

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

FINLAND

Addendum

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

25 August 2017

1. The Government of Finland welcomes the recommendations made during its universal periodic review on 3 May 2017 and is pleased to provide the following responses, to be included in the outcome report.

93.1 NOTED

93.1. Withdraw its reservation on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (South Africa, Portugal);

2. Reservation in Articles 10(2)(b) and 10(3) of the Covenant; although juvenile offenders are, as a rule, segregated from adults in Finland, it is not deemed appropriate to adopt an absolute prohibition not allowing for more flexible arrangements. The number of prisoners under 18 years of age is extremely low in Finland.

3. Reservation in Article 14(7) permits Finland to continue national legal practice whereby a criminal conviction may be reversed to the detriment of the accused person on conditions laid down by law. This is applied very rarely due to efficient criminal investigation system. However, such possibility may be necessary in some cases, especially for guaranteeing legal protection for victims of offences. Therefore Finland still deems the reservation necessary, although the application thereof will continue to be exceptional.

4. Reservation in Article 20(1) prohibiting war propaganda is based on the grounds that this obligation conflicts with the right to freedom of expression defined in Article 19.

5. Necessity of these reservations and the possibility of withdrawing them are reviewed periodically.

93.2–6 NOTED

93.2. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines, Egypt, Honduras);

93.3. Promptly ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples No. 169 of the ILO (Guatemala);

93.4. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Mozambique, Chile);

93.5. Consider ways forward for the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);

93.6. Continue to consider acceding to the Convention of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families and recognize the competence of its committee (Uruguay);

6. Conditions for ratifying ICMW were assessed in 1992, 2004 and 2011. The Government concluded that ratification is not expedient. Its position remains the same.

7. Government will decide later this year whether it will further the ratification of ILO Convention No. 169.

93.7–11 ACCEPTED

93.7. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, recognising in full the competence of the associated Committee (Portugal);

93.8. Speed up the process of accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Mozambique);

93.9. Continue with its efforts to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);

93.10. Ratify the Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances (Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Montenegro, Italy);

93.11. Finalise efforts aimed at acceding to the ICPPED and thus the full recognition of the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (Ukraine);

8. Government is preparing the ratification of ICPED.

93.12 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.12. According to the compromise acquired after the UPR of 2012, ratify the International Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances; ILO Convention n° 169 on the indigenous and tribal people; and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

9. See comments under 93.2 – 6, 93.7 – 11, 93.14 and 93.16.

93.13 ACCEPTED

93.13. Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity (Armenia);

10. Finland is a party to the Rome Statute.

93.14 and 93.16 NOTED

93.14. Ratify International Labour Organization Convention No.169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Mexico);

93.16. Consider ratifying International Labour Organization Convention No.169 (Peru);

11. See comments under 93.2-6.

93.15 ACCEPTED

93.15. Engage the Sami people in the ratification process of ILO Convention No 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Norway);

12. Government has enabled the participation of Sámi in the ratification process of ILO Convention No.169. See also comments under 93.14 and 93.16.

93.17 ACCEPTED

93.17. Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Bodies elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

13. Government uses a merit-based selection process and strives for more openness in this regard.

93.18 ACCEPTED

93.18. Continue its efforts in the implementation of accepted recommendations from the second cycle and consider sharing good practices in that regard (Ireland);

14. The National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) and the Government Network of Contact Persons for Fundamental and Human Rights monitor and assess the implementation of human rights obligations and commitments.

15. Government's National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights (NAPFHR) for 2017-2019 aims at improving the realisation of fundamental and human rights.

93.19 ACCEPTED

93.19. Continue its efforts to further improve its relevant legal and administrative frameworks and policies, in conformity with its international commitments (Hungary);

16. NAPFHR promotes public authorities' constitutional obligation to guarantee the observance of fundamental rights and liberties and human rights. Measures under NAPFHR are designed to address identified problems involving human rights.

