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

Morocco

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of Morocco was held at the 4th meeting on 2 May 2017. The delegation of Morocco was headed by H.E, Minister of Human Rights, Mr. Mostafa RAMID. At its 10th meeting held on 5 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on Morocco.
2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Morocco: Panama, Republic of the Congo, and United Arab Emirates.
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 Morocco:
 - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/MAR/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/MAR/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/MAR/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Morocco through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Delegation of Morocco, headed by the Minister of Human Rights, H.E Mostafa RAMID, emphasized the importance that Morocco had paid to follow-up the recommendations received during its Second Universal Periodic Review, and emphasized the Action Plan adopted to follow up recommendations received by Morocco from the various international human rights mechanisms.
6. The Delegation highlighted that several Special Procedures mandate holders visited Morocco during the period covered by the national report. In addition, Morocco had extended an invitation to a number of other relevant mandate holders to come to its territory.
7. Regarding ratification of international human rights instruments, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women had been approved by the Parliament and deposited with the Secretary General for their ratification.
8. The Delegation stated that following a national dialogue on a comprehensive reform of the judicial system, conducted with the participation of all stakeholders, a Charter on the

justice reform was adopted, drawing several strategic objectives aimed, in particular, at consolidating the efficiency and the independence of the Judiciary.

9. The justice reforming process culminated in the appointment of the members of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary as an independent power. Concomitantly, the Constitutional Council was elevated to the rank of Constitutional Court and procedures for access to constitutional justice had been reviewed through the simplification of referral procedures and the exception of unconstitutionality of laws. Morocco had given priority to the preparation and adoption of organic laws, and legislation establishing constitutional bodies for the protection and strengthening of human rights, as well as good governance and participatory democracy.

10. The legislative and institutional reforms in the area of civil and political rights, had led to the adoption of the Code of the Press and Publishing, the framework law on the persons with disabilities, the Law on the fight against trafficking of human beings and the Law on the establishment of the Advisory Council of the Family and Childhood. Furthermore, draft laws on combating violence against women, the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Code of Civil Procedure had also been drafted.

11. On the basis of the conclusions of the national dialogue launched by the Government under the theme “civil society and its new constitutional roles”, a web portal had been created to consolidate good governance, transparency and strengthen access by civil society organizations, on an equal footing, to information on the possibilities of public funding.

12. The number of declared associations had reached 130,000 in 2015, covering social categories from different regions of the Kingdom at the rate of 4,000 associative activity per day.

13. In the area of migrants’ rights, Morocco had adopted a new policy on immigration and asylum, focusing in particular on the regularization of the situation of migrants in irregular situation and of asylum seekers. The policy also resulted in the readjustment of the legal framework relating to immigration and asylum, as well as the elaboration and implementation of strategies for the integration of migrants and refugees.

14. The first stage towards the regularization of the situation of migrants had been launched in 2014, as an innovative initiative in the southern Mediterranean, and resulted in the regularization of the situation of 23097 migrants.

15. A second exceptional regularization process had been launched in December 2016. Thus, the Moroccan authorities were thus able to grant refugee status to 734 asylum seekers of different nationalities. In addition, 25 associations of migrants had been recognized, which facilitated their access to financial support aimed at promoting the protection of their rights.

16. The Kingdom had developed public policies relating to the rights of special categories of the population. Particular attention was paid to women's rights and to strengthening equality, through the adoption of the Law on the Establishment of the Authority for Gender Equality and the Fight against All Forms of Discrimination. The reforms had contributed improve women's political participation and to strengthen women's representation in communal, regional and legislative elections. The representation of women in the House of Representatives had thus grown from 67 MPs in 2011 to 81 in 2016.

17. The Kingdom had been working for extending the areas of implementation of the National Initiative on Human Development through the execution of its five programmes for combating poverty, vulnerability and social exclusion. 44 thousand projects had been carried out since the launch of this national initiative, which had benefited to 10 million

persons. This action had been reinforced by a new initiative for the development of the Southern Provinces of the Kingdom, with a budget of 77 Billion Dirhams.

18. In line with the legislative and institutional reforms, the Moroccan Government, in its new composition, had promoted the inter-Ministerial Delegation on Human Rights to the rank of Ministry of State Responsible for Human Rights. This step had the purpose to strengthen the coordination at the ministerial level and give particular attention and priority to human rights. Morocco had also adopted in its programme an integrated human rights policy promoting a participatory strategic vision, and a national action plan on democracy and human rights.

19. Collaboration had been strengthened with the National Human Rights Council and its Regional Commissions, particularly with regard to the receipt of complaints and grievances. A bill had been drafted to confer to the National Council the prerogatives of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, the national mechanism of reparation for children victims of violations and of the national mechanism to follow-up the implementation of the related convention.

20. According to the Delegation, freedom of association was a fundamental freedom, guaranteed by the Constitution of 2011. The law governing the freedom of association provided for limitations for the exercise of this right. Restrictions to yearly financial support could only be decided by Justice, and appeals before the Judiciary were possible. The emergence of a network of associations had been facilitated, and a significant increase in the number of associations, their diversity and increased community action at national level, had been noted.

21. Currently, there are more than 130,000 associations in Morocco operating in the different fields of public life, economic, social and cultural, with over 4,500 associations working in the fields of human rights.

22. Peaceful gatherings and demonstrations were guaranteed by the Constitution and the law. The exercise of freedom of assembly and association was subjected to a legal procedure provided for by the law governing public gatherings.

23. Freedom of assembly and association may be restricted only in the case of non-compliance with the relevant legal provisions or for breaches of public order; and the relevant decisions of the administrative authorities may be appealed before the Judiciary, as the only authority which can decide in this field.

24. The exercise of the right to peaceful assembly had undergone quantitative and qualitative diversification throughout the country, with more than 11,752 events organized in 2016, an average of 32 events per day involving 824085 demonstrators.

25. The southern provinces experienced high levels of activity of rallies and demonstrations in the public domain. As an illustration, in 2016, more than 755 events were organized and were attended by more 16162 protesters.

26. Regarding Morocco's efforts to promote women's rights, the Delegation indicated that Law 113 was adopted by the Parliament to combat violence against women. The Law included a definition of violence and criminalized all acts that constituted violence against women. In addition, 144 centres were created to provide legal, psychological and physical aid to women victims of violence.

27. The Delegation pointed out that a Law on Human Trafficking was also adopted in 2016, based on four pillars: prevention, protection, continuity in the fights against networks, and partnership with civil society. Measures to protect victims and witnesses were also envisaged.

28. Regarding the right to work, the Delegation highlighted that 51 000 jobs were created between 2010 and 2015. In addition, the unemployment rate decreased fewer than 9%. In 2016, a drop of unemployment, 8.6%, was registered. Moreover, programmes focused on incorporating the youth to the labour market had been carried out, resulting in more than 100 000 posts for the youth in the private sector. Furthermore, Morocco was implementing the Green Programme, which is aimed at an increase for those working in the agricultural sector by 16%.

