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

Islamic Republic of Iran

* 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-fourth session from 4 to 15 November 2019. The review of the Islamic Republic of Iran was held at the 9th meeting, on 08 November 2019. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran was headed by Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights, Mr Mohammad Javad Ardeshir Larijani. At its 14th meeting, held on 12 November 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on the Islamic Republic of Iran.
2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Islamic Republic of Iran: Iraq, Peru 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 the Islamic Republic of Iran:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRN/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.6/34/IRN/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/34/IRN/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Australia, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America was transmitted to the Islamic Republic of Iran 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 22 November 2019]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 111 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 the Islamic Republic of Iran, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-third session of the Human Rights Council.**
 - 6.1 **Uphold international commitments under the human rights treaties Iran is a party to (Ukraine);**
 - 6.2 **Continue to adhere to more international human rights conventions (State of Palestine);**
 - 6.3 **Consider ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Georgia);**

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- 6.4 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol to ensure protection of women's rights (Botswana);
- 6.5 Consider the ratification of human rights instruments to which Iran is still not a party in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Republic of Korea);
- 6.6 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Republic of Moldova); (Estonia) (Burundi); (Kenya);/ Accede to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Czech Republic);/Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in order to enable women to play an active role in the society, especially in the political, economic, cultural aspects and sports (Bahrain);
- 6.7 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, and develop and implement policies promoting gender equality and the participation of women in all areas of public and private life (Ecuador);
- 6.8 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Togo);/Accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Czechia);
- 6.9 Ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Republic of Moldova); (Estonia); (Denmark);
- 6.10 Become a part to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Seychelles);
- 6.11 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and its optional protocol (Togo);(Uganda);/Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, as previously recommended at its second review in 2014 (Burkina Faso);
- 6.12 Sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Croatia);
- 6.13 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Czechia);
- 6.14 Redouble efforts on gender equality, by ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol in order to guarantee equality between men and women (Spain);
- 6.15 Take adequate measures, such as ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to enhance the equal role of women in society, in particular in political, economic, social and cultural life, including sports, as recommended in 2014 (Greece);
- 6.16 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and incorporate their provisions in its legal framework (Luxembourg);
- 6.17 Adhere to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ensure their effective implementation (North Macedonia);

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- 6.18 Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Albania);
- 6.19 Initiate steps towards ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Austria);
- 6.20 Intensify its efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Fiji);
- 6.21 Ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Germany);
- 6.22 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment at the earliest convenience (Ghana);
- 6.23 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);
- 6.24 Ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (Latvia);
- 6.25 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, as previously recommended at its second review in 2014 (Burkina Faso);
- 6.26 Consider the possibility of ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Niger);
- 6.27 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal); (Togo);
- 6.28 Ratify and fully align national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as well as ratify core human rights conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);
- 6.29 Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Ecuador);
- 6.30 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);
- 6.31 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Poland);
- 6.32 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);
- 6.33 Ratify the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Kenya);
- 6.34 Continue constructive exchanges with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and cooperate with all Special Rapporteurs who wish to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran (Albania);
- 6.35 Cooperate fully with the UN human rights mechanisms, including by inviting the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran to visit the country (Australia);

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- 6.36 Cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran by accepting his requests to visit the country (Chile);
- 6.37 Fully cooperate with the United Nations special procedures, and enable a country visit by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Czechia);
- 6.38 Fully cooperate with and grant immediate and unfettered access for the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Sweden);
- 6.39 Fully cooperate with, and engage in, a substantive and constructive dialogue with the United Nations special procedures (Sierra Leone);
- 6.40 Extend a standing invitation to special procedures mechanism (State of Palestine);/Launch a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.41 Cooperate fully with the UN human rights mechanisms, including by inviting the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran to the country (Germany);
- 6.42 Strengthen its cooperation with the Human Rights Council mechanisms, in particular special procedures mandate-holders and by accepting their visits (Peru);
- 6.43 Continue to cooperate with all mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and provide them with the required responses (Egypt);
- 6.44 Take the necessary steps to implement the commitment extended to Special Procedures by accepting pending visit requests (Latvia);
- 6.45 Accept a visit by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (New Zealand);
- 6.46 Further strengthen national capacities in the promotion and protection of human rights, taking into account the concluding observations of the treaty bodies and the recommendations of the universal periodic review (Belarus);
- 6.47 Continue the cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Egypt);
- 6.48 Continue its effort to cooperate with UNOCHA, UNDP and the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights (Kazakhstan);
- 6.49 Continue strengthening cooperation with regional and international institutions in the area of children rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.50 Develop cooperation with the international and regional mechanisms, including institutions to exchange experiences and good practices on the rights of the child (Senegal);
- 6.51 Continue efforts to share with other countries its successful experiences in the protection of children rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.52 Pursue initiatives to continue promoting dialogue, cooperation and tolerance between different cultures and religions (Armenia);
- 6.53 Continue to hold bilateral human rights dialogues with other countries (China);
- 6.54 Take measure to bring its domestic legislation into compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and ensure that the provisions of the

