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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Federated States of Micronesia

* 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-seventh session from 18 January to 8 February 2021. The review of the Federated States of Micronesia was held at the 1st meeting, on 18 January 2021. The delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia was headed by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Kandhi A. Elieisar. At its 10th meeting, held on 22 January 2021, the Working Group adopted the report on the Federated States of Micronesia.
2. On 12 January 2021, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Federated States of Micronesia: Cameroon, Mexico and Nepal.
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 Federated States of Micronesia:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);¹
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);²
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).³
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Canada, Fiji, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Slovenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to the Federated States of Micronesia through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The head of the delegation expressed his appreciation to the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, and to the troika for the constructive engagement during the review. The Government fully supported the important work of the Working Group, and was committed to the success of the review. The head of the delegation congratulated the new President of the Human Rights Council.
6. Despite the major challenges encountered in the drafting of the national report while the world grappled with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Federated States of Micronesia had joined the session with a constructive attitude to engage with the Working Group, as a testament to the country's full commitment to and support of human rights mechanisms.
7. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights reflected the fundamental value that the Federated States of Micronesia attached to human life. The Declaration was as relevant today as it had been in 1948. The country's people knew it by heart, as the values set out therein were essential aspects of their cultural values and practices. Those values were also reflected in the Constitution, which was respected by all four state governments, and which was considered to be the fundamental law upon which the actions of the national and state governments were anchored.
8. Until 4 January 2021, the Federated States of Micronesia had remained free of COVID-19. However, the country had recorded its first case, which had been brought in from abroad. The country was doing its best with its limited resources and capacities, and its

¹ A/HRC/WG.6/37/FSM/1.

² A/HRC/WG.6/37/FSM/2.

³ A/HRC/WG.6/37/FSM/3.

leaders were optimistic. The COVID-19-free status, while it lasted, had been achieved through critical sacrifices and self-imposed restrictions.

9. Surrounded by jurisdictions with threatening rises in the numbers of COVID-19 cases, the country had been forced to temporarily close its borders to foreign nationals, in order to protect public health and safety. The health-care services were not fully equipped to deal with cases of COVID-19. The temporary measures also affected the country's own citizens, some of whom were stranded on neighbouring islands awaiting safe return. The travel restrictions were crippling the country's national and local economies, which were dependent on tourism and travel. Unless and until vaccines were widely available to the vulnerable population of the country, the sad reality was that there was little prospect of returning to normalcy.

10. In the face of the pandemic, the Federated States of Micronesia was making incremental progress on human rights, through the protection and strengthening of the institutions that supported human rights. Since its previous report for the universal periodic review, the country had received encouragement from the international community. It was motivated to integrate aspects of human rights principles into the country's own national and state policies and legislation. Examples included the Pohnpei State domestic violence law passed in 2017, and an age of consent law, passed in 2019, for Pohnpei State and Chuuk State. Pohnpei State had also enacted a law on disabilities. The nation also enacted laws protecting the environment from litter and plastics.

11. Recognizing the important support of country development partners in providing funds and technical assistance to the Government, the delegation noted that in Pohnpei State, the seat of the country, a 24-hour hotline for victims and survivors of violence was being rolled out. In 2019, the Chuuk Women Council had opened the Tongen Inepwinew Counseling Centre; the name translated to "love of the family" centre. Pohnpei State had also approved a standard procedure for medical personnel with respect to gender-based violence, and had provided coaching for department of social affairs personnel on measures to end gender-based violence.

12. At the national level, the Federated States of Micronesia was embarking on a project entitled "Strengthening Micronesia's National Gender Machinery" to mainstream gender in national and state programmes, which would be carried out in all four states. For the first time, the country had put in place a coordinator on the issue of violence against women. At the end of 2019, the country had completed the scoping exercise for the establishment of a national human rights institution. The final scoping report was with the Government for deliberation and discussion on the way forward on the recommendations. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic the next steps, which would be further consultations to include relevant stakeholders at the state levels, had been put on hold temporarily.

13. For the Federated States of Micronesia, a nation of islands, human rights were about human survival. Apart from the ongoing threats of the COVID-19 pandemic, the islands faced the existential threats of sea-level rise and global warming. While the concept of human rights might sound abstract and philosophical, the country had applied it through effective concrete action towards environmental stewardship and protection. The country was one of the first island States to pursue a phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons through the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Like its sister small island developing States, the country was among the first to join other supportive processes, such as the Paris Agreement, which was critically important to attaining sustainable development and conducive to the fulfilment of human rights.

14. The Federated States of Micronesia had made important strides in facilitating the enjoyment of human rights and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Human rights cut across all of the country's work, including in the areas of health, education, protection of children's rights and welfare, emergency management, and employment and livelihoods.

