



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
5 April 2022

Original: English

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## Human Rights Council

Fiftieth session

13 June–8 July 2022

Agenda item 6

Universal periodic review

## Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\*

### Zimbabwe

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\* 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 fortieth session from 24 January to 11 February 2022. The review of Zimbabwe was held at the 5th meeting, on 26 January 2022. The delegation was headed by the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Ziyambi Ziyambi. At its 10th meeting, held on 28 January 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on Zimbabwe.
2. On 12 January 2022, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Zimbabwe: Armenia, Luxembourg and Namibia.
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 Zimbabwe:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);<sup>2</sup>
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).<sup>3</sup>
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Panama, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Zimbabwe 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 delegation of Zimbabwe noted that a midterm report and the national report contained information on the progress made in implementing the supported recommendations from the previous review.
6. Several regional and international treaties had been ratified. In 2020, the International Treaties Act, which established a uniform procedure for the consideration of international treaties, had been promulgated. Significant progress had been made in aligning legislation with the Constitution, with the process for 176 of the 206 pieces of legislation identified for such alignment having been completed.
7. The Education Act had been amended to incorporate human rights norms on gender, disability, health and equity for children. The National Disability Policy had been launched and mainstreamed disability-related considerations into all laws, policies and programmes. The Persons with Disabilities Bill was undergoing internal law-making processes.
8. In 2018, invitations had been extended to six special procedure mandate holders, three of whom had visited Zimbabwe.
9. In 2018, Vision 2030, a development trajectory, had been launched with the aim of elevating Zimbabwe to an upper-middle-income country by 2030. In line with Vision 2030, powers and responsibilities had been devolved to competent subnational tiers of government. The National Development Strategy I (2021–2025) had been launched to facilitate economic recovery and growth and to create new opportunities for wealth creation, innovation and enterprise development.

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<sup>1</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/ZWE/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/ZWE/2](#).

<sup>3</sup> [A/HRC/WG.6/40/ZWE/3](#).

10. The proportion of the 2022 national budget allocated to the health sector had been increased to 13 per cent. In collaboration with development partners, a water, sanitation and hygiene policy was being implemented with the objective of providing proper sanitation facilities for all by 2030. In 2018, a national programme for vaccinating girls and women against the human papilloma virus had been rolled out across the country to combat cervical cancer.

11. Zimbabwe was emerging from a fourth wave of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Through a countrywide vaccination programme, 7.4 million people had received at least one dose of the vaccine and about 34 per cent of people had been fully vaccinated. A supplementary booster programme was being implemented.

12. The grants-in-aid-of-tuition programme had continued to support the most disadvantaged primary and secondary school learners. In addition, sanitary items were being provided to female learners. Alternative learning platforms had been introduced to facilitate teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

13. In order to enhance the participation of women in politics, the women's quota of 60 seats in the National Assembly had been extended beyond 2023. Furthermore, the Constitution provided for a 30 per cent quota for women in local government. In relation to the participation of youth in politics, at least 10 seats in the National Assembly were reserved for young people.

14. In 2021, the Constitutional Court had been separated from the Supreme Court. Five men and four women justices had been appointed to serve on the Constitutional Court. In addition, courts continued to be decentralized in order to afford every citizen access to justice within a 15-kilometre radius. New courts had been officially opened and commissioned in districts and major high-density areas. Special anti-corruption courts had been established following the launch of the anti-corruption strategy.

15. Conditions at holding and detention facilities continued to improve and an open prison for female offenders had become operational in 2021. Ad hoc and regular prison inspections were being carried out. Prison officers were receiving training on human rights and the rehabilitation of inmates, among other topics.

16. The enactment of the Children's Amendment Bill, the Marriages Bill and the Child Justice Bill, which was at an advanced stage, would strengthen the legislative framework for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, including by criminalizing child marriage. Steps had been taken to protect children online through the establishment of the Zimbabwe Child Online Protection Task Force. The recently promulgated Cyber and Data Protection Act provided for protection facilities and services for children.

17. An agreement had been reached with representatives of former farmers on a global amount to be paid in compensation for improvements made on farms before they had had to be acquired for the purposes of resettlement.

18. The COVID-19 pandemic had affected all sectors of the economy. Lives and jobs had been lost, and food insecurity was widespread as a direct consequence of the pandemic. To mitigate those consequences, monthly vouchers had been introduced to provide basic commodities to vulnerable members of society. A review of all social security benefits was currently being undertaken. Containment measures were being reviewed every fortnight and adjusted on the basis of evidence derived from the daily monitoring of the pandemic.

19. The impact of climate change was becoming increasingly evident. The increase in droughts, cyclones, floods, hailstorms and heatwaves was having a negative impact on economic performance and food security. Crop and livestock assessments were being conducted to ensure equal and fair distribution of food aid to vulnerable households through the Grain Mobilization Programme.

20. In order to meet the ambitious target of achieving a "green economy" by 2030, the Government was working on increasing knowledge about the climate, improving adaptive capacities and reducing the overreliance on climate-sensitive sectors. Climate change adaptation and resilience approaches were being mainstreamed into national policies. A long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategy was being developed.

21. Illegal unilateral coercive measures imposed by some western countries continued to threaten the enjoyment of socioeconomic rights by the people of Zimbabwe. The Government remained hopeful that the report that would be issued by the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights on her visit to Zimbabwe would initiate reflection by those Western countries on whether to continue with the imposition of punitive measures. Zimbabwe remained indebted to the Southern African Development Community for its landmark decision to declare 25 October a day on which its member States would collectively call for the lifting of sanctions.

22. In response to questions submitted in advance, the delegation stated that judicial independence was respected and safeguarded. The Constitution provided for a clear separation of powers between the three arms of the State. It also provided for an independent Judicial Service Commission. The recruitment and appointment of judges was based on merit and done through public interviews conducted by the Commission. There was no basis for suggesting that the Government had exerted influence over the courts in order to weaken opposition political parties by allowing the recall of their elected members of Parliament and councillors. The process of recalling members of Parliament and councillors had been initiated by the opposition parties when they had approached the courts for a ruling on their internal disputes.

23. The police continued to provide fortnightly reports on the continuing investigation into the disappearance of Itai Dzamara, in compliance with a 2018 High Court order. The police were also investigating the disappearances of Patrick Nabanyama and Paul Chizuze.

