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

Armenia

* 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-fifth session from 20 to 31 January 2020. The review of Armenia was held at the 7th meeting, on 23 January 2020. The delegation of Armenia was headed by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Mr. Artak Apitonian. At its 13th meeting, held on 28 January 2020, the Working Group adopted the report on Armenia.

2. On 14 January 2020, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Armenia: Nepal, Poland and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

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 Armenia:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/35/ARM/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.6/35/ARM/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/35/ARM/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Azerbaijan, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay was transmitted to Armenia 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 7 February 2020

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 93 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 Armenia, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council.**

6.1 **Consider ratifying core human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party (State of Palestine);**

- 6.2 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal); (Sri Lanka);
- 6.3 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Honduras); (Ecuador);
- 6.4 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and expedite the ratification process of Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Afghanistan);
- 6.5 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Greece);
- 6.6 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal); (Estonia); (France);
- 6.7 Accelerate a process of the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Slovakia);
- 6.8 Expedite internal procedures necessary to ratify Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the death penalty and Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Georgia);
- 6.9 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court with its amendments and fully implement them into national law (Liechtenstein);
- 6.10 Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Senegal);
- 6.11 Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC (Estonia);
- 6.12 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence and continue the efforts to prevent and combat domestic violence (Italy);
- 6.13 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention); (North Macedonia); (Slovenia); (Belgium); (Canada); (Sweden);
- 6.14 Ratify the Istanbul Convention and adjust national legislation accordingly (Norway);
- 6.15 Finalize the ratification process of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Romania);
- 6.16 Complete the internal procedures to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Spain);
- 6.17 Ratify, as soon as possible, the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Switzerland);

- 6.18 Ensure the effective application of the existing legislation on domestic violence and gender equality, aligning it with the Istanbul Convention, and consider its ratification (Uruguay);
- 6.19 Expedite the process of ratifying the Istanbul Convention, without reservations, and ensure its rapid implementation (Albania);
- 6.20 Ratify without delay the Istanbul Convention and conduct awareness-raising campaigns on the Convention (Austria);
- 6.21 Step up the efforts for a rapid ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Croatia);
- 6.22 Promote the protection of women against violence by ratifying the Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe and ensure a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation of all allegations of domestic violence (Denmark);
- 6.23 Ratify the Istanbul Convention and fight the practice of selective abortions (France);
- 6.24 Consider ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Italy);
- 6.25 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Liechtenstein);
- 6.26 Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse and the Istanbul Convention (Turkey);
- 6.27 Ratify the 2014 Protocol to the ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.28 Establish a national mechanism for reporting and follow-up (North Macedonia);
- 6.29 Continue submitting reports to various treaty bodies and to pursue efforts to promote human rights (Lebanon);
- 6.30 Adopt an open, merit-based process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.31 Further cooperate with the UN human rights treaty bodies and special procedures (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.32 Consider adopting a comprehensive national policy against all forms of exploitation of persons (Senegal);
- 6.33 Continue its ongoing efforts to promote the human rights and thus presenting relevant reports (Turkmenistan);
- 6.34 Take due measures to effectively implement National Strategy for Human Rights Protection for 2020–2022 (Turkmenistan);
- 6.35 Continue the positive steps ensuring the rule of law and the developments of the democratic institutions (Bahrain);
- 6.36 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);

6.37 Ensure participation of the civil society and international organisations in public discussions organized by the Coordinating Council (Georgia);

6.38 Enhance women's access to basic health care and sexual and reproductive health services (Estonia);

6.39 Seek to ensure sufficient and sustainable funding for the national human rights office, including for the operation of its regional offices and prevention mechanisms (Serbia);

6.40 Provide sufficient and sustainable funding to the Human Rights Defender's Office (Timor-Leste);

6.41 Take effective measures to raise awareness of international human rights instruments and of the country's human rights obligations, including in the judicial and law enforcement sectors (Slovakia);

