



**General Assembly**

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**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

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

**The Netherlands \***

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## **II. CONCLUSIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**78. In the course of the discussion, the following recommendations were made to the Netherlands:**

- 1. Ratify as soon as possible the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France); to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Brazil) and to set clear time frames in this regard, and that the Human Rights Council be informed accordingly (Russian Federation);**
- 2. Initiate a debate on the death penalty, with a view to reaching responsive conclusions consistent with international human rights law (Egypt);**
- 3. Reconsider the legality of prostitution given its impact on the realization of a whole range of rights (Egypt);**
- 4. That a mechanism be established with a view to verifying that political parties and social institutions do not adopt racist or xenophobic programmes (Egypt);**
- 5. Lawmakers discharge their responsibility under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in particular with regard to the prohibition of incitement to hatred by law, and enacting the necessary restrictions to protect the rights of others (Egypt);**
- 6. Take appropriate measures to prevent the use of excessive force by security forces when forcibly repatriating migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers (Nigeria);**
- 7. Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Egypt, Peru, Algeria) and to increase its efforts to prevent acts of discrimination against migrants (Algeria);**



- 8. Continue efforts to intensify the investigation and prosecution of racial hatred and related violence through criminal legal proceedings and other measures (Canada) and to implement all the articles of International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Cuba);**
- 9. Ensure that information on the implementation of human rights conventions in the overseas territories be consistently included in reports to treaty bodies (United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Algeria);**
- 10. Consider withdrawal of reservations with respect to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Russian Federation) and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with regard to the Netherlands Antilles (Russian Federation, Algeria);**
- 11. Strengthen rules and regulations with regard to hatred, defamation of religions and Islamophobia (Islamic Republic of Iran) and enforce legislation on equality and non-discrimination and adopt measures to combat Islamophobia (Saudi Arabia);**
- 12. To promote and strengthen the foundation of the family and its values among the society (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 13. Take a leading role in setting the tone of the current national debate on integration issues and have the voices of migrants and other groups also be heard (Turkey); Continue to engage in a national dialogue with a view to promoting respect for diversity and tolerance and consider establishing an institutional mechanism to ensure respect for diversity and tolerance (India);**
- 14. Complete investigations about civil and criminal implications concerning the release of the film “Fitna” and initiate prosecution of the author in accordance with Dutch law (Pakistan);**
- 15. Consider formulating measures that would recognize that a truly meaningful enjoyment of the right to freedom of expression is only realized when exercised with responsibility (Malaysia), and undertake proactive measures aimed at preventing the instrumentalization of the freedom of expression to justify campaigns of incitement to racial hatred and violence in the Netherlands (Algeria);**
- 16. Ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective as the follow-up to the UPR (Slovenia);**
- 17. Take part in international activities to promote and protect human rights on the basis of an equitable and mutually respectful dialogue (Belarus);**
- 18. Undertake consistent efforts to counter racism and promote social and religious cohesion (Indonesia);**
- 19. Consider implementing the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and CEDAW (India), and strengthen measures to increase the participation by ethnic minority women in line with CEDAW recommendations, and consider intensifying human rights education (Ghana);**

20. Continue to promote awareness of diversity and multiculturalism at all levels of education (Algeria, Republic of Korea);
21. Address the issue of demand in the destination country in order to be successful in the fight against trafficking in persons (Bangladesh);
22. While promoting the rights of freedom of opinion and expression, pay due attention to commiserating responsibility and respect for others (Bangladesh);
23. Review its legislation in order to protect fundamental rights of all persons, independently of their migrant status, and take necessary measures regarding discrimination against women refugees, migrants and women from ethnic groups, and to guarantee the integration of all women victims of trafficking (Mexico);
24. Establish or strengthen the machinery for reviewing the accelerated procedure of 48 hours in order to guarantee the rights of the asylum-seekers (Mexico);
25. To ensure proper representation of minorities in the labour market as per the ratio of minorities (Algeria);
26. Undertake an in-depth study on trafficking and exploitation of children, particularly with regard to sexual abuse, child prostitution and child pornography, as a basis for urgent remedial action in this regard (Algeria);
27. Accelerate efforts in increasing female representation in top positions in the senior public service to 25 per cent by 2011 (South Africa);
28. Take legal measures to deal with intolerance and initiate an awareness-raising campaign for the society at large to ensure a more generalized tolerance (Jordan);
29. While implementing anti-terrorism measures, respect international human rights obligations, including the right to a fair trial and the right to freedom and security of the person (Switzerland); and consider revising all anti-terrorism legislation to bring it in line with the highest human rights standards (Cuba);
30. Take necessary steps to establish a national human rights institution (New Zealand);
31. Work on promoting a society of tolerance through educational measures (Saudi Arabia).

79. These recommendations will be examined by the Netherlands, which will provide a response in due time. The response of the Netherlands will be included in the outcome to be adopted by the Human Rights Council at its eighth session.

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

**Annex**

**Composition of the delegation \***

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