29. Concerning the right to health, the delegation indicated that actions are being taken to improve the medical system, and progress had been made to decrease the maternal mortality rate, which had fell by 66% over the last 20 years. The Delegation emphasised progress made in terms of education related indicators. Thus, one point had been gained between 2017 and 2016, for primary, secondary and preparatory education. In addition, a positive trend was also noted regarding education of girls in rural areas.

30. The Delegation, furthermore, indicated that the amount of people living in slums had considerably dropped.

31. The Delegation stated that “the Kingdom of Morocco had made efforts to improve the enjoyment of human rights in the Moroccan Sahara, in particular the new model for the development of the Southern Provinces, the advanced regionalisation and the efficient role played by the national institutions, in particular the National Human Rights Council through its regional commissions in Laayoune and Dakhla, as well as the major and sustained efforts undertaken by Morocco for the development, the protection and the promotion of the Saharo hassani heritage which was enshrined in the 2011 Constitution as one of the component of the Moroccan identity”. The Delegation continued stating that, “pending a final and consensual political solution among all parties to the territorial dispute over the Moroccan Sahara, the Kingdom of Morocco continued its efforts, in a participatory and integrated approach, to promote rights and freedoms in the Moroccan Sahara as there were no distinction in the Kingdom between the Sahara region and the other regions”. The delegation affirmed that all Moroccan citizens were equal before the law in terms of rights and responsibilities as was the case in all democratic States. It ascertained that the people of the Sahara were an integral component of the defence of the territorial integrity and national unity and were associated in all development processes at the national, regional and local levels either through elected representative bodies, professional bodies and civil society organizations which work freely within the legal and constitutional framework of the country.

32. In addition, the Delegation stated that “efforts were being deployed to promote the Amazigh culture, which was enshrined in the Constitution, and that, in 2016, 600 development projects were being implemented in the Moroccan Sahara”.

33. The Delegation stated that “the autonomy proposal made by the Kingdom of Morocco constituted a historic opportunity for reunification and a real framework for development, protection and enjoyment of human rights, as well as a compromise final solution which would enable the inhabitants of the Moroccan Sahara to manage their local affairs within the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Morocco”.

34. The Delegation highlighted that, over the last two decades, Morocco had become a major actor at the regional and international level in the field of human rights, hosting major international events such as the second session of the World Forum on Human Rights held in Marrakech in November 2014; and the 22nd meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

35. Likewise, The city of Fez hosted, in 2015, an International Forum on 'The role of religious leaders in preventing incitement to commit crimes of atrocity', after which a draft plan of action was drawn up to prevent incitement to such crimes. The draft plan of action

was inspired by the Rabat action plan, adopted by the Council of Human Rights, in 21 February 2013, on «the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence».

36. Morocco was also co-chairing, with Germany, the Global Forum on Migration and Development for 2017 and 2018.

37. Finally, the Delegation thanked the members of the Human Rights Council, in particular those who made statements.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

38. During the interactive dialogue, 25 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

39. Uruguay congratulated Morocco for its ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and its inclusion in the Criminal Code.

40. Viet Nam praised Morocco's political, normative and institutional reforms, and public policies for promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights.

41. Yemen commended Morocco's ratification of the Optional protocol to the Convention against Torture, and the reform of the judicial system.

42. Zambia commended Morocco for the visit of four Special Procedures mandate holders, consideration of five national reports by treaty bodies, and accession of international human rights treaties.

43. Zimbabwe, while noting Morocco's significant strides in numerous areas, it was disheartened by the lack of reference in Morocco's national report to the reported undesirable human rights and humanitarian situation in Western Sahara.

44. Qatar commended Morocco's cooperation with the Human Rights Council's mechanisms and welcomed the recent adoption of several legislations to establish constitutional institutions to promote and protect human rights.

45. Angola noted with satisfaction the reform undertaken by Morocco for the Judiciary to be in line with the international standards.

46. Argentina noted the discrimination suffered by the LGBTI persons in Morocco. It welcomed the adoption of the law aimed to combat trafficking.

47. Armenia encouraged Morocco to continue and further enhance activities directed towards elimination of discrimination against women in law and in practice.

48. Australia welcomed Morocco's ongoing work to strengthen human rights, including through providing training in election observation, combating discrimination, and investigation and prevention of torture.

49. Austria congratulated Morocco on efforts to protect women's rights, accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, and recognition on the rights of the Amazigh people.

50. Azerbaijan highlighted the adoption of the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2015-2010, which included several priority areas including ensuring the healthy environment.

51. Bahrain commended the tangible achievements in implementing recommendations of the 2nd review, and appreciated structural reforms to develop the Southern provinces.

52. Bangladesh commended Morocco's keenness to mainstream human rights perspectives into sectoral public policies, especially in the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2015-2020.
53. Belgium encouraged Morocco to continue its efforts towards the implementation of recommendations accepted during the previous review, in particular in relation to women's rights.
54. Botswana welcomed the devising of a national strategy and operational plan for the elimination of violence against women.
55. Brazil congratulated the efforts to strengthen the participation of women in politics and requested more information about public awareness-raising measures for new human rights legislation.
56. Brunei Darussalam welcomed measures taken by Morocco to improve the social protection system, and commended its achievements in combatting poverty.
57. Burkina Faso commended Morocco for its various measures to counter violence against women, children, persons with disabilities and migrants, and urged it to continue its efforts on human rights education.
58. Burundi congratulated Morocco for the numerous measures adopted since its previous review to improve the human rights situation, including in the justice sector.
59. Canada appreciated the amendment of article 475 in the penal code, which put an end to the practice of allowing those who raped minors to escape imprisonment by marrying victims.
60. Central African Republic expressed support to Morocco's actions to improve the human rights situation in the country and to rigorously address violations and abuses.
61. Chad welcomed Morocco's several human rights achievements, notably the organization of the Second World Human Rights Forum in 2014 and the adoption of the Trafficking in Persons Act.
62. Chile congratulated Morocco for its ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the OP-CAT.
63. China welcomed the Charter on the Reform of the Judicial System, the National Sustainable Development Strategies 2015-2020, and the plan for gender equality 2012-2016.
64. Colombia welcomed the incorporation of women rights in public policies, the integrated public policy for the protection of the children, persons with disabilities, and withdrew of the reservations to the CEDAW.
65. Congo praised Morocco's New Immigration and Asylum Policy, and encouraged it to continue its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms.
66. Côte d'Ivoire commended Morocco for its efforts towards accessing international human rights instruments, inviting special procedures, and bringing its legal framework in compliance with international law.
67. Croatia encouraged a more advanced legal framework and its harmonization with international standards in the area of early child marriage and corporal punishment against children.
68. Cuba welcomed measures to promote, protect and follow-up implementation of the rights of the child, and the holistic public policy to promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

