

# STAKEHOLDER REPORT TO THE UPR WORKING GROUP IN CONSIDERATION OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> CYCLE REVIEW OF THE GAMBIA UNDER THE UPR

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#### **SUBMITTED BY**

THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, THE GAMBIA

Email: <a href="mailto:info@gm-nhrc.org">info@gm-nhrc.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.gm-nhrc.org">www.gm-nhrc.org</a>.

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## **ACRONYMS**

ACHPR	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights		
BHR	Business and Human Rights		
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture		
CED	Convention Against Enforced Disappearances		
CRC-OP	Convention on the Rights of the Child – Optional Protocol		
CS0s	Civil Society Organisations		
ECSR	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights		
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting		
МОЈ	Ministry of Justice		
MGCSW	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare		
MOI	Ministry of Interior		
MoBSE	Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education		
NMIRF	National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up		
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities		
TRRC	Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission		
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence		
SSR	Security Sector Reform		

#### **FOREWORD**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of The Gambia is an independent 'A' status NHRI established in 2017 by an Act of the National Assembly (NA) in line with the UN Paris Principles. It promotes and protects human rights in The Gambia, and advises the Government on human rights matters.

This Report is the Commission's second submission to the UPR Working Group in consideration of the National Report. It provides an overview of the status of the implementation of 2019 UPR recommendations made to The Gambia. The country continues to deal with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the high cost of living both of which have affected people's enjoyment of human rights and also eroded many of the gains registered since 2020.

The Commission has been monitoring the implementation of the recommendations and popularised them nationwide in partnership with key Government Ministries. In 2022 the Commission submitted also its UPR Midterm Assessment Report.

It provides the Working Group with an overview of the status of human rights in The Gambia and aims to guide its upcoming Dialogue with the State.

The report is prepared with support from the European Union and International IDEA.

#### **PARTICIPATING STAKEHOLDERS**

The following institutions participated in the preparation of this report:

- 1. Ministry of Justice
- 2. Ministry of Interior
- 3. Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare
- 4. Office of the Inspector General of Police
- 5. The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations
- 6. Gambia Center for Victims of Human Rights Violation

#### **METHODOLOGY**

In preparation of this Report, the NHRC constituted a Working Group comprising relevant Government Institutions and Civil Society Organisations. The Group had 4 sittings.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. Ratify all outstanding human rights instruments.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Establish a fully functional NMIRF.
- 3. Expedite the re-introduction of the 2020 Draft Constitution to the National Assembly and support its adoption.
- 4. Put in place measures to enhance the number of women occupying public office.
- 5. Provide adequate budgetary allocation to the MGCSW to ensure survivors of SGBV have access to appropriate and friendly services.
- 6. Enhance the regulatory framework on BHR in line with the UNGPs.
- 7. Establish a National Working Group on BHR to conduct a baseline assessment and develop a NAP on BHR.
- 8. Set up the Secretariat of the National Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>. See Annexure 3 for more information.

## I. THEME: ACCEPTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL NORMS/ RATIFICATION OF TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS AND TREATY REPORTING<sup>2</sup>

- 1. We commend the State for ratifying the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict<sup>3</sup>, and AU Protocols on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and Rights of Older Persons in Africa.<sup>4</sup>
- 2. However, the State is yet to ratify the OP-CAT, the Interstate communication procedure under the CED, ICESCR-OP, CEDAW-OP, and the Optional Protocol to the CRC on a communications procedure.
- 3. In December 2020, The Gambia submitted its Sixth CEDAW Periodic Report and in March 2021 it submitted its Initial Report on CED. However, there remain significant outstanding periodic reports to AU and UN treaty bodies.<sup>5</sup> The State is yet to respond to the List of Issues on CED which was due in January 2023. The backlog of periodic reports underscores the urgent need for the establishment of a permanent NMIRF

