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

Equatorial Guinea

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

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-third session from 6 to 17 May 2019. The review of Equatorial Guinea was held at the 12th meeting, on 13 May 2019. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea was headed by Don Alfonso Nsue Mokuy, Third Vice Minister of the Government in charge of Human Rights. At its 17th meeting, held on 16 May 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Equatorial Guinea.

2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Equatorial Guinea: Burkina Faso, Iceland and Ukraine.

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 Equatorial Guinea:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/GNQ/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.6/33/GNQ/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/GNQ/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America was transmitted to Equatorial Guinea 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 24 May 2019]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 82 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 recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Equatorial Guinea and enjoy the support of Equatorial Guinea:**

6.1 **Ratify other international human rights instruments to which Equatorial Guinea is not yet a party (Senegal);**

- 6.2 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as a follow-up to its recommendation 135.18 of the second cycle (Burkina Faso);
- 6.3 Consider the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Philippines);
- 6.4 Speed up the process of accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Mozambique);
- 6.5 Take the necessary measures to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Timor-Leste);
- 6.6 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Ukraine);
- 6.7 Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Uruguay);
- 6.8 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Slovenia); (Montenegro); (Togo); (Brazil); (Angola);
- 6.9 Ratify and implement the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Germany);
- 6.10 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and take all necessary steps to abolish the death penalty (Australia);
- 6.11 Follow up the announcement by President Obiang Nguema by acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);
- 6.12 Continue its actions and initiatives with a view to acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Benin);
- 6.13 Put in place a permanent moratorium on executions and to accelerate efforts towards the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia);
- 6.14 Continue its efforts in order to abolish the death penalty, through the accession to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and maintain temporary amnesty on the application of the death penalty until ratification (Georgia);
- 6.15 Formally abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Rwanda);
- 6.16 Take concrete steps towards the total abolition of the death penalty and, as a matter of priority, sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);

6.17 Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Croatia);

6.18 Accede to the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960 (South Africa);

6.19 Ratify the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education 1960 (Madagascar);

6.20 Intensify efforts towards aligning its national legislation with the provisions of the international human rights treaties, to which it is party (Namibia);

6.21 Create a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles that is completely independent of the Government (Chile);

6.22 Create an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Portugal);

6.23 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles that is completely independent of the Government and has adequate funding for its operation (Costa Rica);

6.24 Establish an independent National Human Rights Commission in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal);

6.25 Establish a National Human Rights Institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);

6.26 Establish and independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Mexico);

6.27 Make progress with human rights institutions by creating an independent National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Spain);

6.28 Take measures to guarantee the independence of the National Human Rights Institution in order to be in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Togo);

6.29 Strengthen the prerogatives of the National Human Rights Institution in accordance with Paris Principles (Tunisia);

6.30 Take adequate measures to grant full independence to the National Human Rights Commission and ensure its compliance with the Paris Principles (Chad);

6.31 Continue its efforts to ensure the proper functioning and full independence of the institutions in charge of human rights, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Djibouti);

6.32 Continue its efforts in order to establish an independent national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Georgia);

6.33 Ensure that the national human rights institution functions in line with the Paris Principles and is fully independent of the Government (Maldives);

- 6.34 **Implement a National Plan for the implementation of the human rights recommendations aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Cabo Verde);**
- 6.35 **Seek from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights cooperation to establish an inclusive process for the follow-up of recommendations stemming from human rights mechanisms (Paraguay);**
- 6.36 **Improve public access to information on laws and policy measures relevant to human rights and national reports to human rights mechanisms and bodies (Republic of Korea);**
- 6.37 **Continue taking targeted steps to improve national legislation related to the respect of human rights and freedoms (Russian Federation);**
- 6.38 **Revitalize the national statistical system for the availability and use of data, thereby allowing planning, implementation and evaluation with a view to ensuring achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**
- 6.39 **Establish a statistical system for data generation (Cabo Verde);**
- 6.40 **Continue developing actions that Equatorial Guinea is already implementing geared towards training and awareness raising on human rights for the population (Nicaragua);**
- 6.41 **Strengthen the efforts of addressing the social and cultural challenges of respect for human rights (Ethiopia);**
- 6.42 **Continue efforts in human rights training and awareness programs (Libya);**
- 6.43 **Continue to intensify conduct of awareness-raising, training and capacity building programs on human rights (Philippines);**
- 6.44 **Strengthen awareness raising and human rights education (Mauritania);**
- 6.45 **Intensify efforts to promote awareness and training in human rights (Qatar);**
- 6.46 **Take the necessary political and legislative steps to combat discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Dominican Republic);**
- 6.47 **Take all measures to combat stigmatization of and discrimination against LGBTI individuals and promote and protect their human rights (Iceland);**
- 6.48 **Continue the implementation of the national economic and social plan for 2020 (Sudan);**
- 6.49 **Continue to implement the National Economic and Social Development Plan for Horizon 2020 and to promote sustainable economic and social development (China);**
- 6.50 **Strengthen further the implementation of the Horizon 2020 Plan particularly in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights (Philippines);**
- 6.51 **Continue to intensify its efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative framework to address the cross-sectoral environmental challenges including climate change mitigation and adaptation (Fiji);**