69. Cyprus commended Morocco's policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure the right to food. It also praised the efforts to promote and protect the cultural heritage.
70. Denmark noted positively the passing of the new press code in 2016, but remained concerned about the possible use of the penal code's provisions to imprison journalists and restrict freedoms.
71. Djibouti appreciated Morocco's efforts to promote economic and social rights, in particular to reduce social inequality and poverty. It welcomed the Education Strategy 2015-2030.
72. Ecuador thanked Morocco for its justice reform, the public policies aimed to protect migrants and its initiatives to tackle climate change.
73. Egypt commended the efforts made in the judicial reform and the establishment of the Authority for Gender Equality and Action against All Forms of Discrimination.
74. Estonia called for stepping up efforts to designate a national preventive mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the CAT.
75. Ethiopia noted with satisfaction the plan for gender equality and the 2015-2020 National Sustainable Development Strategy to operationalize the promotion and protection of human rights.
76. France welcomed the progress made concerning the regularisation of migrants since 2014. However, it noted that legal inequalities remain between men and women.
77. Gabon took note of the significant achievements made by Morocco since the last review in the area of promotion and protection of human rights.
78. Georgia encouraged the submission of a midterm report as done in 2014 and the effective implementation of the Optional Protocol to the CAT.
79. Germany regretted that Morocco had not passed legislation penalizing domestic violence as per a recommendation accepted by Morocco in the UPR 2nd cycle.
80. Ghana noted with appreciation the accession by Morocco of some core human rights treaties since its 2nd cycle review.
81. Greece congratulated the efforts by Morocco to strengthen the institutional and legal framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.
82. Guatemala noted with appreciation the adoption of the national police on migration and asylum seekers in Morocco, as well as for its implementation strategy.
83. Haiti noted with satisfaction the successful economic reforms and the progress made concerning freedom of expression and the protection of the rights of migrant workers.
84. Honduras recognized the actions of Morocco in favour of vulnerable groups, the National Action Plan for persons with disabilities and for the recognition of the Amazigh language.
85. Hungary commended the implementation of the plan for gender equality 2012-2016 but was concerned about discrimination faced by Christians and other religious minorities.
86. Iceland was concerned about reports of discrimination against the LGBTI community. It urged Morocco to improve the human rights situation in Western Sahara.
87. Indonesia commended Morocco, as a fellow core group of the Convention against Torture Initiative, for its efforts in improving legislation on human rights.

88. Islamic Republic of Iran commended Morocco for strengthening its social policies to protect the human rights of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities.
89. Iraq commended the creation of the Ministry of Human Rights and the Inter-ministerial Human Rights Unit and the adoption of the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2015-2020.
90. Ireland welcomed the steps taken for gender equality and urged the withdrawal of its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
91. Italy congratulated the progress achieved in the judicial system and actions taken for the promotion of the mechanisms to combat torture.
92. Jordan commended the measures to enhance gender equality and the efforts to promote less developed regions and reduce poverty. It also welcomed the National Plan for Children.
93. Kenya welcomed Morocco to its UPR review and thanked it for its national report.
94. Kuwait commended the positive measures taken by Morocco to raise public awareness of human rights and its commitment to the protection of human rights.
95. Lao People's Democratic Republic commended the measures taken by Morocco to improve the social protection by extending social and medical coverage to all population.
96. Latvia commended the adoption of the 2016 Press Code. It noted that the recommendation to ratify the Rome Statute had previously been accepted but not implemented.
97. Lebanon commended Morocco's efforts to respect its obligations by enacting legislation to promote freedom of opinion and expression, rights of journalists, and to combat human trafficking.
98. Libya commended Morocco's positive achievements since the previous UPR, and the adoption of the national strategies for sustainable development and for youth.
99. Madagascar commended the establishment of an independent judicial system and adoption of policies aimed at protecting the rights of vulnerable groups.
100. Maldives was encouraged by Morocco's efforts in protecting the rights of persons with disabilities through the implementation of the National Action Plan for their social integration.
101. Mauritania commended Morocco's adoption of a dynamic and participatory approach in preparing the national reports and commended the legislative reforms taken.
102. Mauritius welcomed Morocco's Strategic Vision for Educational Reform 2015-2030, which focused on fairness, equality, promotion of individual and society.
103. Mexico congratulated Morocco of its cooperation with OHCHR and noted that the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was pending.
104. Montenegro encouraged Morocco to further reinforce the child protection policy and intensify its efforts in combating violence against children in all its forms and in all settings.
105. Mozambique welcomed the visits of Special Procedures mandate holders and submission of reports to treaty bodies.

106. Myanmar commended Morocco for its achievements in advancing human rights and shared the concerns expressed by the high number of cases of early marriages.
107. Namibia congratulated Morocco for ratifying several human rights treaties, including the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
108. Netherlands noted that further adoption of the 2011 Constitution, positive steps had been taken. It welcomed specifically the change in legislation with regard to perpetrators of sexual violence against minors.
109. Niger commended Morocco for its efforts enabling the national human rights institution to be granted A status, and for the justice reform undertaken.
110. Norway commended Morocco for the amendment of the Article 475 of the Penal Code and for having started the process of adopting the law on violence against women.
111. Oman commended Morocco's cooperation with the human rights mechanisms, and applauded its efforts in adopting a national strategy for sustainable development after consultations with stakeholders.
112. Pakistan commended the public policies related to human rights, particularly for vulnerable groups, such as children, migrants, asylum seekers and persons with disabilities.
113. Paraguay welcomed the reforms undertaken by Morocco to guarantee the adequate functioning of the judiciary, the implementation of gender equality and the ecology policies.
114. Peru welcomed the strengthening of citizen participation, improvements in the social protection system and progress in the recognition of Amazigh culture and language.
115. Philippines welcomed the pathways for regularization of otherwise thousands of migrants in irregular situation. It commended the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons law.
116. Portugal noted that Morocco attentively followed the problem of out of school youth and drop-out, as well as the difficulties in accessing education by most vulnerable groups.
117. Albania noted the progress made by Morocco in the domestic legal framework, and the establishment and consolidation of institutions provided for under the constitution.
118. The Republic of Korea noted that increased monitoring and cross-cutting coordination by the National Human Rights Council will lead to better protection of human rights.
119. Romania welcomed the development of legislation establishing bodies holding constitutional status for human rights protection and promotion, good governance, sustainable human development and participatory democracy.
120. Rwanda commended Morocco's progress in improving the social and economic status of its citizens, in reforming the justice sector and in improving access to justice.
121. Saudi Arabia commended efforts to integrate human rights in public policies, and to promote the right to education in the context of the Strategic Vision for Reform 2015-2030.
122. Senegal welcomed the inclusive social policy targeting vulnerable persons and thus contributing to the reduction of inequalities and poverty, particularly in the Southern Provinces.
123. Serbia encouraged the continuation of Morocco's policy promoting gender equality, in particular on the job market.