Convention prevail whenever there was a conflict with the domestic law (Republic of Moldova);

6.55 Continue to bring its national legislation in line with international human rights instruments it is party to (Russian Federation);

6.56 Continue its efforts in bringing its national legislation in compliance with international obligations (Kyrgyzstan);

6.57 Continue efforts to confront the negative impacts of unilateral coercive measures on the human rights of the Iranian people in order for them to overcome obstacles resulting from such measures (Syrian Arab Republic);

6.58 Continue its efforts for the protection of vulnerable group affected by economic sanctions and unilateral coercive measures (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);

6.59 Continue measures leading to landmine clearance in its territory, with the support of international and national stakeholders (Sri Lanka);

6.60 Pursue efforts to protect and support the persons with special needs (Lebanon);

6.61 Continue implementing targeted programmes to further improve the wellbeing of older persons; (Malaysia);

6.62 Complete the necessary measures for the creation of a national human rights commission in line with the Paris Principles (Qatar);

6.63 Continue efforts to create a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Tunisia);

6.64 Further continue ongoing efforts on the establishment of a national human rights institution (Turkmenistan);

6.65 Speed up the adoption of a bill on the establishment of a national human rights institution (Uzbekistan);

6.66 Continue its efforts for setting up the National Human Rights Institution (Afghanistan);

6.67 Accelerate measures to establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nepal);

6.68 Further promote human rights education and training programmes (Armenia);

6.69 Continue the measures of adoption of laws and programmes in the field of human rights education (Azerbaijan);

6.70 Continue strengthening its initiatives on human rights education (Cuba);

6.71 Continue its efforts to provide necessary financial resources for the development of human rights and citizenship rights education (Kuwait);

6.72 Continue its efforts to establish specialised training courses at universities related to human rights (Kuwait);

6.73 Pursue efforts to set up specialised trainings courses in universities on human rights (Nicaragua);

6.74 Continue its efforts in the field of human rights capacity-building and training for duty bearers (Philippines);

6.75 continue to enhance capacity building and public awareness campaigns regarding citizenship rights (Kuwait);

6.76 Continue improving public awareness raising campaigns on the citizens' rights (Nicaragua);

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- 6.77 Continue efforts to promote financial resources that are needed for the development of education in human rights and citizens' rights (Nicaragua);
- 6.78 Continue improving the training efforts for NGOs on the promotion and protection of children rights (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.79 Continue its efforts for an effective presence of the civil society and NGOs in the local and international human rights arena (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.80 End discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, including repealing provisions in the Penal Code that criminalise consensual same-sex activities between adults (Canada);
- 6.81 Review its legislation and policy so as to ensure non-discrimination, especially on the grounds of religion or belief as well as sexual orientation and gender identity (Czechia);
- 6.82 Repeal the provisions in its Penal Code which criminalize consensual same-sex activities between adults (Germany);
- 6.83 Abolish all legislation resulting in discrimination, prosecution and punishment of people based on the sexual orientation and gender identity (Israel);
- 6.84 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relations (Italy);
- 6.85 Take all the necessary measures to eliminate and prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression (Luxembourg);
- 6.86 Take measures of protection against violence and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (New Zealand);
- 6.87 Halt the diversion of the country's wealth abroad and focus on the development to ensure that human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran are protected (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.88 Continue promoting programmes that stimulate the development of rural and less developed areas (Dominican Republic);
- 6.89 Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and in the improvement of human development indicators (India);
- 6.90 Pursue efforts to improve the human development index indicators, especially for education, health and fighting poverty (Lebanon);
- 6.91 Continue to strengthen the human development indicators (Oman);
- 6.92 Optimize civil society capacity and participation in protecting the rights of people affected by natural disaster (Indonesia);
- 6.93 Consider conducting periodic review and assessment of its disaster risk reduction management and climate change adaptation efforts with due consideration to the protection of most vulnerable sectors of society (Philippines);
- 6.94 Ensure that women, children and persons with disabilities are meaningfully engaged in the development of legislation and policies on climate change and disaster risk reduction (Fiji);
- 6.95 End immediately and fully the support and financing of the terrorist groups in the region such as Hizbullah in Lebanon, and the Ansar Allah Al-Houthi group in Yemen, which has led to the grave violations of human rights (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.96 Promote human rights by acceding to the international treaties on combating the financing of terrorism, money laundering, and adhere to international standards on transparency in financial sector (Saudi Arabia);