24. The proposed amendments to the Private Voluntary Organisations Act sought to address deficiencies in the mechanisms for countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism that had been identified in the 2016 mutual evaluation report on Zimbabwe, which had resulted in Zimbabwe being greylisted by the Financial Action Task Force. The proposed amendments merely sought to ensure greater transparency and consistency in the registration and regulation of private voluntary organizations and were the product of extensive research and multistakeholder consultations.

25. The demonstrations in August 2018 and January 2019 had been extremely violent and the antithesis of peaceful acts of public protest. Allegations of human rights violations committed by members of the security forces that had resulted in the deaths of civilians were being investigated. In addition, the President had appointed a seven-member international commission of inquiry, chaired by former President of South Africa Kgalema Motlanthe, to look into the events of August 2018. That commission had submitted a report containing a raft of recommendations, most of which had either been implemented or were in the process of being implemented.

26. Other investigations too were yet to be finalized because of their complexity. One such investigation related to the case of the pre-election attempted assassination of the President of Zimbabwe, Emmerson Mnangagwa.

27. Zimbabwe had observed a de facto moratorium on the death penalty during the previous 16 years and the abolition of death penalty was undergoing internal consultative processes. The policy and legislative frameworks continued to be strengthened to combat gender-based violence. The delay in holding by-elections was attributed to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the imposition of illegal sanctions.

28. Successive years of widespread drought and the lingering and costly aftermath of Cyclone Idai, exacerbated by the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic, had exerted unprecedented pressure on the national budget, which was already under severe strain from the lack of access to affordable international concessional funding owing to the imposition of sanctions. The limited resources had led the Government to prioritize food security and the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Food security had improved thanks to a bumper harvest in 2021 and an anticipated repeat performance in 2022. Reasonable progress had also been made to contain the virus responsible for COVID-19. Consequently, by-elections for all vacant constituencies would be held on 26 March 2022.

29. Measures had been introduced to ensure that arrested persons were released unless there were compelling reasons not to. Delays in finalizing court cases that had initially been

attributed to courts being unable to sit owing to successive COVID-19-related containment periods, had eventually been remedied through the holding of court proceedings online.

30. In relation to the alleged disappearance of three women who were members of opposition political parties, the delegation, responding to a question submitted in advance, stated those were not cases of alleged enforced disappearance but of alleged abduction. The police had reported that the allegations were false and that the abductions had been staged in a bid to tarnish the image of the Government. The women had been charged and released from custody. They had employed dilatory tactics to evade trial. One of them had absconded to Europe and a warrant for her arrest had been issued.

31. In the 2022 national budget, the allocations for the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission and the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission had increased by 326 per cent and 273 per cent, respectively, over the previous year.

32. The bill amending the Trafficking in Persons Act was awaiting parliamentary processes.

## **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

33. During the interactive dialogue, 95 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

34. Egypt noted the launch of Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025), which provided a foundation for economic development and the protection of human rights.

35. Eswatini noted the efforts to promote the rights of persons with disabilities and to ensure that children received an education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

36. Ethiopia noted the efforts taken to adopt policies to raise the standard of living.

37. Fiji noted the efforts made to strengthen policies and institutional frameworks to combat gender-based violence.

38. Finland encouraged Zimbabwe to continue to increase female representation in key positions in the government.

39. France stated that the human rights situation in Zimbabwe remained worrying. It welcomed the measures taken to strengthen equality between women and men.

40. Gabon welcomed the amendment to the Education Act and applauded the provision of sanitary items to female students to meet menstrual hygiene needs.

41. Georgia took positive note of the increased allocation from the national budget for public health and the efforts to achieve gender equality.

42. Germany expressed concern about arbitrary arrests and the prosecution of members of opposition political parties and civil society activists.

43. Ghana noted the adoption of the five-year national anti-corruption strategy, the National Health Strategy for Zimbabwe (2016–2020) and a robust strategy for responding to HIV.

44. Iceland welcomed the presentation by Zimbabwe of its national report.

45. India noted the implementation of Vision 2030, the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025), the National Health Strategy for Zimbabwe (2016–2020) and measures for the protection of children online.

46. Indonesia noted that Zimbabwe had guaranteed education as a human right through its amendment of the Education Act.

47. The Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern that the unilateral economic sanctions against Zimbabwe remained in place, which had had a negative impact on the enjoyment of socioeconomic rights, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

48. Iraq welcomed the harmonization of legislation with the Constitution and the efforts made to ensure universal access to quality education.
49. Ireland expressed concern about the shrinking civil society space and gender inequality and noted the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices.
50. Italy noted efforts to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and welcomed the National Disability Policy.
51. Japan appreciated the amendments made to the Education Act, which recognized marital status and pregnancy as prohibited grounds of discrimination in education.
52. Kenya welcomed the steps taken to protect human rights and applauded efforts to enact the Zimbabwe Independent Complaints Commission Bill.
53. Latvia thanked Zimbabwe for the presentation of its national report.
54. Libya noted the steps that had been taken to ensure political participation, particularly the legislative amendments that had been introduced.
55. Luxembourg thanked Zimbabwe for its national report.
56. Malawi noted the measures taken to protect human rights.
57. Malaysia noted the development of various legislative and policy frameworks since the previous review.
58. Maldives noted the enactment of the amendment to the Education Act and the establishment of a climate-smart agricultural programme.
59. Mali commended Zimbabwe for its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms and noted the progress made in implementing the local school feeding programme.
60. The Marshall Islands noted the ambitious target of achieving a green economy by 2030 and also noted the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into policies.
61. Mauritania noted the launch of the Vision 2030 initiative and the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025).
62. Mauritius noted efforts to provide grants to the most disadvantaged primary and secondary schools, as well as sanitary items to female learners.
63. The delegation of Zimbabwe stated that the threat of climate change to socioeconomic development had been recognized and that issues related to climate change and gender had been integrated into national policies and strategies. In 2018, a national climate policy supported by a national climate change response strategy had been adopted. Work was under way to develop a national climate change adaptation plan.
64. The response to gender-based violence had been undertaken through a well-coordinated multisectoral approach designed to ensure that survivors had access to a wide range of support services and through courts specializing in sexual and domestic violence. Through the National Disability Policy launched in 2021, the Government had sought to enhance protection against discrimination for persons with disabilities. The Persons with Disabilities Bill was expected to be presented for enactment during the current session of Parliament.
65. Although the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had not been ratified, there was comprehensive legislation in place to ensure adequate domestic remedies in relation to torture.
66. The proposed amendments to the Private Voluntary Organisations Act were motivated by recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force.
67. The unilateral coercive measures that had been imposed on Zimbabwe for about 20 years were not targeted and inflicted collateral damage that went way beyond the intended individuals and entities, although those who imposed the sanctions were reluctant to acknowledge as much. All sectors of socioeconomic development had been adversely affected by the unilateral coercive measures, mainly owing to the impact of being cut off

from sources of international funding. The measures were unjust and were inflicting tremendous damage on the economy and hindering the country's capacity to implement its development goals.

