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Summary of stakeholders' submissions on the Gambia*

Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the periodicity of the universal periodic review. It is a summary of 16 stakeholders' submissions¹ for the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. A separate section is provided for the contribution by the national human rights institution that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

II. Information provided by the national human rights institution accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

2. NHRC stated that it had monitored the implementation of recommendations that the Republic of The Gambia had received at the previous review.² It commended The Gambia for ratifying, inter alia, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict but noted that the State had yet to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, and to declare its recognition of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications.³

3. Noting that The Gambia had submitted its sixth periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and its initial report to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, NHRC state that there remained outstanding reports to other treaty bodies. It added that the backlog in reporting to treaty bodies underscored the urgent need to establish a national mechanism for implementation, reporting and follow-up.⁴

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

4. NHRC noted that the President of The Gambia had reiterated his Government's commitment to reintroducing the Draft Constitution of 2020 and to holding a referendum by December 2024, which it considered to be commendable.⁵

5. It commended The Gambia for the legislative reforms that had been undertaken since 2019, including the enactment of the Access to Information Act, 2021, and The Gambia Anti-Corruption Act, 2023, but noted that an information commission and an anti-corruption commission had yet to be established. Also, there were several conventions that The Gambia had yet to integrate into the national legislative framework.⁶

6. NHRC noted that the Cyber Crime Bill, 2023, had been tabled before the National Assembly and expressed concern about certain provisions in that Bill that could restrict freedom of expression online.⁷

7. NHRC stated that Sections 51 and 52 of the Criminal Code (Cap 10:01) which prohibited sedition and criminalized hateful remarks against the President had remained in force, even though recommendations from the previous review to repeal these provisions had enjoyed the support of The Gambia. Also, sedition had been retained in the Criminal Offence Bill 2022, which was before the National Assembly.⁸

8. NHRC commended The Gambia for its release of the White Paper on the report of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission and of accepting 263 of the 265 recommendations made by the Commission. NHRC however remained concerned about the slow pace of the implementation of these recommendations. Also of concern was: (a) the fact that persons recommended by the Commission for dismissal or to be placed on administrative leave, continued to occupy public office; (b) the pace of the Security Sector Reform, especially since the report of the Commission had catalogued the involvement of security personnel in the perpetration of gross human rights violations; and (c) the lack of concrete measures to establish the whereabouts of disappeared persons and the inadequate human and technical capacity to embark on this exercise. NHRC noted that only two cases had been prosecuted domestically. Also, the Victims Reparation Commission had yet to be established.⁹

9. Noting the steps taken by The Gambia to enhance the status of women through the review and amendment of gender discriminatory legislation, NHRC stated that women continued to face discrimination in the public and private spheres, with women under-represented in senior decision-making bodies.¹⁰

10. NHRC expressed concern about the handling of sexual and gender-based violence cases, despite the public education initiatives undertaken by the government and non-governmental organizations. Also, marital rape was not criminalized in the Sexual Offences Act, 2013, and the definition of sexual violence in the Domestic Violence Act, 2013, excluded married couples.¹¹

11. NHRC stated that following the first ever conviction for female genital mutilation in 2023, in February 2024 a private member Bill seeking to decriminalise the practice had been tabled before the National Assembly. This Bill was not adopted at a vote on 15 July 2024.¹²

12. NHRC stated that: (a) the Labour Act, 2023, had not been widely publicised and inadequately enforced; (b) Children begging was prevalent despite its prohibition in the Children's Act of 2005; and (c) corporal punishment remained a disciplinary measure for children in care, school and in family settings. NHRC expressed concern about child sex tourism.¹³

13. NHRC stated that economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to food, had remained non-justiciable, and that The Gambia had continued to face food insecurity. It noted the rising poverty and high cost of living, and the limited State contribution to social protection.¹⁴

14. NHRC expressed concern about the occasional arrest and detention of journalists, political figures and activists. While significant progress had been made in granting permits for protests, the right to assembly was still at the discretion of the Inspector General of Police.¹⁵

15. NHRC expressed concern about the inadequate enforcement of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2021; and the fact that there were only five schools that could meet the individual needs of persons with disabilities with only one located in a rural area.¹⁶