17. See also comments under 93.18.

93.20–24 ACCEPTED

93.20. Consider defining rape as a sexual violation in the Penal Code irrespective of the degree of violence used or threatened by the perpetrator (Namibia);

93.21. Amend the Criminal Code to no longer define rape according to the degree of violence used by the perpetrator but rather on the lack of consent of the victim (Portugal);

93.22. Penal Code reform to define rape as a sexual violation, irrespective of the degree of violence used or threatened by the perpetrator (Australia);

93.23. Continue strengthening national laws on offences related to violence against women and girls (Botswana);

93.24. Amend the appropriate legislation in order to endure that the definition of rape covers all cases of non-consensual sexual acts (Brazil);

18. Legislation already fulfils the recommendations. Rape is defined as a sex offence in Chapter 20 of the Penal Code. According to this thoroughly revised Chapter also acts performed without consent meet the criteria of rape.

93.25 ACCEPTED

93.25. Provide its existing and new national institutions and bodies for the advancement of women and gender equality with adequate human technical and budgetary resources (Timor-Leste);

19. The Gender Equality Unit coordinates Government's equality policy. A parliamentary Council for Gender equality operates in conjunction with it. Both have appropriate resources.

20. The Ombudsman for Equality and the National Non-Discrimination and Equality Tribunal have appropriate resources which are assessed in annual State budgets.

93.26 ACCEPTED

93.26. Establish a national institution for the advancement of women in accordance with the provisions of the Beijing Platform for Action (Honduras);

21. See comments under 93.25. Existing institutions form a functioning whole in accordance with the Beijing Platform for Action.

93.27 ACCEPTED

93.27. Further strengthen its national human rights institutions especially in the form of greater resource allocation (Pakistan);

22. Resources are assessed in annual State budgets.

93.28 ACCEPTED

93.28. Provide the National Human Rights Institution with sufficient resources to carry out its mandate effectively and independently, including the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights (Guatemala);

23. NHRI is independent and autonomous. Its appropriations are granted by and included in Parliament's operating expenses within the state budget. NRHI's resources are adequate. Greater resources cannot be guaranteed.

93.29 ACCEPTED

93.29. Ensure that the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman has the necessary information and resources to make decisions related to mandatory deportations, and can ensure that these are carried out respecting the rights of those concerned (Mexico);

24. Necessary information and resources have been given, including mandatory deportation tasks. Resources are assessed in annual state budgets.

93.30 ACCEPTED

93.30. Further assist the efforts carried out by the new Non-Discrimination Ombudsman in providing legal protection and remedies against all forms of discrimination (Indonesia);

25. Government cooperates with the Non-Discrimination Ombudsman in various ways to efficiently promote and raise awareness of equality, while recognizing the Ombudsman's independent and autonomous role.

93.31–32 ACCEPTED

93.31. Continue allocating adequate financial and human resources to effectively implement its national action plan on human rights (Philippines);

93.32. Mobilize adequate resources to complete its Second National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights (Canada);

26. Each Ministry has reserved adequate financial and human resources for implementing NAPFHR. The Ministry of Justice coordinates the monitoring of the implementation.

93.33-34 ACCEPTED

93.33. Sustain and create new platforms for human rights education (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

93.34. Provide sufficient resources to continue with systematic human rights education and training of teachers at all levels of national education (Slovenia);

27. Education is one of the main areas in NAPFHR, and it is implemented accordingly.

28. Recommendations for developing education on democracy and human rights in teacher training were published in 2014 and implemented in 2016.

29. Supplementary training in vocational and general teacher education is conducted in cooperation with civil society.

30. New national core curricula for basic and general upper secondary education were adopted in 2016. Respect for human rights is part of general education. The core curriculum was outlined by multidisciplinary working groups supported by online consultation groups, various non-profit organisations' opinions and other feedback. This process can be seen as best-practice for many countries.

31. The Action Plan to prevent hate speech and racism and to promote social inclusion and dialogue between religions was launched in 2016.

93.35 ACCEPTED

93.35. Strengthen and enhance existing laws countering different forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia (Lebanon);

32. Legislation already fulfils the recommendations. Finland has comprehensive criminal laws against hate crime and hate speech and legislation against discrimination. Legislation has been made stricter, for example, by passing a separate penal provision on aggravated ethnic agitation and by intensifying regulation concerning harsher penalties.

33. The implementation of these laws is enhanced through developing national monitoring of discrimination, methods for equality planning and assessment, educating key groups and developing a policy of good relations between population groups.