6.42 Continue the concerted efforts at the international level for the prevention of the crime of genocide (Greece);

6.43 Take prompt and resolute action against all instances of violence, hate speech and hate crime, online as well as offline, especially targeting LGBTI persons and women (Germany);

6.44 Implement the recent recommendation of the OSCE-ODIHR by revising and clarifying the Draft Law on ensuring Equality Before the Law and ensure credible and effective oversight of its enactment (Netherlands);

6.45 Continue to strengthen anti-discrimination policy and the protection of vulnerable groups (Romania);

6.46 Continue efforts to strengthen equality between men and women, to combat human trafficking, as well as to further protect the rights of national minorities (Russian Federation);

6.47 Ensure the effective and timely implementation of programmes supporting all socially vulnerable population groups (Uzbekistan);

6.48 Develop and adopt adequate legislative and administrative measures to combat discrimination against women and discrimination and violence against LGBTI persons and guarantee that victims have effective access to justice (Argentina);

6.49 Conduct broad public education and awareness with a view to combating hate speech, stereotypes and discrimination (Bahamas);

6.50 Better protect the rights of women, children and people with disabilities and further strengthen the social protection system (China);

6.51 Take specific measures to eliminate stereotypes and hate speech (Dominican Republic);

6.52 Adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination, with definitions of all forms of discrimination in accordance with international standards, including the prohibition of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);

- 6.53 Expedite the adoption of the law on anti-discrimination and enhance state efforts in order to ensure women's rights and gender equality (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.54 Redouble its efforts towards the adoption of the comprehensive law on anti-discrimination (Slovakia);
- 6.55 Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that addresses direct and indirect discrimination and encompasses all the prohibited grounds of discrimination, including sexual orientation and gender identity (Iceland);
- 6.56 Adopt a strong anti-discrimination law with robust enforcement mechanisms protecting members of all minorities (United States of America);
- 6.57 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that includes specific references to the rights of LGBT persons (Uruguay);
- 6.58 Accelerate the adoption of the bill against discrimination, including discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and establish mechanisms to punish violations of rights in that area (Chile);
- 6.59 Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation (Czechia);
- 6.60 Adopt a law on anti-discrimination which includes sexual orientation and gender identity as protection grounds (Sweden);
- 6.61 Take all necessary measures to put an end to all forms of discrimination, including those based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy);
- 6.62 Take concrete steps to eliminate discrimination against LGBTI persons (Malta);
- 6.63 Ensure prompt, thorough, and effective investigations into all cases of violence against LGBTI persons (Malta);
- 6.64 Amend the criminal code to include homophobia and transphobia as an aggravating criminal circumstance (Malta);
- 6.65 Explicitly include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected grounds in the draft Law on Equality (Malta);
- 6.66 Include sexual orientation and gender identity as protected grounds in the anti-discrimination legislation (Netherlands);
- 6.67 Take steps to combat violence, hate speech and crimes based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Uruguay);
- 6.68 Specifically include sexual orientation and gender identity as a protected ground within the 2018 Draft Law "On Ensuring Equality", and take immediate steps to pass the legislation through parliament (Australia);
- 6.69 Strengthen anti-discrimination laws with regard to a better protection of LGBT persons (Austria);
- 6.70 Conduct prompt and thorough investigations into all cases of violence against LGBTI persons and hold perpetrators to account (Canada);
- 6.71 Adopt a law punishing discrimination based on sexual orientation (France);

