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Summary of Stakeholders' submissions on Nepal*

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 63 stakeholders' submissions¹ to the universal periodic review, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Information provided by stakeholders

A. Scope of international obligations² and cooperation with international human rights mechanisms and bodies³

2. Various submitting organizations recommended that Nepal accede to, or ratify, the OP-CAT⁴; the OP-CRC-IC⁵; the ICRMW⁶; the OP-ICESCR⁷; the International Labour Organization (ILO) Domestic Workers Convention 189⁸; the ILO Violence and Harassment Convention 190⁹; the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions 1949¹⁰; the 1954 and 1961 Conventions Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and on the Reduction of Statelessness¹¹; and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.¹²

3. HRW, JS11, JS13 and JS18 recommended that Nepal extend a standing invitation to special procedures¹³, and accept all requests for visits by special procedures mandate holders¹⁴.

B. National human rights framework¹⁵

4. Submissions indicated that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had been made weaker through Government interference in its autonomy and bypassing of its recommendations.¹⁶ JS35, AI and JS36 recommended that the Government fully implement NHRC recommendations.¹⁷

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.



5. JS35 asserted that the NHRC Amendment Bill 2019, tabled in Parliament, contradicted the Supreme Court judgment, the Paris Principles, and the proposed NHRC amendments.¹⁸ Stakeholder organizations informed that the Bill's enactment would undermine the NHRC's autonomy, as the Attorney General would have discretionary powers in filing court cases; and that the provision of regional/sub-regional offices had been removed.¹⁹

6. Four organizations recommended that the Government revise the NHRC Amendment Bill in consultation with the NHRC; that Nepal repeal provisions in the proposed amendment that limit the jurisdiction and financial autonomy of the NHRC; and that it ensure the independence of the NHRC, in full accordance with the Paris Principles.²⁰

7. HRW, JS36 and JS37 informed that no commissioners had been appointed to the National Women's Commission, National Dalit Commission, and other thematic commissions.²¹ Several organizations recommended that the Government provide adequate resources to, and ensure appointment of, chairpersons and members of the constitutional bodies.²²

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

1. Cross-cutting issues

*Equality and non-discrimination*²³

8. Submitting organizations informed that the Caste-based Discrimination and Untouchability Act 2011 had criminalized caste-based discrimination and untouchability. However, Dalits had continued to face discrimination, the stigma of "untouchability", and violence, which had affected access to justice, education, health care, employment, water, public spaces, and land, while inter-caste marriage remained taboo. The COVID-19 lockdown had reportedly compounded the discrimination, with incidents of rape, assault, denial of funeral rites, and at quarantine sites.²⁴

9. JS16 recommended that the Government speed up programs for adequate housing and lands for landless Dalits.²⁵ JS37 recommended expanding the "People's Housing Program", covering all landless Dalits; providing income-generating training; enacting legislation to guarantee protection of Dalit traditional occupations; and providing micro-credits and loan facilities.²⁶

10. JS16 and JS37 informed that, although the Constitution ensured that Dalits would have the right to proportional participation in State bodies, there was no such representation. They recommended to adopt concrete measures to guarantee full proportional representation.²⁷

11. JS16 informed that a large percentage of Dalit students dropped out before completing basic education, and recommended that Nepal ensure every Dalit student receives free education from primary to higher levels with standardized scholarships.²⁸

12. AI, JS3, JS5 and JS30 informed that LGBTI individuals had continued to face discrimination and violence, and that Nepal had failed to adopt measures to ensure the constitutional provision on equal rights for LGBTI persons.²⁹ Submissions identified concerns regarding same sex marriage, equal rights to citizenship and employment, and the impact of COVID-19.³⁰

13. Submitting organizations recommended that Nepal enact comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, notably with respect to employment and social services; and ensure LGBTI-sensitive COVID-19 responses.³¹

14. AI, HRW, JS30 and JS41 recommended to formulate laws to ensure marriage equality for LGBTI individuals.³² JS5 and JS41 recommended to make the definition of marriage gender-neutral.³³ Stakeholder organizations recommended to amend the Constitution and the Citizenship Amendments Bill to guarantee citizenship to LGBTI

persons without requirements for medical proof, and to ensure the ability to transfer citizenship to children.³⁴