93.36–37 ACCEPTED

93.36. Enhance efforts aimed at the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance by adopting a long-term systematic response to these scourges (South Africa);

93.37. Continue its efforts to combat all forms of discrimination and promote equality (Azerbaijan);

34. NAPFHR includes equality and measures are taken to address hate crime and hate speech.

35. Act on Equality between Women and Men aims to prevent gender based discrimination, promote equality and improve women's position especially in working life.

36. Government's Action Plan for Gender Equality 2016–2019 is instrument for coordinating gender equality policy. It collates objectives and measures by which Government promotes equality.

93.38–43 ACCEPTED

93.38. Continue its efforts and improve its legal and institutional frameworks for protection against discrimination by ensuring the same level of protection for all grounds of discrimination (State of Palestine);

93.39. Consider to improve its legal and institutional frameworks for protection against discrimination by ensuring the same level of protection for all grounds of discrimination (Albania);

93.40. Step up efforts to improve its legal and institutional frameworks for protection against discrimination (Bulgaria);

93.41. Make further efforts to ensure equal protection from discrimination (Hungary);

93.42. Adopt a long-term and comprehensive framework to tackle discrimination, racism and xenophobia, focusing both on prevention and on combating human rights violations (Brazil);

93.43. Improve access to effective legal remedies for victims of discrimination (Slovenia);

37. Renewed Non-discrimination Act and Act on Equality protect against direct and indirect discrimination on all grounds. Compliance is supervised.

38. Government increases awareness and monitors accessibility of existence of legal remedies in discrimination cases.

39. See also comments under 93.36–37.

93.44–45 ACCEPTED

93.44. Ensure implementation of comprehensive legislative reform that guaranteed same level of protection for all grounds of discrimination, in particular discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity (Montenegro);

93.45. Continue its efforts in the field of combating and eliminating discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, inter alia, by implementing comprehensive legislative reform that guarantees equal protection from discrimination on all grounds (Albania);

40. Since 2015, Act on Equality prohibits discrimination based on gender identity and expression. Non-discrimination Act covers discrimination based on sexual orientation. Gender diversity is included in equality planning. See also comments under 93.38–43.

93.46 –49, 51–53 NOTED

93.46. Eliminate, in the case of transsexuals, the requirement of sterilization, medical treatments and mental health diagnoses, in order to complete the process of legal recognition of gender identity (Mexico);

93.47. Amend the current Act on Legal Recognition of the Gender of Transsexuals by abolishing the need for sterilization or infertility as requirement for a person’s legal recognition of their gender identity (Netherlands);

93.48. Eliminate sterilisation as a necessary criterion for the recognition of gender of transgender persons (Portugal);

93.49. Remove the current norm for mandatory sterility to officially register the gender reassignment (Spain);

93.51. Legislative reform to remove the requirement of infertility or sterilisation as a condition for the legal recognition of gender reassignment (Australia);

93.52. Remove the requirement of infertility or sterilisation before an individual may change their gender on legal documents (Canada);

93.53. Amend its laws to remove the requirement for sterilisation or infertility before recognition of the gender of transsexual persons and further, to consider moving to a process allowing persons to self-declare their gender identity (Ireland);

41. The issue has been discussed and a working group was set up to evaluate the legislation and propose any necessary amendments. However, at this stage, Government has not agreed on presenting the issue to Parliament.

93.50 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.50. Revise the Trans Act by abolishing the need for sterilization, other medical treatment, and a mental health diagnosis, as requirements for a person’s legal recognition of their gender identity and ensure that medical procedures performed on intersex infants and children take into account the best interest of the child (Sweden);

42. The National Advisory Board on Social Welfare and Health Care Ethics (ETENE) has statutory task of discussing and giving recommendations on ethical issues concerning social welfare and healthcare. In 2016, ETENE gave position statement according to which a child has the right to define his/her own gender. The issue is being discussed with actors treating intersex individuals.