III. Information provided by other stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

16. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review, JS6 stated that The Gambia had yet to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.¹⁷

17. JS4 stated that The Gambia had not ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, although at the previous review it had supported a recommendation to do so.¹⁸

18. JS4 and JS6 referred to relevant supported recommendations from the previous review and stated that The Gambia had yet to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹⁹

19. ACHPR stated that although there were some positive results in relation to the implementation of some of the goals of the Agenda 2063 – “The Africa We Want”, additional efforts were required from The Gambia in relation to other goals, including “Transformed economies”, “Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production” and “Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and rule of law entrenched”.²⁰

B. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

20. JS1 noted that the draft Constitution of 2020 that had been drafted by the Constitutional Review Commission had been rejected by the National Assembly of The Gambia in 2022, despite public support for this draft Constitution. It stated that failure to put in place a new Constitution had posed severe obstacles to the promotion and protection of human rights in the country.²¹

21. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, JS4 noted that in June 2024, the President of The Gambia had stated that a referendum might be held on the draft Constitution by December 2024. According to JS4, civil society had yet to be consulted on this referendum.²²

22. ECLJ stated that the draft Constitution prohibited the President and Legislature from designating a religion as an official state religion, while the Supreme Islamic Council lobbied for a non-secular State and emphasised the importance of Islam. It stated that ensuring that The Gambia remained secular would be critical for the protection of the rights of religious minorities.²³

23. JS5 stated that the draft Constitution did not contain provisions prohibiting cast and descent-based discrimination.²⁴

24. JS1 noted that The Gambia had signed and ratified the African Union Convention on Cyber Security and Personal Data Protection, which came into force in June 2023. It stated that The Gambia had a long way to go in ensuring that its legislation and policy on data protection and cybersecurity were in line with this Convention and international human rights standards.²⁵

25. JS1 stated that the draft Cybercrime Bill, which had been tabled in the National Assembly in March 2024, contained several provisions that lacked conformity with international human rights standards.²⁶ JS2 expressed concerns about this Bill including that

it would: (a) criminalize an alarming scope of online speech under the guise of combating cybercrime; (b) hold individuals from media organizations, civil society organizations, and corporate organisations individually criminally responsible for the actions of their organizations; (c) criminalize the publication of evidence or data in the public interest, particularly as computer crime offences were so broadly worded; (d) grant significant surveillance powers to the police which, in some cases, would not be subjected to judicial or similar independent oversight; and (e) criminalize digital security and legitimate academic or security research.²⁷

26. JS6 stated that the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance which had been ratified in 2018, had yet to be integrated into the national legislative framework.²⁸

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

27. JS6 noted that in 2019, The Gambia had established NHRC and stated that the Commission had keenly monitored the human rights situation in the country and had provided advisory notes and recommendations to the Government.²⁹

28. JS6 stated that security sector reform had been undertaken in a slow, piecemeal, and disjointed manner. It noted the setting up the Office of the National Security in 2018, the development of the National Security Policy of 2019 and the National Defence Policy of 2023 but highlighted the lack of a national security law to underpin these policies and define the national security framework.³⁰

29. JS6 stated that the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare had faced technical, financial, and human resources challenges that had continued to impede its work and service delivery.³¹

C. Promotion and protection of human rights

1. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

Equality and non-discrimination

30. JS5 noted that caste-based and decent-based distinctions could be found among all major ethnic groups, and in all villages and towns in The Gambia. The predominant castes in The Gambia were the “nobles”, “griots”, “smiths”, “leatherworkers”, and “slaves”. While the “nobles” were considered freeborn, the “slaves” were those considered to be descendants of captive slaves. The “nobles” were usually considered to be of the highest social status while the “slaves” were relegated to the bottom of the social ladder and often faced stigma and discrimination. Caste systems have been recognized as a characteristic of the major ethnic groups in The Gambia, including the Mandinka, the Fula, the Wolof, the Sarahule, and the Serer tribes. In some of the communities where the caste system was pervasive, those who belong to the lower caste were sometimes subjected to dehumanising and degrading treatment, devalued as people, and considered impure and unworthy. The revised 1997 Constitution of The Republic of The Gambia did not explicitly mention caste as a ground for discrimination.³²

Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

31. CGNK stated that constitutional provisions guaranteeing the right to life were broad and did not comply with international standards, particularly in relation to the use of force.³³

32. JS4 referred to a recommendation from the previous review that had enjoyed the support of The Gambia and highlighted the lack of legislation criminalizing enforced disappearance. Despite the findings of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, little or no effort had been made to search for the remains of missing persons. In 2021, the remains of 7 deceased persons were exhumed from the Yundum barracks by Commission’s Research and Investigation Unit. However, the identification of these remains

had yet to be established and disclosed, and the families had remained traumatized by the silence and inaction of the authorities in this regard.³⁴

33. JS4 noted a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review and stated that despite the passage of the Prevention of Torture Act, 2023, and the rigorous training of law enforcement personnel, it had witnesses repeated incidents of police brutality and harassment.³⁵

34. Noting that suicide and attempted suicide were criminalized in The Gambia, CGNK stated that the decriminalization of suicide and attempted suicide would serve to prevent suicide.³⁶

35. JS4 stated that although there had been some improvement in prison conditions, overcrowding, inadequate access to food and medical care, and poor sanitation were some of the problems that had remained.³⁷

Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

36. Referring to a relevant supported recommendation from the previous review, JS4 stated that efforts had been made to ensure that accused had access to timely and fair trials. However, significant challenges had remained including limited access to legal representation for indigent accused and a backlog of cases which had led to prolonged detention and delayed justice.³⁸

Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

37. ECLJ stated that there were increased tensions between the Muslim majority and the Christian minority. Christians were concerned about the growing emergence of radical imams (clerics) and Muslim extremism with the intent of turning The Gambia into an Islamic state.³⁹

38. JS2 stated that at the previous review, The Gambia had supported recommendations relating to freedom of expression and freedom of the press. However, no visible efforts had been made by the authorities to implement these recommendations. The legal framework governing the media sector had continued to pose real threats to journalists and media professionals.⁴⁰

39. JS1 stated that The Gambia had continued use legislation to unduly restrict the freedoms of speech and expression and to crack down on journalists and human rights defenders, despite supporting recommendations to repeal such legislation at the previous review. These legislative provisions included Sections 51, 52, 59, and 181A of the Criminal Code, Section 173A of the Information and Communication Act (IC), 2009, and the Official Secrets Act, 1922. JS1 further stated that the draft Cyber Crime Bill, 2023, which had been tabled in the National Assembly in March 2024 contained several provisions relating to the freedom of speech that did not conform to international human rights standards.⁴¹

40. JS2 stated that although The Gambia had supported recommendations at the previous review relating to the safety of journalists and media workers, they had continued to face challenges, including threats and human rights violations, in the course of their work. It highlighted incidences of physical assault on journalists and media professionals that had been perpetrated by the police and political party militants.⁴²

41. JS1 noted that internet penetration only reached 33 percent of the population in 2023 and stated that a significant proportion of the population remained offline. There were still many remote communities that did not have reliable internet connectivity due to limited coverage and inadequate network infrastructure. Another challenge was the affordability of internet services.⁴³

42. JS1 stated that The Gambia remained a long way off from achieving full digital inclusion, which would require building capacity in technology and industry and ensuring that women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities were not excluded from using technology due to socio-economic factors and infrastructural limitations.⁴⁴

43. JS5 stated that the extremely low representation of women in parliament reflected a low participation of women in policymaking.⁴⁵ It further stated that the dominant "Nobles"

in the Upper River Region of The Gambia excluded individuals from the "slave" caste from holding executive positions in village associations, thus preventing their involvement in politics and participation in leadership positions.⁴⁶

Right to marriage and family life

44. JS6 stated that the Constitution recognized customary law and Sharia law as part of the laws of The Gambia. They constituted personal law which governed marriage, divorce, inheritance, marital property, adoption, and burial for members of the communities to which they applied. The application of customary law and Sharia law by the Cadi courts largely disadvantaged girls and women.⁴⁷

Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

45. JS6 commended The Gambia for enacting the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2007, and for establishing the National Agency Against Trafficking In Persons. It nevertheless noted that the incidence of human trafficking remained an issue. The National Agency Against Trafficking In Persons was under-resourced, under-staffed and ill-equipped to tackling human trafficking by effectively detecting, preventing, and prosecuting human traffickers. The Trafficking in Persons Act, 2007, had also not been reviewed since its enactment.⁴⁸

46. JS5 noted that women, girls, and boys had been trafficked for sex work and forced labour in street vending and domestic work. There had also been reports of child sex tourism.⁴⁹

Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

47. JS6 stated that teachers in The Gambia were poorly paid, which effected their moral and effectiveness, thus contributing to the poor performance of students.⁵⁰

48. JS6 stated that one of the challenges faced by women and girls in the workplace was sexual harassment. While NHRC had developed a model sexual harassment policy, most public institutions and businesses did not have such policy in place, and where such policy was in place, it had not been effectively enforced.⁵¹

Right to social security

49. JS6 noted the development and implementation of the Social Protection Policy (2015–2025) but highlighted the lack of legislation on social protection.⁵² It also noted that access to basic social services had remained a challenge.⁵³

Right to an adequate standard of living

50. JS6 stated that the high cost of living in the form of high fuel, food and utility bills exacerbated by high taxes and the failure to effectively tackle corruption had led to dire economic conditions for most people. Water and electricity supply, healthcare and education were expensive. In 2023, National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC), raised electricity tariffs by 37 percent without commensurate improvements in their services, prompting protests.⁵⁴

51. JS5 stated that many families from communities discriminated against based on work and descent lived in extreme poverty. They were unable to afford adequate food, nutritional security, and basic services.⁵⁵

52. JS5 stated that it was a challenge for The Gambia to ensure access to safe drinking water, due to water shortages. It had been observed that communities discriminated against based on work and descent had limited access to clean water and sanitation. Moreover, their houses were poorly constructed, and they were most likely to be affected by flooding during the rainy season.⁵⁶

Right to health

53. JS6 stated that notwithstanding the construction and inauguration of five new healthcare facilities across The Gambia, healthcare delivery had remained challenging due to

limited healthcare facilities, limited availability of drugs and healthcare delivery equipment, and inadequate financial and human resources, as well as corruption.⁵⁷

54. C-Fam noted that the lack of access to emergency obstetric and neonatal care and the scarcity of family doctors significantly contributed to maternal and child deaths. It stated that ensuring that a sufficient number of health care providers and improving maternal and child health care, including emergency obstetric and neonatal care, required both financial resources and political will, but would reduce maternal mortality and morbidity as well as improve the health and lives of all Gambians. Further maternal health gains could be achieved by ensuring that children—especially girls—have access to secure, quality education, including secondary education.⁵⁸

55. JS6 noted that maternal mortality and morbidity had remained a challenge and that abortion was criminalized in the Women's Act, 2010, except when the life of the foetus or the mother was at risk. C-Fam stated that abortion remained highly controversial and public opinion did not favour liberalizing the restrictions on its access.⁵⁹

56. JS6 stated that in 2019, many children in The Gambia had died from Acute Kidney Injury due to consumption of contaminated syrups that had been imported. This incident had highlighted weak monitoring systems such as the absence of medicines testing labs and equipment at the Medicines Control Agency to ensure effective monitoring of imported drugs. In December 2023, the AKI Inquiry Task Force had submitted its report to President of The Gambia. While some of the recommendations had been implemented, investigations that had been led by the authorities at different levels had not led to effective accountability.⁶⁰

Right to education

57. BC stated that The Gambia had introduced legislative and administrative measures, grants, schemes, and projects to improve access to education. There had also been a significant increase in enrolment at various educational levels since the previous cycle. However, major issues in the education system included a lack of qualified and experienced teachers, the lack of operationalization of The Gambia Teacher Competency Framework, and outdated curricula that did not reflect the country's development needs. BC further stated that many educational institutions struggled with poor infrastructure, including cramped classrooms, a lack of basic supplies like textbooks and writing aids, and the lack of access to facilities such as laboratories.⁶¹