15. JS8 outlined intersex persons' concerns, notably unnecessary medical procedures, and recommended legislative provisions prohibiting such procedures.³⁵

*Development, the environment, and business and human rights*³⁶

16. JS35 recommended the adoption of laws and an action plan aligned with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.³⁷

17. JS6, JS15 and JS27 asserted that the land, waters, and natural resources of indigenous peoples had been threatened due to development projects in hydropower generation and road expansion, implemented by the State, private investors, and multinational development banks. Initiatives had been undertaken without indigenous peoples' free, prior and informed consent nor meaningful participation in project planning, implementation and evaluation. Projects reportedly resulted in escalating conflicts, forced displacements, environmental degradation, and negative effects on traditional occupations. Community members opposing the works were often detained, tortured or injured.³⁸

18. JS6, JS15 and JS36 recommended that Nepal adopt a mechanism and measures to ensure that indigenous communities are meaningfully consulted to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before launching any project, and in associated planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; and to provide redress to communities for losses incurred.³⁹ JS27 recommended to recognize indigenous peoples' rights over land and other resources in accordance with ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).⁴⁰

19. JS6, JS15 and JS27 informed that road widening projects under the Kathmandu Valley Road Improvement Project had led to mass forced eviction without consultation, compensation or rehabilitation. A 2017 Supreme Court ruling had ordered the Government to proceed only after acquiring land to resettle families and providing compensation, but local governments had reportedly continued works. JS6 reported that police had forcefully repressed related peaceful protests.⁴¹

20. JS6 recommended that the Government, jointly with concerned indigenous communities, demarcate their traditional lands and resources and return any lost during the project, or provide remedy for losses.⁴² JS27 recommended to execute the Supreme Court decisions on the matter.⁴³

2. Civil and political rights

*Right to life, liberty and security of person*⁴⁴

21. AI and JS23 informed that there had been several allegations of extrajudicial executions, which authorities had failed to adequately investigate.⁴⁵ AI, JS2 and JS23 recommended that Nepal ensure independent, effective investigations into all cases of unlawful killings and bring suspects to justice in trials before ordinary civilian courts.⁴⁶

22. JS23 noted that the new Criminal Code codified enforced disappearance as a separate autonomous crime. However, it could not be applied retrospectively; and envisaged penalties not proportionate to the gravity of the crime, a six month statute of limitations, and a different definition of enforced disappearance, all inconsistent with international law. JS23 recommended amending the Criminal Code to align it with international law.⁴⁷

23. Some organizations reported that torture and other ill-treatment were widespread in pre-trial detention to extract "confessions" and intimidate people; and that authorities had not carried out credible investigations into several deaths with torture suspected. The 2017 Criminal Code contained provisions criminalizing torture and other ill-treatment, but, contrary to international law, stipulated a six-month limitation period to file complaints; punishments of five years were not proportionate to the gravity of the crime; and provisions without retroactive effect did not apply to torture committed during the armed conflict. A

separate anti-torture Bill, pending in Parliament since 2014, also fell short of international legal requirements, with redress limited to reparation and compensation.⁴⁸

24. Submitting organizations recommended that Nepal introduce new anti-torture legislation and amend the Criminal Code to ensure compliance with international law; establish an independent body to investigate torture allegations; systematize human rights training for police; establish a national preventative mechanism aligned with OP-CAT; and ensure victim rehabilitation.⁴⁹

25. JS35 and JS42 reported that prison and detention centre conditions were poor, with no special arrangements for persons with disabilities, gender minorities and senior citizens.⁵⁰

*Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law*⁵¹

26. Many submitting organizations reported that Nepal had failed to deliver truth, justice and reparation for thousands of victims of human rights violations committed during the decade-long armed conflict. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Commission of Investigation on Enforced Disappeared Persons, established in 2015, which had collected over 63,000 complaints of violations committed by State security forces and armed opposition groups, had reportedly failed to carry out effective and independent investigations.⁵² AI, HRW and JS36 asserted that a shortage of resources and capacity, as well as political interference in appointments, had adversely affected the Commissions' work.⁵³