- 6.52 Ensure that women, children, youth, elderly persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous and other marginalized groups effectively participate in the development and implementation of necessary frameworks related to climate change and disaster risk management (Fiji);
- 6.53 Continue to build institutional capacity, data and knowledge to integrate environment and climate considerations more fully into the national regulatory framework (Fiji);
- 6.54 Consider abolishing the death penalty (Mozambique);
- 6.55 Consider the total abolition of the death penalty (Turkey);
- 6.56 Adopt the necessary measures to repeal the death penalty from its national legislation (Argentina);
- 6.57 Formally and finally abolish the death penalty (Cabo Verde);
- 6.58 Abolish the death penalty (Iceland);
- 6.59 Consider formally abolishing the death penalty (Italy);
- 6.60 Continue adopting all the necessary measures to eradicate acts of torture committed and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice (Spain);
- 6.61 Investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment with a view to ensuring full accountability and preventing recurrence (Australia);
- 6.62 Fully implement Law 6/2006 prohibiting torture and prosecute security staff responsible for violations (Canada);
- 6.63 Effectively combat impunity, especially for acts of torture and sexual violence, including when these acts are perpetrated by law enforcement agencies (France);
- 6.64 Ensure that authors of acts of torture perpetrated in police stations and prisons be sanctioned by law and brought to justice (Madagascar);
- 6.65 Prevent and combat torture after arrest and during interrogations in police stations, and sexual violence against women prisoners and LGBT persons and bring to justice all suspected law enforcement officials who participated in those acts (Montenegro);
- 6.66 Intensify efforts to improve detention conditions and to reform generally the work of the penitentiary system (Russian Federation);
- 6.67 Address effectively allegations of political persecutions, arbitrary arrest and the overall conditions that undermine the dignity of persons in detention (Sierra Leone);
- 6.68 Improve conditions of detention, in particular by allowing all detainees access to a judge and by abolishing all forms of arbitrary and secret detention, as previously recommended (Switzerland);
- 6.69 Step up its efforts to ensure better prison and detention conditions for persons deprived of their liberty in conjunction with migration proceedings (Burkina Faso);
- 6.70 Enhance efforts to combat unlawful and arbitrary detention and improve conditions of detention in prisons, including by separating women, men and children (Uganda);

- 6.71 Take concrete measures to ensure respect for the fundamental rights and freedoms of the entire population, especially by investigating and prosecuting those responsible for arbitrary detention, torture, executions and other human rights violations (Argentina);
- 6.72 Continue efforts undertaken in the area of administration of justice and take additional measures to guarantee the independence and the impartiality of the judiciary (Switzerland);
- 6.73 Continue efforts to ensure the independence of the judiciary (Dominican Republic);
- 6.74 Adopt concrete legislative and administrative measures to guarantee the independence of the judiciary, particularly in relation to the executive branch (Brazil);
- 6.75 Create relevant mechanisms to ensure the independence of the Judiciary in relation to the Executive branch (Costa Rica);
- 6.76 Pursue efforts to strengthen the independence of the judiciary (Egypt);
- 6.77 Guarantee the right to a fair trial by ensuring the independence of the judiciary (France);
- 6.78 Ensure the separation of powers, especially the full independence of the judiciary (Germany);
- 6.79 Ensure that the independence of the judiciary is fully guaranteed in its legal framework and is in line with the principles of international law (Ireland);
- 6.80 Ensure the independence of the judiciary and guarantee due process rights of all people, including those in custody (Italy);
- 6.81 Strengthen the independence of the judiciary so as to ensure that the courts have sufficient guarantees to carry out their work in the best way possible (Mexico);
- 6.82 Pursue its efforts to efficiently combat corruption (Turkey);
- 6.83 Continue taking all the necessary measures to guarantee full exercise of freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly in order to have political pluralism and effective and real freedom of the press (Spain);
- 6.84 Strengthen its efforts in bringing its laws and practices into line with international standards for press freedom and freedom of expression (Timor-Leste);
- 6.85 Review national legislation to ensure freedom of expression and press freedom in conformity with international standards (Maldives);
- 6.86 Introduce a freedom of information law in line with international standards to ensure progress on target 16.10 of the SDGs concerning public access (Ghana);
- 6.87 Consider introducing a freedom of information law in line with international standards to ensure that SDG target 16.10 is achieved (Haiti);
- 6.88 Remove all restrictions on journalistic activity, including by stopping the government practice of pre-publication censorship (Iceland);
- 6.89 Increase efforts to guarantee citizens' freedom of expression and political opinion and ensure protection to human rights defenders (Italy);