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- 6.97 Accelerate the enactment of a binding and strict national legislation to prevent and criminalize the transfer of funds financing terrorist groups and entities whose acts prevent individuals and communities the enjoyment of their fundamental human rights, namely, the right to a safe life (Bahrain);
- 6.98 Establish an official moratorium on executions of minors under the age of 18 at the time of the crime, amend its Penal Code and commute the sentences of juveniles (Switzerland);
- 6.99 Undertake steps towards introduction of a moratorium on the death penalty which would allow the Islamic Republic of Iran to consider signature and ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Poland);
- 6.100 Commute the sentences of persons sentenced to death, establish a moratorium on executions, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Portugal);
- 6.101 Abolish death sentence for persons under the 18 years of age and commute all existing sentences for offenders on death row who had committed a crime while under the age of 18 years (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.102 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, in particular in relation to juvenile offenders (Ukraine);
- 6.103 Abolish the death penalty at least for crimes committed by persons under 18 years of age, in accordance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and commute all death sentences for juvenile offenders (Belgium);
- 6.104 Take all necessary measures to establish a moratorium on the death penalty by prohibiting its application to persons who were minors at the time of the commission of the crime (Uruguay);
- 6.105 Impose an immediate moratorium on the execution of minors (Albania);
- 6.106 Establish a five-year moratorium to work progressively towards the abolition of capital punishment, by allowing open and public debate on the question of the death penalty with all actors in society (Albania);
- 6.107 Take necessary measures to eliminate the death penalty from its national legislation and, until such derogation is made, establish an official moratorium on executions of all persons currently sentenced to death (Argentina);
- 6.108 Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, as a step towards its complete abolition, and as an immediate step, prohibit the application of the death penalty for offences committed by minors (Australia);
- 6.109 Ensure that the death penalty is never imposed in violation of article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and consider establishing an official moratorium on executions of juvenile offenders (Austria);
- 6.110 Abolish the execution of children and commute the death sentences of all minors on death row (Brazil);
- 6.111 Revise the Penal Code to ensure consistency with its international obligations, including article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, so that the death penalty is reserved for only the most serious crimes, never imposed for crimes committed by persons below 18 years of age, and never imposed arbitrarily (Canada);
- 6.112 Consider the abolition of the death penalty and ensure that no minor can be sentenced to death (Chile);

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- 6.113 Abolish the death penalty in the country under any circumstances (Croatia);
- 6.114 Reduce the number of offences punishable by death, commencing with drug-related offences, as well as prohibit the use of the death penalty against those who were minors at the time the crime was committed (Cyprus);
- 6.115 Establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty, at least for juvenile perpetrators (Czechia);
- 6.116 Further amend the drug trafficking law to remove all mandatory death sentences for drug-related offenses and adopt a moratorium on execution, particularly of juvenile offenders (Denmark);
- 6.117 Extend a moratorium on executions, especially for juvenile offenders, with the view of progressively abolishing the death penalty (Estonia);
- 6.118 Continue reforms to the Criminal Code in order to restrict the death penalty to the most serious crimes, which would be a progress towards the full abolition of the death penalty (Spain);
- 6.119 Establish a moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its permanent abolition, cease the executions of minors and repeal Articles 233 to 235 of the Penal Code (France);
- 6.120 Take further steps towards the substitution of mandatory death penalty with prison sentences for all drug related offences (Georgia);
- 6.121 Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty. In particular cease all planned executions of juvenile offenders and prohibit the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by minors (Germany);
- 6.122 Establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Greece);
- 6.123 Implement a moratorium on all executions, with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Iceland);
- 6.124 Repeal relevant articles of the penal code, including those that impose the death penalty and flogging for offences related to consensual same-sex conducts between adults, with a view to fully decriminalize same-sex relations between consenting adults (Iceland);
- 6.125 Establish a moratorium on executions and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and immediately end death sentences for individuals under the age of 18 at the time of their alleged crime in line with the Islamic Republic of Iran's obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ireland);
- 6.126 End the widespread use of the death penalty, especially on minors (Israel);
- 6.127 Introduce a moratorium on executions, with the view to the complete abolition of the death penalty, and ban the application of executions for crimes committed by minors (Italy);
- 6.128 Consider a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Latvia);
- 6.129 Comply fully with the relevant obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and consider introducing a moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania);
- 6.130 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its complete abolition (Luxembourg);