27. Six stakeholders recommended that the Government enable a credible and victim-centric transitional justice process, which upholds international legal standards, including effective accountability and reparations, and ensuring that the appointment process for commissioners is fully transparent and consultative.⁵⁴

28. AI and JS23 noted that the Government had resisted amending the Commission of the Investigation on Enforced Disappearance, Truth and Reconciliation Act 2014, as ordered by the Supreme Court in 2014 and 2015, to bring it in line with international human rights law, including regarding envisaged amnesties.⁵⁵ Some stakeholders recommended that the Government amend the 2014 Act pursuant to the Supreme Court judgment, and undertake wider consultations.⁵⁶

29. JS2, JS34 and JS42 noted a lack of inclusion of the experiences of women survivors of sexualised violence during the armed conflict, and continuing impunity for perpetrators.⁵⁷ JS34 recommended amending the 2014 Act to include measures for investigating cases of sexual violence, and prohibiting related amnesties; removing the statute of limitations for filing rape cases during the conflict; and including survivors of sexual violence in victim relief schemes.⁵⁸

30. JS2 and JS13 noted that several alleged perpetrators of human rights violations during the conflict had been appointed to high public office.⁵⁹ JS2 recommended to suspend those in power against whom cases were pending before courts; and introduce vetting in public institutions.⁶⁰

31. L4L and JS28 reported that lawyers were sometimes subjected to surveillance, threats and harassment by law enforcement agencies, and to criminal prosecution, and recommended to ensure effective investigations.⁶¹

32. JS2 noted COVID-19 effects, with police reportedly refusing to register complaints, and suspects in detention without court warrants.⁶²

*Fundamental freedoms*⁶³

33. Several organizations noted that Nepal's new penal code enacted a prohibition against the conversion of persons from one religion to another. They contended that the language was vague and overbroad and had led to the arrest and imprisonment of individuals exercising their constitutional rights to profess and practice religion, notably since the prohibition on conversion was not limited to coercion; and that the Government had utilized the COVID-19 pandemic and the vagueness of the penal code as cover for

denial of religious minority rights.⁶⁴ JUBILEE, JS40 and ECLJ reported that, since the passage of the 2017 anti-conversion law, Christians had been increasingly targeted by Hindu extremists.⁶⁵

34. JS1 and JS40 informed that media campaigns portraying Muslims as the primary population responsible for spreading COVID-19 had fueled discrimination and violence towards Muslims.⁶⁶

35. ADF, CSW, JS1, and JS40 urged the Government to amend its Constitution and penal code to clarify that only forcible conversion is prohibited.⁶⁷ ADF recommended to ensure that freedom of religion is protected in the COVID-19 response.⁶⁸

36. Several organizations asserted that the Electronic Transactions Act had been used to arrest and detain journalists and members of the public for legitimate online expression.⁶⁹ JS11 and JS20 reported that there had been physical attacks and judicial harassment of human rights defenders and journalists.⁷⁰ JS11 recommended to amend the Electronic Transactions Act to align it with the ICCPR and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.⁷¹

37. HRW, JS11 and JS35 reported that the Government had presented legislation that eroded freedoms of expression and of the press, including the Information Technology, Media Council, and Mass Communications Bills, introducing broad ill-defined limitations, including criminal sanctions.⁷² Six stakeholders recommended that the Government remove all provisions in the Bills that infringe on freedoms, revise the bills to align with human rights standards, or withdraw such draft laws; and ensure laws are not used to criminalize freedom of expression or libel.⁷³

38. AI and JS2 reported that, in the COVID-19 context, a number of people who had posted opinions online had been arrested for “spreading misinformation” or criticizing the Government, with journalists threatened and barred.⁷⁴

39. JS2 asserted that Nepal had failed to investigate police officers responsible for killing at least 40 demonstrators during 2015 protests against the Constitution. While the then-Government had set up the Lal inquiry Commission to investigate the killings, its report had not been made public.⁷⁵ AI, JS2 and JS11 reported that security forces had detained people for peaceful dissent and used excessive force to disperse protesters, including protesters of the Government’s COVID-19 response.⁷⁶