68. Mexico welcomed the launch of the National Disability Policy and the enactment of the law regulating the ratification of treaties.

69. Montenegro noted the underreporting and the low rate of prosecutions for cases of sexual and gender-based violence and called for awareness on this issue to be raised.

70. Mozambique noted the progress made in implementing recommendations from the previous review, despite the unilateral coercive measures imposed by international partners.

71. Namibia noted the negative impact that the unilateral coercive measures had on socioeconomic rights.

72. Nepal noted the impacts of climate change on agriculture, forestry and water resources.

73. The Netherlands expressed concern about legislative amendments that would curtail civic space.

74. The Niger noted efforts to combat corruption in public institutions.

75. Nigeria noted the continued cooperation of Zimbabwe with the human rights mechanisms and the launch of the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025).

76. Norway made recommendations.

77. Pakistan took positive note of the amendments to the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act, the strengthening of laws on domestic violence and the development of mechanisms to ensure food security.

78. The Philippines noted the steps taken to advance the rights of persons with disabilities and the increased investment in the health sector.

79. Portugal noted the campaigns to raise awareness of domestic and gender-based violence and the establishment of a uniform procedure for the consideration of treaties.

80. The Russian Federation took positive note of the criminalization of acts amounting to torture.

81. Senegal noted the enactment of several laws that incorporated ratified human rights conventions into domestic legislation.

82. Serbia commended Zimbabwe for the measures taken in response to recommendations from the previous review.

83. Sierra Leone noted the promulgation of the International Treaties Act for the efficient ratification of international treaties.

84. Slovenia expressed concern about the fact that one third of girls under the age of 18 years were married and also that corporal punishment was inflicted on students for disciplinary purposes.

85. South Africa welcomed the progress made in terms of aligning laws with the Constitution and also welcomed the ratification of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.

86. South Sudan commended Zimbabwe for its positive engagement with the human rights mechanisms.

87. Spain appreciated the ratification of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance but noted the lack of substantive progress in protecting fundamental rights and freedoms.

88. Sri Lanka noted the challenges faced owing to the imposition of unilateral coercive measures and their impact on the enjoyment of socioeconomic rights, and appreciated the efforts made to advance human rights.

89. The State of Palestine made recommendations.
90. Sweden expressed concern about impunity, recurring human rights violations against representatives of civil society, members of opposition political parties and media workers, and the lack of an independent judiciary.
91. Switzerland welcomed the repeated declarations by the President of Zimbabwe to abolish the death penalty and the openness to address past violence, among other things.
92. The Syrian Arab Republic appreciated the efforts that had been made to realize the collective aspirations of Zimbabweans, including by adopting the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025).
93. Thailand welcomed the progress made since the previous review, including in the area of women's rights, but noted that the prevalence of HIV remained high.
94. Timor-Leste appreciated the inclusion of a gender component in the national climate change policy.
95. Togo welcomed the efforts made to implement the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
96. Tunisia appreciated the efforts that had been made to promote human rights and the harmonization of legislation with the Constitution.
97. Turkey recognized efforts made in the areas of education, the economic empowerment of women and the administration of justice.
98. Ukraine expressed regret that not enough had been done to ensure the free exercise of the freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
99. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed concern about restrictions on the freedom of assembly, about the harassment of journalists, members of the opposition and civil society actors and about constitutional amendments that risked reducing judicial independence.
100. The United Republic of Tanzania urged Zimbabwe to ensure that persons in vulnerable situations had access to food and to enhance measures to combat malnutrition among children.
101. The United States of America expressed concern that COVID-19 regulations had been used to justify restrictions on citizens' right to vote and their rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
102. Uruguay welcomed the efforts made since the previous review in the area of human rights, including to improve birth registration.
103. On promoting freedom of the media, the delegation of Zimbabwe stated that, in 2020 and 2021, 14 broadcasting licences had been issued. There were a multiplicity of independent newspapers and a plethora of independent publications available online, including on social media platforms. No journalist had been arrested for practicing journalism.
104. Zimbabwe was committed to ratifying the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and was working with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration on ascertaining the extent to which statelessness was an issue in the country.
105. Capacity for issuing birth certificates had been significantly reduced by a decrease in staff in the registry department owing to the COVID-19 containment measures that were in place but would be reinforced once the measures were relaxed. The issuing of birth certificates would be upscaled, including by having staff undertake mobile registration efforts across the country.
106. The right to vote and the right to freedom of assembly had been restricted by the COVID-19 pandemic and as a result of implementing the recommendations of the World Health Organization and of Zimbabwean health experts. The Government was now being criticized for restricting entry to public buildings to persons who had been vaccinated.



107. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela noted the progress made in increasing access to education, health services and food despite the imposition of illegal unilateral coercive measures.
108. Viet Nam noted efforts to protect the rights of women, including measures to prevent and respond to violence against women.
109. Yemen noted the ratification of several international and regional conventions and the adoption of the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025), among other things.
110. Zambia noted the ratification and incorporation into domestic law of treaties since the previous review and also noted the creation and strengthening of independent institutions.
111. Algeria noted considerable progress in aligning laws with the Constitution.
112. Angola encouraged Zimbabwe to improve the working conditions of staff of the human rights institution.
113. Argentina noted the efforts that had been made to implement the recommendations from the previous review.
114. Armenia welcomed the steps taken to prohibit torture and noted progress in combating human trafficking.
115. Australia welcomed the position on the death penalty maintained by Zimbabwe, which had remained abolitionist in practice.
116. Azerbaijan noted that Zimbabwe had implemented programmes to promote human rights standards in the country.
117. Bangladesh noted the challenges faced by Zimbabwe, including in the areas of climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic and HIV.
118. Belarus noted the measures that had been taken to improve legislation, strengthen legal institutions and ensure the socioeconomic rights of citizens in the context of illegal unilateral sanctions.
119. Belgium noted that there was room for improvement in the protection of human rights, despite the steps taken since the previous review.
120. Brazil encouraged Zimbabwe to implement tools to promote inclusive education, particularly for women and girls.
121. Burkina Faso encouraged Zimbabwe to pursue efforts to end gender-based violence, which had been on the rise during the COVID-19 pandemic.
122. Burundi welcomed the legislative measures to improve education and health services, prohibit early marriage and combat the sexual exploitation of children.
123. Cabo Verde stated that special attention should be paid to the drafting of a gender equality law and to the marginalization of women.
124. Canada urged Zimbabwe to pursue full realignment of its laws with the Constitution and to ensure fair and equal enforcement of its provisions.
125. Chad noted the measures taken, including the revision of the laws and the implementation of policies to improve public health, among other things.
126. Chile noted that Sustainable Development Goal 5, on the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, was prioritized in the agenda for a sustainable socioeconomic transformation.
127. China noted achievements in economic and social development, in combating COVID-19, in the areas of education and health and in protecting the rights of vulnerable groups.
128. Costa Rica made recommendations.
129. Côte d'Ivoire made recommendations.