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- 6.131 Consider an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty, particularly for offences related to consensual same-sex conduct between adults (Malta);
- 6.132 Set a moratorium on the application of the death penalty for those who were minors at the time of the crime and with regards to the criminalization of consensual same-sex relationships (Mexico);
- 6.133 Establish an immediate moratorium to the use of the death penalty (Montenegro);
- 6.134 Immediately introduce a moratorium on the death penalty, including for juvenile offenders, as a first step towards abolition (Sweden);
- 6.135 Cease immediately the use of the death penalty, especially for those under the age of 18 years at the time of offending (New Zealand);
- 6.136 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty, especially for juveniles and work towards its abolition (North Macedonia);
- 6.137 Abolish the death penalty, and stop planned executions for persons who committed crimes before the age of 18 (Norway);
- 6.138 Remove all national law provisions that allow for punishments that amount to torture or cruel and degrading treatment (Ukraine);
- 6.139 Immediately end the use of torture, and credibly investigate and prosecute all allegations of torture, including the deaths in custody of Kavous Seyed-Emami and Mohammad Raji, and prosecute those found responsible (United States of America);
- 6.140 Immediately investigate all allegations involving the torture and other ill treatment of those arrested or detained during the demonstrations in December 2017, and hold those responsible to account (Australia);
- 6.141 Immediately demonstrate that all detainees in prison are neither tortured nor subject to cruel or inhumane treatment or punishment (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.142 Ensure freedom from torture while in detention (Canada);
- 6.143 Ensure automatic, independent and impartial investigation of allegations of torture (France);
- 6.144 Define torture as a crime in national legislation in line with international standards (Greece);
- 6.145 Ensure that prison conditions comply with the Nelson Mandela Rules, in particular by providing adequate health care (Austria);
- 6.146 Ensure that all individuals in custody receive adequate healthcare and treatment, including preventive measures such as screening for medical conditions, free of charge and without discrimination (Malta);
- 6.147 Ensure the rights of detainees and prisoners, and their right to receive satisfactory medical treatment (Norway);
- 6.148 Continue to strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in women, young girls and children with regular monitoring (Sri Lanka);
- 6.149 Immediately release all Iranian prisoners of conscience, including Narges Mohammadi, Nasrin Sotoudeh, Youcef Nadarkhani, and Esmail Bakhshi, and others unjustly detained, including U.S. citizens Xiyue Wang, Bob Levinson, and Siamak Namazi (United States of America);
- 6.150 Release women human rights defenders imprisoned for exercising their fundamental rights (Austria);

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- 6.151 End the arbitrary detention of foreign nationals and guarantee their consular rights and decent conditions of detention (France);
- 6.152 Immediately release dual and foreign nationals, including journalists, who are detained arbitrarily (Israel);
- 6.153 Ensure, both in law and in practice, that all individuals or groups of individuals enjoy their right to freedom of religion or belief (Poland);
- 6.154 Take concrete steps to protect the human rights of Christians in its territory to follow upon the 46 recommendations addressed to the Islamic Republic of Iran on freedom of religion during the first two cycles (Haiti);
- 6.155 Release all persons detained for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and repeal or amend laws and other provisions criminalizing or restricting the exercise of those rights (Switzerland);
- 6.156 Guarantee freedom of expression, particularly of men and women human rights defenders and journalists, and repeal legal provisions that affect these rights (Argentina);
- 6.157 Guarantee the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, and release political prisoners, including women's rights activists, labour rights activists, environmentalists, scholars, lawyers and journalists, detained for exercising these rights (Australia);
- 6.158 End restrictions on the right to freedom of expression and opinion, in accordance with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. (Chile);
- 6.159 Abolish provisions of the penal code that excessively restrict the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and release all prisoners of conscience (Czechia);
- 6.160 Adopt measures to guarantee the unrestricted exercise of freedoms of expression, association and assembly by the Iranian population (Spain);
- 6.161 Implement its international obligations to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, lawyers and other exercising their rights to freedom of opinion and expression, assembly and association in compliance with international human rights law, and to ensure all investigations, prosecutions, and trials against human rights defenders meet international standards (Finland);
- 6.162 Continue to enact and fully implement legislations that seek to promote and protect the rights to freedom of the media, speech and religion (Ghana);
- 6.163 Release all detainees who have been imprisoned for exercising their rights of freedom of expression and peaceful assembly as guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ireland);
- 6.164 End the practice of filtering online content and restricting access to the Internet (Israel);
- 6.165 Guarantee freedom of opinion, expression and assembly and cease arrests of human rights defenders peacefully exercising these rights (Italy);
- 6.166 Repeal or amend Articles 186, 498, 610, 638 and 639 of the Islamic Penal Code, which criminalize rights regarding freedom of expression and which broad and vague definitions are arbitrarily misused to silence human rights defenders, including through imprisonment and corporal punishment (Netherlands);
- 6.167. Take steps to encourage freedom of expression; ensuring that human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists are not subjected to intimidation or arbitrary arrest in connection with their work (New Zealand);

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- 6.168 Cease the censorship of the media, as well as the arbitrary detention and intimidation of journalists (Norway);
- 6.169 Guarantee freedom of peaceful assembly, expression and freedom of the press, by removing the restrictions to access local and international news sites, and by releasing persons detained for having exercised or defended these rights (France);
- 6.170 Guarantee the right to a fair trial, including the right to choose one's lawyer, including for those accused of offenses related to national security (Switzerland);
- 6.171 Establish an independent judiciary, including significant reforms to the Revolutionary Courts, and implement fair trial guarantees (United States of America);
- 6.172 Take all necessary measures and procedures to ensure the compliance with fair trial standards (Bahrain);
- 6.173 Promptly allow an impartial trial process that weighs evidence and ensures defendants, and lawyers of their choosing, can have timely access to the charges and evidence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.174 Continue strengthening the judicial system, especially in relation to the rights of women and children (Bhutan);
- 6.175 Continue to effectively remove barriers for access to justice for women, children, persons with disabilities and persons in vulnerable situations (Fiji);
- 6.176 Put in place measures aimed at respecting legal safeguards, for instance, through the publication of the sentences handed down and the possibility of appealing them, as well as complying with international standards in cases persons are temporary detained (Spain);
- 6.177 Guarantee the right to a fair trial and repeal article 48 of the Criminal Procedure Code (France);
- 6.178 Ensure the independence of the judicial system and ensure the rules of fair trial, the right to defence and access to a freely chosen lawyer (Germany);
- 6.179 Align laws and practices on the right to a fair trial and on rights to freedoms of opinion and expression, of peaceful assembly and association, and of religion and belief with international obligations and commitments, by removing restrictions against human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists, ethnic and religious minorities, including Baha'i community (Lithuania);
- 6.180 Guarantee, in law and practice, fair trial standards, including access to legal representation from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and appeals, and abate torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment (North Macedonia);
- 6.181 Continue its legal and administrative efforts regarding anti-corruption measures (Kazakhstan);
- 6.182 Continue to promote economic and social development, in order to provide solid foundation for the enjoyment of all human rights of its people (China);
- 6.183 Continue to promote the development of education and health care (China);
- 6.184 Continue its efforts to implement the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Iraq);
- 6.185 Sustain its efforts in enhancing the socio-economic well-being of its people (Nigeria);

