

**Responses to Recommendations**

**QATAR**

Review in the Working Group: 08 February 2010  
 Adoption in the Plenary: 09 June 2010

**Qatar's responses to recommendations (as of 28.06.2010):**

<b>In the Report of the Working Group:</b>	<b>In the Addendum:</b>	<b>During the plenary:</b>	<b>Summary:</b>
76 REC accepted; 12 rejected; 24 pending	Addendum available in Arabic only so far	Out of the 24 pending, the delegation declared accepting 11 REC among which 8 are considered either already implemented or in the process of implementation and rejecting 13. Second part of n°22 is not addressed.	Accepted: 87 Rejected: 25 No clear position: 0 Pending: 1

**List of recommendations contained in Section II of the Report of the Working Group A/HRC/14/2:**

**83. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue and listed below enjoy the support of Qatar:**

- A - 1. To consider ratifying two core United Nations human rights instruments, namely the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Slovenia);
- A - 2. To consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- A - 3. To strengthen efforts towards the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Brazil);
- A - 4. To continue to accede to core international human rights instruments (Kazakhstan);

- A - 5. To continue the process of accession to international human rights instruments and improvement of the national human rights legislation, especially in the context of priorities identified in the comprehensive plan of development known as Qatar National Vision 2030 (Belarus);
- A - 6. To continue to honour its international human rights commitments through compliance with its obligations (Nicaragua);
- A - 7. To share its experience with interested countries in the area of fighting corruption (Yemen);
- A - 8. To intensify efforts to guarantee equal opportunities for women in the public service, especially in senior governmental positions (Netherlands);
- A - 9. To continue its efforts to strengthen the role of women in society and to include women in an effective manner in the development process, supporting women to enable them to participate in economic activities in the country (Kuwait);
- A - 10. To continue taking measures to promote and empower women and to enable them to participate in a more effective manner in public life (Algeria);
- A - 11. To continue to remove any impediments that could hamper Qatari women's full participation in society (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya);
- A - 12. To continue to formulate and implement policies that enhance and develop the capacity of women to fulfil their responsibilities as key partners in the development process (Pakistan);
- A - 13. To continue to promote women's rights and empowerment, with a view to further enhancing their participation in economic and political life (Philippines);
- A - 14. To continue to empower the status and participation of women in social and business spheres (Turkey);
- A - 15. To further enhance the representation of women in all fields of society (Azerbaijan);
- A - 16. To continue its efforts to ensure the civil and political rights of women (Yemen);
- A - 17. To continue efforts to ensure that women fully participate in society (Nicaragua);
- A - 18. To continue implementing policies that will enhance and develop women's capacity as key partners in the development process (Indonesia);
- A - 19. To continue to intensify efforts with positive measures to ensure the effective promotion and protection of women's rights, in harmony with customs and traditional values of its society (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- A - 20. To continue its efforts to improve the status of women and ensure their full participation in all areas of life (Belarus);
- A - 21. To continue efforts to promote gender equality and empower the position of women (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- A - 22. To continue to improve policies and training programmes regarding the promotion and protection of the rights of the child (Indonesia);
- A - 23. To continue its efforts to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Bahrain);
- A - 24. To continue its efforts to develop the capacities of the institutions dealing with vulnerable groups, in particular persons with disabilities (Nicaragua);
- A - 25. To bring the 2004 Law No 2 on persons with special needs into line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Russian Federation);
- A - 26. To continue efforts to prohibit the use of child labour (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

- A - 27. To continue its support for the foundations that provide services to women and children victims of abuse and violence (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- A - 28. To take measures to strengthen and guarantee the effective implementation of legal measures against domestic violence, sexual abuse and the exploitation of women and children (Mexico);
- A - 29. To continue its efforts to prevent domestic violence, notably by reinforcing the legal framework and increasing the protection of victims and the prosecution of reported cases (Slovenia);
- A - 30. To conduct an awareness and education campaign to prevent violence against women and prosecute those who commit crimes of violence against women (Canada);
- A - 31. To actively improve the protection of female domestic workers against violence and sexual abuse (Norway);
- A - 32. To make efforts to ensure that the police prioritizes and investigates cases of violence and sexual abuse against female domestic workers (Norway);
- A - 33. To continue its efforts to promulgate laws against human trafficking and on domestic workers (Malaysia);
- A - 34. To consider using the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking developed by OHCHR as a reference guide in its policies and programs (Philippines);
- A - 35. To continue its efforts to prevent impunity for perpetrators of human trafficking and towards the principle of non-criminalization of victims (Turkey);
- A - 36. To further intensify its efforts to combat human trafficking (Azerbaijan);
- A - 37. To continue the work to ensure fair trials, particularly in cases of the death penalty, ensuring the right to be judged by an independent, impartial and competent court, the right to effective judicial protection, the right to have enough time and facilities to properly prepare the defence of a defendant, the right to the presumption of innocence, the right to appeal and the right for a sentence to be commuted (Spain);
- A - 38. To share its experiences in strengthening its judiciary system (Brunei Darussalam);
- A - 39. To consider raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Brazil);
- A - 40. To elaborate a national plan of action on children's rights in the juvenile justice system (Kazakhstan);
- A - 41. To share its best practices in terms of promoting education for children with disabilities (Brunei Darussalam);
- A - 42. To continue its efforts to further strengthen the foundations of the family and its associated values among society (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- A - 43. To continue to pursue social policies in keeping with well-established family values, and not to be intimidated by suggestions on social norms that are controversial, non- universal and specific to certain societies (Bangladesh);
- A - 44. To take further measures to facilitate access to health-care services for the enjoyment of the right to health by all (Bangladesh);
- A - 45. To sustain its efforts with regard to health and education (Cuba);
- A - 46. To continue its efforts and dedication to ensure education enrolment for all categories of society (Algeria);