124. Sierra Leone commended the 2016 Trafficking in Persons Act, migrants regularisation and granting of asylum, as well as the gender equality plan and child protection programme.
125. Singapore commended the implementation of the National Human Development Initiative and establishment of the Social Cohesion Fund for persons with specific needs.
126. Slovenia acknowledged improvements in gender equality, including the creation of the Authority for Equality and the Fight against all forms of discrimination, and noted the significant remaining challenges.
127. South Africa trusted that a political process with the Polisario Front would be resumed aiming at a mutually acceptable political solution and remained confident on the realisation of a referendum on the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.
128. South Sudan noted the wide reforms in the justice sector, strengthening of women's participation and adoption of policies aimed at combating poverty and social inequality.
129. Spain welcomed the adoption of the new Constitution in Morocco which located human rights in a predominant place and extended the public liberties.
130. Sri Lanka requested that Morocco share challenges and specific steps taken in the process of adopting the draft law for elimination of violence against women.
131. State of Palestine commended efforts to alleviate poverty line through social and economic reforms, and noted improvement in education and raising indicators of enrolment to education.
132. Sudan commended steps taken by Morocco since its second UPR, such as the ratification of the Optional protocol to the Convention against Torture.
133. Sweden made recommendations.
134. Switzerland welcomed the adoption of the law on violence against women. Noting that the Constitution provided for freedoms of expression, association and assembly, Switzerland expressed concern at the restrictions to these freedoms and to civil society space.
135. Thailand welcomed efforts in improving the right to health by establishing mobile hospitals in rural areas. It remained concerned at the issue of violence against women.
136. Togo noted the 2013 immigration and asylum policy allowing reception and regularisation of migrants. Togo welcomed the remarkable work of the National Human Rights Commission.
137. Tunisia commended Morocco's efforts in alleviating poverty, combatting child labour, and welcomed adoption of Press Law of 2016, and the law on the military courts jurisdiction.
138. Turkey welcomed the reforms of the justice system, the equality plan, the policy on child protection and legislative reform improving women's political participation.
139. Uganda commended Morocco for its active engagement with UPR and treaty bodies, including progress on the national reform agenda for strengthening human rights accountability.
140. Ukraine encouraged Morocco to ensure that the Integrate Child Protection Policy covered all areas under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
141. United Arab Emirates commended Morocco's adoption of the national strategy on sustainable development (2015-2020), and the establishment of several programmes and funds relevant to environment protection.

142. The United Kingdom welcomed the reform aimed at increasing the separation of powers, particularly ending trials of civilians in military courts. It urged reform implementation guaranteeing access to information and protecting journalistic sources.

143. The United States of America expressed concern at the mechanisms to investigate abuse and corruption, including in security forces, as well as limitations on the full exercise of freedoms of expression and association.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

144. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below will be examined by Morocco which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in September 2017:

144.1. Ratify the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia) (Georgia) (Spain) /Accede to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Portugal);

144.2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty(Belgium)(Estonia)(Hungary)/Accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Portugal) (Togo);

144.3. Move forward to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Chile);

144.4. Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Norway);

144.5. Formally abolish the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);

144.6. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Portugal);

144.7. Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Italy);

144.8. Consider withdrawing the remaining declarations and reservations to the CEDAW (Rwanda);

144.9. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Croatia) (Montenegro);

144.10. Accelerate the ratification process of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communication procedure (Georgia);

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

144.12. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and bring the national legislation in conformity with its provisions (Austria);

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- 144.13. **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**
- 144.14. **Ratify and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 144.15. **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align its legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Norway);**
- 144.16. **Ratify International Labour Organization Convention No.189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (Philippines);**
- 144.17. **Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for UN Treaty Body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**
- 144.18. **Take the necessary steps to achieve the total abolishment of the death penalty (Brazil);**
- 144.19. **Consider a standing invitation to the Special Procedures mandate holders (Austria);**
- 144.20. **Continue interacting constructively with the mechanism of special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 144.21. **Extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Guatemala);**
- 144.22. **Issue a standing invitation to special procedures, as previously recommended (Latvia);**
- 144.23. **Take concrete steps to strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures of the United Nations, in particular those of the Human Rights Council (Portugal);**
- 144.24. **Accept the establishment of a permanent rights component in the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, given the continuing need for an independent and impartial monitoring of the human rights situation in the place, as previously recommended (Uruguay);**
- 144.25. **Undertake to fully cooperate with the UN and in particular, the Secretary General's Special Envoy for Western Sahara (Zimbabwe);**
- 144.26. **Comply with provisions of the UN Security Council Resolution 2351, which extends the mandate of MINURSO and align itself with the principle of self-determination of Saharawi people (Mozambique);**
- 144.27. **Cooperate with the newly appointed UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Western Sahara (Mozambique);**
- 144.28. **Accept the inclusion of the human rights dimension in the mandate of the MINURSO (Namibia);**
- 144.29. **Continue to work with the OHCHR and UNHCHR to re-establish the humanitarian aid programme for the West Saharan population (Sierra Leone);**
- 144.30. **Fully cooperate with the United Nations Secretary-General, AU Special Envoys and OHCHR on the situation in Western Sahara (South Africa);**

- 144.31. Ensure that the Penal Code is fully in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);
- 144.32. Revise the Penal Code and associated law for compliance with international standards, to guarantee equality between men and women, criminalise marital rape, de-criminalise sexual relations outside marriage, abolish discrimination against children born outside of marriage, increase the minimum age of marriage to 18; de-criminalise consensual same-sex relations and develop public awareness programmes to address stigmatisation of LGBTI persons (Ireland);
- 144.33. Continue to strengthen its legislative and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights (Oman);
- 144.34. Adopt and apply a comprehensive anti-discrimination law (Ukraine);
- 144.35. Take steps to bring the definition of torture in accordance with the requirements of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);
- 144.36. Adhere to and adapt national legislation with the Rome Statute, including the incorporation of provisions to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);
- 144.37. Continue its steps to consolidate the principles of human rights and public freedoms (Yemen);
- 144.38. Continue mainstreaming human rights into various national bodies and sectors (Egypt);
- 144.39. Continue allocating the required funding for the implementation of projects to increase the integration of human rights into public policies (Ethiopia);
- 144.40. Consolidate the experience of regionalisation and continue the participation of the youth and women in all the regions of the Kingdom, including the southern provinces (Gabon);
- 144.41. Accelerate the implementation of the advanced regionalization, as means to further promote the participation of citizens, especially women and youth, from the 12 regions of the Kingdom in the political, economic governance of the country (Indonesia);
- 144.42. Continue putting in place public policies and programmes on human rights, including on the effective role of parliamentarians in the promotion and protection of human rights (Philippines);
- 144.43. Strengthen the achievements in the area of consolidation of human rights. (Senegal);
- 144.44. Continue reforms to consolidate the rule of law and the national mechanisms for protection of human rights (Viet Nam);
- 144.45. Step up the process of the creation of the Authority for Gender Equality and Action against All Forms of Discrimination (Gabon);
- 144.46. Continue efforts to support the role of regional committees of the National Human Rights Council, especially in the southern provinces (Jordan);
- 144.47. Establish the Authority for Gender Equality and Action against All Forms of Discrimination (Kuwait);