58. JS6 stated that public schools were generally under-resourced, ill equipped and not inclusive, which further disadvantaged children with disabilities. Furthermore, poor teaching standards and weak monitoring of schools and outcomes had contributed to the poor performance of students in basic and secondary school.⁶²

59. JS6 stated that for years The Gambia had purportedly invested in girls' education which had led to significant progress in attaining parity.⁶³ BC stated that compared to boys, fewer girls had access to school due to social and cultural barriers, which was exacerbated by traditional gender roles and early marriage. Children with disabilities had also faced limited access to education.⁶⁴

60. Referring to relevant supported recommendations from previous review, JS5 stated that access to education was a significant problem for children from communities discriminated against based on work and descent. They lived in fringe areas or rural areas with limited availability and access to good schools. Most of the school in these areas were poorly staffed and lacked the basis resources.⁶⁵

Development, the environment, and business and human rights

61. JAI stated that climate change had posed a significant threat to the economy and various sectors in The Gambia, including the agricultural sector which was the backbone of the economy and employed about 75 percent of the workforce. Changing rainfall patterns had affected crop yields and had impacted the flow of The Gambia river. Rising sea levels had led to the salinization of ground water and seawater intrusion into freshwater aquifers had also been observed. It had also threatened mangrove forests, which played a crucial role in protecting the coastline from erosion and prohibiting habitats for diverse marine life.⁶⁶

62. JAI stated that warmer temperatures as a result of climate change would lead to an increased rainfall creating ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes. This would increase malaria infections, which was already a major health issue in The Gambia. JAI further stated that the increased frequency and intensity of floods would lead to the contamination of water sources with pathogens, and thus increasing the risk of water-borne diseases such as cholera and dysentery.⁶⁷

63. JAI stated that efforts to address climate change should be inclusive and participatory, take into consideration of the needs of vulnerable populations.⁶⁸

2. Rights of specific persons or groups

Women

64. JS5 highlighted the prevalence of patriarchal family laws, polygamy, and widespread gender-based violence, including child marriage and female genital mutilation. Reporting of gender-based violence had been low due to victim-blaming, stigmatization, and a culture of impunity. Rape was not defined in line with international standards.⁶⁹ JS6 noted that sexual harassment had remained one of the major challenges faced by women and girls across society.⁷⁰

65. UPR-BCU stated that at the previous review, The Gambia had supported 7 recommendations which focused on preventing female genital mutilation.⁷¹ The Gambia had also supported 17 recommendations on the broader issue of violence against women, including female genital mutilation.⁷² UPR-BCU considered these recommendations to have not been implemented.⁷³ UPR-BCU further considered an additional 8 supported recommendations which identified the importance of not just enacting laws prohibiting female genital mutilation, but enforcing such laws, and 2 supported recommendations which called for the sensitization of the public, especially traditional and religious leaders, on the negative consequences of child marriage and female genital mutilation, to have been partially implemented.⁷⁴

66. UPR-BCU stated that in The Gambia, the practice of female genital mutilation was imbedded in cultural and religious misinterpretations that disregarded the State's obligations under its domestic, regional, and international law to protect the lives, health and wellbeing of its citizens. UPR-BCU stated that The Gambia should invest in comprehensive education and awareness programmes to promote understanding of the impact of female genital mutilation. It should engage directly with local, rural, and religious leaders to educate and support them, creating specific provisions to eliminate female genital mutilation as a cultural practice. Additionally, survivors should be provided with medical, legal, and psychological support.⁷⁵

67. WILL stated the Women's (Amendment) Act, 2015, prohibited all forms of female genital mutilation and further criminalised the act of engaging in or being an accomplice to such practices. However, despite this prohibition in 2015, the prevalence of female genital mutilation had reportedly not changed. JS3 stated that the Women's (Amendment) Act, 2015, provided a crucial legal framework for protecting the rights of women and girls, but its enforcement remained weak. Also, the practice of female genital mutilation was shrouded in secrecy and moved across borders, which the Act did not specifically address. WILL stated that in August 2023, The Gambia had registered its first successful prosecution of female genital mutilation when three women were convicted for practicing female genital mutilation in the Central River Region. While these convictions were considered a landmark development in the campaign against female genital mutilation, they sparked controversy among religious leaders, and resulted in a Gambian National Assembly Member tabling the Women's (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which was eventually rejected by the National Assembly. JS3 stated that the attempt to repeal the Act highlighted the ongoing threat to the rights of women and girls and demonstrated the need for more programmes focused on community education and awareness.⁷⁶