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- 6.186 Continue efforts to provide affordable housing for general populations and in particular for persons with low income (Qatar);
- 6.187 Continue to implement the provisions of the Comprehensive Housing Plan 2017–2026 in order to guarantee the right to adequate housing for all (Dominican Republic);
- 6.188 Ensure effective implementation of the Housing Plan through adequate resources and a comprehensive monitoring mechanism (Malaysia);
- 6.189 Further develop initiatives aiming at accelerating poverty reduction and developing rural and less-developed areas (Viet Nam);
- 6.190 Strengthen efforts to further reduce poverty, in particular in provinces populated by persons belonging to ethnic minorities (Bulgaria);
- 6.191 Strengthen its on-going approach for poverty reduction and development in the rural areas, in accordance with the 20-year Vision Plan (Myanmar);
- 6.192 Continue to promote and protect the right to safe water and sanitation (Brunei Darussalam);
- 6.193 Ensure timely and effective implementation of the plan on employment of the rural population to ensure sustainable employment on the basis of equal access to employment (Uzbekistan);
- 6.194 Continue efforts to promote sustainable employment in rural and nomadic regions (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.195 Continue its socioeconomic development programmes, including national strategy plans in the field of human rights (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 6.196 Continue implementing the Health System Development Plan and the Health Insurance Scheme for further achievements in realizing the right to health (Viet Nam);
- 6.197 Continue its efforts so that all citizens across the country have equal access to health care services (Algeria);
- 6.198 Continue taking measures in the field of health and social security to enhance access to health, particularly of vulnerable groups (Bhutan);
- 6.199 Continue the policies aimed at increasing the coverage and enjoyment of primary health care services (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.200 Effectively implement the actions for the development of health insurance for all citizens, including in rural areas (Cuba);
- 6.201 Preserve the major achievements registered by the Health System Development Plan and scale up its outreach (Ethiopia);
- 6.202 Further develop its existing policies to provide adequate and accessible maternal and child health care for all women and children, especially those in vulnerable situations (Fiji);
- 6.203 Continue to expand its health insurance coverage to all citizens, including those in rural areas (India);
- 6.204 Provide information and education for young people on reproductive health in schools, in line with international standards (Iceland);
- 6.205 Continue its efforts and policies to prevent students from leaving schools (Pakistan);
- 6.206 Continue to improve measures to provide educational facilities to children living in rural areas (Pakistan);

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- 6.207 Continue its efforts for enhancing educational and health services at rehabilitation and correction centres (Senegal);
- 6.208 Take necessary measures to address the high dropout rates of girls in rural schools (Thailand);
- 6.209 Continue efforts to guarantee equal access to the right to education for all (Tunisia);
- 6.210 Continue taking measures in the field of education and capacity building of human rights (Turkmenistan);
- 6.211 Continue making progress in the transformation of the education system by ensuring schooling of boys and girls throughout the country incorporating human rights education (Uruguay);
- 6.212 Continue to give a special attention to education of vulnerable groups of less developed rural areas and nomadic populations (Uzbekistan);
- 6.213 Continue its policy and efforts to provide free education to nearly half a million refugee children (Algeria);
- 6.214 Enhance its efforts to make sure that all nationals have access to university education (Algeria);
- 6.215 Continue to implement targeted policies to combat illiteracy and promote quality education, particularly for girls, and in rural and poorer communities (Singapore);
- 6.216 Continue to introduce national policies to combat illiteracy (Brunei Darussalam);
- 6.217 Scale up the activities of the Literacy Movement Organization where the literacy rate was raised to 95 per cent in 2018 (Ethiopia);
- 6.218 Further strengthen its efforts to promote access to education for all, especially in rural areas, and reduce the number of school dropouts (Sri Lanka);
- 6.219 Continue its efforts in regard to education, and adopt policies to enhance inclusion in inclusion for girls, children with disabilities and children from rural areas (State of Palestine);
- 6.220 Continue its efforts in promoting right to education to ensure that all children, including children with disabilities, can access to formal education (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.221 Extend the length of compulsory primary and secondary education to at least 9 years of age, and progressively extend free education to 11 years of age (Mexico);
- 6.222 Pursue the implementation of education reforms in order to ensure access to education in all parts of the country (Oman);
- 6.223 Enhance efforts to create qualified job positions for women graduated from universities (Peru);
- 6.224 Further strengthen measures to support the economic participation of women (Philippines);
- 6.225 Undertake far-reaching reforms of the legislation relating to the status and rights of women and amend legislation on the lawful marriage age to bring it to 18 years old (Albania);
- 6.226 Take measures in increasing the economic participation rate of women in different sectors of employment (Azerbaijan);
- 6.227 Take effective measures to implement decisions of the Supreme Administrative Council, which requires the Government to allocate 30 per cent of its managerial positions to women, as well as the selection and appointment of