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Ratify all outstanding human rights instruments at the UN and AU levels.<sup>6</sup>
- 2. Establish a fully functional NMIRF.
- 3. Submit the Instruments of Ratifications on the AU Protocols on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and the Rights of Older Persons in Africa.
- 4. Respond to the CED List of Issues.
- 5. Submit all outstanding periodic reports to the UN and AU Treaty Bodies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Recommendations: 127.1, 127.2, 127.3, 127.5, 127.9, 127.13, 127.14

 $<sup>^3\</sup> https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/2019/09/the-gambia-un-special-representative-for-children-and-armed-conflict-welcomes-opac-ratification/$ 

<sup>4</sup> https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/na-ratifies-protocols-on-rights-of-disabled-and-older-persons-in-africa

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Annexure 4 for more information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>. See Annexure 3 for more information.

#### LEGAL, INSTITUTIONAL & POLICY FRAMEWORK<sup>7</sup>

- 4. We commend the State for the legislative reforms undertaken since 2019, including the domestication of the CAT and the CRPD<sup>8</sup>, and the enactment of the Access to Information Act 2021 and The Gambia Anti-Corruption Act 2023. We also commend the President for reiterating his Government's commitment to reintroduce the 2020 Draft Constitution and hold a refer by December 2024.<sup>9</sup>
- 5. However, there remain several instruments that the State has yet to domesticate.<sup>10</sup> The Information and Anti-Corruption Commissions are also yet to be established.

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Expedite the re-introduction of the 2020 Draft Constitution to the National Assembly and support its adoption.
- 2. Hold a referendum on the draft Constitution by the end of 2024.
- 3. Set up the Information and Anti-Corruption Commissions.
- 4. Domesticate all ratified human rights instruments.

#### II. TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE<sup>11</sup>

6. We commend the Government for the release of the White Paper on the Report of the TRRC on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and for accepting to implement 263 of the 265 recommendations. It is also commended for developing the White Paper's Implementation Plan 2023 – 2027<sup>12</sup> and

<sup>11</sup> Recommendations: 127.129, 127.131, 127.135 127.133, 127.134, 127.136

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Recommendations: 127.16, 127.17, 127.18, 127.25, 127.26, 127.27, 127.37, 127.47, 127.72, 127.73

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> In 2015, The Gambia ratified the CRPD and enacted the Persons with Disabilities Act in 2021. In 2019, The Gambia ratified the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel and Inhumane and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and accepted the CAT, Art 20- Inquiry procedure under the Convention Against Torture.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "PRESIDENT BARROW ANNOUNCES THE DATE FOR A REFERENDUM ON A NEW CONSTITUTION" The Alkamba Times. June 27, 2024. Available at: <a href="https://alkambatimes.com/president-barrow-announces-the-date-for-a-referendum-on-a-new-constitution/">https://alkambatimes.com/president-barrow-announces-the-date-for-a-referendum-on-a-new-constitution/</a>. (last accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See Annexure 3 for more information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Stakeholder Conference and Donor Rountable on the Implementation of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC) Recommendations. May 8, 2023. Available here:

for enacting the Victims Reparation Act 2023, Special Accountability Mechanism (TRRC) Act 2024 and Special Prosecutor's Office Act 2024. Notwithstanding, the Commission remains concerned about the pace of the implementation process. Some of the individuals adversely mentioned by the TRRC continue to occupy public office despite recommendations from the Commission for their dismissal or placement on administrative leave. Concerning prosecutions, since 2019 only two prosecutions have been completed domestically. <sup>13</sup> The Victims Reparation Commission is also not yet established.

- 7. Archiving of TRRC materials is yet to commence. Furthermore, the State has yet to take concrete measures to establish the whereabouts of disappeared persons and does not have adequate human and technical capacity to embark on this exercise effectively.
- 8. Since March 2019 when the Janneh Commission<sup>14</sup> submitted its Report to the President, few of the recommendations have been implemented.<sup>15</sup>
- 9. The Commission remains concerned over the pace of the Security Sector Reform, especially following the report of the TRRC which catalogued the involvement of security personnel in the perpetration of gross human rights violations by the Jammeh Government.16