15. The immediate future of the nation rested on young people. The country's success would be measured by its climb up the development ladder during the next several decades, and would be determined by the quality of life offered to its children. Investment in children thus afforded the Federated States of Micronesia the most effective protection against any long-term social and economic consequences of the pandemic. While the country did not experience some of the scourges that afflicted the well-being of children in other parts of the

world, it was nevertheless apprehensive about the potential effects of climate change and the resultant sea-level rise on the future of its children. The phenomenon threatened the very existence of their homes, culture and history.

16. The Federated States of Micronesia had taken concrete steps to enshrine the protection of children in its laws, including legislation that protected children from abuse. The definition of abuse included in the law protected children from severe corporal punishment that could cause physical injury.

17. The pandemic had taken its toll on children's education; schools had been closed and children had no means of accessing online education. The Internet and related technologies could help children access better health care and education. The cost of building the infrastructure necessary to bring the Internet and other telecommunications services to children who lived, in many cases, in remote villages and on islands without electricity was a constant challenge, in particular given the distances involved and that the Federated States of Micronesia was a developing country.

18. The Federated States of Micronesia appreciated the generous financial contributions from development partners aimed at narrowing the digital divide. The country hoped to continue working with the international community to address such emerging challenges. At the same time, the country must ensure that the Internet and other new technologies did not provide additional avenues for exploitation. The Federated States of Micronesia urged the active cooperation of all States parties to uphold the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and urged those that had yet to become a party to do so.

19. The country's commitment to human rights was demonstrated through public awareness campaigns, such as a national awareness dialogue series launched on United Nations Day, providing the opportunity to create awareness of human rights issues in the country. The series, held with the assistance of the Joint Presence Office in the capital, had included several key awareness days, which had led up to the annual 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign. The campaign included observation of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, World Children's Day dialogues, World Diabetes Day outreach, and the observation of International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development, targeting the general population, authorities and non-governmental organizations.

20. The country was cognizant of the great role the United Nations development system played in its sustainable development and international commitments, including in the area of human rights. The Federated States of Micronesia and other nations in the North Pacific region, such as Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau, in view of their highly dispersed islands and population, remained committed to and seized by the matter of opening an on-the-ground presence of a United Nations multi-country office for the North Pacific region. The United Nations, through the multi-country office, would be better positioned to deliver the type of effective, efficient, coherent and impactful assistance that the countries in the region required to fully implement their commitments under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and could also help develop better protection for human rights.

21. In preparing for the interactive dialogue, the Federated States of Micronesia had established a national universal periodic review/human rights task force comprising key agencies, with the participation of the Department of Foreign Affairs; the Department of Health and Social Affairs; the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management; the Department of Education; the Department of Justice; and the Department of Resources and Development. The task force also had the support of the Pacific Community and the country's Sustainable Development Goals working group.

22. The Federated States of Micronesia attached vital importance to the universal periodic review process as a unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council. The process was seen not only as an opportunity to share best practices but also as an avenue to identify critical areas of cooperation and technical assistance.

23. The country had engaged in other interactive human rights dialogues, having reported on the implementation of several human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination

against Women. In July 2020, the country had presented its initial voluntary national review in the context of the 2030 Agenda. Its initial report under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was almost ready to be submitted. The country took the universal periodic review process as an opportunity to further expand its experience in interactive dialogues and to invite all its partners to provide assistance that was essential for better implementation of the key recommendations emanating from the process.

24. The head of the delegation reiterated calls the country had made in previous universal periodic review cycles for the United Nations system, development partners and the private sector to include in their strategies and policies assistance aimed at developing and building the country's capacities and enabling it to fulfil its human rights commitments. The Federated States of Micronesia continued to maintain the importance of those partnerships, which were durable, genuine and based on mutual benefit.

25. The Federated States of Micronesia was counting on the international community's full support. The delegation urged the United Nations system and Member States to contribute to the voluntary technical assistance trust fund to support the participation of least developed countries and small island developing States in the work of the Human Rights Council. The fund had enabled many countries, including the Federated States of Micronesia, to participate in the meetings of the Council and the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

26. During the interactive dialogue, 50 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

27. India commended the country for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities since the previous review in 2015. It noted with appreciation the legislative and policy framework on climate change developed by the Federated States of Micronesia.

28. Indonesia welcomed the efforts made to improve the promotion and protection of human rights in the country since the previous review cycle, particularly regarding the promotion and protection of women's and children's rights, the rights of persons with disabilities and environmental protection.

29. The Islamic Republic of Iran recalled that the Federated States of Micronesia was one of the world's most vulnerable States in terms of the consequences of climate change, and expressed concern about the insufficiency of the measures taken by the Government to protect its civilians in that regard.

30. Ireland encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to continue the progress it had made by acceding to the remaining core international human rights treaties and the Optional Protocols thereto, and strengthening its approach to the implementation of those treaties, including by strengthening processes for timely reporting and national follow-up. The establishment of a national human rights institution, in follow-up to the scoping study launched in 2019, would be an important support.