40. Three organizations recommended that the Government release all protesters, human rights defenders and journalists detained for exercising their right to freedom of peaceful assembly; establish an independent complaints commission; make the Lal Commission report public; and adopt best practices as presented by the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly.⁷⁷

41. JS11, JS28 and JS43 noted that there remained problematic clauses in draft laws covering civil society organisations (CSOs) and in the draft National Integrity Policy, the latter stipulating that CSOs would need approval from authorities to receive foreign funding.⁷⁸

42. JS11, JS28, JS34 and JS43 recommended to remove all undue restrictions on the ability of CSOs to receive international funding; repeal existing legislation that allows Government interference in CSO functioning; and undertake consultations with stakeholders on the proposed laws and National Integrity Policy.⁷⁹

*Prohibition of all forms of slavery*⁸⁰

43. Some submitting organizations reported that, despite legislative provisions against slavery, historical forms of bonded labor persisted. While Nepal had declared *Kamaiya* emancipation in 2000, thousands of freed *Kamaiya* were still awaiting rehabilitation. With the abolition of the *Haliya* system in 2008, there had been a gap between the official and actual number affected; rehabilitation programmes had reached about one-third of those affected; and programme content was insufficient to ensure economic empowerment and access to work.⁸¹

44. JS4, JS29 and JS36 recommended to ensure full rehabilitation of the *Haliya* community, and their access to work-skills training, employment opportunities, and housing.⁸²

45. Several organizations reported that trafficking and sexual exploitation of Nepali children remained a significant problem, and that Nepal was a source, transit, and destination country.⁸³ AHR and JUBILEE informed that the number of trafficking cases had grown, particularly since the 2015 earthquake.⁸⁴ AHR, JS17 and JS38 asserted that, although Nepal had revised the Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act in 2016, the legislation did not criminalize all forms of labour trafficking, sex trafficking and exploitation; and that official corruption remained a serious concern. Reporting rates were also low.⁸⁵

46. AHR, JS4, JS10, JS38 and JUBILEE recommended to revise the Act to bring the definition of human trafficking in line with international law, and to include all aspects of human trafficking.⁸⁶ AHR recommended to increase law enforcement efforts, including against officials complicit in trafficking-related crimes.⁸⁷

47. JS4 noted that slavery risk had been heightened by COVID-19-related economic shocks, and urged the Government to take mitigating action, including social and financial protection measures.⁸⁸

3. Economic, social and cultural rights

*Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work*⁸⁹

48. JS19 noted that the Labour Audit had become mandatory for all establishments and a general standard for labour audits had been adopted in 2018. However, most labour standards had not been adequately applied.⁹⁰

49. JS35 and JS19 noted that the Labour Act 2017 stipulated equal pay for equal work. However, women workers faced unpaid care work, workplace harassment, male workers earning more, and more males employed.⁹¹

50. JS19 informed that the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted daily wage, women, child labour, and migrant workers, notably during the lockdown when almost all informal sector workers lost their jobs without social protection. Food packages supported families for only two months. Government relief packages that required documentation prevented many workers from accessing relief.⁹²

Right to social security

51. JS36 and JS19 reported that Nepal had unveiled a contribution-based social security scheme in 2018, which protected formal sector employees, but informal sector labourers, comprising an estimated 65% of workers, and the unemployed, did not benefit. The Government provided allowances for senior citizens, widows, unmarried women, children, Dalits and endangered ethnic communities, however, many senior citizens did not receive payments because they did not have citizenship certificates. JS36 and JS19 recommended to guarantee social security to informal sector workers and provide protection allowances to all households living below the poverty line.⁹³

*Right to an adequate standard of living*⁹⁴

52. JS35 and FIAN informed that the Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act had been enacted but the implementation mechanism had not been introduced. An estimated 36% of children under five were reportedly stunted. Factors accounting for food insecurity included poverty, difficulties in access to forest resources, challenges in the recognition of indigenous persons, and reconstruction delays after the 2015 earthquake.⁹⁵ AI was concerned that the Act applied only to Nepali citizens.⁹⁶