130. Cuba noted the strategies employed by Zimbabwe to prevent and combat HIV and AIDS.
131. Cyprus noted the progress made since the previous review, including the adoption of legislation to combat gender-based violence and on disabilities.
132. Czechia made recommendations.
133. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea noted the strengthening of the institutional human rights framework and the measures taken to enforce the rights of children, women and persons with disabilities.
134. The Democratic Republic of the Congo noted the legislative reforms undertaken to expand the right to freedom of expression and freedom of the media.
135. Denmark referred to the Convention against Torture Initiative, which stood ready to assist Zimbabwe in ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
136. Djibouti noted the inclusive process that had prevailed in the drafting of the national report and the cooperation of Zimbabwe with United Nations bodies.
137. Botswana noted the efforts made to ratify and incorporate treaties into domestic law, as well as the budgetary provisions to implement human rights obligations.
138. The delegation of Zimbabwe stated that there were adequate laws in place to protect the rights and freedoms of all citizens, including human rights defenders. Like other citizens, human rights defenders had to respect the law. Full enjoyment of certain rights had been limited, however, owing to measures taken to contain the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government has acted diligently to prevent, investigate and punish any violations against human rights defenders.

## II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

139. **The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below have been examined by Zimbabwe and enjoy the support of Zimbabwe:**
- 139.1 **Consider taking steps to improve its reporting to the human rights treaty bodies (Belarus);**
- 139.2 **Continue its cooperation with Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, including the special procedures (Pakistan);**
- 139.3 **Continue its efforts to fulfil international obligations by further developing and implementing comprehensive national plans and programmes under the Sustainable Development Goals (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 139.4 **Adopt the Marriages Bill and the Children's Amendment Bill criminalizing child marriage (Ireland);**
- 139.5 **Expedite the adoption of the Marriages Bill and follow up its dissemination to the public at large (Ethiopia);**
- 139.6 **Adopt gender legislation that punishes violence against women, as well as intersectional discrimination against women (Mexico);**
- 139.7 **Take concrete and immediate legislative measures to enshrine the principles of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance in national laws in order to guarantee free, credible, transparent and fair elections, in line with target 16.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Switzerland);**
- 139.8 **Continue the efforts made to integrate international human rights standards to which it is a party into the domestic legal framework (Tunisia);**
- 139.9 **Further strengthen the Trafficking in Persons Act (Turkey);**

- 139.10 **Harmonize laws in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ukraine);**
- 139.11 **Align the Marriage Act with the Constitution to criminalize child, early and forced marriage (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 139.12 **Pursue national efforts to align the national legislation with the Constitution (Algeria);**
- 139.13 **Complete the drafting and adoption of the “law project” related to persons with disabilities (Gabon);**
- 139.14 **Ensure adoption of the “law project” related to marriage setting the minimum age of marriage at 18 years (Gabon);**
- 139.15 **Incorporate provisions of international human rights instruments to which it is a party into its domestic legislation (Bangladesh);**
- 139.16 **Accelerate the process of aligning national legislation with the legal standards and requirements of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, especially the Electoral Act, the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act and the Marriage Act (Germany);**
- 139.17 **Consider strengthening the national human rights institution, namely the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) and ensuring its independence (India);**
- 139.18 **Strengthen the independence of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (Timor-Leste);**
- 139.19 **Adopt the necessary measures to ensure that the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission is fully independent, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);**
- 139.20 **Undertake the necessary efforts to ensure the independence of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission (Chile);**
- 139.21 **Take all necessary measures to ensure the proper functioning and full independence of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Djibouti);**
- 139.22 **Ensure protection, in law and in practice, of the rights of vulnerable groups of the population, in particular women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and ethnic minorities (Russian Federation);**
- 139.23 **Continue efforts to mobilize resources and technical support in order to enhance its capacity to fulfil its human rights obligations and achieve social and economic development (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 139.24 **Continue to take steps to protect children online through the establishment of the Zimbabwe Child Online Protection Task Force and relevant policies and provisions (Turkey);**
- 139.25 **Continue its efforts to mobilize resources and technical support aimed at enhancing its capacity to fulfil its human rights obligations and achieve social and economic development (Yemen);**
- 139.26 **Take further measures to combat corruption through training and awareness-raising programmes on the economic and social costs of corruption (Indonesia);**
- 139.27 **Continue developing actions premised on the commitment of the Government towards continuous training of public officials in human rights to enhance their capacity to implement human rights and respect for the rule of law (South Sudan);**