- A - 47. To continue practical steps already taken to disseminate a culture of human rights in education institutions, utilizing the media for this purpose (Saudi Arabia);
- A - 48. To continue efforts to spread a culture of human rights in Qatar (Syrian Arab Republic);
- A - 49. To step up efforts to strengthen public education, awareness programmes and skill training, particularly aimed at increasing the awareness of human rights in Qatar (Malaysia);
- A - 50. To continue efforts to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers, and to share its leading experience in this area in international forums (Saudi Arabia);
- A - 51. In line with its ongoing efforts, to continue to strengthen its labour laws and to improve the living and working conditions of foreign workers (Pakistan);
- A - 52. To continue to strengthen measures to protect and promote the welfare and human rights of all expatriate workers in Qatar, especially women domestic workers (Philippines);
- A - 53. To continue its active and leading participation in the Abu Dhabi dialogue process (Philippines);
- A - 54. To make further efforts to promote and protect the rights of expatriate workers, who make a significant contribution to the economic development and prosperity of Qatar (Sri Lanka);
- A - 55. To continue its efforts to protect the rights of expatriate workers (Azerbaijan);
- A - 56. To reinforce measures to prevent violence against foreign domestic workers and bring to justice those responsible for such crimes (Netherlands);
- A - 57. To continue efforts to combat discrimination against women, particularly migrant women (Brazil);
- A - 58. To continue its leadership and international cooperation in the international agenda for the development of countries of the South (Cuba);
- A - 59. To continue its policy of development based on respect for human rights (Lebanon);
- A - 60. To continue work on and consider expansion of its Reach Out to Asia Programme (Philippines);
- A - 61. To continue its achievements in the field of human rights as an encouragement factor for the promotion and protection of human rights (United Arab Emirates);
- A - 62. To continue its efforts to deepen and strengthen human rights in the country (Algeria);
- A - 63. To continue its efforts to promote human rights, which have reached a notable level in Qatar (Tunisia);
- A - 64. To continue to address human rights challenges in line with international human rights standards (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- A - 65. To take more concrete measures aiming at fostering a genuine human rights culture with due regard for national and regional particularities, as well as historic, cultural and religious backgrounds (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- A - 66. To continue to strengthen its cooperation with civil society organizations in promoting and protecting human rights in areas such as the administration of justice, education, public health, migrant workers and gender equality (Malaysia);
- A - 67. To continue to strengthen cooperation with civil society organizations (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

A - 68. To continue its policy focusing on principal human rights issues, in particular in the framework of its comprehensive development vision known as Qatar National Vision 2030 and of its own civilization and religious identity (Morocco);

A - 69. To continue to promote dialogue among the various religions and civilizations, and to promote the culture of dialogue and peaceful coexistence (Algeria);

A - 70. To continue its civilized choice aimed at strengthening dialogue among religions and spreading the values of moderation and tolerance (Tunisia);

A - 71. To continue to play a leading role in facilitating global conferences on interreligious and inter-civilization dialogue, democracy, human rights and a culture of peace (Malaysia);

A - 72. To continue its role in promoting genuine interfaith dialogue (Indonesia);

A - 73. To involve civil society in the implementation of recommendations, and follow up from the present review (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

A - 74. To establish an effective and inclusive process with civil society to follow up on universal periodic review recommendations (Norway);

A - 75. To establish a follow-up mechanism related to the implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review and associate the national institution fully in its work (Djibouti);

A - 76. To strengthen its cooperation with OHCHR, including with regard to the training of relevant public officials, on the basis of identified technical assistance needs and with a view to establishing a multi-year programme (Djibouti).