31. Israel acknowledged the challenges facing the country owing to climate change, and noted with satisfaction the implementation of its recommendation in that regard. Israel congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016 and for adopting the national gender equality policy for 2018–2023.

32. Italy commended the country for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and welcomed the launching of the first national gender policy. It welcomed the establishment of a new division within the Department of Justice for action against trafficking in persons, tasked with assisting in investigations, training officials, raising public awareness and providing services for victims.

33. Japan expressed appreciation for the positive steps taken by the Federated States of Micronesia to protect the rights of people in vulnerable situations, while acknowledging the

challenges faced by the country regarding the rights of women, children and vulnerable groups, including persons affected by leprosy. Japan noted positively the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016 and the adoption of the national gender equality policy in 2018.

34. Latvia noted the measures taken by the Federated States of Micronesia since its previous universal periodic review and encouraged the country to deploy further efforts in fulfilling its human rights obligations and commitments.

35. Luxembourg commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and for the establishment of a national gender equality policy aimed at improving the representation of women in decision-making, eliminating gender-based violence and integrating a gender perspective across the government.

36. Malaysia welcomed the various policies and programmes developed to promote human rights in the country, and expressed hope that the Government would continue to tackle challenges related to climate change, which greatly influenced the realization of the human rights of its people. Noting the challenges faced by the Government in fulfilling its human rights obligations, Malaysia encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to continue to draw on international assistance, particularly in the areas of capacity-building and technical cooperation.

37. Maldives commended the Government for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and for conducting workshops to develop its implementation plans. Maldives also took positive note of the adoption of the Climate Change Act and highlighted that the Federated States of Micronesia was the first Pacific island State to adopt such an act.

38. The Marshall Islands commended the Federated States of Micronesia for the adoption of its National Disaster Response Plan and the establishment of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management. It viewed those developments as a testament to the country's clear understanding of the imminent threat posed by climate change not only to the enjoyment of the rights to food, health and an adequate standard of living but, most critically, the right to life.

39. Mexico noted the progress made by the Federated States of Micronesia during the third cycle, including the adoption of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Mexico acknowledged the country's contribution in the fight against climate change and against an increase in ocean levels.

40. Montenegro encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to consider incorporating international standards into domestic legislation through the ratification of the core human rights instruments to which it was not yet party. It noted child protection policies and normative actions taken by the Government to address discrimination based on gender, disability and sexual orientation. Montenegro called on the Federated States of Micronesia to intensify the implementation of those policies.

41. Nepal commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the adoption of the Climate Change Act and the mainstreaming of the Act in other sectors of development, and the progress achieved in the reduction of maternal and infant mortality rates. Nepal noted measures taken in the areas of gender-based violence and trafficking in persons.

42. The Netherlands welcomed the passing of CA-20-150, an act amending the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, and the launch of the first violence against women counselling centre in Chuuk State. However, the Netherlands remained concerned about the high rates of gender-based and domestic violence.

43. New Zealand noted the efforts of the Federated States of Micronesia to eliminate gender-based violence, but also noted with concern the continued high rate of offences. It further noted efforts taken to provide greater support for the rights of persons with disabilities and to eliminate human trafficking.

44. The Philippines noted the country's efforts in the areas of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation. It welcomed the national gender equality policy for 2018–2023, aimed at improving women's representation in public decision-making and mainstreaming gender perspectives across government, among other things, as well as the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

45. Portugal welcomed the country's efforts to implement the universal periodic review recommendations, its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the launch of its first national gender policy.

46. The Russian Federation noted progress made since the previous cycle, including the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It noted, however, that the federal and state Constitutions did not prohibit all forms of discrimination, including on the ground of disability.

47. Senegal noted the adoption of a law and an action plan to combat trafficking in persons. Senegal noted that the federal and state Constitutions guaranteed equality before the law and the prohibition of discrimination based on race, sex, language, national or ethnic origin and social status.

48. Serbia noted the genuine commitment of the Federated States of Micronesia to the universal periodic review process. It welcomed the measures taken by the Government to improve the situations of women, young people and persons with disabilities through its long-term national strategies.

49. Slovenia welcomed the first steps taken by the Federated States of Micronesia towards establishing a national human rights institution, namely the undertaking of a feasibility study in 2019, and encouraged the Government to continue the process of setting up an institution. Slovenia recalled a recommendation previously supported by the country to develop human rights education and training in the school curricula.

50. Spain noted efforts made by the Federated States of Micronesia to protect and promote human rights.

51. Timor-Leste commended the Federated States of Micronesia for adopting the Climate Change Act and legislation and an action plan on trafficking. It congratulated the country for increasing employment rates among women in the public sector and for taking measures to reduce mortality among infants and children under 5 years of age.

52. The delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia noted that the country took its obligations under international conventions and treaties very seriously. As a sovereign country, it considered treaty obligations as national commitments to action, and many of those obligations required further action and steps. Thus a thorough review process was required prior to taking on any additional treaty obligations.