professional directors on the basis of the required general and specialized competencies regardless of gender (Botswana);

6.228 Further promote women's rights, strengthen policies and measures to combat violence against them, and facilitate their participation in political, social and professional spheres (Bulgaria);

6.229 Continue taking additional steps to increase women's participation in higher education (Cambodia);

6.230 Identify new initiatives to further promote women entrepreneurs (Cambodia);

6.231 Continue adopting legislative measures promoting the protection and promotion of women's rights (Dominican Republic);

6.232 Remove restrictions on the types of jobs that women can get, including the requirement to obtain the husband's permission (Honduras);

6.233 Eliminate obstacles to the employment of women on the basis of equality between men and women and protect and promote the rights of working women and their equal treatment in public and private employment in accordance with article 7 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Honduras);

6.234 Take further measures to promote and protect women's rights (Japan);

6.235 Continue its activities towards the adoption of the legislative acts in the field of promotion and protection of women and family (Kyrgyzstan);

6.236 Continue to implement its legislative programmes and measures to further promote the rights as well as the empowerment of women in all areas (Lao People's Democratic Republic);

6.237 Continue measures to promote various rights of women, including participation in sports and access to sports facilities (Myanmar);

6.238 Make all possible efforts to provide comprehensive frameworks for non-discrimination of women and protection of women and children from violence, including domestic one (Poland);

6.239 Accelerate its efforts to ensure equal treatment of women and girls, including by the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Thailand);

6.240 Abolish laws requiring women to wear hijabs in public, end legal prohibitions on women's full participation in society, and stop criminalizing women's calls for reform (United States of America);

6.241 Repeal article 1108 of the Civil Code that compelled wives to always satisfy the husband's sexual needs (Argentina);

6.242 Continue to strengthen the legislative framework and policies on gender equality (India);

6.243 Align the national legislation with international standards on gender equality (Italy);

6.244 Ensure equal treatment of women in law and practice, in line with the relevant recommendations of the Human Rights Committee (Latvia);

6.245 Strengthen the efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls and consider ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Lithuania);

6.246 Take steps to identify and remedy all laws that have a discriminatory impact on women and girls (Malta);

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- 6.247 **Review and repeal discriminatory laws and policies against women and girls, particularly those related to employment and education respectively, and ensure that all children and girls enjoy the same rights provided by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Mexico);**
- 6.248 **Continue to reform the penal and civil laws to ensure non-discrimination against women and girls (New Zealand);**
- 6.249 **Continue efforts to enhance women's rights and protect women from violence through carrying out adoption of related projects of law (Tunisia);**
- 6.250 **Expedite the adoption of the pending draft bill entitled the Comprehensive Provision of Women's Security Against Violence and exercise due diligence in preventing and punishing gender-based violence in line with international norms (Sierra Leone);**
- 6.251 **Adopt and fully implement laws to combat discrimination and violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and marital rape (Finland);**
- 6.252 **Continue its efforts in protecting the rights of women, inter-alia by finalizing the Bill on the Protection of Women against Violence (Indonesia);**
- 6.253 **Criminalize legally gender-based violence, including domestic violence and marital rape (Portugal);**
- 6.254 **Criminalize gender-based violence, including domestic violence and marital rape (Uruguay);**
- 6.255 **Step up efforts for the protection of women from gender-based violence (Montenegro);**
- 6.256 **Adopt the Women's Safety against Domestic Violence draft bill to criminalize domestic violence (Iceland);**
- 6.257 **Continue to promote women's participation in political and other decision-making processes (Bangladesh);**
- 6.258 **Remove legal restrictions and social barriers to women's equal participation in the workforce and access to education and participation in the conduct of public affairs (Canada);**
- 6.259 **Strengthen its efforts to promote representation of women in public and political life, including in leadership positions (Slovenia);**
- 6.260 **Improve gender balance in the distribution of civil service positions, ministerial portfolios and other high-ranking political positions (Honduras);**
- 6.261 **Continue to support and empower women in public life (Nepal);**
- 6.262 **Continue to comprehensively assess the budgetary needs for the resources needed to exercise the rights of children, in particular part of the budget for the social policy (Serbia);**
- 6.263 **Enhance the protection and promotion of the rights of children (Tunisia);**
- 6.264 **Continue efforts to strengthen child protection mechanisms and speed up the process of adopting a bill to protect children and adolescents (Bangladesh);**
- 6.265 **Prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings (Estonia);**
- 6.266 **Strengthen educational and cultural programmes, especially in cases of early marriages, and pay further care to children left behind or deprived of education (Syrian Arab Republic);**