43. See also comments under 93.46–49.

93.54–58 ACCEPTED

93.54. Strengthen prevention and awareness raising programmes to address xenophobia and violent extremism at the national and sub-regional levels (Philippines);

93.55. Take measures against xenophobia and Islamophobia. Improve the implementation of the existing legal framework for combating racism (Turkey);

93.56. Take further steps to eliminate discrimination, racism and xenophobia in the country (Uzbekistan);

93.57. Continue strengthening measures against racism, xenophobia and islamophobia, as well as the migrants' discrimination (Chile);

93.58. Further combat racial discrimination and xenophobia, and effectively reducing the number of cases of hate crime (China);

44. Government continues to develop policy of good population relations and supports implementation of non-discrimination legislation. See also comments under 93.35–37.

45. NPFHR addresses hate crime and hate speech.

46. The Second National Action Plan for Prevention of Violent Radicalisation and Extremism was drawn up and is implemented in broad-based cooperation with authorities, organisations and communities which have agreed on local measures to increase inclusion and safety among immigrant population.

47. Government cooperates regularly with religious and ethnic communities to gain information about issues increasing insecurity.

48. Police has been given more resources to combat hate speech and crime and to solve crimes, particular focus on Internet.

93.59 NOTED

93.59. Take effective and rapid steps through the enactment of legislation to combat hate speech, Islamophobia, and aggressive racist acts, which are increasingly prevalent in society, and ensure to address their effects in the long term. (Egypt);

49. Government will prepare a report on needs to improve efficiency in revealing and investigating hate crime. See also comments under 93.35–37.

93.60–64, 93.66–72 ACCEPTED

93.60. Consider improving the implementation of the legal framework for combating racism (Namibia);

93.61. Adopt appropriate legislative and policy measures to adjust its legal system and combat and eradicate all forms of discrimination, racism and xenophobia (Honduras);

93.62. Continue to introduce effective measures to combat all forms of discrimination, hate speech and hate crime, both online and offline, and ensure that such crimes are effectively investigated (Estonia);

93.63. Enhance efforts to curb hate crimes against certain religious communities, ethnic groups and other minorities including indigenous people (India);

93.64. Strengthen measures to prevent hate speech and harassments towards minority groups and persons with disabilities, in line with the National Action Plan for the Prevention of Violent Radicalization and Extremism (Indonesia);

93.66. Intensify efforts to prevent and combat the discrimination against persons with immigration backgrounds (Turkey);

93.67. Continue to reinforce the measures of fight against xenophobia, racism and intolerance regarding to migrants and asylum seekers (Angola);

93.68. Strengthen measures aimed to fight against discrimination, racism and xenophobia in the country, especially on migrants and asylum seekers (Côte d'Ivoire);

93.69. Strengthen efforts to restrict the outbreaks of racism and xenophobia, especially the manifestations of racism on the Internet (Italy);

93.70. Strengthen fight against xenophobia in social networks and internet (Algeria);

93.71. Take more effective measures in order to fight even to eradicate crimes and hate messages against minorities, insisting on prevention and following-up these acts (Côte d'Ivoire);

93.72. Prevent hate speech on the internet and intensify the combat against hate crime through the implementation of the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights and other measures (Cuba);

50. See comments under 93.38-43.

51. Government develops monitoring of hate crimes by adopting equality and discrimination indicators.

52. NAPFHR coordinates national dialogue to implement code of conduct by the EU-Commission and certain IT firms. Also the Action Plan for combatting and coordination of hate speech and -crimes is developed with monitoring and shadow reporting system.

53. Centralised operation is established for investigating, preventing and combatting suspected hate crimes on Internet. The Police University College started special course for hate crime trainers at police departments.

93.65 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.65. Ensure that the law enforcement, security and judicial authorities have the necessary knowledge and skills to address hate crimes against immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees by providing mandatory training and guidelines, and to amend laws specific to hate crime and hate speech (Islamic Republic of Iran);

54. Training for judicial authorities will be organized in autumn 2017. Regarding legislative amendments see comments under 93.59.

93.73 NOTED

93.73. Take an effective stand against hate speech and aggressive attitudes that are becoming increasingly mainstream (Islamic Republic of Iran);

55. Authorities have zero tolerance for racism and hate speech. Virtual police officers work to prevent hate speech and attitudes spreading hatred in advance. See also comments under 93.54–58.

93.74 NOTED

93.74. 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);

56. Government follows up the issue as part of the implementation of the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights on a regular basis.