53. FIAN, JS34 and JS35 recommended that the Government introduce regulations for implementation of the Act.⁹⁷ FIAN recommended that the Government formulate a national action plan; improve mechanisms to legally recognize indigenous peoples; and ensure that

communities feeding themselves from forests and fisheries are not dispossessed from their territories.⁹⁸ AI recommended to amend the Act to ensure protection of non-citizens.⁹⁹

54. AI noted that, while the enactment of the Right to Housing Act 2018 had been an important step towards guaranteeing the right to housing, it had fallen short of Nepal's international human rights obligations, and local authorities had continued to execute evictions without due process or provision of alternative accommodation.¹⁰⁰

55. AI recommended to amend the Act to ensure that its provisions are brought in line with international human rights obligations, including protection from forced evictions.¹⁰¹ JS36 recommended to implement and expand the Public Housing Project for *Dalit* and marginalized groups.¹⁰²

56. JS22 informed that the Government had put efforts into improving sanitation, with Nepal declared the first country in South Asia to be Open Defecation Free in September 2019. However, a large proportion of the population remained poorly reached, as poor people, menstruating women, Dalits and people with disabilities were left out; water supply systems functioned inadequately; and water service management faced capacity challenges.¹⁰³

*Right to health*¹⁰⁴

57. Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, JS2 reported that impacts included lack of access to medical services for daily-wage earners; refusal of treatment by private hospitals; lack of essential equipment in hospitals; and poor conditions of quarantine facilities.¹⁰⁵ JS36 recommended to create universal health insurance, make primary health service free and accessible, and improve quarantine arrangements.¹⁰⁶

58. Several submitting organizations reported that the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Rights Act, 2018 and Public Health Service Act 2018 had been enacted but remained to be implemented, particularly since implementing rules had not been adopted. Other challenges included low numbers of doctors; the fact that abortion continued to be penalized in certain cases; the Government's failure to clarify when abortion may be provided in cases of pregnancies resulting from rape or incest; the limit of 28 weeks of pregnancy beyond which abortions cannot be performed; and the lack of awareness among women of the availability of legal abortions.¹⁰⁷ BBC-Nepal, JS7 and JS36 informed that during the COVID-19 lockdown, the rate of maternal mortalities and newborn deaths had increased, due to disruptions in maternal health services and mobility.¹⁰⁸

59. BBC-Nepal, JS7 and JS41 recommended to decriminalize abortion in all cases; amend the Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Rights Act to allow abortion in all cases, implement the Act regulations; and ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services during the pandemic.¹⁰⁹

60. JS25 reported that leprosy cases were being detected frequently, impacting on employment and access to education, and leprosy knowledge had not been mainstreamed within the healthcare system. It recommended to ensure leprosy training within the healthcare community, and implement the UN Principles and Guidelines for the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy.¹¹⁰

61. KOSHISH indicated that there was a lack of mental health services in Nepal, while policies had failed to integrate mental health within the general health system. It recommended training local community/health workers and providing psychosocial support in health facilities.¹¹¹

62. KOSHISH reported that suicide was one of the leading causes of unnatural death in young people.¹¹² JS9 noted progress with the 2018 prohibition in the criminal code of self-inflicted suicide, implementing a second cycle UPR recommendation.¹¹³ KOSHISH and JS9 recommended providing free mental well-being assessments and counselling at schools; developing a national database; and implementing a national strategy and action plan for suicide prevention.¹¹⁴

63. JS39 informed that the Narcotic Drugs (Control) Act, 2033 (1976) criminalised persons addicted to narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, exacerbating stigma among

the police and healthcare providers.¹¹⁵ It recommended that Nepal reform the Act in line with international human rights law.¹¹⁶

*Right to education*¹¹⁷

64. JS35 and JS31 informed that, although the Government had enacted the Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2018 there were no rules for implementing it and its provisions were insufficient for the most deprived children. Both noted that the National Education Policy 2019 also promoted private sector involvement in education, threatening access to education for disadvantaged children.¹¹⁸

65. JS31 recommended that Nepal ensure sufficient provisions for free and compulsory education in the revised Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2018, and revise the National Education Policy 2019 to bring private education providers under regulatory guidelines.¹¹⁹