#### **Recommendations to the State**

1. Adopt a legal framework for the prosecution of individuals as recommended in the TRRC report.

2. Adhere to the Implementation Plan on the TRRC White Paper.

https://www.undp.org/gambia/press-releases/stakeholder-conference-and-donor-roundtable-implementationtruth-reconciliation-and-reparations-commission-trrc-recommendations. Last accessed 3rd July 2023. See also, The Implementation Plan to the Government's Whitepaper on the Recommendations of the TRRC. Available here: https://www.moj.gm/downloads. Last accessed 3rd July 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The State v Yankuba Touray and The NIA 9 Case.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Also known as Commission of Inquiry into the Financial Dealings of former President Jammeh, Family Members and Close Associates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "The unsettling selective application of Janneh Commission's recommendations." September 14, 2019. here: https://fatunetwork.net/the-unsettling-selective-application-of-janneh-commissionsrecommendation/. (last accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "The Gambia: Truth Commission Calls for Prosecuting Ex-Officials." Human Rights Watch. November 25, 2021. Available here: <a href="https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/11/25/gambia-truth-commission-calls-prosecuting-ex-">https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/11/25/gambia-truth-commission-calls-prosecuting-ex-</a> officials. (last accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024).

- 3. Urgently implement the recommendations of the Janneh Commission.
- 4. Expedite the Security Sector Reform process.
- 5. Seek support to implement measures to establish the whereabouts of disappeared persons.
- 6. Implement the Special Accountability Mechanism (TRRC) Act 2024 and the Special Prosecutor's Office Act 2024.

#### III. WOMEN, EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION<sup>17</sup>

- 10. We commend the Government for taking steps to enhance the status of women through the review and amendment of gender discriminatory laws conducted in 2019<sup>18</sup>. The Women's (Amendment) Act 2021 reserves for women a minimum of thirty per cent of all positions and appointments in political and public offices and also stipulates what criteria the Courts should consider in the determination of equitable share of joint property derived from marriage.
- 11. Despite the amendments of gender discriminatory provisions, women continue to suffer discrimination within the public and private spheres. While women form nearly 51 per cent of the population, they remain seriously underrepresented in senior decision-making bodies, with only three women in Ministerial positions and five women in the Legislative. In 2021, a Private Member's Bill to increase the number of women in the Legislature failed to pass <sup>19</sup>.

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Implement all the amended gender discriminatory provisions in the various legislation.
- 2. Popularise and enforce the Women's (Amendment) Act 2021.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Recommendation: 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 128.10, 128.11, 128. 12, 128.13, 128.14, 128.15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Annexure 1 for more information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "Hon Touma's private member Bill suffers another voting chance." February 22, 2022. Available here: <a href="https://www.voicegambia.com/2022/02/22/hon-toumas-private-member-bill-suffers-another-voting-chance/">https://www.voicegambia.com/2022/02/22/hon-toumas-private-member-bill-suffers-another-voting-chance/</a>. (last accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024).

- 3. Adopt measures to enhance the number of women occupying public office.
- 4. Urgently adopt a quota system for elected offices.