93.75 ACCEPTED

93.75. Consider including in its next UPR report, information on measures it has taken to analyse potential risk factors of atrocity crimes including through utilisation of the Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes (Rwanda);

57. Government follows risk factors of atrocity crimes.

93.76 ACCEPTED

93.76. Increase state funding for shelter services for victims of violence and especially minorities and vulnerable groups (Islamic Republic of Iran);

58. National shelter services are secured by law and State-financed.

59. Minorities and vulnerable groups are taken into account in all shelter services.

93.77–83 ACCEPTED

93.77. Develop a comprehensive and coordinated program to fight human trafficking, adopt effective measures to prevent and eradicate human trafficking and organize specialised training for law enforcement and immigration officials and other state officials who enter into contact with victims of human trafficking on issues relating to the identification of victims, the conduct of investigations, the criminal prosecutions and punishment of perpetrators (Russian Federation);

93.78. Continue efforts to combat trafficking in human beings and take effective measures to prevent and eradicate human trafficking and adopt procedures for the determination of the best interests of child victims of trafficking (Turkey);

93.79. Develop clear guidelines on how to identify and protect victims of trafficking in persons (United States of America);

93.80. Effectively monitor and evaluate the 2016-2017 National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and an update in a subsequent UPR report (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

93.81. Ensure the full implementation of the national action plan on human rights trafficking as a means to ensuring the promotion and protection of victims of trafficking (Botswana);

93.82. Continue strengthening measures of fight against domestic violence and human trafficking, including the increase of the number and geographic coverage of reception of the centres for families and victims (Chile);

93.83. Seek to adopt procedures for the determination of the best interests of child victims of trafficking and children of victims, including in view of strengthening the identification of victims of trafficking, especially women and children (Bulgaria);

60. Government's Action Plan against Human Trafficking 2016-2017 (GAPHT) covers all segments of work against human trafficking including efficient training.

61. GAPHT takes account of children's rights and best interest, particularly vulnerable situation of child victims and children of adult victims. National coordination promotes wide spectrum of measures to prevent, identify, help and protect child victims, and to investigate/prosecute human trafficking offences.

62. GAPHT includes special measures for more efficient identification and assistance of victims of human trafficking and for monitoring and developing effectiveness of legislation.

63. Victims of human trafficking are accommodated in reception centers, rented premises or safe houses, or in supported housing according to the victim's situation.

93.84 NOTED

93.84. Release prisoners detained as conscientious objectors to military service and ensure that civilian alternatives to military service are not punitive or discriminatory and remain under civilian control (Uruguay);

64. The aim in preparing legislation is to ensure that various service alternatives are as equal as possible. Non-military service authorities will continue to develop the system in cooperation with various authorities.

93.85 ACCEPTED

93.85. Continue efforts to guarantee the representation in political and public life of women belonging to disadvantaged groups like women with disabilities, ethnic minorities, Roma people and migrants (Colombia);

65. Government's Action Plan on Democracy Policy promotes equal participation and improves minorities and immigrants possibilities to participate in society.

66. Government actively promotes Roma women's social participation and development of political representation.

67. Finland strives to comply with Article 4 (3) of CRPD as concerns their involvement, including women with disabilities.

93.86 NOTED

93.86. Provide protection for the family as a natural and basic unit of society (Egypt);

68. Government supports diverse families.

93.87 ACCEPTED

93.87. Continue with its structural reforms in the social welfare and health care with a focus on protecting the rights of women, children and vulnerable groups (Pakistan);

69. Children's rights are at core of the Government programme in reforming child and family services. It focuses on better identification of particularly vulnerable groups and early and timely support.

93.88 ACCEPTED

93.88. Redouble its efforts to implement the principle of equal pay for work or equal value, including through the further development of the Equal Pay Programme (South Africa);

70. The Equal Pay Programme 2016–2019 aims to narrow average gender pay gap and implement principle of equal pay for equal work and work of equal value.