- 144.48. Establish an independent, effective and well-resourced national preventive mechanism in compliance with the requirements of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Ghana);
- 144.49. Accelerate the process of establishing the national preventive mechanism on torture (Greece);
- 144.50. Streamline the process for the establishment of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, ensuring a broad and inclusive participation in the same (Guatemala);
- 144.51. Intensify efforts to combat cases of torture and other ill-treatment by state agents, establishing an independent and effective national mechanism for the prevention of torture (Spain);
- 144.52. Ensure that a national preventive mechanism be swiftly established and that the mechanism is underpinned with a legal basis and receives the human resources and financial means necessary to carry out its mandate in an independent and efficient manner (Switzerland);
- 144.53. Establish a mechanism to protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Madagascar);
- 144.54. Establish a national mechanism for protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (Bahrain);
- 144.55. Continue promoting the role of national institutions for the protection of human rights by supporting the activities of the regional committees of the National Human Rights Council in various regions, in particular in the cities of Laayoune and Dakhla in the southern provinces (Bahrain);
- 144.56. Support the action of promotion and protection of human rights undertaken by the National Human Rights Council, through its regional commissions, throughout the territory (Central African Republic);
- 144.57. Continue efforts to establish and consolidate national institutions and mechanisms for promotion and protection of human rights (Gabon);
- 144.58. Ensure procedures governing the registration of civil society organizations, including those advocating for the Saharawi people's right to self-determination (Iceland);
- 144.59. Strengthen the action undertaken by the National Council for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular through its commissions throughout the territory (Madagascar);
- 144.60. Continue to reinforce the role and capacity of the national human rights institution that was re-accredited A status in March 2016 in full compliance with the Paris Principles (Mauritania);
- 144.61. Ensure that the procedures governing registration of civil society organizations, including organizations advocating for the Saharawi people's right to self-determination, are in conformity with international standards (Norway);
- 144.62. Continue efforts of the Government to endow the National Human Rights Institution with sufficient budgetary resources (Togo);

- 144.63. **Make further efforts to promote the culture of human rights and human rights education (Lebanon);**
- 144.64. **Continue positive experience of organizing human rights capacity building programmes for the law enforcement agencies (Azerbaijan);**
- 144.65. **Continue to train public officials on human rights (Lebanon);**
- 144.66. **Promote human rights education and training of public servants, along with the provision of necessary resources, at all levels. Local government employees, who have the most direct effect on its people, most often lack training in human rights or the resources to meet international standards on human rights. (Republic of Korea);**
- 144.67. **Ensure that adequate human and financial resources are allocated for the implementation of programs and activities on human rights (Philippines);**
- 144.68. **Enable the people of Western Sahara to exercise their right to self-determination through a democratic referendum (Zimbabwe);**
- 144.69. **Continue efforts to draw a national framework for human development that takes into consideration gender equality and non-discrimination (Tunisia);**
- 144.70. **Decriminalize consensual homosexual relations, and release those who were detained for that cause (Uruguay);**
- 144.71. **Repeal article 490 of the Penal Code criminalizing sexual relationships outside marriage in order to eliminate risks associated with abandonment and institutional stigmatization of children born out of wedlock (Belgium);**
- 144.72. **Prohibit discrimination and criminalize violence against persons on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity (Canada);**
- 144.73. **Put an end to discriminations (including legal ones) faced by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex persons (France);**
- 144.74. **Decriminalize consensual relations between same-sex adults (Mexico);**
- 144.75. **Ensure the same rights to all citizens, including those of the LGBTI collective, decriminalizing same-sex relationships and eliminating all discriminatory legislation on the basis of sexual orientation (Spain);**
- 144.76. **Apply and adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, containing a general prohibition of all forms of direct and indirect discrimination (Hungary);**
- 144.77. **Decriminalize consensual sexual relations, including by repealing penal code provisions in the Articles 489 to 493, prohibiting same-sex sexual relations, sexual relations outside marriage as well as adultery (Netherlands);**
- 144.78. **Adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law (South Africa);**
- 144.79. **Take urgent measures to repeal the norms that criminalize and stigmatize LGBTI persons and investigate and punish the perpetrators of acts of discrimination and violence against them (Argentina);**
- 144.80. **Repeal legislation, in particular Article 489 of the Penal Code, criminalising consensual sexual conduct between same-sex adults (Iceland);**

- 144.81. Continue efforts to achieve the national strategic goals for sustainable development (2015-2020) (Oman);
- 144.82. Continue to develop and implement development programmes and to improve economic capacities of the entire country including in the southern provinces of Morocco (Saudi Arabia);
- 144.83. Speed up the implementation of the national policy on climate change (Cuba);
- 144.84. Strengthen the mainstreaming of environmental rights within the elaboration and implementation of development strategies (Indonesia);
- 144.85. Revise the provisions of the Criminal Code on terrorism and define terrorism-related offences more clearly and precisely (Hungary);
- 144.86. Revise the provisions of Criminal Code on terrorism with a view to define precisely terrorism-related offenses and ensure the legislation to be in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Right (CCPR) (Albania);
- 144.87. With reference to the recently expressed concern by ECOSOC about the presence of the berm, continue to implement the demining programme along the berm and compensate victims (Namibia);
- 144.88. Continue efforts to remove landmines and other explosive remnants of war (Peru);
- 144.89. Adhere to and adapt national legislation to the Arms Trade Treaty (Guatemala);
- 144.90. Implement recommendations 129.62 and 129.65 of the second cycle, and unequivocally ban corporal punishment in all places, including at home, in alternative care institutions, day nurseries, and schools (Haiti);
- 144.91. Establish legislation that prohibits corporal punishment and ill-treatment of boys and girls (Paraguay);
- 144.92. Abolish the death penalty (France);
- 144.93. Intensify national discussions with a view to the abolition of the death penalty (Italy);
- 144.94. Keep the moratorium on the death penalty and intensify dialogue on the capital punishment and its impact, towards its full abolition for all crimes (Montenegro);
- 144.95. Continue the current national debate on the abolition of the death penalty and consider formalizing the *de facto* moratorium currently observed (Albania);
- 144.96. Maintains its *de facto* moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view towards its total abolition including through the ongoing process of reform of the penal code (Rwanda);
- 144.97. Continue the national debate on the abolition of the death penalty (South Africa);
- 144.98. Consider formalizing the *de facto* death penalty moratorium (Ukraine);
- 144.99. Consider abolishing the capital punishment (Namibia);

