation of the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, as requested by the High Commissioner; and provide full support to this team, including full access to evidence and witnesses (Iceland);
- 6.174. Take the necessary measures to guarantee freedom of expression for human rights defenders and journalists, in particular by investigating threats and reprisals against human rights defenders and journalists (Argentina);
- 6.175. Increase the transparency and openness of legal proceedings and investigation, ensure perpetrators of crimes be prosecuted, also with reference to the case of Jamal Khashoggi, for which we do expect a fair, steady and effective investigation to be conducted in order for clear responsibilities to be ascertained (Italy);
- 6.176. Disclose all information available on the disappearance and killing of Saudi journalist, Jamal Khashoggi and cooperate with and lead a credible and impartial investigation bringing the responsible to justice (Liechtenstein);
- 6.177. Investigate all instances of torture and extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, including such acts committed extraterritorially, and bring all perpetrators to account, in accordance with international human rights law (New Zealand);
- 6.178. Ensure credible, transparent, impartial, independent and effective investigation into the killing of Jamal Khashoggi (Austria);
- 6.179. Carry out a comprehensive and impartial investigation into the killing of Jamal Khashoggi and ensure that those responsible for his killing are held to account (Peru);
- 6.180. Ensure the necessary independence to the judiciary which is an indispensable requirement to guarantee the rule of law (Peru);
- 6.181. Implement genuine, independent, legally-based judicial mechanisms which would allow for full inquiry into the case of the killing of Mr. Khashoggi and create robust general mechanisms for holding those responsible of extrajudicial killings accountable and for protecting the right to expression (Poland);
- 6.182. Put an end to arbitrary detention, ensure the safety of detainees, reveal their whereabouts and inform them of the charges against them, in addition to ensuring their right to access to justice, fair trial and the immediate release of all detainees without legal justification (Qatar);
- 6.183. Make every effort aimed at a full, impartial and transparent investigation of the Jamal Khashoggi's case (Romania);
- 6.184. Provide legal assistance to victims of violation of human rights, particularly the most vulnerable among them, such as women, children, domestic workers and persons with reduced mobility (Senegal);

- 6.185. Establish a reliable complaint mechanism for the detained persons and include into the national legislation clear provisions for a compensation of victims of torture within the detention units (Serbia);
- 6.186. Conduct a full, credible, transparent and independent investigation into alleged killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi (Slovenia);
- 6.187. Ensure that investigation of the assassination of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi carried out by Saudi Arabia in cooperation with the Turkish authorities be comprehensive and transparent and be concluded promptly so that those responsible for these very serious events respond to justice (Spain);
- 6.188. Promote further the principle of public trials and the right to access to a lawyer and other guarantees provided for in the Code of Criminal Procedure (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.189. Ensure comprehensive and transparent investigations into the murder of Jamal Khashoggi; that those responsible are held to account; and that measures are put in place to prevent any possibility of recurrence, as pledged by the Minister for Foreign Affairs (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.190. Restrict the use of the Special Criminal Court to cases that fall within internationally accepted definitions of terrorism and permit journalists and accredited diplomats to monitor trials (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.191. Allow diplomats to attend trials and court sessions as was done in 2013 (United States of America);
- 6.192. Share with others the unique and pioneering experience in managing the pilgrims and visitors and providing them healthcare and other services (Bangladesh);
- 6.193. Continue consolidating its excellent social programmes aimed at the increased welfare of its people (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.194. Give continuity to the Food Security Strategy and its implementation plan in order to guarantee access to a safe food (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.195. Adopt comprehensive legislation that prohibit forced labour and strictly enforces penalties for such cases (Botswana);
- 6.196. Consider adopting further measures in promoting and protecting the rights of domestic service workers (Nigeria);
- 6.197. Continue efforts to strengthen maternal and child health services, including thought the good practices on child and maternal health services, which monitor maternal and child health from pregnancy to childbirth (Oman);
- 6.198. Continue its unwavering commitment to enhance the education system for all (Brunei Darussalam);
- 6.199. Continue efforts to strengthen the quality of education and combating early dropout (Tunisia);
- 6.200. Continue measures for promoting rights of women and their empowerment (India);
- 6.201. Adopt further measures to ensure gender equality and expand the rights and opportunities for women (Belarus);
- 6.202. Implement further reforms to improve women's social and economic empowerment, including dismantling the system of male guardianship in law and practice (Australia);
- 6.203. Build upon efforts towards greater gender equality, including by removing barriers under the guardianship system (Canada);