- 6.90 **Ensure a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders in law and practice, so that they can carry out their work free from harassment or reprisals (Republic of Korea);**
- 6.91 **Put in place the adequate means to guarantee that human rights defenders can safely exercise their legitimate work (Spain);**
- 6.92 **Adopt measures to enable NGOs and human rights defenders to work safely and independently (France);**
- 6.93 **Investigate all threats and attacks against human rights defenders, journalists and activists and bring to justice those responsible (Zambia);**
- 6.94 **Create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment for civil society human rights defenders, including by conducting prompt, thorough and impartial investigations into allegations of intimidation and reprisal against them and by bringing perpetrators to justice (Ireland);**
- 6.95 **Take the necessary steps to respect citizens' rights to free speech and freedom of peaceful assembly and association (Costa Rica);**
- 6.96 **Take steps to promote political tolerance by ending alleged political persecutions, arbitrary arrests and ill-treatment of prisoners in line with the amnesty measures announced by the Government (Ghana);**
- 6.97 **Release any political dissidents, human rights defenders or journalists that have been detained for legitimately exercising their freedom of expression, association or peaceful assembly (Australia);**
- 6.98 **Guarantee freedom of expression for activists, journalists and political opponents, including the right to participate in free, fair, equitable and transparent elections, organized by competent, independent and impartial national electoral bodies (Canada);**
- 6.99 **Take measures with a view to effectively apply Act No. 1/2004 on the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.100 **Strengthen measures aimed at guaranteeing the effective application of the Law on Illegal Trafficking of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons (Honduras);**
- 6.101 **Fully implement the national plan to combat trafficking in persons and human smuggling, including developing procedures to proactively identify victims and ensure adequate victim protection and care (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 6.102 **Strengthen measures to combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 6.103 **Continue to consolidate social justice and provision of more employment opportunities and support for vulnerable groups (Qatar);**
- 6.104 **Continue strengthening its social protection programmes in favour of the population, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable sectors (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**
- 6.105 **Continue its fight against poverty and corruption (Nigeria);**
- 6.106 **Expedite the adoption of the national plan to combat poverty and mechanisms to monitor its implementation (South Africa);**
- 6.107 **Promote social justice and combat poverty (Sudan);**

- 6.108 **Expand its poverty alleviation programme to further consolidate social well-being and equity (Zimbabwe);**
- 6.109 **Establish a specific plan for combatting poverty, particularly with regard to the achievement of Goals 3 and 4 of the 2030 Agenda, to improve access to education and healthcare in rural areas (Cabo Verde);**
- 6.110 **Allocate sufficient resources for poverty reduction, basic healthcare and primary education, in order to respond to the people's economic and social rights (Canada);**
- 6.111 **Continue giving priority to actions to eradicate poverty (Cuba);**
- 6.112 **Continue to promote economic and social development with a view to eliminating poverty and raising the people's living standards (Djibouti);**
- 6.113 **Continue developing actions that Equatorial Guinea has already initiated to defend the rights of the population for the right to access to water and sanitation through the development of a network in towns, the capital and main heads of provinces (Nicaragua);**
- 6.114 **Continue efforts in education and health development programs to benefit the largest number of the population (Libya);**
- 6.115 **Continue efforts to improve access to and the quality of healthcare and education, particularly in rural areas, including the expansion of literacy programmes (Cuba);**
- 6.116 **Develop and fully implement the Equatorial Guinea Malaria Vaccine Initiative and share good experiences in this regard (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 6.117 **Continue efforts to ensure that all citizens enjoy the right to health without discrimination (Egypt);**
- 6.118 **Take concrete measures in order to address stigma and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members, including through awareness raising campaigns (Portugal);**
- 6.119 **Step up its efforts for HIV/AIDS education in schools nationwide (Myanmar);**
- 6.120 **Step up efforts to reduce the prevalence of HIV/Aids (Congo);**
- 6.121 **Launch mass awareness campaigns to combat discrimination and stigmatization of people living with HIV/AIDS and to encourage them to use the health services in order to lower prevalence rates in the population (Angola);**
- 6.122 **Continue strengthening policies and programmes for the prevention and education of the health sector on HIV (Dominican Republic);**
- 6.123 **Continue efforts to combat the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS among women through awareness raising campaigns (Gabon);**
- 6.124 **Combat stigma and discrimination against persons affected by HIV/AIDS and implement a country-wide sexual and reproductive health education policy in the school system that specifically focuses on HIV/AIDS (Portugal);**
- 6.125 **Continue to strengthen its educational policies for the development and the wellness of its population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