- 144.100. Eliminate the death penalty from its national legislation (Paraguay);
- 144.101. Maintain the moratorium on the death penalty followed by the definitive abolition of the death penalty (Austria);
- 144.102. Continue the socio-economic programmes for detainees in relation to their post-detention socio-professional reinsertion, in particular in favour of women and the youth (Central African Republic);
- 144.103. Accelerate the process of the revision of the legal framework regulating prisons in order to be harmonized with international standards (Cyprus);
- 144.104. Take necessary measures in order to resolve the problem of prison overcrowding (Greece);
- 144.105. Continue improving the conditions obtaining in prisons, reduce crowding, and adopt alternatives to pre-trial detention and provide adequate medical care to prisoners (Kenya);
- 144.106. Accelerate the process of revising legislative framework governing prisons for its harmonization with the 2011 Constitution and international standards (Pakistan);
- 144.107. Adopt the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code of Procedures to ensure the respect of guarantees of safeguards in detention (Ghana);
- 144.108. Strengthen its national mechanisms and international cooperation to combat trafficking in persons, particularly child sex tourism (Honduras);
- 144.109. Continue efforts to combat human trafficking and ensure that special attention is given to vulnerable groups when applying the law adopted in this regard (Qatar);
- 144.110. Develop a national strategy to tackle modern slavery and ratify the 2014 ILO protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 144.111. Remove restrictive practices against Christians and other minorities, including limitations on religious activities, freedom of thought and conscience, in accordance with international law (Kenya);
- 144.112. Ensure that the relevant provisions of the Criminal Code are brought in line with Morocco obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular with regard to the freedom of speech and opinion (Zambia);
- 144.113. Refrain from referring to other law than the press code when dealing with infractions on freedom of expression (Denmark);
- 144.114. Fully ensure freedoms of expression and association and take all necessary measures to ensure the exercise of the missions of human rights defenders (France);
- 144.115. Continue the work to enhance the freedom of expression through the implementation of the law establishing the National Press Council (Qatar);
- 144.116. Review penal code provisions regarding freedom of expression, in conformity with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Netherlands);

- 144.117. Ensure the Constitution's provisions on freedom of the press, freedom of opinion and expression and the freedom of assembly and association are respected, including for people who want to express their views on the situation of and in Western Sahara (Sweden);
- 144.118. To end the prosecution of journalists under the Penal Code for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of opinion and expression and for ensuring the right to information (Sweden);
- 144.119. End prosecution and release journalists and other individuals detained solely for the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association (United States of America);
- 144.120. Create and maintain in law and practice a safe and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, including in and in relation to Western Sahara, through revision of the Criminal Code and to remove limitations on freedom of expression, review of the system for registration of associations and notification of assemblies and consistent application of rules to all peaceful assemblies irrespective of their topic (Ireland);
- 144.121. Remove obstacles to non-governmental associations seeking registration from the authorities (Sweden);
- 144.122. Approve the license applications for all non-governmental associations seeking registration in accordance with the law, including organizations advocating for members of minority populations (United States of America);
- 144.123. Conduct full, impartial and independent investigations into all allegations of corruption or abuse by security forces and prosecute those responsible where appropriate (United States of America);
- 144.124. Take further steps to ensure judicial independence, which is important in guaranteeing fair trials in accordance with international human rights standards (Australia);
- 144.125. Complete reforms of the judiciary (Kuwait);
- 144.126. Accelerate the implementation of the 'Charter on the Reforms of Judicial System' (Sri Lanka);
- 144.127. Continue completing the reform process of the justice system and guarantee the independence of the judiciary in accordance with the relevant constitutional requirements (Sudan);
- 144.128. Revise the penal code and the criminal procedure code as part of the ongoing reform of the justice sector (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 144.129. Take the necessary measures to repeal all legal provisions that establish differences between children born in wedlock and children born out of wedlock, in particular those contained in the Family Code, which were discriminatory against those children (Argentina);
- 144.130. Analyse existing legislation and repeal all the rules, in particular those of the Family Code, which were contrary to the principle of equality between children or which constitute a discrimination of the rights of the child (Chile);

- 144.131. **Repeal all discriminatory provisions in relation to children born out of wedlock (Congo);**
- 144.132. **Repeal the provision preventing Moroccan women to transmit nationality to their foreign husband (Congo);**
- 144.133. **Repeal provisions which deny women legal guardianship of minor children on an equal footing with men (Denmark);**
- 144.134. **Abolish the criminalization of single mothers, allow full legal recognition of children born outside marriage (including with regard to their name and right of inheritance), and introduce DNA testing to ascertain paternity (Germany);**
- 144.135. **Consider eliminating in identity documents all data that could lead to discrimination against children born out of wedlock (Peru);**
- 144.136. **Improve the existing procedures for registering children to guarantee equality for children and equal legal treatment without any discrimination. (Serbia);**
- 144.137. **Repeal the provisions in the Family Code which discriminate against children born outside of wedlock. (Togo);**
- 144.138. **Any reference be withdrawn from identity documents which would allow for the identification of children born outside of wedlock and repeal all discriminatory provisions regarding such children, in particular in the Family Code (Turkey);**
- 144.139. **Eliminate fees for birth certificates and facilitate that birth certificate be issued to all refugee children who do not have any yet (Turkey);**
- 144.140. **Allocate more resources for the implementation of national policies in favour of vulnerable social groups (Viet Nam);**
- 144.141. **Continue and speed up efforts to promote economic, social and cultural rights for the whole population (Djibouti);**
- 144.142. **Continue efforts to promote and protect economic and social rights through development strategies to encourage investment and employment (Saudi Arabia);**
- 144.143. **Improve the identification of eligible beneficiaries of social protection schemes (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 144.144. **Continue to promote the consolidation of its social policies and combat poverty and inequality, which are still present (Angola);**
- 144.145. **Continue efforts to protect economic and social rights through the implementation of programmes to fight poverty, in the framework of the National Human Development Initiative (Côte d'Ivoire);**
- 144.146. **Continue implementing policies to fight poverty and promote economic development (Egypt);**
- 144.147. **Continue endeavours to reduce poverty and bridge the income gap between the different regions and between rural and urban areas (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 144.148. **Continue strengthening programs to reduce poverty through the National Initiative for Human Development (Pakistan);**