68. In relation to online gender-based violence, JS1 stated that women and girls had continued to be sexually harassed and threatened through means such non-consensual image

sharing, doxing, trolling, non-consensual sharing of intimate photos, and threat of physical violence by their perpetrators.⁷⁷

Children

69. JS3 stated that the The Children's (Amendment) Act, 2016, set the minimum age for marriage at 18 years and that The Gambia faced challenges in enforcing this legislation, particularly in rural areas. Numerous child marriages went unregistered and were only symbolically formalized in ceremonies. Also, there was no minimum age of marriage under Sharia law, which dominantly governed family law in the country, and which raised the concern that child marriage continued to take place in customary and religious settings, despite the provisions of the Act.⁷⁸

70. JS5 stated that girls from communities discriminated against based on work and descent come from the poorest households and were more likely to be married as children.⁷⁹

71. ECP stated that corporal punishment of children was lawful in The Gambia. It recalled that the previous review a recommendation to prohibit corporal punishment in all settings had enjoyed the support of The Gambia but noted that no legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings had been adopted.⁸⁰

Persons with disabilities

72. JS4 noted the enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2021, and considered the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol to have been integrated into the domestic legal framework.⁸¹ JS6 stated that Act has yet to come into force.⁸²

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

73. C-Fam stated that same-sex relationships were not recognized in law and homosexual behaviour between either men or women was illegal.⁸³

Notes

¹ The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org (one asterisk denotes a national human rights institution with A status).

Civil society

Individual submissions:

BC	Broken Chalk, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
C-Fam	Center for Family and Human Rights, New York (USA);
CGNK	Centre for Global Nonkilling, Geneva (Switzerland);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice for Global Nonkilling, Strasbourg (France);
ECP	End Corporal Punishment, Geneva (Switzerland);
JAI	Just Atonement Inc., New York (USA);
UPR-BCU	The UPR Project at BCU, Centre for Human Rights, School of Law, Birmingham City University, Birmingham (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
WILL	Women in Liberation and Leadership, Brusubi (The Gambia).

Joint submissions:

JS1	Association for Progressive Communications, Johannesburg (South Africa) and Jakkolabs Banjul, (The Gambia) (Joint Submission 1);
JS2	ARTICLE 19, The Gambia Press Union and the International Press Institute (Joint Submission 2);
JS3	Equality Now, New York (USA) and The Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (The Gambia) (Joint Submission 3);
JS4	Gambia Center for victims of Human Rights Violations, Women's Association, Women & Victims' Empowerment,

	Gambia Federation of the Disabled, FANTANKA, Solo Sandeng Foundation, Safe Home for Migrants Association, Yelef Initiative, Charter 70, Child Protection Alliance, and African Network against Extra-Judicial Killings and Enforced Disappearances (The Gambia) (Joint Submission 4);
JS5	Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent, New York (USA) and The Gambana, Busumbala (The Gambia) (Joint Submission 5);
JS6	The Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, Gambia Federation of the Disabled, Child Protection Alliance, Education for All Network, ChildFund, Gambia Press Union, Peace Ambassadors The Gambia, Gambia Participates, Forum for African Women Educationalists The Gambia, ActionAid International The Gambia, Network against Gender-based Violence, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding -The Gambia, Team Gomsa Bopa, National Youth Parliament, Female Lawyers Association of the Gambia, Child Protection Alliance, Young Men Christian Association, United Purpose, Future In Our Hands - The Gambia, Beakanyang Organization, Youth Action for Food Self Sufficiency and Action, Worldview- The Gambia, Catholic Relief Services, Public Private Integrity, and Gambia Food and Nutrition Association (Joint Submission 6).
<i>National human rights institution:</i>	
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission the Gambia.
<i>Regional intergovernmental organization(s):</i>	
ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Banjul (The Gambia).