53. Regarding some of the Conventions pending ratification, including, in particular, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, national consideration was ongoing. The Convention had been previously submitted to the national Congress for consideration and to obtain its support for accession; consent to ratify the instrument had not yet been given. The Federated States of Micronesia would carefully review the possibility of ratification in due course. Possible accession to other international treaties as recommended in the context of the universal periodic review process also remained under national consideration and review.

54. Measures towards addressing gender-based violence were addressed more specifically in paragraph 12 of the national report. Moreover, in paragraphs 45 and 54 of the report, the Government had referred to the national policy adopted in 2018 to end violence against women, the ongoing work on the plans for implementation of the policy, the standard operating procedures established for health workers, and the guidelines for referral of cases of gender-based violence.

55. Regarding the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as explained in the national report, the Government would continue to consult on a national position. A national consultation was vital given the importance of that instrument. The process would include carefully considering the binding obligations and consequential benefits that would result

from accession. Due consideration would also be given to the possible ramifications of accession to the Rome Statute with respect to other bilateral security arrangements and commitments.

56. Ukraine took note of measures taken by the Federated States of Micronesia to implement previous universal periodic review recommendations, namely, ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. It expressed appreciation for steps taken by the country to address the drastic consequences of climate change.

57. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland commended the country for its efforts to implement previous recommendations, despite constraints, in consultation with civil society. It also commended the country for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, welcomed preparation of a report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and encouraged further action. It acknowledged that there were challenges to addressing human rights issues and encouraged the Federated States of Micronesia to draw on international technical assistance.

58. The United States of America commended the Federated States of Micronesia for the steps taken to combat sexual and domestic violence. It committed to collaborating with the Federated States of Micronesia to address the country's human rights priorities.

59. Uruguay acknowledged the efforts taken by the Federated States of Micronesia to improve human rights in the country.

60. Vanuatu noted the efforts taken by the Federated States of Micronesia towards human rights and its call for climate action for adaptation, mitigation and prevention through the establishment of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management.

61. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended the country for the legal progress made in protecting the family, persons with disabilities and the environment, and the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It noted the Strategic Development Plan (2004–2023) and welcomed policies on gender, young people and persons with disabilities. It noted that the Federated States of Micronesia had increased the public health budget, reducing maternal mortality and preventing illnesses linked to climate change.

62. Argentina congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

63. Armenia welcomed efforts made by the Federated States of Micronesia in the areas of human rights, development, social protection, disaster risk reduction and climate change mitigation. It stressed the importance of establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

64. Australia commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its efforts to protect human rights, including the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and progress in drafting child protection policy and legislation in support of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. It acknowledged steps towards the establishment of a national human rights institution, and congratulated the country on the passing of the Domestic Issues Act, which criminalized domestic violence.

65. The Bahamas commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its commitment to human rights and the adoption of the Climate Change Act, the Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Policy, the national gender policy and its action plan, and the national policy on ending violence against women. The Bahamas called on the international community to cooperate with the Federated States of Micronesia in the areas of technical assistance and capacity-building.

66. Brazil commended the country for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It suggested that the Federated States of Micronesia ratify the core treaties to which it was not yet a party, and create a reporting and follow-up mechanism. While expressing appreciation for measures taken to reduce poverty and tackle violence and

discrimination against women, Brazil reiterated its recommendation for the country to withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and enhance the participation of women in decision-making positions.

67. Canada congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia for the efforts it had deployed to eliminate trafficking in persons, namely by restructuring the Department of Justice and enhancing services for victims of trafficking. Canada urged the country to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

68. Chile congratulated the Federated States of Micronesia on its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It also acknowledged the progress made by the country in the areas of suicide prevention as part of the duty of the State to protect the right to life.

69. China welcomed the efforts made by the Federated States of Micronesia to promote and protect human rights. It appreciated the Government's efforts to promote economic and social development, deal with the pandemic, address climate change, combat trafficking in persons, promote people's rights to development, health and education, and protect the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children and persons with disabilities.

70. Cuba welcomed the implementation by the Federated States of Micronesia of an integrated national policy on disaster risk management and climate change, which protected the population, resources and economy from the threat of climate change. Cuba wished the Federated States of Micronesia success in its review and in implementing the future accepted recommendations.

71. Cyprus commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its strong commitment to mainstreaming human rights and prioritizing climate change. It also welcomed the efforts undertaken to promote gender equality, notably with the enactment of the national gender policy.

72. Denmark commended the Federated States of Micronesia for launching the national gender policy in 2018, but was concerned about the high rates of sexual and gender-based violence. Denmark emphasized that the Convention against Torture Initiative was ready to explore avenues to assist the Federated States of Micronesia should that be deemed helpful.