- 144.149. Share its experience with others in the field of human development and poverty reduction (South Sudan);
- 144.150. Continue to adopt measures to further improve the lives of vulnerable people in the country (Brunei Darussalam);
- 144.151. Ensure an equitable distribution of resources between the rural and urban areas. (State of Palestine);
- 144.152. Continue its good work to reduce the prevailing high unemployment rate in the country (Bangladesh);
- 144.153. Continue to promote economic and social development to steadily raise peoples' living standards so as to provide firm foundation for the enjoyment of all human rights (China);
- 144.154. Strengthen the laws ensuring the reduction of unemployment rates and increase employment opportunities to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development (Iraq);
- 144.155. Continue efforts to reduce unemployment rates among the youth, including strengthening vocational training programmes (Libya);
- 144.156. Establish dialogues to engage cooperation that will allow the application of best practices and plans to reduce unemployment, underemployment and informal work, and strengthen the policies for the generation of employment and youth employment (Paraguay);
- 144.157. Further strengthen the promotion of environmental rights through their incorporation in the social and economic development plans in the entire parts of the Kingdom (United Arab Emirates);
- 144.158. Continue to implement policies and develop infrastructure that increase access to employment, particularly for youths (Singapore);
- 144.159. Adopt a draft law regulating the labour conditions of domestic workers (Turkey);
- 144.160. Continue to provide basic medical cover for its people, including the elderly (Brunei Darussalam);
- 144.161. Improve the social protection system with a view to extend social and medical coverage to every one (Cuba);
- 144.162. As a follow-up to recommendations 129.98, 129.102, 129.111, 129.116, 129.117 and 130.9 from the second cycle, increase investments in public education with a view to increasing salaries of teachers and introducing professional and technical training programmes (Haiti);
- 144.163. Increase access to health services in its rural areas, in particular to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity (Republic of Korea);
- 144.164. Further promote pre-natal care and consultation to reduce the need for emergency transportation at the time of labour and thereby reduce the risk of deaths among mothers and children (Thailand);
- 144.165. Take further targeted measures to promote inclusive education for all (Armenia);
- 144.166. Implement the Strategic vision for education reform 2015-2030 (Burundi);

- 144.167. Continue efforts to promote inclusive education through the strengthening of access to education for persons with disabilities (Ecuador);
- 144.168. Continue to strengthen further the right to education (Mauritius);
- 144.169. Put in place a strategy or a plan of action to fight illiteracy (Niger);
- 144.170. Consider eliminating differences in schooling between cities and rural areas; between girls and boys; and minorities (Peru);
- 144.171. Implement measures to ensure inclusive education for all at the primary, secondary and university levels (Portugal);
- 144.172. Make further steps in the field of promotion of economic, social, and cultural rights, especially in the sector of education, with a special focus on enrolment of girls and boys in the rural areas. (Romania);
- 144.173. Pursue to support the right to education through implementing the strategic vision to reform the education system for the period of 2015-2030 (Saudi Arabia);
- 144.174. Consolidate and support the promotion of education for economically vulnerable children (South Sudan);
- 144.175. Continue efforts to ensure enrolling all children in elementary school and to consider the necessary measures to reach out to children deprived of education (State of Palestine);
- 144.176. Continue efforts to promote the right to education through combatting phenomenon of school drop-out (Sudan);
- 144.177. Continue efforts to reform public education system and improve the quality of public education that achieves equal opportunities between social classes (Tunisia);
- 144.178. Increased efforts to ensure the school enrolment of all children at primary and secondary level (Turkey);
- 144.179. Review and where necessary adapt school and early childhood education curricula, teaching and school practices to foster elimination of gender discrimination and stereotyping as well as promotion of empowerment of girls from an early age (Botswana);
- 144.180. Promote programmes that encourage the education of children, especially girls in villages and for the benefit of vulnerable groups (United Arab Emirates);
- 144.181. Continue efforts to promote cultural rights through programmes to protect and revitalize the diversity of cultural heritage constituting the Moroccan identity, including the Hassani heritage in the southern provinces (United Arab Emirates);
- 144.182. Continue promoting equality between men and women in public policies (Egypt);
- 144.183. Continue to promote gender equality and women involvement in politics and public services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 144.184. Continue the commendable efforts to promote and protect the rights of women and children (Mauritania);

- 144.185. Review all laws and practices that discriminate on the basis of gender and bring them in line with international law and standards and to take steps to further improve the protection of women who are subject to violence, including through amending the Penal Code to ensure the criminalization of marital rape (Sweden);
- 144.186. Revise the Family Code to prohibit polygamy and marriage of minors as well as guaranteeing equality between men and women in inheritance matters and in right to guardianship (Norway);
- 144.187. As a follow-up to recommendations 129.19, 129.22, 129.27, 129.39, 129.40, 129.43, 129.78, 129.88, 129.93 and 131.7 from the second cycle, intensify efforts towards improving economic, social and cultural rights of the female population, with their full participation (Haiti);
- 144.188. Adopt comprehensive and integral legislation to eliminate discrimination and all forms of violence against women, and promote their advancement in all areas including the economic (Honduras);
- 144.189. Strengthen the existing legal framework to protect women against all forms of violence and eliminate all discriminatory gender-based legal norms (Chile);
- 144.190. Take all necessary measures to strengthen the fight against domestic violence and sexual violence against women (France);
- 144.191. Take appropriate measures, taking into consideration of its international obligations, to prevent marriage of minors (Myanmar);
- 144.192. Continue to put in place practical measures at local and national levels to ensure gender equality and combat discrimination against women (Singapore);
- 144.193. Continue efforts to combat violence against women (Tunisia);
- 144.194. Amend domestic legislation to remove all forms of gender-based discrimination and protect the rights of women and children (Australia);
- 144.195. Expedite the adoption of draft law 103.13 on violence against women, while taking into account the importance of widening the protection for women victims of violence, and criminalize marital rape (Belgium);
- 144.196. Continue its efforts to improve legislation concerning violence against women, in line with international standards, addressing the dimensions of prevention, protection and assistance, and repealing discriminatory provisions related to custody, marriage, inheritance and transfer of nationality (Brazil);
- 144.197. Criminalize marital rape and threats of violence as part of its draft law 103-13 on combating violence against women and implement state-sponsored programmes to support victims (Canada);
- 144.198. Implement adequate measures to ensure comprehensive and effective protection of women against domestic violence and accelerate the drafting process of a bill that is consistent with international standards in this area (Germany);
- 144.199. Strengthen the legal framework to prevent discrimination and violence against women, in particular domestic violence (Italy);
- 144.200. Accelerate the process of adoption of the draft law on the elimination of the violence against women (Jordan);