- 6.72 **Combat hate speech and hate crimes, which includes adequate references to skin colour, ethnicity, religion, belief, sexual orientation or disability by adopting necessary adjustments to legislation (Norway);**
- 6.73 **Introduce a legislation criminalizing racist organizations and participation in such organizations (Afghanistan);**
- 6.74 **Develop and implement a common, unified policy for combating discrimination, including effective mechanisms to combat hate speech, hate crimes and other hate motivated incidents, prevention of such cases, proper investigation, as well as responsibility mechanisms and effective legal remedies (Germany);**
- 6.75 **Continue with good practices that are aimed at establishing the necessary structures to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (Nicaragua);**
- 6.76 **Continue to strengthen its efforts in implementing Sustainable Development Goals for the better enjoyment of the human rights of its people (Viet Nam);**
- 6.77 **Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and in the improvement of human development indicators (India);**
- 6.78 **Continue efforts to promote economic growth which in turn contributes to employment growth (Brunei Darussalam);**
- 6.79 **Continue to promote economic and social sustainable development, in order to lay a solid foundation for its people to enjoy all human rights (China);**
- 6.80 **Ensure that a human rights approach is reflected in the Government's 2020 submission of the reviewed Nationally Determined Contributions (Fiji);**
- 6.81 **Ensure that its policies, legislation, regulations and enforcement measures effectively serves to prevent and address the heightened risk of business involvement in abuses in conflict situations, which includes situations of foreign occupation (State of Palestine);**
- 6.82 **Adopt a comprehensive, gender-responsive and disability-inclusive approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation policies (Fiji);**
- 6.83 **Introduce a de jure moratorium on capital executions, with a view to the complete abolition of the death penalty (Italy);**
- 6.84 **Close legislative gaps to ensure all forms of torture and ill-treatment are fully criminalised and take steps to eradicate torture and ill-treatment, and effectively investigate, prosecute and punish such acts (Ireland);**
- 6.85 **Take measures to eradicate torture and ill treatment during arrest, detention and questioning, and to strengthen measures to effectively investigate such cases (Luxembourg);**
- 6.86 **Ensure that investigations are conducted by an independent mechanism on all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, particularly in prisons, and that perpetrators are punished (Switzerland);**
- 6.87 **Conduct credible investigations and prosecutions of individuals responsible for torture, sexual violence and abuse, and other egregious assaults (United States of America);**

- 6.88 Cease the use of torture and introduce legislation to criminalise cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment in line with obligations under the Convention against Torture (Australia);
- 6.89 Repeal the statute of limitations for the crime of torture and other equivalent acts under the Criminal Code (Chile);
- 6.90 Ensure effective investigation and prosecution against perpetrators of torture and ill-treatment in accordance with international legal standards (Denmark);
- 6.91 Continue to build and strengthen the investigative capacity of the Special Investigation Service, to ensure effective investigation, prosecution and punishment of acts of torture and ill-treatment (Fiji);
- 6.92 Define torture in accordance with the Convention against Torture (France);
- 6.93 Safeguard full enjoyment of procedural rights of the detainees from the very outset of detention, including its notification, and prompt access to medical and legal assistance (Poland);
- 6.94 Continue implementing the government program for social and psychological rehabilitation services for victims of human trafficking (Kuwait);
- 6.95 Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and protect victims of trafficking in speeding up the full implementation of the national action plan (Liechtenstein);
- 6.96 Continue its endeavours on fighting against trafficking of human beings and exploitation, and the protection and rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking (Myanmar);
- 6.97 Redouble efforts to tackle effectively the trafficking in persons, while assisting the reintegration of victims into society (Holy See);
- 6.98 Implement the "Law on identification of and support to victims of trafficking in human beings and exploitation" and commit to address the issue of trafficking in persons and exploitation of prostitution of women and girls (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.99 Continue to strengthen its efforts to combat trafficking in persons in particular women, girls and children with regular monitoring (Sri Lanka);
- 6.100 Speed up the implementation of governmental programs related to compensation to the victims of human trafficking (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.101 Adopt a comprehensive State policy to address the issue of the trafficking in persons and exploitation of prostitution of women and girls (Timor-Leste);
- 6.102 Adopt a comprehensive national policy to combat human trafficking and the exploitation of prostitution of women and girls (Algeria);
- 6.103 Continue efforts to combat trafficking in persons by fully implementing its existing laws, plans and programmes to that effect (Bahamas);
- 6.104 Implement measures to address trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, including a specific state policy to address the exploitation of women and girls through prostitution (Chile);