73. Fiji commended the Federated States of Micronesia for developing and implementing the Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Policy of 2013 and the Strategic Development Plan 2004–2023, and congratulated it for its commitment to adapting to, and mitigating the effects of, climate change. Fiji also recognized that domestic violence and the abuse of children within the family remained largely unreported because of social, cultural and institutional barriers.

74. Finland welcomed the engagement of the Federated States of Micronesia within the universal periodic review process.

75. France thanked the Federated States of Micronesia for its national report and welcomed the advancements made in the framework of human rights. It particularly welcomed the launch of the programme to combat violence against women. It remained concerned, nonetheless, about gender-based violence.

76. Georgia welcomed the measures introduced by the Federated States of Micronesia. It expressed appreciation for the banning of capital punishment and for the efforts made in combating trafficking in persons. Georgia also welcomed, among other things, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

77. Germany welcomed the delegation and commended the Federated States of Micronesia for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016.

78. Ghana commended the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia for the steps it had taken since its previous universal periodic review to promote and protect human rights. It noted the establishment of the Nationwide Integrated Disaster Risk Management

and Climate Change Policy and the Strategic Development Plan 2004–2023. Ghana commended the country for its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

79. Honduras welcomed the results obtained by the Federated States of Micronesia in implementing the recommendations received during previous reviews, in particular the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Honduras reiterated its support for the country in the implementation of the recommendations received.

80. Iceland welcomed the steps taken by the Federated States of Micronesia to tackle discrimination and applauded the legal amendments adopted in 2018 to include sexual orientation as a basis of discrimination.

81. In his closing remarks, the head of the delegation recalled that the Federated States of Micronesia as a nation was only 34 years old. Even as a young nation, one thing was clear and firm: for the Federated States of Micronesia, every human life, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, culture or ideology, was equally important and precious.

82. The approach of the Federated States of Micronesia to the universal periodic review had been developed to reflect the country's hopes, dreams, values and principles, which were reflected in the preamble to the Constitution.

83. The delegation acknowledged with appreciation the Pacific Community, the United Nations Development Programme and the universal periodic review/human rights task force, without which the preparation of the national report would not have been possible.

84. The head of the delegation expressed hope that the universal periodic review of the Federated States of Micronesia could assist in the fight to improve and empower lives, as the country continued to celebrate its rich diversity while navigating towards sustainable life on its islands now and into the future.

85. The head of the delegation thanked the President of the Human Rights Council and the Council, the troika and everyone who had participated in the review.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

86. **The following recommendations will be examined by the Federated States of Micronesia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council:**

86.1 **Consider the ratification of core international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Philippines);**

86.2 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as other core international human rights treaties (Russian Federation);**

86.3 **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Spain);**

86.4 **Join the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (United States of America);**

86.5 Accelerate ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Bahamas);

86.6 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chile);

86.7 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Finland);

86.8 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Second Optional Protocol thereto, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);

86.9 Ratify major human rights covenants, including in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture, as well as their Optional Protocols, and accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Germany);

86.10 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Latvia);

86.11 Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights with the aim to end discrimination against the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, internally displaced persons, migrants and refugees (Netherlands);

86.12 Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Mexico);

86.13 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Nepal);

86.14 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (New Zealand);

86.15 Continue to work towards the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Israel);

86.16 Accede to the main international conventions on human rights protection, beginning with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Italy);

86.17 Ratify the main human rights instruments, including in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Luxembourg);

86.18 Ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties and review its reservations to the treaties it is already a party to (Marshall Islands);

86.19 Ratify remaining core international human rights treaties and their optional protocols (Ukraine);

- 86.20 Accelerate measures necessary for the ratification of core human rights treaties (Georgia);
- 86.21 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran) (Portugal) (Timor-Leste) (Vanuatu);
- 86.22 Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols (Honduras);
- 86.23 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran) (Timor-Leste);
- 86.24 Ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 86.25 Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Honduras);
- 86.26 Accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Fiji) (Indonesia);
- 86.27 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Finland) (Timor-Leste) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 86.28 Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Australia);
- 86.29 Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Honduras);
- 86.30 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Cyprus);
- 86.31 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Denmark);
- 86.32 Consider ratifying outstanding international treaties and conventions, especially the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol at its earliest convenience (Ghana);
- 86.33 Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras);
- 86.34 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan) (Senegal);
- 86.35 Consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);
- 86.36 Submit to the United Nations the initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Serbia);
- 86.37 Withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Ukraine);
- 86.38 Review all its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to withdraw them or narrow their scope (Cyprus);
- 86.39 Consider withdrawing its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and step up efforts to guarantee substantive gender equality (Uruguay);
- 86.40 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Cyprus);