- 144.201. Continue aligning legislation, policies and programmes that anchor the rights of the Child in order to stop children from working in harmful conditions, stop early marriages and criminalize all forms of child exploitation (Kenya);
- 144.202. Adopt specific legislation on violence against women, including criminal and civil provisions necessary to address domestic violence and sexual harassment against women and girls (Mexico);
- 144.203. Implement the Law on Violence against Women swiftly (Norway);
- 144.204. Adopt a general law on violence against women, in accordance with international standards, providing the means for its effective implementation (Paraguay);
- 144.205. Strengthen legislation to ensure gender equality, in particular to prevent violence against women and stop early and forced marriages (Republic of Korea);
- 144.206. Accelerate the enactment of the law on violence against women and the adoption of the international definition of gender-based violence (Slovenia);
- 144.207. Further progress in the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, putting into operation the Authority for Parity and the Fight against all forms of Discrimination (Spain);
- 144.208. Adopt and implement a comprehensive and non-discriminatory law on violence against women and girls (Switzerland);
- 144.209. Put in place a specific legislation to prevent, investigate and punish violence against women (Uganda);
- 144.210. Adjust the new abortion law protocol to give women the right to abort in case of incest and rape based on the police report only (Slovenia);
- 144.211. Step up efforts to combat violence against women by strictly enforcing relevant laws and improve victim support mechanisms (Thailand);
- 144.212. Take additional measures on domestic violence (Greece);
- 144.213. Amend the law on inheritance in the Family Code in order to respect gender equality, as stipulated in Article 19 of the Moroccan Constitution (Canada);
- 144.214. Adopt appropriate measures with a view to integrate women more in economic activities and guarantee them a right to equal treatment and equal pay for work of equal value (Serbia);
- 144.215. Make further reforms in the Family Code to remove all exceptions that allow marriage of children under the age of 18 years of age (Botswana);
- 144.216. Ensure that the minimum age of marriage at 18 years of age is respected, including by preventing judges from authorizing children to marry under Article 20 of the Family Code (Canada);
- 144.217. Eliminate the harmful practice of early marriage and raise awareness among public and parents for their effective protection of minor girls. (Croatia);
- 144.218. Strengthen measures aimed at eradicating child marriages and expedite the enactment of legislation abolishing forced marriage of children (Sierra Leone);

- 144.219. Take measures to counter-act the trend of judicial authorizations of marriages involving minors, including through necessary amendments of the Family Code (Sweden);
- 144.220. Strengthen the promotion of political participation of women and youth (Ecuador);
- 144.221. Continue efforts to promote political participation of women (Jordan);
- 144.222. Take more effective measures to better protect the rights of children, persons with disabilities, migrants and other vulnerable groups (China);
- 144.223. Continue efforts to ensure vulnerable children and adolescents in rural community access quality education and health care services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 144.224. Continue to strengthen the relevant public policies on the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly the rights of children, migrants and asylum seekers and persons with disabilities (Romania);
- 144.225. Continue its efforts to combat child labour through the effective implementation of Domestic Worker's Labour and Employment Conditions Act (Maldives);
- 144.226. Prohibit and criminalize explicitly the recruitment and use in hostilities of children under 18 years (Ukraine);
- 144.227. Continue its efforts for the protection and promotion of the human rights of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and children (Cyprus);
- 144.228. Further accelerate efforts aimed at promoting the rights of women and children, in particular those with disabilities (Georgia);
- 144.229. Continue taking comprehensive measures to better integrate persons with disabilities into society (Hungary);
- 144.230. Continue to reinforce the implementation of public policies regarding persons with disabilities (Libya);
- 144.231. Integrate sign language into public media, and provide training for interpreters in this field (Madagascar);
- 144.232. Continue its appreciable efforts towards development of national languages and promote and protect the Amazigh language and cultural heritages (Bangladesh);
- 144.233. Continue efforts towards introducing the teaching of the Amazigh language and culture (Burundi);
- 144.234. Continue efforts towards the promotion and preservation of the Saharo-Hassani cultural heritage enshrined in the 2011 Constitution (Burundi);
- 144.235. Continue to adopt the legislative measures and protection policies necessary to ensure education for the Amazigh and the Saharawi populations at all levels, as well as the full enjoyment of their rights to demonstrate and participate in the cultural life of the country, preserving their traditions and identity (Mexico);

- 144.236. **Guarantee the full and equal access to socio-economic resources, (including access to tertiary education and traditional language classes) for the Amazigh's and Saharans/Saharawi (Sierra Leone);**
- 144.237. **Continue the implementation of the policy of effective promotion and protection of the rights of migrants (Central African Republic);**
- 144.238. **Continue efforts undertaken to promote and protect the rights of migrants (Djibouti);**
- 144.239. **Thoroughly review the national legislation on migration and asylum (Honduras);**
- 144.240. **Speed up the review of the legal framework on migration and asylum in order to align it with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Uganda);**
- 144.241. **Consider sharing with other countries the Moroccan experience regarding the protection and promotion of the rights of migrants (Senegal);**
- 144.242. **Accede to and domesticate the conventions relating to the status of stateless persons and the reduction of statelessness in order to grant nationality to children who would otherwise remain stateless (Kenya);**
- 144.243. **Allow the Saharawi people to freely exercise their inalienable right to self-determination in accordance with UN General Assembly's Resolutions and in this context accept a schedule proposed by the United Nations Secretary-General on the organization of a referendum on self-determination in Western Sahara (Namibia);**
- 144.244. **Develop and implement independent and credible measures to ensure full respect for human rights in Western Sahara, including the freedom of expression and assembly (Iceland).**
145. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Morocco was headed by H.E, Mr. Mostafa RAMID, Minister of Human Rights, and composed of the following members:

- M. Driss NAJIM, Cabinet du Ministre;
- M. Hassane BOUKILI, Chargé d'affaires Mission du Maroc;
- M. Saïd AHOUGA, Ministre Plénipotentiaire;
- Mme. Siham MOURABIT, Ministère des Affaires Etrangère et de la Coopération Internationale;
- Mme. Nezha EL HADRAMI, Ministère de la Communication;
- Mme. Touria ELAFTI, Secrétariat d'Etat Chargé de l'Eau;
- Mme. Hanane BIDRANE, Délégation Interministérielle aux Droits de l'Homme;
- M. Fouad ZYADI, Secrétariat d'Etat Chargé de Développement Durable;
- M. Mohammed EL AZZOUZI, Administration de la Défense Nationale;
- M. Azzouz ATTAOUI, Ministère de la Famille de Solidarité, de l'Egalité, et du Développement Social;
- M. Lahoucine AMOUZAY, Institut Royal de la Culture Amazighe;
- M. Saïd MACHAK, Ministère Chargé des Marocains Résidants à l'Etranger et des Affaires de la Migration;
- Mme. Karima BRAHIMI, Ministère de l'Intérieur /DRLP;
- Mme. Mouna LEMZOURI, Ministère de la Justice;
- M. Brahim BASTAOUI, Ministère de l'Intérieur;
- M. Hssain OUJOUR, Education Nationale;
- M. Abderrazak ROUANE, Délégation Interministérielle aux Droits de l'Homme;
- M. Abdelaziz KARRAKY, Délégation Interministérielle aux Droits de l'Homme;
- M. Mohamed ADI, Délégation Interministérielle aux Droits de l'Homme;
- M. Mohammed AIT AZIZI, Ministère de la Famille de Solidarité, de l'Egalité, et du Développement Social;
- M. Toufik EL ATIFI, Ministère de Travail;
- Mme. Mouna BENGRINE, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances;
- M. Moulay Ahmed MGHIZLAT, CORCAS;
- M. Abdeslam NADAH, HCP.