- ² NHRC, p. 4.
- ³ Ibid., p. 6. NHRC made recommendations (p. 7.).
- ⁴ Ibid., p. 6. NHRC made recommendations (p. 7.).
- ⁵ Ibid., p. 7. NHRC made recommendations (p. 7.).
- ⁶ Ibid., pp. 7 and 10. NHRC made recommendations (p. 7.).
- ⁷ Ibid., p. 11. NHRC made recommendations (p. 11.).
- ⁸ Ibid., p. 10, referring to referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.57 (Denmark) and para. 127.59 (France). NHRC made recommendations (p. 11.).
- ⁹ Ibid., p. 7. NHRC made recommendations (p. 7.).
- ¹⁰ Ibid., p. 9. NHRC made recommendations (p. 9.).
- ¹¹ Ibid., p. 10. NHRC made recommendations (p. 10.).
- ¹² Ibid., pp. 9–10. NHRC made recommendations (p. 10.).
- ¹³ Ibid., p. 11. NHRC made recommendations (p. 12.).
- ¹⁴ Ibid., p. 12. NHRC made recommendations (p. 12.).
- ¹⁵ Ibid., p. 11. NHRC made recommendations (p. 11.).
- ¹⁶ Ibid., p. 13. NHRC made recommendations (p. 13.).
- ¹⁷ JS6, para. 12, referring to A/HRC/43/, para. 127.5 (Denmark) and para. 127.6 (France).
- ¹⁸ JS4, pp. 1–2, referring to A/HRC/43/6, 127.4 (Togo).
- ¹⁹ JS4, p. 2, referring to A/HRC/43/6, 127.8 (Mali). See also JS6 para. 12, referring to A/HRC/43/6, 127.9 (Montenegro). JS6 made a recommendation (p. 5).
- ²⁰ ACHPR, p. 1.
- ²¹ JS1, paras. 6 and 7. JS1 made a recommendation (p. 13). See also JS2, para. 18. JS2 made a recommendation (para. 19); and JS6, para. 17.
- ²² JS4, p. 3, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para 127.18 (Uganda). JS4 made recommendations (p. 3).
- ²³ ECLJ, para. 13. ECLJ made recommendations (para. 17).
- ²⁴ JS5, para. 40. JS5 made recommendations (pp. 7 and 9).
- ²⁵ JS1, para. 28. JS1 made a recommendation (p. 14).
- ²⁶ JS1, para. 22. JS1 made a recommendation (p. 13).
- ²⁷ JS2, paras. 20–22. JS2 made recommendations (para. 23). See also JS6, para. 15.
- ²⁸ JS6, para. 16. JS6 made a recommendation (p. 6).
- ²⁹ JS6, para. 7.
- ³⁰ JS6, para. 8.
- ³¹ JS6, para. 9.
- ³² JS5, paras. 19, 20, 22 and 24.