- 86.41 **Sign and ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Honduras);**
- 86.42 **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);**
- 86.43 **Ratify the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) in support of the 50 for Freedom campaign (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 86.44 **Consider signing and ratifying the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);**
- 86.45 **Consider becoming a member of the International Labour Organization with a view to ratifying its core conventions, and bring its labour legislation into line with international standards (Uruguay);**
- 86.46 **Consider extending a standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders (Georgia);**
- 86.47 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**
- 86.48 **Consider extending a standing invitation to the special procedure mechanisms (Serbia);**
- 86.49 **Extend an open and standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders (Finland);**
- 86.50 **Extend a standing invitation to the special rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg);**
- 86.51 **Strengthen the human rights task force to provide a mandate to coordinate and prepare reports for international and regional human rights mechanisms, and to track national follow-up to and implementation of treaty obligations and the recommendations of related mechanisms (Maldives);**
- 86.52 **Improve national data collection by completing a census by 2022 and ensure that disaggregated data support national programming and decision-making in the areas of climate change, domestic violence, gender-based violence, universal health coverage, universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and empowerment of young people (Slovenia);**
- 86.53 **Continue efforts to establish a federal body to monitor human rights as recommended previously (Spain);**
- 86.54 **Develop a national plan on updating domestic policies, as required by the international human rights treaties, at the various levels of government and jurisdiction (Ukraine);**
- 86.55 **Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Ghana) (Nepal);**
- 86.56 **Establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);**
- 86.57 **Establish a national human rights institution in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Australia);**
- 86.58 **Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Denmark);**
- 86.59 **Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (India);**
- 86.60 **Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and provide it with sufficient financial resources for its proper functioning (Mexico);**

- 86.61 Continue its efforts and work to establish an independent national human rights institution, seeking assistance from partners and international organizations as required (New Zealand);
- 86.62 Continue efforts on the establishment of a national human rights institution (Philippines);
- 86.63 Strengthen efforts in establishing a national human rights institution, including through bilateral cooperation with countries in the region that have established national human rights commissions (Indonesia);
- 86.64 Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal);
- 86.65 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine);
- 86.66 Establish an independent national human rights institution and provide it with a full mandate and independence in line with the Paris Principles (Germany);
- 86.67 Set up an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Luxembourg);
- 86.68 Ensure the prohibition in law of discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, and disability (Mexico);
- 86.69 Review its national legislation in order to ensure its full alignment with the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Russian Federation);
- 86.70 Step up efforts to address discrimination against women and girls and establish mechanisms to combat discrimination, including through the review of anti-discrimination legislation (Spain);
- 86.71 Continue actions, including legislative actions, to combat discrimination on any ground (Cuba);
- 86.72 Pass and implement laws that would recognize same-sex partnerships and define the rights and obligations of co-habiting couples in same-sex unions (Iceland);
- 86.73 Continue working on necessary measures to review its national legislation in order to guarantee that all forms of discrimination, particularly based on gender, sexual orientation and disability, are prohibited and punished (Argentina);
- 86.74 Adopt legislation prohibiting acts of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and take measures to promote the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and prevent all forms of discrimination against them (Chile);
- 86.75 Implement a national development plan to provide a strategic and coordinated framework for informing climate change mitigation efforts and building the country's climate resilience (Maldives);
- 86.76 Create a national development plan to mitigate the effects of climate change and increase funding and resources for emergency preparedness and response facilities as part of the ongoing strengthening of its overall climate resilience and mitigation efforts (Marshall Islands);
- 86.77 Ensure that the national climate change policy takes into account efforts to alleviate the disproportionate impact of climate change on women and children (Indonesia);
- 86.78 Ensure that the national policy on climate change considers the impact of climate change on children and women and the role they should have in the actions implemented in their favour (Chile);

- 86.79 Ensure that women, especially rural women, children, persons with disabilities and indigenous and local communities, are meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks (Fiji);
- 86.80 Allocate sufficient resources to the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 86.81 Thoroughly investigate, prosecute, and punish corruption by government officials (United States of America);
- 86.82 Introduce an access-to-information law that is in accordance with international standards (Germany);
- 86.83 Increase efforts to investigate, prosecute and convict traffickers, and improve procedures to identify and support victims of human trafficking (New Zealand);
- 86.84 Address the root causes of human trafficking and the exploitation of women for the purpose of prostitution (Senegal);
- 86.85 Expand education and awareness campaigns on the issue of human trafficking and gather more data and analysis of trafficking (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 86.86 Take necessary measures to combat human trafficking (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 86.87 Step up efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in the country, including by dealing with its root causes, investigating and prosecuting perpetrators, providing adequate support for victims and harmonizing legislation on this matter with international standards (Brazil);
- 86.88 Continue working with partners in order to put in place effective services for the protection of victims of trafficking in persons (Canada);
- 86.89 Continue adopting measures to prevent and confront trafficking in persons, and protect the victims of this crime, particularly women and girls (Cuba);
- 86.90 Establish investigations and proceedings against the perpetrators of trafficking in human beings and criminalize trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation in Pohnpei and Chuuk (France);
- 86.91 Implement a systematic approach to fighting human trafficking, including anti-trafficking training for police, prosecutors and judges (Germany);
- 86.92 Continue the efforts to combat human trafficking, in particular involving sexual exploitation and forced labour, including by enhancing the ability of the judicial system to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators and assisting the victims (Italy);
- 86.93 Harmonize anti-trafficking legislation, at both the federal and state levels, with international standards and provide for sanctions which are proportional to the gravity of the crime (Luxembourg);
- 86.94 Implement a comprehensive social protection system to further assist vulnerable groups and individuals, in particular those in the informal sector (Malaysia);
- 86.95 Take necessary measures to ensure access by all Micronesian people to potable water and to adequate housing (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 86.96 Align its legislation to the right to an adequate standard of living, by promoting access to drinking water and sanitation for the whole population, in particular during recovery from natural disasters, when rights such as health care, food and life are most imperiled (Vanuatu);