93.89 NOTED

93.89. Eliminate the persistent wage gap for labour between women and men by eliminating the significant segregation amongst the genders on the labour market (Russian Federation);

71. Gender pay gap is tackled e.g. through contract policy, workplace equality planning and combatting segregation.

93.90–92 ACCEPTED

93.90. Continue to narrow wage disparities between men and women in line with the country's Equal Pay Programme for 2016-2019 (Sri Lanka);

93.91. Effectively provide for the application of laws prohibiting wage discrimination for equal work between men and women (Uzbekistan);

93.92. Adopt suitable legislation for the combat and the punishment of discrimination for pregnancy and family licence in the labour market, where reparation for victims will be established (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

72. Act on Equality prohibits wage discrimination and direct and indirect discrimination based on gender, pregnancy or family leave. The Ombudsman for Equality monitors the Act. Victims may claim compensation at a district court. See also comments under 93.88.

93.93 NOTED

93.93. Take further measures to address discrimination of non-native Finnish citizens in the area of employment, particularly in reducing the wage gap between immigrants and native Finns (Serbia);

73. Current legislation provides sufficient protection from discrimination.

93.94 ACCEPTED

93.94. Undertake efforts to strengthen the education system through the provision of mandatory training on human rights education (Maldives);

74. See comments under 93.19 and 93.33–34.

93.95 ACCEPTED

93.95. Continue the action aimed for the promotion of gender equality in all public and private activities (Angola);

75. See comments under 93.36-37.

93.96 ACCEPTED

93.96. Continue to enhance protection and rights of women and children (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

76. See comments under 93.87.

77. Need to support children with disabilities and their families is taken into account in legislation and in the Government Integration Programme.

93.97 ACCEPTED

93.97. Lead campaigns of public awareness in the media to fight against drugs consume, abusive consume of alcohol and suicide, between young women and girls (Algeria);

78. Information on intoxicants is distributed on internet and social media. General and targeted information is provided in schools/ youth work/ organisations.

93.98–99 ACCEPTED

93.98. Exert more efforts aiming at the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, particularly in the labour market (Libya);

93.99. Continue the work accomplished to prevent gender-based discrimination, promote equality between women and men and thus improve women's condition, particularly in working life (Cuba);

79. See comments under 93.36-37, 93.77-83 and 93.90-92.

93.100–108, 93.112–113, 93.115–117, 93.119-123 ACCEPTED

93.100. Continue its good efforts to address violence against women (Lithuania);

93.101. Ensure proper implementation of policies directed towards combating violence against women, including the recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women regarding sexual violence (Republic of Moldova);

93.102. Establish a specific action plan to combat gender-based violence with a special system of prevention for this type of violence and also broaden the network of assistance for victims of sexual violence or gender-based violence (Spain);

93.103. Promote gender equality and further combat violence against women (China);

93.104. Undertake further measures aimed at eradicating violence against women (Georgia);

93.105. Ensure the implementation of measures aimed at combatting violence against women (Iceland);

93.106. Strengthen efforts to prevent violence against women. (Iraq);

93.107. Continue its efforts in eliminating discrimination and preventing violence against women and children as well as undertaking further measures, with a longer-term strategy, aimed at protecting women's rights (Iceland);

93.108. Prepare a national plan with allocated targets to combat violence and discrimination against women and provide access and financial aid to support services, and strengthen cooperation between different government agencies (Islamic Republic of Iran);

93.112. Consolidate support services for women victims of violence (Republic of Moldova);

93.113. Provide adequate support services to protect victims of domestic and sexual violence (Turkey);

93.115. Implement the “Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence” in order to provide improved protection and assistance to women and children that have become victims of violence (Germany);

93.116. Strengthen the measures to combat violence against women as well as support victims and survivors of such violence (India);

93.117. Further continue its efforts to combat domestic violence and intensify the implementation of the Government Action Plan for Gender Equality (Mongolia);

93.119. Provide further support assistance services to better protect victims of domestic violence (Sierra Leone);

93.120. Establish a national action plan to address domestic and family violence (Australia);

93.121. Establish a national coordination unit and provide adequate resources and other support for the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Canada);

93.122. Take further measures to address violence against women, including domestic and sexual violence, especially in the field of prevention (Estonia);

93.123. Take all the necessary measures to put an end to violence committed against women and children (Libya);

80. Finland has ratified the Istanbul Convention. A Committee, required by the Convention is preparing an implementation plan.

