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Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Marshall Islands

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



I. Ratification (106.1, 106.2, 106.3, 106.4, 106.5, 106.6, 106.7, 106.8, 106.9, 106.10, 106.11, 106.12, 106.13, 106.14, 106.15, 106.16, 106.17, 106.18 106.23)

1. RMI accepts the recommendations to ratify the remaining Core Human Rights Treaties and Optional Protocols that it has not yet ratified and notes recommendations 106.15 and 106.18 which will require further evaluation and review. In addition, we reiterate that challenges to accede these important treaties and protocols remain due to limited resources to ensure proper implementation.

II. National human rights institution (106.27, 106.28, 106.29, 106.30, 106.31, 106.32, 106.33)

2. RMI accepts the recommendations to strengthen the National Human Rights Committee and to ensure its compliance with the Paris Principles with emphasis on the agreed upon points of the 2020 Pacific Principles.

III. Anti-discrimination and gender equality (106.36, 106.37, 106.38, 106.39, 106.40, 106.119, 106.143, 106.144, 106.146, 106.147, 106.148)

106.41, 106.42, 106.43, 106.44 (Noted)

3. RMI accepts the recommendations to promote gender equality and notes the recommendations with specific mention on sexual orientation.

IV. Climate change (106.45, 106.47, 106.48, 106.50, 106.51, 106.52, 106.53, 106.70)

4. RMI accepts the recommendations to address climate change and ensure the protection of human rights, especially for vulnerable groups, from disasters caused by climate change. RMI acknowledges the importance of applying a human rights based approach to addressing climate change.

V. Nuclear justice (106.46, 106.49, 106.91, 106.92, 106.93, 106.94, 106.95, 106.96)

5. RMI accepts the recommendations to address the impacts of the nuclear test programs conducted by the U.S. The RMI has a national strategy that aims to address these concerns, including ensuring access to adequate healthcare to those affected by the nuclear testing, environmental remediation and securing compensation for health and property damages and injuries.

VI. Treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons (106.19, 106.20, 106.21, 22)

6. RMI notes the importance of ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and accepts efforts for the elimination of nuclear weapons. While the RMI is not currently prepared to ratify the Treaty, we will continue to study the provisions, especially those related to “victim assistance,” to ensure ratification will not result in a transfer of burden and responsibility to the RMI but to those responsible.

VII. Prisons/juvenile centers (106.54, 106.55, 106.56, 106.57, 106.58, 106.59, 106.164)

7. The RMI accepts the recommendations to improve its prison facilities and juvenile justice system and will take proactive measures to ensure conditions are consistent with international standards.

VIII. Human trafficking (106.61, 106.62, 106.63, 106.64, 106.65, 106.66, 106.67, 106.68, 106.69, 106.71, 106.72, 106.73, 106.74, 106.75, 106.76, 106.77, 106.78, 106.79, 106.80, 106.81, 106.82, 106.83, 106.84, 106.85)

8. The RMI accepts the recommendations to take effective measures against human trafficking. The Government continues to implement and enforce the Prohibition on Human Trafficking Act through the National Task Force on Human Trafficking, and will further strengthen this response through a national implementation plan that was recently developed.

IX. Health/well-being and education (106.86, 106.87, 106.88, 106.89, 106.90, 106.97, 106.98, 106.99, 106.100, 106.101, 106.102, 106.103, 106.104, 106.105, 106.106, 106.107, 106.108, 106.109)

9. RMI accepts the recommendations to strengthen progress in education and health, including promoting and raising awareness on nutrition, active lifestyles, communicable diseases in schools and in the community, and improving its health care system and services especially to outer islands and remote communities, which still remains a challenge.

X. Women's rights and domestic violence (106.110, 106.111, 106.112, 106.113, 106.114, 106.115, 106.116, 106.117, 106.118, 106.120, 106.121, 106.122, 106.123, 106.124, 106.125, 106.126, 106.128, 106.129, 106.130, 106.131, 106.132, 106.133, 106.134, 106.135, 106.136, 106.137, 106.138, 106.139, 106.140, 106.141, 106.142, 106.145, 106.163)

10. RMI accepts the recommendations on addressing women's rights and domestic violence. The Marshall Islands is resolute in its determination to realize gender equality, women's political and economic empowerment, women's leadership and eliminating violence against women as essential for transformative change and sustainable development. The RMI will continue to ensure the full recognition and realization of human rights for women and girls.

XI. Children's rights/corporal punishment (106.127, 106.149, 106.150, 106.151, 106.152, 106.153, 106.154, 106.155, 106.156, 106.157, 106.158, 106.159, 106.160, 106.161, 106.162, 106.165, 106.166, 106.167, 106.168)

11. RMI accepts the recommendations on implementing children's rights and improving the situation of children in country, including addressing the issue of corporal punishment. In 2021, RMI's Early Childhood Development program will commence, focusing on

vulnerable children. This program takes a multi-sectoral approach covering health and nutrition, early learning, child rights, traditional culture, and child protection.

XII. Disabilities (106.170, 106.171)

12. RMI accepts the recommendations to support the enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities. A legislative review was conducted in 2018 to assess compliance with the CRPD. In the meantime the Disabilities Coordination office established in 2015 has been implementing a number of activities to address the needs of persons with disabilities and encourage inclusivity in national decision making processes.

XIII. Other (106.24, 106.25, 106.26, 106.34, 106.35, 106.60, 106.169)

13. RMI accepts the recommendations to strengthen implementation and fulfill its reporting obligations, noting that this requires extensive resources, and will support efforts to promote human rights, access to information and merit-based processes in decision making.