- 6.204. Move forward with legal reforms aimed at achieving gender equality between men and women, by repealing the system of guardianship and curatorship imposed on women so that they can act autonomously in all areas (Chile);
- 6.205. Eliminate the system of guardianship for women and continue moving towards consolidating the full exercise and enjoyment of their rights as previously recommended (Costa Rica);
- 6.206. Strengthen its efforts to abolish the male guardianship system (Republic of Korea); Abolish the system of guardianship of women (Denmark); Abolish the male guardianship system (Iceland); Abolish the male guardianship (Sweden);
- 6.207. Continue reforms aimed at reducing the gaps between the rights of women and men, including with regard to citizenship; abolish in particular the male guardianship system (France);
- 6.208. Continue to reform the male guardianship system to reduce the areas in which men and women are legally treated differently (Germany);
- 6.209. Proceed with the necessary legal reforms aiming to abolish the male guardianship system (Greece);
- 6.210. In spite of measures taken to limit its scope as a follow up to recommendations 138.100 /.101 /.102 /.103 /.106 /.107 / et.108 and 116.111 from the second cycle, abolish the male guardianship system (mehrem) as soon as possible (Haiti);
- 6.211. Abolish the guardianship system and provide legal equality for women in the Saudi legislation (Slovenia);
- 6.212. Abolish completely the guardianship system for women as well as all laws discriminating against women and girls, as previously recommended (Switzerland);
- 6.213. Abolish male guardianship over women and adopt measures to advance the effective participation of women in all areas (Spain);
- 6.214. Continue to introduce steps to achieve gender equality, in particular the abolishment of the system of the male guardianship (New Zealand);
- 6.215. Adopt measures to eliminate all remaining forms of discrimination against women, including abolishing the guardianship system (Norway);
- 6.216. Make substantive progress in the field of women's' rights, including by complete review of the guardianship system (Austria);
- 6.217. Intensify efforts to prevent and combat all forms of violence and discrimination against women and further promote and protect women rights, in particular by repealing the legal guardianship system and by combating child early enforced marriages (Italy);
- 6.218. Review the male guardianship system and to reject amendments to laws when this amendments discriminate against women and girls, and to enact new laws and enforcing existing laws to protect women and girls against violence, including when the violence is exercised by their pairs or members of the family (Mexico);
- 6.219. Step up efforts to eradicate discrimination against women in the legal sphere and put an end to the practices and stereotypes that discriminate against women, such as male guardianship system, as recommended previously (Uruguay);
- 6.220. Amend domestic legislation in order to prohibit the execution of minors (Hungary);

- 6.221. Enacting legislations to limit the minimum age of marriage for boys and girls, promoting a national strategy supporting gender equality through expanding social protection network for women (Iraq);
- 6.222. Protect and guarantee children rights, in particular by preventing their recruitment in armed conflicts and promoting their rehabilitation and reintegration in society (Italy);
- 6.223. Continue its efforts to eliminate discrimination against children, especially on the grounds of gender, religion and legal nature of their parents' relationship and ensure their rights to education (Peru);
- 6.224. Adopt a national strategy for the abandoned children and their inclusion into the education and health care system (Serbia);
- 6.225. Continue efforts taken to strengthen the legal protection for juveniles (Tunisia);
- 6.226. Repeal the legal provisions that provide for criminal responsibility of minors (Costa Rica);
- 6.227. Strengthen programs that expand opportunities to increase women's income, especially in rural areas (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.228. Criminalise sexual violence against women and children including migrants and ensure all perpetrators are punished accordingly (Botswana);
- 6.229. Continue to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities through relevant national mechanisms (China);
- 6.230. Continue promoting the rights of persons with disabilities in all areas so that they participate in the country's development (Cuba);
- 6.231. Fast track steps towards implementation of programme on gender parity and improve the livelihood of people with disabilities and those vulnerable inherent in any society (Eritrea);
- 6.232. Continue the dynamic in favour of women's rights by ensuring more access to justice for women and girls who are victims of domestic violence (Gabon);
- 6.233. Continue measures to strengthen gender equality, promote the role of women in society and protect women from all forms of discrimination (Algeria);
- 6.234. Take further actions to promote social advancement of women (Japan);
- 6.235. Intensify efforts to protect women and children from violence and all forms of exploitation (Libya);
- 6.236. Ensure greater participation of women in the workforce (Libya);
- 6.237. Take further measures to increase the participation of woman in labour market and public life (Malaysia);
- 6.238. Ensure the protection of female alleged victims and that their voices have equal representation in judicial system (Myanmar);
- 6.239. Encourage women empowerment and their freedom of expression, and continue its efforts for girl's equal rights to education including in social cultural activities (Myanmar);
- 6.240. Take further measures to guarantee women's rights, namely through anti-discrimination legislation (Portugal);
- 6.241. Strengthen its collaboration with the private sector to create more employment opportunities for persons with disabilities (Singapore);
- 6.242. Implement inclusive policies to allow children with disabilities to receive adequate education and the support they require in schools (Singapore);