- 139.28 **Ensure that customary laws and practices conform with the Constitution (Zambia);**
- 139.29 **Ensure that customary laws and practices are in accordance with the Constitution and comply with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Burkina Faso);**
- 139.30 **Step up its efforts to ensure more effective enforcement of policies and legislation to address discrimination against and the marginalization of women (Ghana);**
- 139.31 **Take further steps to ensure women's rights, including by removing gender-based discriminatory provisions on marriage and property rights (Japan);**
- 139.32 **Continue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination against women and girls, to address the phenomenon of domestic violence and to empower and integrate women into economic life (Libya);**
- 139.33 **Step up efforts to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes, harmful practices and gender-based violence (Nepal);**
- 139.34 **Take further measures to address discrimination against women, including direct and indirect discrimination in both the public and the private spheres (Timor-Leste);**
- 139.35 **Continue the efforts made to promote gender equality and combat all forms of discrimination against women, improve child protection and eliminate child labour (Tunisia);**
- 139.36 **Continue efforts, including by strengthening policy measures, to improve gender equality and women's empowerment (Bangladesh);**
- 139.37 **Continue with efforts to implement strategic plans for economic recovery and growth to enhance opportunities for all (Kenya);**
- 139.38 **Strengthen efforts to mobilize resources and seek necessary international support to improve the socioeconomic development of its people (Nigeria);**
- 139.39 **Continue to take steps aimed at the successful implementation of the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025) (Pakistan);**
- 139.40 **Continue to implement Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025) to improve the welfare of people (United Republic of Tanzania);**
- 139.41 **Continue its efforts to promote sustainable economic and social development in order to facilitate the enjoyment of human rights by its people (Viet Nam);**
- 139.42 **Continue its efforts to promote sustainable economic and social development and to improve the living standards in the country constantly (Azerbaijan);**
- 139.43 **Continue to implement the national development strategy and promote sustainable economic and social development (China);**
- 139.44 **Incorporate into the National Development Strategy I (2021–2025) the response to the socioeconomic and health impacts of COVID-19, as a cross-cutting issue (Cuba);**
- 139.45 **Overcome the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to further protect the rights of vulnerable groups (China);**
- 139.46 **Continue its efforts to counter unilateral coercive measures in order to eliminate the negative effects of these unlawful measures on the human rights of the people of Zimbabwe (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

- 139.47 **Work together with regional bodies such as the Southern African Development Community to ensure the lifting of sanctions against the country, which have had a negative impact on the economic development of the country (Malawi);**
- 139.48 **Monitor the impacts of unilateral coercive measures on achieving sustainable development goals at the national level (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 139.49 **Report to the international human rights mechanisms on the impacts of unilateral coercive measures on humanitarian sectors (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- 139.50 **Ensure that people affected by natural disasters are provided access to adequate food, housing, health care and other basic and essential services (Maldives);**
- 139.51 **Consider increasing awareness on adapting capacity, increasing climate change and overreliance on climate-sensitive sectors as key to reducing the country's vulnerability to climate change (Ethiopia);**
- 139.52 **Continue efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change, including increased incidences of droughts, cyclones and floods, negatively impacting the enjoyment of human rights by the people (Mozambique);**
- 139.53 **Continue implementing effective measures to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change (Nepal);**
- 139.54 **Seek international assistance in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change on economic and agriculture sectors (Pakistan);**
- 139.55 **Report on measures taken to prevent and mitigate the negative effects of climate change and environmental degradation, particularly on food and water security (Fiji);**
- 139.56 **Strengthen efforts to ensure a comprehensive gender-responsive and disability-inclusive approach to the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction policies (Fiji);**
- 139.57 **Continue its efforts to mitigate the negative effects of climate change and environmental degradation, particularly in relation to food and water security (State of Palestine);**
- 139.58 **Take additional measures to prevent any form of violence and discrimination against women and girls, including harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage (Italy);**
- 139.59 **Address poor material conditions in places of detention (Ukraine);**
- 139.60 **Redouble efforts to implement the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and without delay address complaints about overcrowding and poor conditions in places of detention, including pretrial detention centres (Costa Rica);**
- 139.61 **Continue to take measures aimed at improving the work of the judicial and penitentiary systems (Russian Federation);**
- 139.62 **Take all necessary measures, including legislation, to ensure an independent judiciary (Sweden);**
- 139.63 **Expedite the creation of legal aid centres at the district level (Timor-Leste);**
- 139.64 **Continue to strengthen efforts in the implementation of laws and policies on freedom of expression and assembly (Ghana);**
- 139.65 **Take all necessary steps to ensure free and fair presidential and parliamentary elections in 2023, including by facilitating access to identity documentation and voter registration (Australia);**

- 139.66 Step up efforts to strengthen policy measures against trafficking in persons in line with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and enhance the availability of support services for victims (Philippines);
- 139.67 Continue its efforts to identify and protect victims of trafficking (State of Palestine);
- 139.68 Step up efforts to identify and protect victims of trafficking from and within the country and to investigate, prosecute and adequately punish the perpetrators (Armenia);
- 139.69 Step up efforts to combat trafficking in human beings, including by improving law enforcement practices with a view to bringing to justice and punishing the perpetrators, as well as by providing victims of trafficking with protection and rehabilitation (Belarus);
- 139.70 Amend the Trafficking in Persons Act to incorporate a definition of trafficking consistent with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Chad);
- 139.71 Strengthen policies to support the family as the fundamental and natural unit of society (Egypt);
- 139.72 Strengthen efforts to increase opportunities for the equal participation of women in the labour force (Sri Lanka);
- 139.73 Intensify efforts to address the fragility of food security challenges, particularly in the context of climate change (Iraq);
- 139.74 Redouble its efforts to ensure access to food, quality health services and education, especially for vulnerable groups such as older persons, children, the chronically ill and persons with disabilities, both in the context of the response to COVID-19 and beyond (Thailand);
- 139.75 Continue to take agricultural productivity measures to ensure food security in the country (Algeria);
- 139.76 Continue to take measures to safeguard food security (China);
- 139.77 Ensure the implementation of the 2013 policy on food and nutrition security (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 139.78 Continue the efforts made to combat poverty and to promote education, health, housing, water and sanitation services in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (Tunisia);
- 139.79 Continue to consolidate its commendable social programmes in favour of its population (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 139.80 Take further steps to improve the level of well-being and social protection of the population (Belarus);
- 139.81 Increase efforts to provide access to safe drinking water and sanitation (Iraq);
- 139.82 Improve access to drinking water and appropriate sanitation facilities (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 139.83 Enhance effort to widen access to health care to its citizen, including in the handling of the pandemic, involving also possible bilateral and international cooperation (Indonesia);
- 139.84 Strengthen efforts to improve access to health-care facilities and medical assistance in order to address the overall mortality rate (Malaysia);