81. Guidelines are published on uniform care for sexual crime victims. Pilot project provides acute medical and forensic examinations, psychosocial support and referral to further care.

82. State-funded 24/7 helpline for victims of domestic violence has been established.

83. Cooperation model between different authorities has been developed to protect children from violence.

84. NGOs play a big role in combatting violence against women.

85. See also comments under 93.36-37, 93.76, 93.77-83 and 93.90-92.

93.109 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.109. Increase its funding to actors engaged in combatting violence and sexual abuse of women (Sweden);

86. Efforts to increase funding include crime victim fees collected from offenders to support on-call services for crime victims. An additional appropriation was granted in 2017 to spread information and improve services, especially for victims in vulnerable situations. To increase the number of shelters and ensure their functioning, Government has decided to increase funding for shelters so that it will be 19.55 million euros in 2019.

93.110–111 NOTED

93.110. Implement new measures to ensure victims of rape seek redress and modify the law to ensure the penalties for rape are more severe (Sierra Leone);

93.111. Carry out a review of criteria for prosecuting cases of rape and sexual assault, to ensure that lack of consent, not only the use of force, is given adequate consideration when bringing cases for prosecution (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

87. Following the amendment of criminal legislation on rape in 2014, the penal scale was toughened.

93.114 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.114. Continue its efforts to implement the Istanbul Convention by ensuring that it has a sufficient budget, increase the number of shelters for women and children victims of violence, strengthen penalties for rape, improve the training of professionals for a better reception of victims, better processing of their complaints (France);

88. See comments under 93.7-11, 93.20-24, 93.76, 93.77-83, 93.100-108, 93.109.

93.118 PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

93.118. Allocate sufficient resources in order to ensure full implementation of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Netherlands);

89. See comments under 93.82, 93.100-109.

93.124-25 ACCEPTED

93.124. Reinforce the measures to protect the rights of child (Georgia);

93.125. Provide training on the rights of the child to public officials and civil servants (Timor-Leste);

90. See comments under 93. 87, 93.96 and 93.100-108.

93.126–127, 93.129 ACCEPTED

93.126. Bring its legislation on the right of children during the asylum procedure in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (France);

93.127. Establish additional standards to guarantee the swift and appropriate appointment of guardians to unaccompanied minors (Portugal);

91. Aliens Act requires special attention to be paid to child's best interest and circumstances related to child's development and health when deciding on children under 18 years. Child over 12 years must be heard.

92. A representative must be designated without a delay to a minor without a guardian and a child seeking for international/temporary protection.

93. Family members permit proceedings have been simplified in several ways.

93.128 ACCEPTED

93.128. In cases when the Finnish authorities decide that the separation of children from their natural family is necessary for the best interests of the child, that this measure be adopted according to a decision taken by a judicial authority, as requested by the provisions of the article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Romania);

94. Child's emergency placement is based on a decision by social welfare authorities, appealable to administrative court. The Administrative Court decides on taking child into care.

93.130 NOTED

93.130. Provide training in the area of the rights of the child for state officials and civil servants at all levels, in particular to prevent cases of the unjustified removal of children from their families (Russian Federation);

95. Training on rights of the child is being provided – in future also as decided by the Judicial Training Board – and within the resources allocated.

93.131 ACCEPTED

93.131. Ensure full implementation of laws prohibiting corporal punishment in all settings, including through campaigns to raise awareness among adults and children, as well as the promotion of positive and non-violent forms of discipline that do not affect the upbringing of children (Uruguay);

96. The Action Plan to prevent corporal punishment which aimed to raise awareness is implemented. Further actions will be included, *inter alia*, in the Action Plan for injury prevention among children/youth.

93.132 ACCEPTED

93.132. Review national laws to prohibit the detention of minors (Portugal);

97. Detention legislation was amended in 2017 and sets strict and detailed conditions for detention of unaccompanied minors which is exceptional.

98. Instead of prohibiting detention, effort is made to reduce the detention of children.

93.133–134 NOTED

93.133. Adopt measures to hold juvenile and adult offenders separately (Russian Federation);

93.134. Take measures to separate young detainees from adults in all places of detention (Algeria);

99. The placement of a child – as all activities during his or her imprisonment – must serve the best interests of the child. The over-all wellbeing of young detainees is always assessed and taken care of. See comments under 93.1.