- 6.105 Continue the national efforts to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, and provide adequate care and support to the victims (Egypt);
- 6.106 Ensure that the implementation of its laws, policies and programs on anti-human trafficking is gender-responsive and disability-inclusive (Fiji);
- 6.107 Consider adopting a comprehensive state policy to address the issue of trafficking in persons (Rwanda);
- 6.108 Intensify efforts in creating safe and enabling environment for civil society, human rights defenders and journalists and to ensure that threats and attacks against journalists and human rights defenders, notably those working in the field of anti-discrimination and women's rights, are duly investigated (Lithuania);
- 6.109 Sign the Global Pledge on Media Freedom, and commit to international efforts to create a safer environment for journalists worldwide as a member of the Media Freedom Coalition (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.110 Step up the efforts to enact comprehensive media regulations, including by adopting the legal measures to ensure media ownership transparency and independence of public broadcasters (Czechia);
- 6.111 Guarantee freedom of expression and freedom of the press by ensuring the protection of journalists and human rights defenders (France);
- 6.112 Strengthen protections for the right to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, including revising the current Law on Religious Organisations in line with recommendations of the Venice Commission (Ireland);
- 6.113 Ensure that the application of the law governing peaceful assembly and freedom of association is not discriminatory, in particular towards the most vulnerable groups such as national and religious minorities and the LGBTI community (Luxembourg);
- 6.114 Accelerate its efforts to reform the judiciary system in order to ensure independence of justice (Japan);
- 6.115 Implement the envisaged comprehensive reform of the justice sector with a view to establishing a genuinely independent judiciary and increasing public trust in it (Lithuania);
- 6.116 Take effective measures to protect the independence and integrity of the judicial branch of government (Namibia);
- 6.117 Take measures to ensure non-interference in the affairs of the Judiciary by Members of the Executive (Namibia);
- 6.118 Further focus on the reform of the judiciary (Romania);
- 6.119 Strengthen the independence and impartiality of the judiciary in law and practice (Switzerland);
- 6.120 Further take necessary steps towards the judicial and legal reforms (Turkmenistan);
- 6.121 Establish transparent processes for the nomination, appointment, and disciplining of judges and the termination of their powers based on international

standards and distribute court cases in a proportional manner to ensure a balanced workload for judges (United States of America);

6.122 Ensure the independence of the justice system and access to a fair trial (France);

6.123 Effectively implement judicial reform, in close cooperation with the Council of Europe, to ensure an impartial and transparent judicial system (Sweden);

6.124 Continue the fight and strong commitment against corruption in full compliance with the legislation of Armenia (Nicaragua);

6.125 Continue to adopt governmental plans to fight corruption, such as the anti-corruption strategy 2019–2022 (Syrian Arab Republic);

6.126 Fully implement the anti-corruption strategy (2019–2022) (Bahamas);

6.127 Establish strong and independent anti-corruption institutions and ensure proper and transparent vetting procedures of judges, prosecutors, investigators and police officers (Czechia);

6.128 Continue the national efforts to combat corruption (Egypt);

6.129 Initiate a comprehensive electoral reform to adopt a new Electoral Code, developed in close consultation with civil society organizations, taking into consideration the recommendations of international and local observation missions (Czechia);

6.130 Keep moving forward with the National Human Rights Strategy with a view to guaranteeing the exercise of the right to health and a decent living standard (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

6.131 Consider further institutional, legislative and policy measures targeted in particular at improving the well-being of children living in poverty (Singapore);

6.132 Continue to combat poverty and social inequality with the consolidation of social programmes to benefit the most vulnerable population groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

6.133 Continue its current programmes of social assistance, in particular to assist the extreme poor (Brunei Darussalam);

6.134 Continue the efforts to reduce poverty, as well as increase social programmes aimed at improving the living conditions of the population (Dominican Republic);

6.135 Enhance efforts in scaling up the successful implementation of programmes that ensure inclusive economic growth, job creation and fighting poverty (Ethiopia);

6.136 Continue its efforts to strengthen the health care system by developing a national health insurance scheme (Maldives);