- 86.97 Continue consolidating the successful social policies implemented in favour of its people in the areas of health, education, combating gender-based violence and climate change (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 86.98 Take all necessary measures to strengthen the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, particularly in the current situation of the extreme vulnerability they face in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (Argentina);
- 86.99 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and improve people's living standards, so as to provide a solid foundation for its people to enjoy all human rights (China);
- 86.100 Tackle neonatal death by implementing high-quality and affordable antenatal and maternal care as well as community-based care for mothers and newborns (Malaysia);
- 86.101 Expand the availability and accessibility of affordable services for people living with HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (Malaysia);
- 86.102 Make additional efforts in reducing infant and under-5 mortality rates (Montenegro);
- 86.103 Strengthen efforts to further reduce infant and maternal mortality rates by improving both access to and data collection on maternal and child health care, including on remote islands, for example by scaling up mobile clinics and community nursing (Bahamas);
- 86.104 Fully implement the national strategic plan of action on non-communicable diseases for 2019–2024 (Bahamas);
- 86.105 Continue to strengthen efforts to improve access to health care for all, including access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and information (Fiji);
- 86.106 Intensify efforts to prevent incidents of suicide among children, by providing adequate and comprehensive psychological counselling services in schools and communities (Ghana);
- 86.107 Implement the commitment, made at the Nairobi summit marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the programme of action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development, to strengthen access to quality integrated sexual and reproductive health services for women, couples, adolescents and young people, using the updated family planning guidelines, by 2022 (Iceland);
- 86.108 Involve community leaders and persons affected by leprosy in planning and decision-making relating to leprosy issues (Japan);
- 86.109 Consider policy measures in furtherance of the right to education (India);
- 86.110 Promote the right to education by ensuring that primary education is compulsory and fully available and accessible for all (Malaysia);
- 86.111 Continue efforts on promoting gender equality through its national gender equality policy for 2018–2023 (Israel);
- 86.112 Continue with efforts for the progressive realization of gender equality (India);
- 86.113 Increase the number of women in decision-making roles (Marshall Islands);
- 86.114 Carry out effective measures to promote women's representation in political and public life (Nepal);

- 86.115 Continue efforts to promote and guarantee women's political representation in decision-making positions, and to address gender-based violence (Philippines);
- 86.116 Make progress on the implementation of sustained and systematic measures aimed at modifying or eliminating stereotypes and behaviours and negative cultural practices in order to support the active participation of women in political life and decision-making (Argentina);
- 86.117 Take specific measures to encourage women's political participation and to increase women's representation in national and state legislative assemblies (Canada);
- 86.118 Further protect the rights of women and children and continue to promote gender equality (China);
- 86.119 Take all necessary steps to empower women to effectively participate in political and public life and to enhance the representation of women in decision-making bodies at all levels, including through the implementation of gender quotas for candidates in political elections (Ireland);
- 86.120 Pursue efforts in the field of gender equality by implementing temporary special measures, such as quotas by gender, in all areas where women are underrepresented or disadvantaged (Luxembourg);
- 86.121 Strengthen efforts to prevent domestic and gender-based violence by improving support for victims and criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence, including sexual harassment and spousal rape (Marshall Islands);
- 86.122 Criminalize all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, sexual harassment and spousal violence (Mexico);
- 86.123 Continue developing policies and advancing actions in countering gender-based violence, including through an established protection cluster (Montenegro);
- 86.124 Include sexual assault and sexual abuse perpetrated in marriage or de facto relationships within the classification of rape under the state Codes of [Chuuk](#), [Pohnpei](#), [Kosrae](#) and [Yap](#) (Netherlands);
- 86.125 Increase efforts to prosecute perpetrators of violence against women, especially in cases of domestic violence (New Zealand);
- 86.126 Increase support for victims of violence against women, including through the establishment of governmental facilities to provide shelter for women and children in abusive situations (New Zealand);
- 86.127 Strengthen efforts to combat gender-based violence, in particular domestic and sexual violence, and ensure effective access to justice, in particular for women in remote rural areas and on outlying islands (Portugal);
- 86.128 Improve protections for victims and accountability for perpetrators of sexual assault, violence against women and human trafficking crimes, including with regard to children trafficked for forced labour and commercial sex (United States of America);
- 86.129 Continue strengthening its mechanisms and policies to eradicate violence against women and girls, and to promote gender equality in order to encourage women's access to economic opportunities as well as leadership and other key roles in society (Vanuatu);
- 86.130 Build on the work done to date by consistently criminalizing domestic violence across the whole of the Federated States of Micronesia, including by introducing legislation to criminalize domestic violence in Yap and Chuuk States (Australia);