- 6.126 Continue with the implementation of measures that support an inclusive approach to preschool and primary education, and reduces dropouts in secondary and higher education, especially among girls (Serbia);
- 6.127 Ensure the education development programmes include equal access to education by everyone, including children living with HIV/AIDS, early pregnant girls, children that lack financial means and children with disabilities (Myanmar);
- 6.128 Pursue efforts to combat school dropout and to improve the quality of education (Tunisia);
- 6.129 Strengthen efforts to improve access to education among vulnerable persons, including by removing all impediments to access to education by girls, and indigenous people (Uganda);
- 6.130 Strengthen legislation on the right to free and compulsory education (Algeria);
- 6.131 Strengthen the legal framework to effectively ensure free education up to 12 years of age (Congo);
- 6.132 Not to relent in its efforts at providing quality education and health care services for its people (Nigeria);
- 6.133 Strengthen legal provisions regarding the right to free and compulsory education (Honduras);
- 6.134 Step up its efforts in realizing the Horizon 2020 Plan, particularly by providing access to quality basic educational services (Indonesia);
- 6.135 Make efforts to ensure access to education (Iraq);
- 6.136 Tackle the risk of girls' school drop out by addressing early child marriage (Myanmar);
- 6.137 Take further measures to increase the rate of women at vocational and university education (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.138 Continue to strengthen efforts aimed at promoting gender equality including through educational campaigns, while paying specific attention to the needs of rural woman (South Africa);
- 6.139 Redouble efforts to address inequalities based on gender, particularly in the area of politics and in the field of access to land (Gabon);
- 6.140 Redouble efforts to guarantee gender equality (Honduras);
- 6.141 Design a national strategy for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights with a view to empowering women economically and encouraging their participation in public and political life (Costa Rica);
- 6.142 Strengthen measures to eliminate discrimination and violence against women including through the adoption of legislation on gender equality that clearly prohibits discrimination against women (Rwanda);
- 6.143 Prohibit all forms of discrimination and violence against women (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.144 Step up efforts in ensuring responsive measures to address violence against women (Philippines);

- 6.145 Step up the efforts of strengthening the participation of women in political and public life and their representation in decision-making bodies (Ethiopia);
- 6.146 Remove all obstacles preventing more Equatorial Guinean women from being elected to decision-making positions in accordance with Article 13.2 of the Constitution and in full consultation with women stakeholders (Haiti);
- 6.147 Ensure the implementation of a legal framework that clearly prohibits discrimination and violence against women, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Netherlands);
- 6.148 Speed up the adoption of national legislation in connection with preventing and combatting violence against women (Russian Federation);
- 6.149 Continue combatting violence against women, especially sexual violence (Tunisia);
- 6.150 Take more measures aimed at curbing gender-based violence, especially violence against women and girls (Namibia);
- 6.151 Address all forms of violence against women and criminalise domestic violence (Zambia);
- 6.152 Introduce awareness raising, training and education, and prevention campaigns to combat violence against women (Zimbabwe);
- 6.153 Strengthen the strategies that are aimed at eradicating gender disparities and preventing violence against women (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.154 Ensure the implementation of strategies to fight and prevent violence against women and that equal opportunities are given to women and girls to address gender disparities (Botswana);
- 6.155 Further protect the rights of women and continue to fight violence against women (China);
- 6.156 Invest further efforts in preventing and reducing all forms of violence against women, as well as in providing adequate assistance to victims (Croatia);
- 6.157 Penalize marital rape and sexual harassment (Iceland);
- 6.158 Strengthen its legal framework to protect women's rights and prevent sexual violence against women, including through collaboration with other countries (Indonesia);
- 6.159 Take the necessary measures to combat domestic violence (Iraq);
- 6.160 Step up efforts aimed at protecting women and girl's rights, including by taking appropriate measures to prevent and combat early, child and forced marriage and domestic violence (Italy);
- 6.161 Vigorously combat early marriage (Congo);
- 6.162 Adopt educational and adequate measures to combat early marriage of girls in rural areas (Angola);
- 6.163 Encourage greater participation of women in the political sphere at the national and local levels (Indonesia);
- 6.164 Endeavour to fight stunted growth of children under 5 years of age (Botswana);