6.137 Adopt measures to tackle discrimination against HIV-positive individuals in the healthcare system, and take steps to make treatment more accessible in the regions (Norway);

6.138 Promote healthcare system and continue improving health services as well as the means so that they are available in all regions (Syrian Arab Republic);

- 6.139 Strengthen the health-care system and continue to improve the availability and accessibility of health services in all regions (Iceland);
- 6.140 Pursue efforts to implement a comprehensive medical and health insurance in line with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.141 Continue to reinforce efforts to support inclusive growth and prioritize budgetary allocations in the health-care system in order to guarantee adequate, equitable and sustainable financing thereby augmenting the availability and accessibility of health services in all regions (India);
- 6.142 Strengthen public awareness of health services for people living in rural areas (Cambodia);
- 6.143 Continue the process of improving the infrastructure of primary health care in rural communities (Cuba);
- 6.144 Promote the right to health by facilitating people's access to health care facilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.145 Continue the measures necessary to extend access to quality care to all components of society in order to meet their health needs (Djibouti);
- 6.146 Continue to invest in the activities reducing infant mortality rate (Ethiopia);
- 6.147 Introduce comprehensive and evidence-based sexuality education in Armenian schools (Iceland);
- 6.148 Continue enhancing women's access to basic health care and sexual and reproductive health services, in particular for rural women (India);
- 6.149 Continue to strengthen its efforts to ensure education for all, paying special attention to children from economically disadvantaged families (Japan);
- 6.150 Ensure that the right to education is effectively offered to all, especially to girls and to children with disabilities, in particular to those in the most remote areas of the country (Holy See);
- 6.151 Strengthen its efforts to improve access to education for all, with special attention given to children from socioeconomically disadvantaged families (Sri Lanka);
- 6.152 Continue its efforts to improve access to education for all, with special attention given to the children from socioeconomically disadvantaged families (State of Palestine);
- 6.153 Continue the efforts to promote universal access to education (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.154 Keep up efforts to reinforce the right to education and ensure equal opportunities for all (Tunisia);
- 6.155 Continue efforts to improve access to education for all, with special attention given to children from socio-economically disadvantaged sections (India);
- 6.156 Further improve access to education for children, especially children with disabilities (Indonesia);
- 6.157 Organize campaigns and educational programmes to raise awareness of the importance of cultural heritage in all its diversity (Cyprus);

- 6.158 Leverage the relatively high percentage of women in the high-tech sector as a driver for further inclusion of women in the economy as a whole (Israel);
- 6.159 Effectively implement the Government Strategy on the gender policy implementation 2019–2023 in order to continue moving towards full equality and empowerment of women (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.160 Continue efforts towards the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (Greece);
- 6.161 Establish national programs against gender-based violence and create an institution dedicated to promoting and guaranteeing women's rights (Mexico);
- 6.162 Consider further measures to promote the economic participation of women and young people (Philippines);
- 6.163 Pursue efforts to foster gender equality, particularly in the labour market (Tunisia);
- 6.164 Continue to promote gender equality and take the necessary measures to increase women's participation in political life (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.165 Accelerate the adoption of laws aimed at ensuring gender equality (Uzbekistan);
- 6.166 Enhance further endeavors to increase women's participation in public affairs and economic development (Cambodia);
- 6.167 Implement the National Action Plan on UNSC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (Cyprus);
- 6.168 Raise awareness about the importance of equal participation of women and men in public and political life (Cyprus);
- 6.169 Continue implementing legislative reforms that guarantee transparency in electoral processes and greater representation of women in the legislative body (Dominican Republic);
- 6.170 Continue efforts to ensure the participation and representation of women and minorities in political and public life (Ecuador);
- 6.171 Guarantee equal rights and opportunities to men and women in the labour market (Iraq);
- 6.172 Continue steps towards ensuring the promotion and protection of women's rights (Georgia);
- 6.173 Foresee a regulatory framework for the informal sector and ensure that women working in this sector have access to social protection, maternity protection and child-care subsidies (Algeria);
- 6.174 Take measures to define, to prohibit and to penalize sexual harassment (Luxembourg);
- 6.175 Strengthen the capacity of the judiciary, law enforcement and social workers to enhance effective response to cases of gender-based violence (Rwanda);
- 6.176 Ratify the Istanbul Convention and revise the Criminal Code to include domestic violence as a stand-alone criminal offense and an aggravating

circumstance covering crimes committed within the family or domestic unit; invest in the creation of shelters to ensure the effective protection of women and children survivors of domestic violence (Germany);