- 86.131 Consider adopting a national legal framework to criminalize sexual abuse, and to further strengthen capacity-building and the institutional response to this issue (Brazil);
- 86.132 Take action at all levels to address sexual and gender-based violence, including ensuring adequate resourcing and training for relevant authorities, and adopting legislation and policy frameworks to criminalize and prevent all forms of gender-based violence and ensure access to justice for all victims (Ireland);
- 86.133 Conduct efficient, independent and credible investigations into all cases of sexual and gender-based violence, and hold perpetrators accountable with proportional sanctions (Denmark);
- 86.134 Strengthen domestic violence legislation by criminalizing violence against women, and making the reporting of violence within the family, and especially against women and children, mandatory (Fiji);
- 86.135 Make every effort to better protect women against domestic violence, particularly by adopting a law against marital rape (France);
- 86.136 Introduce comprehensive legislation to criminalize violence against women, including marital rape, and establish measures to systematically prosecute cases of domestic and sexual violence against women, and strengthen measures to ensure access for women to justice (Germany);
- 86.137 Improve the existing legislative framework by adopting and implementing comprehensive legislation that establishes the State's obligation to effectively protect women and girls against domestic and sexual violence (Iceland);
- 86.138 Strengthen the efforts to prevent and combat any form of sexual and gender-based violence or discrimination against women and girls, including by adopting federal legislation criminalizing violence against women (Italy);
- 86.139 Take further measures to protect and promote women's rights, including with regard to the prevention of domestic violence against women (Japan);
- 86.140 Take all necessary measures to combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence both in law and in practice (Latvia);
- 86.141 Take immediate measures to criminalize marital rape (Canada);
- 86.142 Criminalize marital rape (Latvia);
- 86.143 Redouble efforts for the early registration of births and the issuance of birth certificates, particularly in the peripheral islands, and regularize the national system of identity documents (Mexico);
- 86.144 Strengthen policies and programmes for children in the areas of health, education and protection from abuse and violence, consistent with obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Philippines);
- 86.145 Adopt national legislation on child labour and thus culminate the work begun with the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Spain);
- 86.146 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in all states to at least 14 years of age (Portugal);
- 86.147 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 14 years of age and enact a comprehensive law governing the child justice system (Germany);
- 86.148 Amend legislation in order to ban the worst forms of child labour and establish a minimum working age (Canada);

86.149 **Draft and implement legislation explicitly prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home, and retract any legal defences to its use (Ukraine);**

86.150 **Adopt comprehensive legislation expressly prohibiting, as a priority, corporal punishment of minors in all settings, including the home, schools, childcare institutions, alternative care settings and penitentiary institutions (Chile);**

86.151 **Prohibit all corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home (Iceland);**

86.152 **Continue to develop and implement policies and legislation to fully realize the aims of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (New Zealand);**

86.153 **Adopt a national policy on disability in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Israel);**

86.154 **Ensure the protection of the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in national legislation and in practice (Luxembourg).**

87. **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 Federated States of Micronesia was headed by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Kandhi A. Elieisar, and composed of the following members:

- The Honourable, Mr. Marcus Samo, Acting Secretary, Department of Health & Social Affairs;
 - Mr. Brendy Carl, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs;
 - Mr. Leonito Bacalando, Jr. Assistant Attorney General/Chief of Law Department of Justice;
 - Ms. Lucille Apis-Overhoff, Assistant Secretary, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Emergency Management;
 - Ms. Stacy Yleizah, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs;
 - Mr. Kenneth Welles, First Secretary, FSM Permanent Mission to the UN in New York;
 - Mr. Stuard Penias, Acting Chief/Youth and Disability Coordinator, Dept. of Health & Social Affairs;
 - Ms. Cynthia Saimon, Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator, Department of Education;
 - Mr. Augustine Sue, Data Specialist, Department of Health & Social Affairs;
 - Ms. Lululeen Santos, ERAW Coordinator, Department of Health & Social Affairs;
 - Ms. Lomalida Jibemai, Statistician Specialist/SDG WG Chairperson, Department of Resources & Development;
 - Ms. Edna Akullq, UN Volunteer, Department of Resources & Development.
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