## IV. SEXUAL AND OTHER FORMS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE<sup>20</sup>

- 12. Since 2019, the Government and NGOs have conducted public education on the Sexual Offences Act 2013, the Criminal Code, the Domestic Violence Act 2013, and the Women's Act 2010. Despite these efforts, the Commission is concerned about the handling of SGBV.<sup>21</sup> In 2023, a total number of 575 incidents of SGBV cases were registered by the MGCSW.<sup>22</sup>
- 13. Following the only conviction of three women for female circumcision in 2023, in February 2024, a Private Member's Bill seeking to decriminalise the practice was tabled before the National Assembly. The Assembly's Joint Committee on Health and Gender recommended in its Report that the FGM/C law be maintained and there should be no medicalization of the practice.<sup>23</sup> The Assembly on 15 July 2024, voted not to adopt the Bill.
- 14. The Sexual Offences Act 2013 does not criminalise marital rape. Similarly, the definition of 'sexual violence' in the Domestic Violence Act 2013 also excludes married couples.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Recommendation: 127.30, 127.84, 127.105, 127.106, 127.107, 127.108, 127. 110, 127. 111, 127. 112, 127.113, 127.114, 127.115, 127. 116, 127.117, 127. 118, 127.200.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "Man sentenced to D50,000 fine for raping student" The Standard Newspaper. June 26 2024. Available here: <a href="https://standard.gm/man-sentenced-to-d50000-fine-for-raping-student/">https://standard.gm/man-sentenced-to-d50000-fine-for-raping-student/</a>. (last accessed 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Gambia records 575 Incidents of Gender-Based Violence In 2023. January 25, 2024. Avialable here: <a href="https://www.kerrfatou.com/gambia-records-575-incidents-of-gender-based-violence-in-2023/">https://www.kerrfatou.com/gambia-records-575-incidents-of-gender-based-violence-in-2023/</a>. (last accessed 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> "Gambia lawmakers back recommendations to maintain FGM ban." Reuters, July 8 2024. Available at: <a href="https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/gambia-lawmakers-back-recommendations-maintain-fgm-ban-2024-07-08/">https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/gambia-lawmakers-back-recommendations-maintain-fgm-ban-2024-07-08/</a>.

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Provide adequate budgetary allocation to the MGCSW to ensure survivors of SGBV have access to appropriate and friendly services.
- 2. Diligently investigate and prosecute SGBV cases.
- 3. Enhance the capacity of Magistrates and Judges in the handling of SGBV cases.
- 4. Effectively enforce the Women's (Amendment) Act 2015.
- 5. Continue the awareness raising on the Women's (Amendment) Act 2015 and FGM/C.
- 6. Implement all SGBV recommendations in the 2022 CEDAW Concluding Observations.

## V. FREEDOM OF OPINION, EXPRESSION AND RIGHT TO INFORMATION<sup>24</sup>

15. Since 2019, the media space has widened with a proliferation of both online and offline media houses<sup>25.</sup> We commend the Government for exempting print media from the National Education and Technical Levy<sup>26</sup> and for enacting the Access to Information Act 2021. However, the Act is not being implemented as the Information Commission is not yet established.

16. Sections 51 and 52 of the Criminal Code prohibit sedition and criminalise hateful remarks against the President despite the State's acceptance of the UPR recommendations to repeal these sections.<sup>27</sup> The Criminal Offence Bill 2022 before the National Assembly also retained the offence of Sedition 17. Internet penetration in 2023 stood at 33 per cent of the population, with about 903.9 thousand internet users,<sup>28</sup> However, there is no adequate data protection legislation - the provisions are found in various legislation. In 2020, the Ministry of

<sup>28</sup> Digital Report 2023: The Gambia <a href="https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2023-gambia">https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2023-gambia</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Recommendations: 127.28, 127.32, 127.33, 127.38, 127.44, 127.49, 127.50, 127.52, 127.53, 127.57, 127.58, 127.59, 127.60, 127.137, 127.138

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> UNESCO, Assessement of media development in the Gambia: based in UNESCO's Development Indicators. 2022. Available here: <a href="https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000383608">https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000383608</a>. (last accessed 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024). <sup>26</sup> "GPU welcomes lifting of education levy on print media." The Voice February 1, 2019. Available here: <a href="https://www.voicegambia.com/2019/02/01/gpu-welcomes-lifting-of-education-levy-on-print-media/">https://www.voicegambia.com/2019/02/01/gpu-welcomes-lifting-of-education-levy-on-print-media/</a>. (last accessed 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> 2019 Report of the Working Group on the UPR of The Gambia

Information and Communication validated and adopted its Draft Data Protection and Privacy Policy Strategy 2019. The Government has tabled the Cybercrimes Bill 2023 before the National Assembly. However, the Commission is concerned with certain provisions in the Bill which could greatly restrict freedom of expression online.