**84. Qatar considers that recommendations Nos. 26 and 40 above are either already implemented or in the process of implementation.**

**85. The following recommendations will be examined by Qatar, which will provide responses in due time. The response of Qatar to these recommendations will be included in the outcome report adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fourteenth session:**

R - 1. To examine the possibility of ratifying other international conventions that it has not yet ratified, in particular the two International Covenants and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Algeria);

R - 2. To Sign and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Spain);

R - 3. To ratify international instruments still pending, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Rome Statute (Chile);

R - 4. To consider acceding to all core conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) (Norway);

R - 5. To consider ratifying ILO Conventions 98 and 100 (Brazil);

R - 6. To consider re-examining reservations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention against Torture with a view to withdrawing them (Brazil);

A - 7. To include in its national legislation the concept of torture as defined in article 1 of the Convention against Torture, and to enact legislation to abolish all types of corporal punishment and other forms of cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment (Mexico);

R - 8. To review the Family Code and the law on nationality, in particular to ensure gender equality in the area of divorce and the acquisition of nationality by affiliation (France);

A - 9. To extend an open and permanent invitation to all special procedures (Spain);

A - 10. To extend an open and standing invitation to special procedures mandates holders (Chile);

R - 11. To review legislation concerning family law and laws relating to the authority of guardians over women, and to amend or repeal laws that discriminate against women (Canada);

R - 12. To amend or repeal national laws that discriminate against women and do not prevent violence against women sufficiently, including family laws, laws and procedures related to the authority of guardians of women, nationality laws and housing regulations (Slovenia);

A - 13. To implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child contained in paragraph 65 of document CRC/C/QAT/CO/2 (Slovenia);

A - 14. To prohibit all forms of corporal punishment against children, both boys and girls (Chile);

R - 15. To adopt a national plan against gender-based violence. To identify and remedy those areas in the national legislation that might be discriminatory, including family laws, laws and procedures relating to the authority of guardians of women, nationality laws and norms relating to housing (Spain);

R - 16. To increase the age of criminal responsibility to a minimum of 12 years, in line with recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Chile);

A - 17. To lift restrictions on the rights to freedom of opinion and expression, and to take steps to promote freedom of the press in all forms of media (Canada);

A - 18. To take appropriate measures to disseminate widely and ensure full observance of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Norway);

A - 19. To facilitate independent participation of civil society in the democratization process, and to lift restrictions on the freedom of the right of association and assembly, in accordance with international human rights standards (Netherlands);

A - 20. To protect its migrant workers from exploitation by ensuring that applicable laws and practices conform to international human rights standards guaranteeing migrant workers their human rights, including the right to freedom of movement (Canada);

A - 21. To ensure that its domestic laws guarantee the protection of the human rights of migrant workers, including their right to freedom of movement and the right to an adequate standard of living (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

R - 22. To guarantee the human rights and freedoms of migrant workers through the promotion of legislation on migration that ensures decent and respectful treatment towards this vulnerable group, as well as its access, without discrimination, to, inter alia, health and education systems;

P - accession to the International Convention for the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families would be an important step in that regard (Mexico);

R - 23. To make further changes to the legislation on sponsorship to protect the rights of migrants, and to abolish the requirement that employers give consent before exit permits are issued for foreign employees (Netherlands);

A - 24. To take necessary measures in the light of the law of 2009 and, in particular, reform the sponsorship system in order to protect employees in the event of conflict (France).

**86. The following recommendations did not enjoy the support of Qatar:**

R - 1. To continue to focus work on the rights of women and children, and to lift its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to guarantee fair and equal legislation (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

R - 2. To consider withdrawing, as soon as possible, its reservation to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to ensure that its national law and practice is in conformity with it (Norway);

R - 3. To review its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women with a view to withdrawing them, especially the reservation to the right of a child to obtain Qatari nationality from a Qatari woman married to a foreign man (Netherlands);

R - 4. To end discrimination against women by amending its legislation to guarantee women equal rights, in accordance with its international obligations, including with regard to marriage and divorce (Sweden);

R - 5. To take legislative measures to eliminate discrimination against women, particularly in the area of marriage and divorce (Chile);

R - 6. To ensure that LGBT persons are not discriminated against and, as an immediate step, to amend the provisions of the penal code criminalizing consensual sexual activity among persons of the same sex and to ensure that no one is punished for such activity under Sharia law (Sweden);

R - 7. To consider establishing an official moratorium on the use of death penalty with a view to abolishing it, as provided by General Assembly resolutions 62/149 and 63/168 (Slovenia);

R - 8. To declare a moratorium on executions in line with the General Assembly resolutions 62/149 and 63/168 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

R - 9. To commute all death sentences and declare a moratorium on executions (Norway);

R - 10. To consider abolishing the death penalty and corporal punishment, in particular against children (Brazil);

R - 11. To establish a moratorium on capital punishment, commuting such crimes to sentences of deprivation of liberty; if not, to find a way to harmonize criminal and penal norms and laws with international human rights law (Spain);

R - 12. To abolish stoning and flogging from its legislation, as mentioned by the Committee against Torture (Chile).

*Disclaimer: This classification is not official and is based on United Nations documents and webcast. For questions, comments and/or corrections, please write to [info@upr-info.org](mailto:info@upr-info.org)*