6.177. Adopt a law criminalizing domestic violence and ensuring its effective implementation (North Macedonia);

6.178. Adopt a law criminalising domestic violence and ensure its effective implementation and introduce mandatory education on gender equality, women's rights and gender-based violence in schools (Portugal);

6.179. Specify domestic violence as an aggravated offence in the penal legislation (Honduras);

6.180. Criminalise domestic violence as a stand alone crime in the Criminal Code and to ensure that there is swift and impartial investigations into such crimes and a wider network of reception centres and state services (Spain);

6.181. Continue to reform relevant legislation, including the Criminal Code, in order to fully criminalize domestic violence, in line with the Istanbul and Lanzarote Conventions, and move towards the ratification of these two instruments (Iceland);

6.182. Continue strengthening the legislative framework on Prevention of Domestic Violence and Protection of Persons Affected by Domestic Violence (India);

6.183. Redouble efforts to prevent and combat domestic violence, in particular by criminalizing it (Albania);

6.184. Adapt the Criminal Code to ensure effective follow-up of domestic violence incidents and raise awareness among the public on how to file complaints (Belgium);

6.185. Intensify efforts to prevent violence against women, particularly domestic one and sexual violence in workplace (Montenegro);

6.186. Continue enforcing legislation to combat domestic violence and extend rehabilitation services for the victims (Nepal);

6.187. Take further steps to ensure the full implementation of its law on the prevention of domestic violence (Philippines);

6.188. Establish special procedures to investigate cases of domestic and sexual violence (Honduras);

6.189. Work to prevent and address gender-based violence and domestic violence, including by building upon existing legislation to effectively protect survivors and prosecute perpetrators of all forms of violence against women, offering appropriate support services to survivors, and providing gender-sensitive training to law enforcement personnel (Australia);

6.190. Ensure the availability of shelter and services for survivors of domestic violence (Austria);

6.191. Strengthen efforts in curbing domestic violence and violence against women (Indonesia);

6.192. Strengthen efforts to curb all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, in law and practice, including by ratifying the

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Brazil);

6.193 **Ensure that all cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated and that victims have access to medical, social, legal and other support services (Estonia);**

6.194 **Continue its procedures for protecting the rights of the child, especially children facing difficult living situations (Kuwait);**

6.195 **Continue to allocate adequate budget for the programs related to children to further develop the system of protection of children's rights (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

6.196 **Continue efforts to promote children's rights (Lebanon);**

6.197 **Take further steps in the promotion of the rights of the child and the elimination of discrimination against women (Bahrain);**

6.198 **Adopt legislative measures necessary to prohibit all forms of violence against children (Estonia);**

6.199 **Provide full support to the institution of the family (Russian Federation);**

6.200 **Continue efforts, in partnership with UNICEF and local NGOs, to address abandonment of children born with health issues and disabilities at the level of maternity hospitals (Bulgaria);**

6.201 **Develop an oversight mechanism to monitor the situation of children placed in residential institutions, foster families or under guardianship or trusteeship (Croatia);**

6.202 **Adopt programs that would help the promotion of rights of families and children (Iraq);**

6.203 **Continue efforts to end online and offline child sexual exploitation and abuse (Greece);**

6.204 **Continue to enhance its programs on combating online child sexual exploitation and abuse (Philippines);**

6.205 **Take urgent measures to strengthen the protection of children from violence and sexual exploitation (Togo);**

6.206 **Intensify measures to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse, in accordance with the Lanzarote Convention, and consider its ratification (Uruguay);**