6.165 Continue broadening the regulatory framework and the implementation of measures on the rights of persons with disabilities, with a view to ensuring their full social integration, including regarding healthcare, education and employment (Cuba).

7. The following recommendations will be examined by Equatorial Guinea, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council.

7.1 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as a follow-up to its recommendation 135.16 of the second cycle (Burkina Faso);

7.2 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Germany); (Ukraine);

7.3 Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Paraguay);

7.4 Ratify other relevant international human rights instruments including the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (Spain);

7.5 Step up internal consultations for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Costa Rica);

7.6 Accede to the Optional Protocol on the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);

7.7 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, or Inhuman Treatment or Punishment (Cabo Verde); (Ukraine); (Denmark);

7.8 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and fully implement Law 6/2006 prohibiting torture and guaranteeing reparation, including compensation (Germany);

7.9 Intensify its efforts to accede to the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Georgia);

7.10 Intensify efforts to accede to the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);

7.11 Ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Rwanda);

7.12 Accelerate the process of ratifying the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Burundi);

7.13 Ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (Senegal);

7.14 Ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, adopted by the African Union in Addis Ababa on 30th January, 2007 (Zambia);

7.15 Extend standing invitation to all UN special procedures (Ukraine);

- 7.16 Accept a visit from the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 7.17 Consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);
- 7.18 Apply effectively the 1998 United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council, including the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (Portugal);
- 7.19 Guarantee full independence of the Office of the Ombudsman in its appointment and function in line with the Paris Principles (Republic of Korea);
- 7.20 Continue its efforts to put in place the Rule of Law in all its facets to allow the Equatoguinean society to better benefit from the economic and commercial development of the country (Turkey);
- 7.21 Investigate and hold accountable security forces and other government officials for human rights violations and abuses, including reported extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary arrests and detentions of journalists, civil society actors, and political opposition members (United States of America);
- 7.22 Fully apply Law No. 6/2006 on the prohibition of torture and conduct independent inquiries against the alleged perpetrators of acts of torture, followed by legal proceedings as need be (Belgium);
- 7.23 Put an end to detention outside of any legal framework by setting up an independent body for the control of places of deprivation of liberty (France);
- 7.24 Repeal or amend legislation that infringes upon the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly and institute a legal framework that protects these fundamental freedoms and punishes those who violate them (Australia);
- 7.25 Promote freedom of expression for the press and media and ceasing the imprisonment of journalists by decriminalising defamation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 7.26 Take effective measures to better protect the rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association, and investigate and prosecute all threats and attacks against human rights defenders (Germany);
- 7.27 Enact legislation to ensure full and adequate protection for human rights defenders so they can exercise their activities in a democratic space free of restrictions (Switzerland);
- 7.28 Adopt and enact laws that efficiently recognize and protect all human rights defenders and ensure comprehensive, prompt and independent investigations against all allegations of human rights violations against human rights defenders and bring to justice the perpetrators of such crimes (Uruguay);
- 7.29 Adopt and implement legislation which recognizes and protects human rights defenders (Ghana);
- 7.30 Adopt the necessary steps to guarantee freedom of expression for human rights defenders and journalists, particularly by investigating and prosecuting threats and reprisals against human rights defenders and journalists (Argentina);