- 139.85 Strengthen the health sector by improving the quality of care in order to allow health workers to work in better conditions and to ensure that people have access to the necessary health care (Mauritania);
- 139.86 Improve access to quality and affordable health services, including in remote areas, by allocating sufficient budgetary resources to health, allowing for the establishment of hospitals with skilled and human rights-trained health professionals (Portugal);
- 139.87 Take appropriate measures to improve the coverage and accessibility of health services (Sri Lanka);
- 139.88 Guarantee access to health care and assistance, in particular to vulnerable groups, including by further increasing the budgetary allocation for the health sector (Brazil);
- 139.89 Guarantee women living in rural and remote areas access to health and social services, especially in terms of family planning (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 139.90 Continue to create an enabling environment for the improvement of public health through the National Health Strategy for Zimbabwe (2016-2020) and a robust HIV response strategy (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 139.91 Continue to strengthen children's access to health services, particularly with regard to HIV, malaria and tuberculosis (Algeria);
- 139.92 Continue prioritizing public health policies, particularly in primary and community health care, to maintain the decline in mortality rates in all age groups, especially children, teenagers and young people (Cuba);
- 139.93 Continue its efforts to improve access to health-care services for all its people and strengthen the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 139.94 Continue improving health services to better respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular the needs of the most vulnerable (Mozambique);
- 139.95 Strengthen measures to mitigate COVID-19-related challenges with support from the international community (Bangladesh);
- 139.96 Continue improving the rights of women and girls by ensuring access to health and access to information on HIV and reproductive rights (Eswatini);
- 139.97 Continue efforts to reform and develop the education sector to include all segments of society, including those with special needs (Libya);
- 139.98 Take steps to improve access to education during the pandemic period, including by providing training for teachers and lecturers on using e-learning platforms (Malaysia);
- 139.99 Take urgent steps in order to ensure that all children have access to education, including those living in remote areas, and eliminate all root causes of discrimination against girls in the realization of their right to education (Portugal);
- 139.100 Intensify its efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Education Amendment Act 2020 and reduce the school dropout rate, particularly among girls (State of Palestine);
- 139.101 Continue to focus on the issue of education to ensure accessible and high-quality education for all (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 139.102 Continue to allocate resources to programmes that promote and advance women's rights (Philippines);
- 139.103 Protect the livelihoods of rural women and support women farmers with incentives, access to credit and other productive sources (Serbia);

- 139.104 Continue to strengthen its policies and measures to empower women and girls (Algeria);
- 139.105 Intensify the measures being taken in the advancement of women's rights, including through awareness-raising campaigns (Azerbaijan);
- 139.106 Intensify efforts towards the economic empowerment of rural women while ensuring access to electricity, water and sanitation (Cyprus);
- 139.107 Strengthen legislative and administrative measures to ensure women's access to avenues of economic participation, including land and financing (Botswana);
- 139.108 Continue with measures to combat gender-based violence and discrimination (India);
- 139.109 Take all necessary measures, both in law and in practice, to combat violence against women and domestic violence, as well as child, early and forced marriage, virginity testing and other harmful practices (Latvia);
- 139.110 Consider strengthening policy measures on gender equality and on combating gender-based violence (Philippines);
- 139.111 Take further action to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls (Portugal);
- 139.112 Continue its efforts to combat gender-based violence and carry out community-based awareness-raising campaigns (Georgia);
- 139.113 Implement effective measures to promote the reporting of domestic violence and hold perpetrators accountable (Botswana);
- 139.114 Mobilize efforts on the provision of resources and the improvement of infrastructure for children in rural areas (Sri Lanka);
- 139.115 Take further steps in order to guarantee equitable protection of children across the country by strengthening and implementing child protection systems (Georgia);
- 139.116 Ensure legislative and policy measures to criminalize child marriage and punish the perpetrators (India);
- 139.117 Criminalize child marriage and prosecute and punish those responsible in accordance with international human rights law (Luxembourg);
- 139.118 Criminalize child marriage and prosecute and adequately punish perpetrators (Slovenia);
- 139.119 Strengthen measures to protect the rights of women and girls and against the illegal practice of child marriage (France);
- 139.120 Continue its efforts to end child marriage (Viet Nam);
- 139.121 Criminalize child marriage and prosecute and adequately punish perpetrators (Zambia);
- 139.122 Take pragmatic actions to fight early and forced marriage (Angola);
- 139.123 Make more efforts to combat early marriage by adopting firm legislation (Cabo Verde);
- 139.124 Eliminate child marriage (Costa Rica);
- 139.125 Take further steps with a view to prohibiting early marriage (Cyprus);
- 139.126 Ensure access to birth registration and the acquisition of birth certificates to people living in rural areas (Eswatini);
- 139.127 Provide to all its citizens birth certificates and national identity cards in order to ensure access to education, government services and voter rolls (Canada).



140. The following recommendations will be examined by Zimbabwe, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council:

- 140.1 Continue to take steps towards the ratification of outstanding international human rights instruments (Malawi);
- 140.2 Ratify outstanding treaties, conventions and agreements (Nigeria);
- 140.3 Ratify all core human rights treaties to safeguard political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights (Norway);
- 140.4 Ratify pending international human rights conventions (Costa Rica);
- 140.5 Consider ratifying international instruments to which Zimbabwe is not yet a party, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Djibouti);
- 140.6 Ratify 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 (Japan);
- 140.7 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);
- 140.8 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Mexico);
- 140.9 Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Togo);
- 140.10 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Montenegro);
- 140.11 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Argentina);
- 140.12 Strengthen efforts to ratify the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Niger);
- 140.13 Speed up the process of ratifying the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, which is still under consideration (South Sudan);
- 140.14 Finalize the ratification of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 140.15 Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Denmark);
- 140.16 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Sierra Leone);
- 140.17 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Mali);
- 140.18 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal);
- 140.19 Intensify efforts to ratify outstanding international treaties and protocols, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Ghana);

- 140.20 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);
- 140.21 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Iraq);
- 140.22 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Kenya);
- 140.23 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Latvia);
- 140.24 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Maldives);
- 140.25 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and strengthen efforts to combat torture by enforcing a zero-tolerance policy (Marshall Islands);
- 140.26 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritius);
- 140.27 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Namibia);
- 140.28 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Fiji);
- 140.29 Ratify without reservations the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Spain);
- 140.30 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Finland);
- 140.31 Ratify 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);
- 140.32 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Armenia);
- 140.33 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Burkina Faso);
- 140.34 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);
- 140.35 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Cyprus);
- 140.36 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Germany);
- 140.37 Take steps leading to ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, as previously recommended (Czechia);
- 140.38 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);
- 140.39 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Namibia);
- 140.40 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Slovenia);
- 140.41 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and incorporate it into the domestic legal system (Argentina);