- 33 CGNK, p. 4. CGNK made a recommendation (p. 6).
- 34 JS4, pp. 4 and 7, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.37 (Seychelles) and para. 127.99 (Spain).
- 35 JS4, p. 8, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.102 (Italy). JS4 made a recommendation (p. 8).
- 36 CGNK, p. 4. CGNK made a recommendation (p. 6).
- 37 JS4, para. 9.
- 38 JS4, p. 9, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.104 (France).
- 39 ECLJ, para. 10. ECLJ made recommendations (para. 17).
- 40 JS2, paras. 4 and 5, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.28 (Netherlands), para. 127.57 (Denmark), para. 127.58 (Ireland), and para. 127.59 (France) JS2 made recommendations (para. 9).
- 41 (JS1, paras. 18 and 21, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.28 (Netherlands), para. 127.32 (Iceland), para. 127.38 (Sierra Leone), para. 127.44 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), para. 127.49 (Belgium), para. 127.50 (Brazil), para. 127.52 (Canada), para. 127.53 (Chile), para. 127.57 (Denmark), para. 127.58 (Ireland), para. 127.59 (France) and para. 127.60 (Germany). JS1 made recommendations (p. 13). See also JS6, paras. 28–30. JS6 made recommendations (p. 13).
- 42 JS2, para. 10, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.132 (Croatia), para. 127.137 (Namibia) and para. 127.138 (Uruguay). JS2 made recommendations (para. 12).
- 43 JS1, paras. 12 and 13. JS1 made recommendations (p. 13).
- 44 JS1, para. 15. JS1 made recommendations (p. 13).
- 45 JS5, para. 60.
- 46 JS5, paras. 60 and 64.
- 47 JS6, para. 39. JS6 made recommendations (p. 17).
- 48 JS6, para. 31. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 13–14).
- 49 JS5, paras. 53, 66, 67, 71 and 72.
- 50 JS6, para. 34.
- 51 JS6, para. 34.
- 52 JS6, para. 32. JS6 made recommendations (p. 14).
- 53 JS6, para. 37. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 16–17).
- 54 JS6, para. 37. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 16–17).
- 55 JS5, paras. 73, 79 and 81.
- 56 JS5, paras. 78 and 83.
- 57 JS6, para. 33. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 14–15).
- 58 C-Fam, paras. 4 and 6.
- 59 JS6, para. 38. JS6 made recommendations (p. 17); and C-Fam, paras. 5 and 7.
- 60 JS6, para. 33. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 14–15).
- 61 BC, paras. 10, 15, 18, 20, 21 and 23. BC made recommendations (paras. 39–41).
- 62 JS6, para. 34. JS6 made a recommendation (p. 15).
- 63 JS6, para. 34.
- 64 BC, paras. 31 and 33. BC made recommendations (paras. 44 and 45).
- 65 JS5, paras. 56 and 57. JS5 made recommendations (p. 11).
- 66 JAI, paras. 3 and 12, 14, 15, 18 and 42.
- 67 JAI, paras. 25 and 28.
- 68 JAI, para. 43.
- 69 JS5, para. 60.
- 70 JS6, para. 35. JS6 made recommendations (pp. 15–16).
- 71 UPR-BCU, para. 12, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.106 (Maldives), para. 127.107 (Germany), para. 127.108 (Nepal), para. 127.111 (Ukraine), para. 127.114 (Burundi), para. 127.115 (Central Africa Republic), and para. 127.117 (Gabon).
- 72 UPR-BCU, para. 12, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.68 (Philippines), para. 127.69 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela), para. 127.75 (Pakistan), para. 127.76 (South Africa), para. 127.79 (Uruguay), para. 127.81 (Cuba), para. 127.187 (Morocco), para. 127.195 (Rwanda), para. 127.110 (Uganda), para. 127.193 (Nepal), para. 127.197 (Iraq), para. 127.41 (India), para. 127.67 (Montenegro), para. 127.71 (Iraq), para. 127.72 (China), para. 127.199 (Solomon Islands), and para. 127.201 (Tunisia).
- 73 UPR-BCU, para. 14.
- 74 UPR-BCU, paras. 15–17, referring to A/HRC/43/6, para. 127.45 (Zambia), para. 127.54 (Honduras), para. 127.105 (Madagascar) para. 127.200 (Spain), para. 127.107 (Germany), para. 127.112 (Burkina Faso), para. 127.116 (France), para. 127.118 (Italy), para. 127.113 (Burkina Faso) and para. 127.117 (Gabon).
- 75 UPR-BCU, paras. 5 and 23.
- 76 WILL, paras. 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, and 1.6. WILL made recommendations (para. 3.3), and JS3, paras. 6–11 and 17. JS3 made recommendations (pp. 7–8). See also JS4, p. 12. JS4 made recommendations (p. 13); ECLJ, paras. 15 and 16. ECLJ made a recommendation (para. 18); JS6, para. 13. JS6 made a recommendation (p. 5); and UPR-BCU, para. 10. UPR-BCU made recommendations (p. 5).

⁷⁷ JS1, para. 34. JS1 made recommendations (p. 14).

⁷⁸ JS3, para. 21. JS3 made recommendations (pp. 8–9).

⁷⁹ JS5, para. 62.

⁸⁰ ECP, p. 1.

⁸¹ JS4, p. 4. JS4 made recommendations (p. 4).

⁸² JS6, para. 16.

⁸³ C-Fam, para. 13.