6.207 **Abolish the solitary confinement of juveniles as a disciplinary measure, both in law and in practice (Portugal);**

6.208 **Continue efforts to improve juvenile justice (Tunisia);**

6.209 **Consider putting in place an effective, functional and specialized juvenile justice system, in compliance with international standards (Albania);**

6.210 **Take measures to improve accessibility to persons with disabilities of government buildings as well as major cultural and recreational venues (Israel);**

6.211 **Take measures to remove all barriers preventing people with disabilities to a full participation into society, with a special attention to children with disabilities (Italy);**

- 6.212 Further empower persons with disabilities through improving their employment opportunities and access to public buildings, including those providing health-care, educational and social welfare services (Japan);
- 6.213 Continue to take measures in implementing its comprehensive plan for 2017–2021 on Social Inclusion of persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.214 Continue efforts to promote rights of persons with special needs (Lebanon);
- 6.215 Develop and implement a comprehensive education strategy to promote inclusive education in both urban and rural areas of the country (Maldives);
- 6.216 Ensure family support programs, and access of children with disabilities to schools, health-care services and rehabilitation centres (Montenegro);
- 6.217 Continue its ongoing efforts in implementing new and equal approaches to ensure the rights of persons with disabilities and promote their inclusiveness (Myanmar);
- 6.218 Introduce policies and programs raising awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities, aiming at growing their participation in the open labour market and to remove obstacles in physical accessibility and access to information and communication (Poland);
- 6.219 Ensure efficiency and adequacy of complaint systems concerning the work of institutions that provide treatment or care for persons with disabilities (Poland);
- 6.220 Raise awareness of the key provisions of laws on disability issues, once enacted, among all relevant stakeholders to ensure its effective implementation (Singapore);
- 6.221 Adopt a law to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, reduce institutionalization of children with disabilities by preferring family care and community-based services (Spain);
- 6.222 Proceed to strengthen the legislation to ensure better protection of orphans and children with disabilities (Togo);
- 6.223 Continue to deepen human rights policies to benefit women and persons with disabilities (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.224 Accelerate the drafting of those laws which further promote and protect the human rights of persons with disabilities (Viet Nam);
- 6.225 Adopt comprehensive legal and administrative measures aimed at combating discrimination against persons with disabilities and guarantee full access to health, education and employment (Argentina);
- 6.226 Consider developing a comprehensive policy to combat discrimination against persons with disabilities and promote their access to public services, public facilities and the labour market (Brazil);
- 6.227 Take further measures to provide early warning and care options for children with various types of disabilities in an inclusive setting (Bulgaria);

- 6.228 Promote employment policies and programmes for people with disabilities, complementing them with the use of quotas to allow their effective participation in the labour market (Chile);
- 6.229 Continue advancing in the effective implementation of the 2017–2021 Comprehensive Plan for Social Inclusion for People with Disabilities, in order to guarantee the inclusion and promotion of the rights of these people in all areas (Cuba);
- 6.230 Continue the efforts to exercise the rights of persons with disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.231 Continue to implement policies to support the integration of all persons with disabilities into society, as well as their active participation in the life of the community, and allocate sufficient resources to this end (Djibouti);
- 6.232 Continue adopting measures to ensure that people with disabilities enjoy the full right to education, health, housing and employment (Ecuador);
- 6.233 Enhance the efforts to protect and guarantee the rights of persons belonging to minorities, including ethnic and religious minorities (Italy);
- 6.234 Continue to take measures of affirmative actions for political representation of minorities (Nepal);
- 6.235 Adopt the law on national minorities and take further steps to achieve greater representation of minorities in public and political life (Republic of Moldova);
- 6.236 Take all steps necessary to facilitate access by minorities to justice (Timor-Leste);
- 6.237 Prohibit and punish the detention of migrant children who have entered the country irregularly (Mexico);
- 6.238 Take further measures in the promotion and protection of the rights of migrants, including through considering the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as collaboration with the sending countries (Indonesia);
- 6.239 Design and adopt legislation with regard to stateless persons to register them and to provide them with identity documents (Togo);
- 6.240 Carry out prompt, independent and just investigations into attacks on human rights defenders in order to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice (Norway);
- 6.241 End the culture of impunity for attacks against human rights defenders by carrying out prompt, impartial and effective investigations and prosecutions of threats and violence against them (Australia);
- 6.242 Ensure immediate and effective investigation of all threats and attacks against human rights defenders (Austria);
- 6.243 Carry out an independent, prompt, effective and impartial investigation into attacks on human rights defenders to avoid a potential feeling of impunity among perpetrators of such attacks (Belgium);
- 6.244 Adopt specific laws that will prohibit hate speech and take concrete steps to end smear campaigns and threats against human rights defenders (Canada);