- 140.42 **Take appropriate measures to combat sexism and sexual violence by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Cabo Verde);**
- 140.43 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Chile);**
- 140.44 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 140.45 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Denmark);**
- 140.46 **Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**
- 140.47 **Align the age of consent for marriage under the Customary Marriages Act and the Marriage Act with the Constitution (Canada);**
- 140.48 **Ensure that the laws governing the right to freedom of peaceful assembly are fully in line with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Montenegro);**
- 140.49 **Pursue efforts to integrate the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Niger);**
- 140.50 **Adopt legislation in line with the 2013 Constitution and the international human rights system, guaranteeing the full enjoyment of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Spain);**
- 140.51 **Adopt a specific gender equality law covering all grounds of discrimination against women (Czechia);**
- 140.52 **Finalize the adoption of legislation relating to the Zimbabwe Independent Complaints Commission, which will set up an independent mechanism for the examination of public complaints related to security services' actions (Democratic Republic of the Congo);**
- 140.53 **Guarantee the independence of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission and establish a clear, transparent and participatory procedure for the selection and appointment of its members (Luxembourg);**
- 140.54 **Create a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Senegal);**
- 140.55 **Ensure the alignment of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission Act with the Paris Principles and the Constitution of Zimbabwe and provide funding for the protection and promotion of human rights (South Africa);**
- 140.56 **Create a national human rights institution whose attributions, mechanisms and means of functioning are such as to guarantee its independence and its effectiveness (Togo);**
- 140.57 **Adopt a national strategy to eliminate gender-based discrimination and increase gender parity in political, economic and social segments (Angola);**
- 140.58 **Protect intersex minors from non-consensual surgeries and violations of bodily integrity (Iceland);**
- 140.59 **Abolish the death penalty, commute existing death sentences to proportionate punishments and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Iceland);**
- 140.60 **Adopt a de jure moratorium on capital executions with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Italy);**

- 140.61 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its eventual abolition and consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Latvia);**
- 140.62 **Pursue efforts towards abolishing the death penalty (Marshall Islands);**
- 140.63 **Abolish the death penalty in all circumstances and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Norway);**
- 140.64 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal);**
- 140.65 **Consider amending the Constitution to abolish the death penalty for all crimes (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.66 **Establish an official moratorium on the implementation of the death penalty and move towards its legal abolition for all crimes (Spain);**
- 140.67 **Abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Finland);**
- 140.68 **Take all the necessary measures to abolish the death penalty for all crimes, as well as to commute all death sentences to alternative penalties (Switzerland);**
- 140.69 **Strengthen awareness-raising campaigns on the death penalty and public debates on this topic from a human rights perspective, including within Parliament, with a view to definitively abolishing it and ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, as soon as possible (Uruguay);**
- 140.70 **Impose an official moratorium on the death penalty with immediate effect, commute all existing death sentences to terms of imprisonment and abolish the death penalty in national legislation (Australia);**
- 140.71 **Establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Costa Rica);**
- 140.72 **Establish an official moratorium on executions (Cyprus);**
- 140.73 **Adhere to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and take all necessary measures to ensure a safe environment to exercise the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression (Italy);**
- 140.74 **Fully implement the recommendations in the Motlanthe commission of inquiry report (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 140.75 **Implement the recommendations of the Motlanthe commission on post-election 2018 violence, to provide redress to victims (Canada);**
- 140.76 **Allow the practice of constitutionally guaranteed freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association for all (United States of America);**
- 140.77 **Ensure that any lockdown measures and restrictions are proportionate, necessary and time-limited, without intimidation of citizens and media personnel (Czechia);**
- 140.78 **Ensure that civil society, journalists and human rights defenders can freely speak and file complaints without fear of harassment, intimidation or reprisal from the authorities (Costa Rica);**

- 140.79 **Adopt the necessary measures to guarantee the protection of journalists and human rights defenders (Spain);**
- 140.80 **Take measures to ensure that journalists and human rights defenders can carry out their work in an enabling environment, without fear of being victims of acts of intimidation or reprisal (Uruguay);**
- 140.81 **Take all necessary steps to ensure that civil society actors and human rights defenders can operate freely without fear of intimidation or reprisal (Australia);**
- 140.82 **Protect civil society actors, including human rights organizations, against any harassment or persecution and improve the legal framework so that it encourages and facilitates the operation of non-governmental organizations, as previously recommended (Czechia);**
- 140.83 **Ensure that any amendments to the Private Voluntary Organisations Act allow civil society to operate independently (Ireland);**
- 140.84 **Amend existing laws that govern civil society organizations, including the Private Voluntary Organisations Act, to ensure the protection of civic space and of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Canada);**
- 140.85 **Enable free, fair and transparent elections in 2023 and in the future by undertaking substantive and concrete political and electoral reforms, including the implementation of the recommendations issued in the report of the European Union election observation mission to Zimbabwe in 2018 (Sweden);**
- 140.86 **Guarantee to persons under 18 years of age the right to sexual and reproductive health information, education and services (Iceland);**
- 140.87 **Ensure that all schools have access to the Internet (Eswatini);**
- 140.88 **Take measures to ensure 12 years of free primary and secondary school education for both girls and boys, as recommended by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Mauritius);**
- 140.89 **Strengthen its efforts to enhance access to prevention and early detection programmes for women and girls at risk (Thailand);**
- 140.90 **Strengthen efforts to address violence against women, children and all persons on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity (Fiji);**
- 140.91 **Broaden the definition of perpetrators of domestic violence in the Domestic Violence Act to include those not necessarily related to the victim or not living in the same household as the victim and engage in dialogue with the communities (Chad);**
- 140.92 **Abolish corporal punishment in all settings and strengthen child protection systems in full compliance with its international human rights obligations (Slovenia);**
- 140.93 **Develop a government plan for eliminating child marriage and amend provisions of the Marriage Act that permit child marriage (Marshall Islands);**
- 140.94 **Consider amending the provisions of the Marriage Act that permit child marriage, in line with the decision of the Constitutional Court (Sierra Leone);**
- 140.95 **Amend all ancillary laws that may have a direct relationship with the provisions prohibiting child marriage in order to ensure consistency and harmony in the legal framework (Belgium);**
- 140.96 **Establish birth registration centres at every district hospital in the country (Kenya);**
- 140.97 **Continue to adopt measures to facilitate the registration of all births and increase the rate of issuance of birth certificates (Turkey);**

140.98 Take specific measures to guarantee the effective implementation of the right to nationality of stateless persons and their children born in Zimbabwe and guarantee their inclusion in society (Angola).