18. The NHRC remains concerned about the occasional arrests or detention of journalists, political figures and other activists.<sup>29</sup> While significant progress has been made in granting permits for protests,<sup>30</sup> the right to assembly is still at the discretion of the Inspector General of Police. A Private Member's Bill for the amendment of the Public Order Act failed in the National Assembly. The 2023 ranking on global press freedom by Reporters Sans Frontiers (RSF), ranked The Gambia 5<sup>th</sup> in Africa and 46<sup>th</sup> in the global ranking. However, in 2024, The Gambia dropped to 10<sup>th</sup> in Africa and 58<sup>th</sup> in the global ranking. This decline has been attributed to the continued existence of draconian media laws.<sup>3132</sup>

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Refrain from stifling freedom of speech.
- 2. Repeal Sections 51-54 of the Criminal Code
- 3. Remove sedition from the Criminal Offences Bill 2022.
- 4. Ensure the Cybercrime Bill 2023 complies with human rights standards.
- 5. Amend section 5 of the Public Order Act and replace the issuance of permits with notification.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> 2023 NHRC State of Human Rights Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> NHRC 2023 State of Human Rights Report

 $<sup>^{32}\</sup> https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/gambia-drops-in-rsf-2024-world-press-freedom-index.$ 

#### VI. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS<sup>33</sup>

- 19. We commend the State for enacting a new Labour Act 2023 which prohibits all forms of child labour, and engagement of children in hazardous work. It obliges employers to keep a register of children in their employment and holds a parent or guardian liable for the employment of a child in contravention of the Act. However, the Act has not been widely popularised or adequately enforced.
- 20. Child begging is prevalent despite its prohibition by the Children's Act 2005. Corporal punishment of children is still only expressly prohibited as a form of punishment by the Court. It remains a form of 'disciplining' measure for children in the care, school, and family settings.
- 21. The Commission is concerned about Child Sex tourism and the increasing vulnerability of children to sex trafficking in the tourism sector.<sup>34</sup>

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Enforce provisions of the Children's Act, 2005 on child begging.
- 2. Popularise and enforce the Labour Act 2023.
- 3. Prohibit corporal punishment in all settings.
- 4. Enforce the Tourism (Amendment) Act 2014.

#### VII. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS<sup>35</sup>

22. ESCR, including the right to food, remain non-justiciable.<sup>36</sup> The non-fulfilment of ESCR is regarded as one of the contributing factors to the high number of 'back way' migrants to Europe through the Sahara Desert with its untold casualties.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Recommendations: 127.41, 127.45, 127.54, 127.199, 127.201, 127.202, 127.147, 127.148.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> US State Department 2023 Trafficking in Persons Report: The Gambia.

<sup>35</sup> Recommendations: 127.85, 127.156, 127.157, 127.154, 127.159, 127.161.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Section 211 of the 1997 Constitution, under the Directive Principles of State Policy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> State of Human Rights Report 2022 of the National Human Rights Commission of The Gambia.

- 23. The Gambia continues to be faced with food insecurity. Between June and August 2023, nearly 320,000 people faced acute food insecurity.<sup>38</sup> The Commission's 2023Advisory Note on the Right to Food in The Gambia proffered recommendations for the State's realisation of the right to food.
- 24. Data on the impact of businesses on human rights and awareness of BHR and UNGP are lacking in The Gambia. The legal framework on BHR is weak while enforcement of the existing framework remains low. Additionally, the Government has not developed a NAP on BHR.
- 25. Rising poverty, the impact of COVID–19 and the high cost of living underscore the need for the State to meet its minimum core ESCR obligations. The Commission is concerned about limited State contribution to ESCR, in particular towards social protection. The closure of schools at the peak of the pandemic greatly affected students with disabilities and students from disadvantaged backgrounds as they could not benefit equally from the classes that were broadcast via television or radio due to their different special circumstances.