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- 6.267 Adopt legislation prohibiting all acts condoning or leading to child sexual abuse, and ensure legally that all persons below the age of 18, without exception, are considered as children and therefore are provided with all the rights under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Portugal);
- 6.268 Develop programmes and policies for the prevention, recovery and social reintegration of child victims, including child brides, in accordance with the documents adopted at the World Congresses against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (Uganda);
- 6.269 Enhance efforts to ensure full eradication of child marriages in certain parts of the country (Uganda);
- 6.270 Raise the minimum age of marriage to 18 years for both boys and girls without exception and eliminate the practice of early and forced marriage (Belgium);
- 6.271 Prohibit child labour of children below 16 years of age (Uruguay);
- 6.272 Promote all necessary measures to repeal all legal provisions that authorize, tolerate or contribute to sexual abuses of girls, and investigate and punish these kinds of acts (Argentina);
- 6.273 Investigate sexual exploitation of children aged under 18, including through forced, early and temporary marriage, and develop a national plan to protect at risk children (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.274 Introduce a minimum legal age for marriage in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Cyprus);
- 6.275 Raise the legal minimum age of marriage, initially by amending article 1041 of the Civil Code to eliminate all exceptions to the application of the minimum age (Denmark);
- 6.276 Modify the legislation on the minimum age to marry and to consent to sexual relations in accordance with international standards, and adopt all necessary measures to end child marriages (Ecuador);
- 6.277 End forced marriages and violence against women and girls, including by establishing the minimum age of marriage (France);
- 6.278 Legislate a minimum legal age for marriage in line with standards of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Germany);
- 6.279 Amend its legislation in order to adopt a minimum age of marriage with the aim of ending child early and forced marriage (Honduras);
- 6.280 Accelerate efforts towards eliminating child abuse and child labour, and ensuring that legal action is taken against perpetrators (Sri Lanka);
- 6.281 Continue its efforts to implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Iraq);
- 6.282 Strengthen the efforts to combat all harmful practices against women and girls, including female genital mutilations and child early and forced marriage, also by raising to 18 years the minimum legal marriage age (Italy);
- 6.283 Adopt domestic legislation to increase the minimum marriage age, in line with the CRC (Kenya);
- 6.284 Take steps to ensure that all criminal trials, including trials involving juvenile offenders are fairly conducted in a manner that meets international standards (Ghana);
- 6.285 Make additional efforts to provide health insurance for persons with disabilities (Serbia);

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- 6.286 Redouble its efforts to provide education facilities for children with disabilities (Pakistan);
- 6.287 Give a special attention to improve the social security system for persons with disabilities (Qatar);
- 6.288 Carry out efforts to successfully implement the Act on Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Turkmenistan);
- 6.289 Adopt a strategy to prevent and combat all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse against persons with disabilities (Angola);
- 6.290 Strengthen measures to facilitate access to education specially to persons with disabilities (Angola);
- 6.291 Continue its awareness-raising activities to combat stigma and discrimination against disabled persons and work towards the creation of a National Committee for Coordination of Affairs of Persons with Disabilities to supervise the implementation of the Act on the Protection on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2017 (Singapore);
- 6.292 Take further action to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Japan);
- 6.293 Ensure accessibility of health-care services and facilities for persons with disabilities (Malaysia);
- 6.294 Continue efforts in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, especially women and children (Nigeria);
- 6.295 Continue implementing measures to comply with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Oman);
- 6.296 Take the necessary measures to respect and guarantee the rights of all minorities, including religious (Switzerland);
- 6.297 Strengthen norms and policies for ethnic and religious minorities so that they can fully enjoy their human rights (Peru);
- 6.298 Strengthen its efforts to prevent and eradicate discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities (Republic of Korea);
- 6.299 End immediately and fully systematic persecution, including killings and arbitrary detention of, and torture in detention places against members of religious minorities in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and promote effective remedies and compensation for all victims and their families (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.300 Amend the constitutional provisions that give the followers of the Twelver Template preferential treatment over the rest of the followers of Islamic entities and other religions in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.301 Adjust the national legislation in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in order to ensure the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons regardless of religion and ethnicity (Ukraine);
- 6.302 Undertake necessary legal, administrative and policy measures to address discrimination and the limitations that may be placed upon the rights of members of ethnic and religious minority groups (Seychelles);
- 6.303 Amend legislation and judicial procedures to ensure any religious group is not the subject of discrimination so all religious groups receive the same treatment under the law (Albania);
- 6.304 End discrimination in law and practice against all religious and ethnic minorities, and ensure full protection of their rights (Austria);