141. The following recommendations have been examined by Zimbabwe and have been noted:

141.1 Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);

141.2 Extend an open invitation to special procedures (Costa Rica);

141.3 Grant unhindered access to the country to all special procedure mandate holders who request a visit, as previously recommended (Czechia);

141.4 Adopt legislation to ensure that the right to vote is extended to all citizens, including those imprisoned and in the diaspora, and implement recommendations from observer missions to the 2018 harmonized elections, including the Motlanthe commission of inquiry (Norway);

141.5 Adopt the necessary measures to eliminate intersectional forms of discrimination against women and girls with disabilities, against lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and against intersex persons (Chile);

141.6 Eliminate any discriminatory measure against women, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex population and people with disabilities, and ensure and improve access to justice for these groups (Costa Rica);

141.7 Decriminalize sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex by repealing section 73 of the Criminal Code and the Reform Act, 2006 (Iceland);

141.8 Decriminalize consensual adult same-sex relations and combat all forms of discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Italy);

141.9 Repeal all legal provisions that discriminate against people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity, particularly the criminalization of consensual sexual relations between adults of the same sex (Mexico);

141.10 Decriminalize relationships between consenting adults of the same sex and take the necessary measures to prevent and combat discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Spain);

141.11 Reaffirm its commitment to the principles of equality and non-discrimination, including by swiftly decriminalizing consensual sexual relations between same-sex adults (Uruguay);

141.12 Make progress regarding the necessary legislative measures to ensure the protection of the human rights of LGBTIQ+ people (Argentina);

141.13 Repeal all laws and policies discriminating against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and amend laws to ensure that their rights and freedoms are safeguarded (Australia);

141.14 Adopt measures to make progress on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against people on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity (Germany);

141.15 Enforce security and due process laws adopted under the 2013 Constitution that prohibit arbitrary arrests and prolonged detentions (United States of America);

141.16 Eradicate harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, child marriage and polygamy (Ukraine);

141.17 Address overcrowding and poor material conditions in places of detention and separate juveniles from adults (Zambia);

- 141.18 **Develop a far-reaching reform of the judicial system and effectively guarantee the independence of the judiciary (Ukraine);**
- 141.19 **Respect and guarantee the separation of powers to ensure judicial independence and impartial decision-making and also respect and guarantee independent and transparent processes for the appointment, dismissal and extension of tenure for judges (United States of America);**
- 141.20 **Ensure that the Zimbabwean courts are impartial, allowing those appearing before them to have their constitutional rights to a fair trial and legal counsel of their choosing respected (Belgium);**
- 141.21 **Fully implement the recommendations from local, regional and international independent observer missions to the 2018 elections in order to promote peaceful, free, fair and credible elections in 2023 (Netherlands);**
- 141.22 **Take swift actions to end impunity for human rights violations, including by following up on the recommendations made by the Motlanthe commission on the issue of individual responsibility (Sweden);**
- 141.23 **Take concrete measures to facilitate the search for an inclusive process that ensures justice, truth, guarantees of non-repetition and reconciliation for the whole population (Switzerland);**
- 141.24 **Fully implement the recommendations in the 2018 election observers' reports (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 141.25 **Ensure that allegations of human rights abuses are promptly and transparently investigated and that perpetrators are held to account (Australia);**
- 141.26 **Investigate cases of the disproportionate use of violence by the police and hold perpetrators to account (Cyprus);**
- 141.27 **End impunity for human rights violations and follow up the recommendations made by the Motlanthe commission on the issue of individual responsibility (Germany);**
- 141.28 **Establish an independent complaints system – as provided for in the Constitution – to receive and investigate public complaints against the security services (Marshall Islands);**
- 141.29 **Establish an independent complaints mechanism to investigate and hold accountable members of the security forces who allegedly engaged in violations and abuses (United States of America);**
- 141.30 **Guarantee an environment conducive to respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular by adopting legislation to protect human rights defenders and by fighting against impunity for perpetrators of human rights violations (France);**
- 141.31 **Respect the right to freedom of expression and assembly and cease the arbitrary arrest and prosecution of journalists, human rights defenders, trade unionists, student activists, opposition candidates and others (Norway);**
- 141.32 **Amend the Freedom of Information Act and the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act to remove any provision that unduly restrict freedoms (Belgium);**
- 141.33 **Align the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act with the Constitution and international human rights treaties, upholding the rights to freedom of expression and of assembly and association for civil society, human rights defenders, journalists and religious communities (Brazil);**
- 141.34 **Amend the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act to allow for the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly (Ireland);**
- 141.35 **Amend the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act of 2019 in consultation with civil society, recognize the legitimacy of peaceful spontaneous assemblies and demonstrations and develop law enforcement protocols on the**

**management of assemblies that are compatible with international human rights norms and standards (Luxembourg);**

**141.36 Take all necessary measures to guarantee the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and ensure that the Maintenance of Peace and Order Act is in line with international standards (Mexico);**

**141.37 Protect and strengthen civic space in law and practice, including by rescinding the planned amendments to the Private Voluntary Organisations Act and the proposed enactment of the “patriotic bill” (Netherlands);**

**141.38 Amend the Private Voluntary Organisations Act after sector-wide consultations to ensure the right to freedom of association and establish an independent regulator that is effective and representative of the private voluntary organizations operating in the country (Norway);**

**141.39 Ensure 12 years of free primary and secondary education (Luxembourg).**

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



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## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Republic of Zimbabwe was headed by Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Honourable Ziyambi Ziyambi, and composed of the following members:

- Mrs. Virginia Mabiza; Secretary for Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
  - H.E. Stuart H. Comberbach; Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
  - Mrs. Fortune Chimbaru; Deputy Attorney General (Civil Division);
  - Mr. Tapiwa F. Godzi; Chief Director; Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
  - Mr Pearson T. Chigiji; Deputy Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
  - Mr Charles Chishiri; Minister Counsellor – Zimbabwe Permanent; Mission to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
  - Mr. Tabani Mpofu; Chairperson Special Anti-Corruption Unit;
  - Mrs. Tapiwa S.D. Chiwenga; Acting Director; Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
  - Mr. Kingston Magaya; Director Legal, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructural Development;
  - Mr. Kanganwiso A. Chaipa; Economist; Office of the President and Cabinet;
  - Ms. Joyce T. Shumba; Chief Law Officer; Attorney General’s Office;
  - Mr. Lloyd Kabara; Law Officer; Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs;
  - Mr. Farai Chingwere; Acting Deputy Director; Ministry of Finance and Economic Development;
  - Mr. Musindo C. Mandava; Principal Legal Officer; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.
-