6.245 Support human rights defenders with official condemnation of attacks when they occur (Estonia);

6.246 Take measures to protect human rights defenders and civil society from harassment (Sweden).

7. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below have been examined by Armenia and have been noted by Armenia:

7.1 Reverse ethnic cleansing of 350,000 Azerbaijanis from Armenia by ensuring their return to places of origin and providing compensation for violations of their rights (Azerbaijan);

7.2 Tackle ethnic and racial intolerance and hate speech against Azerbaijanis at all levels in Armenia (Azerbaijan);

7.3 Take measures to reverse glorification of Nazi collaborators, convicted international terrorists and war criminals in Armenia, responsible for committing war crimes and crimes against humanity (Azerbaijan);

7.4 Stop violations of the right to property, freedom of movement and other human rights of ethnic Azerbaijanis expelled from Armenia (Azerbaijan);

7.5 Uphold its obligations under international law and allow return of the Azerbaijani internally displaced persons to their places of origin in the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan (Turkey);

7.6 Ensure respect for the rights of Azerbaijani refugees and IDPs expelled from Armenia and the occupied territories of Azerbaijan to return to their places of origin in safety and dignity, and provide necessary compensation for violations of their rights (Turkey).

8. Armenia rejects the above 6 recommendations because it considers that they (a) are in violation of the main principles and objectives of the HRC Resolution 5/1 and particularly para 3(g) on UPR conduct in non-confrontational and non-politicized manner; (b) misinterpret the realities on the ground, as well as the essence, causes and settlement process of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict where the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship is the only internationally agreed format of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict resolution. Additionally, Armenia states that Azerbaijan repeatedly (a) rejected any cooperation with Armenia within the framework of UPR in violation of the HRC resolution 5/1, paras 3(b) and 27, as well as (b) provided fabricated allegations and has been resorting to and encouraging bellicose rhetoric and hate propaganda against the Armenians on the state level.

9. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Armenia was headed by H.E. Mr. Artak Apitonian, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan, Permanent Representative of Armenia to UNOG;
 - Ms. Zhanna Andreatsyan, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Armenia;
 - Ms. Kristinne Grigoryan, Deputy Minister of Justice of Armenia;
 - Mr. David Melkonyan, Deputy Prosecutor General of Armenia;
 - Mr. Armen Ghukasyan, Head of the Police Headquarters of Armenia;
 - Mr. Tigran Mukuchyan, Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of Armenia;
 - Mr. Armen Ghazaryan, Head of the Migration Service of Armenia;
 - Ms. Karine Sujayan, Head of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia;
 - Mr. Robert Stepanyan, Head of the Development Projects and Monitoring Department of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Armenia;
 - Ms. Anna Mkrtumyan, Head of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Health of Armenia;
 - Mr. Nairi Petrossian, Deputy Permanent Representative of Armenia to UNOG;
 - Ms. Lusine Hakobyan, Head of the Division of Cooperation with monitoring Bodies of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia;
 - Mr. Arsen Kotanjyan, Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to UNOG;
 - Ms. Armine Petrosyan, Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Armenia to UNOG;
 - Mr. Pertch Boshnaghyan, Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Armenia to UNOG.
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