93.135–138 ACCEPTED

93.135. Accompany the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with sufficient funds and concrete indicators through a new National Policy on Disability (VAMPO) that continues VAMPO 2010-2015 (Spain);

93.136. Strengthen antidiscrimination legislation to ensure equal access for persons with disabilities to public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation (United States of America);

93.137. Continue efforts on the promotion of opportunities of productive and paid employment for people with disabilities (Colombia);

93.138. Continue consultations on the rights of people with disabilities with a view to implement non-discriminatory policies and legislations (Maldives);

100. Government has implemented all structures required in CRPD in an inclusive manner.

101. Non-discrimination Act protects against discrimination on the basis of disabilities and requires necessary reasonable adjustments to be made.

93.139–142 ACCEPTED

93.139. Establish and promote culture-sensitive initiatives to provide services for minority groups such as Roma and Sami and for migrants and refugees (Maldives);

93.140. Consider to introduce incentives for better political participation of minorities and immigrants with a view to uphold their integration into society (Serbia);

93.141. Continue with the policies of inclusion of the Roma population (Peru);

93.142. Continue its efforts to prevent discrimination against Roma (Timor-Leste);

102. Non-discrimination Act protects against discrimination on the grounds of origin or other reason related to person.

103. Government promotes diversity and supports language education for minorities. There are projects aimed at developing services for national minorities such as Roma and indigenous Sámi.

104. NGOs play an important role in supplementing the authorities' activities and as cooperation partners. See also comments under 93.35, 93.54-58 and 93.60-64.

93.143 ACCEPTED

93.143. Protect the economic, social and cultural rights of the Sami people from the negative effects that may result from logging and other activities carried out by private agents (Guatemala);

105. According to the Act on Sámi Parliament, authorities negotiate with the Sámi Parliament on all far-reaching and important measures that may, directly and in a specific way, affect the status of Sámi as indigenous people and that concern, for instance, following matters in the Sámi homeland: community planning; management, use, leasing and assignment of state lands, conservation areas/wilderness areas; prospecting for and utilising deposits containing mining minerals; panning for gold in state lands and waters. To fulfil the obligation to negotiate, relevant authorities must reserve the Sámi Parliament an opportunity to be heard and negotiate on the matter.

93.144-153 ACCEPTED

93.144. Strengthen national efforts to protect migrants and refugees. (Iraq);

93.145. Strengthen social integration policies, especially for migrants (Lebanon);

93.146. Strengthen the policies related to receiving and integration of migrants and refugees (Peru);

93.147. Adopt legislation and policy measures to effectively promote and protect human rights for refugees, migrants and rights of ethnic minorities (China);

93.148. Continue its effort to combat discrimination, particularly against migrant workers (Bangladesh);

93.149. Take urgent measures for the investigation and punishment of acts of hate and discrimination towards migrants, refugees and minorities, and to deepen its programmes of awareness to the population in general and to public officials (Argentina);

93.150. Ensure the effective protection of migrants, particularly women migrant workers, against discrimination (Philippines);

93.151. Provide the necessary protection to and preserve the dignity of asylum seekers, ensure their access to legal assistance, facilitate the family reunification procedures for migrants, and provide them with social security (Egypt);

93.152. Evaluate the impact of recent changes made to policies and legislation which seem to restrict the international protection regime for asylum seekers and refugees and ensure that all persons in need of international protection receive fair treatment and that refugees' rights to reunification is respected (Kazakhstan);

93.153. Thoroughly and comprehensively review its legislation regarding the granting of asylum and migration in order to align it with its international obligations and standards (Honduras).

106. NAPFHR includes measures for promoting the rights of refugees and ethnic minorities.

107. Government's Integration Programme for 2016-2019 promotes implementation of integration policy.

108. The number of asylum-seekers rose markedly in 2015. Government responded to the situation by preparing various procedures, operating models and monitoring programme in order to ensure efficient asylum process, sufficient reception capacity, provide integration measures for those granted asylum and to address any shortcomings detected in operations.

109. See also comments under 93.54-58, 93.60-64, 93.65, 93.66-73.

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