- 6.243. Further promote the empowerment of women and the protection of their rights through the full implementation of the Saudi Vision 2030 based on the principle of equality between women and men, as well as to further promote women's equal participation in all spheres of society (Thailand );
- 6.244. Intensify efforts to protect children and women from all forms of violence and exploitation (Bahrain);
- 6.245. Ensure further progress in advancing women's rights (Ukraine);
- 6.246. Expand the positive practice of providing free legal advice to women by some civil society organizations through women's offices in courts that include legal advisers (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.247. Take measures to protect people of religious minorities and ensure their rights to practice their beliefs are being protected (Myanmar);
- 6.248. Continue measures for protection of rights for migrant workers (India);
- 6.249. Continue to take steps in answering that migrant workers and members of their families have effective access to justice and remedy as well as in providing appropriate and timely consular notification to the sending states of any legal case (Indonesia);
- 6.250. Take further efforts in enhancing the protection of migrant women and girls (Indonesia);
- 6.251. Enforce strict measures to protect migrant workers against abuses by employers, and guarantee their fundamental civil, judicial, social economic rights (Myanmar);
- 6.252. Continue further measures to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers by ensuring effective access to complaint mechanism and enhancing their welfare (Nepal);
- 6.253. Continue efforts in enhancing the protection and promotion of migrant worker's rights (Philippines);
- 6.254. Thoroughly review the sponsorship system for migrant workers (Republic of Korea);
- 6.255. Take measures to improve the protection of migrant workers (Senegal);
- 6.256. Take appropriate and concrete measures to protect the rights of migrant workers from discrimination and exploitation, guarantee fair and equal wages, and improve their working and living conditions (Thailand);
- 6.257. Strengthen legal protection for migrant workers by prosecuting employers who confiscate employees' passports and providing legal redress for trafficking victims (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.258. Allow children born to Saudi mothers and non-Saudi fathers to obtain Saudi citizenship, thus ensuring equal treatment of men and women under this law as well as compliance with the Kingdom's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Cyprus).

**7. 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

*[English Only]*

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Saudi Arabia was headed by H.E. Dr. BANDAR AL AIBAN, President of the Human Rights Commission, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Dr. Saleh AL ALSHAIKH, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- H.E. Ambassador Abdulaziz ALWASIL, Permanent Representative;
- Dr. Amal FATANI, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Mrs. Amal ALMOALIMI, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Mr. Zuhair ALZOUAN, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Dr. Saied ASHSHOWWAF, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Dr. Samha ALGHAMDI, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Mr. Abdullarahman ALSHABRAQI, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Dr. Wafa ALSALEH, Council of the Human Rights Commission;
- Dr. Eqbal DARANDARI, Shura Council;
- Dr. Amal AL SHAMAN, Shura Council;
- Mr. Niga ALOTAIBI, Bureau of Experts of Ministers;
- Mr. Ahmed SHAYR, Ministry of Justice;
- Mr. Abdulaziz ALZAID, Ministry of Justice;
- Dr. Sulaiman ALBATLI, Saudi Ministry of Islamic Affairs Dawah & Guidance;
- Mr. Mohammed ALMUTAIRI, Ministry of Interior;
- Dr. Mohammed KHORAYEF, Ministry of Interior;
- Mr. Mubarak AL-ZAHRANI Ministry of Defence;
- Mr. Abdullah ALQAHTANI Ministry of Defence;
- Mr. Abdulmohsen Bin KHOTAILLA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Hasan ALAGLA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Saad AL SHAHRANI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Dr. Fahad ALMUTAIRI, First Secretary, Permanent Mission;
- Mr. Faisal AL MADHI, First Secretary, Permanent Mission;
- Mr. Abdullah BINKHAMIS, Third Secretary;
- Ms. Lina ALTURKI, Attaché, Permanent Mission;
- Dr. Samirah ALGHAMDI, Ministry of Health;
- Dr. Abdullarahman MIRZA, Ministry of Education;
- Dr. Deema ALATHEL, Ministry of Education;
- Mr. Mohammad AL-GHMDI, Ministry of Media;
- Dr. Hisham ALMDIMEGH, Ministry of Labour and Social Development;
- Dr. Ghadah AL-GHUNAIM, Ministry of Labour and Social Development;

- Dr. Husa ALGHADER, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre;
  - Mr. Saud bin LIBDAH, Public Prosecution;
  - Dr. Arwa ALSHANGITI, General Authority of Statistics;
  - Mr. Mohammed ALMUADI, Saudi Human Rights Commission;
  - Mr. Naif ALOTAIBI, Saudi Human Rights Commission;
  - Ms. Nawal ALBAWARDI, Saudi Human Rights Commission;
  - Ms. Ghadah ALBRAHIM, Saudi Human Rights Commission;
  - Mr. Fahd ALSOFYANI, Saudi Human Rights Commission;
  - Mr. Faris ALMUTAIRI, Saudi Human Rights Commission.
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