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- 6.305 Eliminate all forms of discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities, including the Baha'i, Christian, and Ahwazi Arabs and ensure respect for their religious freedoms and cultural rights (Bahrain);
- 6.306 Amend article 13 of the Constitution to ensure that all religious minorities are able to fully enjoy the right to freedom of religion or belief (Brazil);
- 6.307 Take measures to ensure non-discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities (Canada);
- 6.308 Continue its initiatives aimed at the promotion and protection of the rights of the minorities and the strengthening of its legal measures (Cuba);
- 6.309 Guarantee freedom of religion or belief, and put an end to discrimination based on religious or ethnic membership (France);
- 6.310 Protect the rights of Christians and other minorities and promote interfaith dialogue between religious groups in the Islamic Republic of Iran (Haiti);
- 6.311 Identify and remedy all laws that have a discriminatory impact on persons belonging to the ethnic or religious minorities, including the Bahá'í community (Iceland);
- 6.312 Ensure that fundamental rights of ethnic and religious minorities are not violated (Israel);
- 6.313 Guarantee equal rights for all citizens, regardless of their religion (Italy);
- 6.314. Make further efforts to promote and protect the rights of minorities (Japan);
- 6.315 Amend domestic laws to provide all religious minorities recognition and enable them to fully enjoy the right to freedom of religion or belief (Kenya);
- 6.316 Put an end to the persecution of religious minorities, including Baha'is, for their participation in social, education and community activities which are part of their religious practices (Luxembourg);
- 6.317 Amend Article 13 of the Iranian Constitution to ensure that all religious minorities, including Muslims, Christians, Christian converts, Jews, non-believers, Zoroastrians and the Baha'i in the country are recognized and able to fully enjoy the right to freedom of religion and belief (Netherlands);
- 6.318 Take measures to protect religious and ethnic minorities and ensure their full and equal participation in public and private life (New Zealand);
- 6.319 Abolish laws, regulations and policies that discriminate on the basis of religion or belief in the areas of employment, education and participation in public life (North Macedonia);
- 6.320 Ensure the freedom of religion and belief for minorities such as the Bahai's and Christian converts, by adopting concrete measures to eliminate discrimination and enhance protection (Norway);
- 6.321 Continue measures to protect and promote rights of migrant workers in line with the relevant international instruments (Sri Lanka);
- 6.322 Continue to ensure that all refugees within the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran enjoy their basic human rights and are protected from arbitrary arrest, humiliation and enforced expulsion (Afghanistan);
- 6.323 Ensure that children of registered refugees and unregistered foreigners are provided with birth certificates (Afghanistan);

6.324 Implement fully relevant laws to hold to account perpetrators of intimidation and reprisals against human rights defenders and journalists (Republic of Korea);

6.325 Fully guarantee the rights of freedom of expression and to peaceful assembly and association, by creating an enabling environment, especially for women human rights defenders and human rights lawyers (Belgium);

6.326 Protect human rights defenders and media workers and fully guarantee the right to freedom of expression and association (Slovenia);

6.327 End all forms of harassment, including judicial harassment, against Human Rights Defenders, including human rights lawyers and journalists (Greece);

6.328 Take urgent action to improve the protection of human rights defenders, including those defending women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights (Sweden);

6.329 Create a safe and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders especially women human rights defenders (Norway).

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

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran was headed by H.E. Mr. Mohammad Javad Ardeshir Larijani, Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Esmail Baghaei Hamaneh, Ambassador, Permanent Representative in Geneva;
 - Mr. Mohammad Hossein Mosaddegh Kahnamoee, Deputy Head of the Judiciary;
 - Mr. Hadi Shoushtari, Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Parliament);
 - Mr. Seyamak Merh Sedgh, Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Parliament);
 - Ms. Farideh Oladghobad, Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Parliament);
 - Mr. Seyed Salman Samani, Deputy Minister of Interior;
 - Mr. Mahmoud Abbasi, Deputy Minister of Justice and Secretary of the National Body on the Convention on the Rights of Child;
 - H.E. Mr. Javad Amin-Mansour, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative in Geneva;
 - Mr. Seyed Majid Tafreshi Khameneh, Deputy Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights;
 - Mr. Mohammad Asaee Ardakani, Adviser to the Minister of Health;
 - Ms. Zahra Ershadi, Head of the NGO Division, Minister of Foreign Affairs;
 - Mr. Mohammad Zareian, Head of the Human Rights Division, MFA;
 - Mr. Ahmad Bina, Adviser to the Secretary of the High Council for Human Rights;
 - Mr. Javad Kazemi, Minister, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Geneva;
 - Mr. Mohsen Ghanei, Minister, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Geneva;
 - Mr. Seyed Mohammad Sadati Nejad, Minister, Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Geneva;
 - Mr. Majid Najaflooy Torkman, Expert, MFA;
 - Mr. Amirhossein Mohebali, Expert, the High Council for Human Rights;
 - Mr. Ali Riyahi, member of delegation;
 - Mr. Mostafa Nafari, member of delegation.
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