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- 1. Promote and invest in mechanised agriculture to enhance food security.
- 2. Enhance resources for the effective realisation of ESCR.
- 3. Enhance access to social protection benefits and services for vulnerable groups.
- 4. Enhance the regulatory framework on BHR.
- 5. Conduct a baseline assessment and develop NAP on BHR.
- 6. Raise awareness of the UNGPs.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> GIEWS Country Brief: Gambia 12-October-2023 <a href="https://reliefweb.int/report/gambia/giews-country-brief-gambia-12-october-">https://reliefweb.int/report/gambia/giews-country-brief-gambia-12-october-</a>.

## VIII. PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: DEFINITION, GENERAL PRINCIPLES<sup>39</sup>

- 26. We commend the State for the enactment of the PWD Act 2021, the adoption of the PWD Policy 2022-2031 and the Strategic Work Plan 2023–2026, and the setting up of the Secretariat of the National Advisory Council (NAC) for PWDs. However, the Commission is concerned about the slow enforcement of the Act.
- 27. In September 2023 the NHRC organised a Disability Rights Forum which primarily focused on the PWD Act. Some of the major challenges identified included budget constraints to address the needs of PWDs and the slow setting up of the Secretariat of the NAC.
- 28. The NHRC commends MoBSE for establishing the Special Needs and Inclusive Directorate to integrate children with disabilities into the school system. However, the Commission is concerned that there are only five Special Needs Schools in the country with only one located in the rural area, and no national study has been conducted on the situation of PWDs since 1998.

#### **Recommendations to the State**

- a. Adopt CRDP-compliant budgeting.
- b. Set up the Secretariat of the National Advisory Council for PWDs.
- c. Implement the PWD Policy 2022-2031 and the Strategic Work Plan 2022-2026.
- d. Implement the PWD Act 2021 effectively.
- e. Support the expansion and decentralization of Special Needs Schools.
- f. Urgently conduct a national study on PWDs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Recommendations: 127.204, 127.206

#### IX. ANNEXES

## **Annexure 1: Amended Legislation On Gender Discriminatory Laws Since 2019**

s/	Legislation	<b>Year Enacted</b>
n		
1	Matrimonial Causes (Amendment) Act	2021
2	Married Women's Property	2021
	(Amendment) Act	
3	Civil Marriages (Amendment) Act	2021
4	Tourism Offences (Amendment) Act	2021
6	Domestic Violence (Amendment) Act	2021
7	Christian Marriages (Amendment) Act	2021
8	Women's (Amendment) Act	2021

#### **Annexure 2: Other Legislation Enacted Since 2019**

s/	Legislation	Year Enacted
n		
1	Special Accountability Mechanism Act	2024
2	Special Prosecutor's Office Act	2024
3	Victims Reparations Act	2023
4	Mutual Legal Assistance Act	2023
5	Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act	2023
6	Ban from Public Office Act	2023
7	The Gambia Anti-Corruption Act	2023
8	Labour Act	2023
9	Access to Information Act	2021
10	Persons with Disabilities Act	2021

## Annexure 3: Human Rights Instruments Not Ratified By The Gambia

s/ n	Instrument
1	Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
2	Optional Protocol to the CRC on Communication Procedure
3	Optional Protocol to the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
4	Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

#### **Annexure 4: Pending/Overdue State Reports**

#### **Un Human Rights Treaties**

s/n	Legal Instruments	Type of Pending Report	<b>Due Since</b>
1	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) (1976)	2 <sup>nd</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> Periodic Reports	1982
2	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (CCPR) (1976)	Third Periodic Report	27 July 2022
3.	International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)	Second periodic report	30 March 2017
4.	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)	Initial Report	1 January 2020

5.	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	Initial Report	6 <sup>th</sup> August 2017
6.	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (CRC-OPAC)	Initial Report	September 2021
7.	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children child prostitution and child pornography (CRC-OP-SC)	Initial Report	8 <sup>th</sup> April 2012
8.	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)	Initial Report	28 Sept 2019

### **African Union Human Rights Treaties**

s/ n	Legal Instruments	Type of Pending Report	<b>Due Since</b>
1	Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention)	Initial Report	2013
2.	African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child	Initial Report	2002
3.	African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance	Initial Report	2021
4.	African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol)	Combined Periodic Report	2023