- 7.31 Adopt and apply legislation recognizing and protecting the fundamental rights of human rights defenders (Belgium);
- 7.32 Remove undue restrictions on civil society and the media by reforming Law 1/1999 to be consistent with international obligations on the rights to freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, and to streamline registration processes (United States of America);
- 7.33 Amend Law No1/1999 to facilitate the swift registration of Civil Society Organisations that have submitted applications and evaluate all applications on their merits (Australia);
- 7.34 Bring legislation on freedom of expression and association in line with international standards, including through the amendment of NGO regulation Law 1/1999 (Netherlands);
- 7.35 Remove laws restricting NGO activity and reform Law 1/1999 regulating NGOs in order to facilitate their registration and enable their full and independent functioning (Iceland);
- 7.36 Take effective steps to prevent and punish cases of harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders (Chile);
- 7.37 Adopt effective measures to prevent and punish cases of harassment and intimidation of human rights defenders (Denmark);
- 7.38 Take all measures to protect and support opposition members, journalists, human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, and civil society organizations; investigate all attacks against them; and bring the perpetrators to justice (Iceland);
- 7.39 Enact a law clearly prohibiting discrimination against women and cancel the ministerial ruling of 18 July prohibiting girls from enrolling in and/or attending school during pregnancy (Canada);
- 7.40 Guarantee the rights to education and health, especially for children, including by ending the policy of excluding pregnant minors from school (France);
- 7.41 Complete the process of adopting the Personal and Family Code and the process of drafting and adopting the bill on gender-based violence (Gabon);
- 7.42 Continue its policy of combatting disparities between men and women, by adopting the draft Personal and Family Code (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 7.43 Expedite the approval of the Family Code which is aimed at eradicating gender based disparities and prevention of violence against women (Sierra Leone);
- 7.44 Speed up the approval of the Personal and Family Code (Ukraine);
- 7.45 Accelerate the drafting and adoption of a law on gender equality that clearly prohibits discrimination against women, in line with the treaties and conventions ratified by the country, ensuring that it is adequately disseminated, known and respected (Chile);
- 7.46 Provide adequate annual financial assistance to programmes of the country aimed at changing the understanding of masculinity in the country and promoting gender equality, and consider expanding such programmes throughout the country (Haiti);

7.47 Incorporate domestic and intra-family violence as a crime, in particular violence against women and children, and adopt the necessary measures to ensure the training of the competent authorities (Mexico);

7.48 Adopt without delay a law prohibiting the infliction of corporal punishment on children in all settings, including the family (Senegal);

7.49 Prioritize the protection of children's rights, to eradicate corporal punishment in all settings, including at home and repeal defence arguments to justify it (Algeria);

7.50 Prioritise the protection of the rights of the child, eradicating corporal punishment and domestic violence and enhancing access to education services (Kyrgyzstan).

8. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Equatorial Guinea and have been noted by Equatorial Guinea:

8.1 Abolish the death penalty, by revising the Constitution and by ratifying the Second Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (France);

8.2 Abolish the death penalty and investigate all unlawful killings and extrajudicial executions committed by law enforcement agencies personnel and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Paraguay);

8.3 Consider acceding to and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Uruguay);

8.4 Take further steps towards the accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Germany);

8.5 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);

8.6 Allow elected members of political parties, including Citizens for Innovation, to take their seats immediately (United States of America).

9. 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 Equatorial Guinea was headed by Don Alfonso NSUE MOKUY, Third Vice-Minister of the Government in charge of Human Rights and composed of the following members:

- S.E. M. Don Salvador ONDO NKUMU, Minister of Justice, Culte and Penitentiary Institutions;
 - S.E.M. Lázaro EKUA AVOMO, Ambassador et Representant Permanent en Suisse;
 - S.E.Mme. Doña Jesús NKARA OWONO, Vice Minister of Education, University Teaching and Sports;
 - S.E.M. Doña María Jesús NKARA OWONO, Vice Minister of Education, University Education and Sports;
 - Honorable M. Don Jose Pablo NVO OWONO AVIRI, Deputy of Congress and member of the National Commission of Human Rights;
 - M. Nicanor Ondo Monsuy Andeme, Second Secretary of the Embassy in Suisse;
 - M. Don Manuel MBA CHAMA, General Director of Human Rights;
 - Mme. Doña Claudia AYECABA ONDO, General Director of Protocol;
 - Mme. Doña Venerenda CYANA NGUEMA, Executive Secretary of the Third Vice Minister of the Government in charge of Human Rights;
 - Mme. Doña Rosa MBA NSUE, Human Rights Focal Point for the United Nations System in Malabo;
 - M. Don Manuel MBA NCOGO, in charge of press and communication;
 - Mr. Clarenco Ndong NGUEMA OBONO, in charge of press and communication;
 - M. Antonio SIMON HOSSEN, Assistant of the Embassy in Suisse;
 - M. Don Filiberto NSUE ESONO, Security of the Third Vice Minister of the Government in charge of Human Rights;
 - Mme. Doña Anastasia NSE ADA, Member of the Civil Society.
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