66. AHR noted improvements in education, including reported gender parity at primary level.¹²⁰ However, several stakeholder organizations expressed concern that attendance rates were low. Factors included hidden costs such as textbooks; child labour; early marriage; corruption in the sector; and limited access for children with disabilities and from the most marginalized groups.¹²¹

67. AHR recommended addressing hidden costs through scholarship or other programs; prioritizing rural girls; increasing transparency in the education budget to address corruption; and increasing resources to schools to make them more disability-accessible.¹²²

4. Rights of specific persons or groups

*Women*¹²³

68. AI and HRW noted that statutory limitations on rape in the criminal code fell short of international standards, and facilitated impunity for perpetrators. Reports of rape, particularly against children, had grown in recent years.¹²⁴

69. Various submitting organizations recommended that Nepal remove the statutory limitation on rape complaints; ensure that complaints are effectively investigated; and introduce a plan of action to address violence against women.¹²⁵

70. SOCH and JS32 noted that, despite constitutional and legal safeguards, traditional cultural practices, such as *Chhaupadi* (banishing menstruating women and girls to huts), continued to be carried out.¹²⁶ AI commended the criminalizing of *Chhaupadi* in August 2017, however, the practice remained widespread, and numerous women and girls had died or been subjected to sexual violence while forced to stay in *Chhaupadi* or period huts.¹²⁷ JS16 noted that Dalit women were particularly affected.¹²⁸

71. JS34 and JS36 recommended to investigate cases involving harmful traditional practices and punish those responsible, providing victim rehabilitation.¹²⁹ JAI, SOCH, JS14, JS34, and JS36 recommended to increase public education about traditional practices.¹³⁰

72. HRW and JS21 informed that Nepal had resisted demands to reform provisions in the constitution that limited women's ability to transmit citizenship to their children.¹³¹ UNPO informed that this particularly affected Madeshi women living near the Nepali-Indian border.¹³² JS35 noted that the citizenship clause in the Constitution was not in alignment with the CEDAW.¹³³ JS21 asserted that the Constitution discriminated against women with regard to the conferral of nationality on foreign spouses, a right reserved for Nepali men, while under the Citizenship Act, Nepali women married to foreign men before obtaining a citizenship certificate did not have the right to subsequently obtain it. Women were thus denied citizenship certificates and registration of their children, preventing access to education, bank accounts, voting, travel documents, employment in the public sector, and social services.¹³⁴

73. Several organizations recommended that the Government ensure a non-discriminatory approach for receiving citizenship in the latest draft Citizenship Bill tabled

in Parliament; and amend or repeal all discriminatory provisions in the Constitution and Nepal Citizenship Act and Rules contradictory to the CEDAW.¹³⁵

74. JS35 noted that the Constitution sets aside 33% of federal parliamentary seats for women but women faced discrimination in opportunities for political candidacy.¹³⁶ TCC indicated that political parties had not committed to full representation of women as candidates in the first-past-the post component of the electoral system, and recommended that the Government address remaining obstacles to women's candidacy.¹³⁷

75. JS32 noted that, during the COVID-19 lockdown, cases of sexual abuse and domestic violence had reportedly risen. Girls had unequal access to online education, and undertook increased unpaid care work, while quarantine centres had been unsafe. It recommended to provide social protection schemes to prevent dropouts and child labour, and make quarantine centres girl-friendly.¹³⁸

*Children*¹³⁹

76. Various organizations asserted that, despite the revised Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, a ten-year Action Plan for the elimination of child labour by 2025, and a National Child Labour Abolition Master Plan (2018–2028), child labour remained prevalent. Challenges to implementation of legislation included limited human resources and institutional capacity, and the fact that inspectors did not regularly inspect the informal sector where most child labourers worked. The COVID-19 pandemic had increased risk factors for child labour, including economic insecurity and school shutdowns.¹⁴⁰

77. JUBILEE and AHR recommended to strengthen enforcement of legislation, and expand legislation to include the informal sector.¹⁴¹

78. HRW, JS10, JS17 and JS36 reported that, although illegal under domestic law, child marriage remained widespread, and recommended fully implementing a national action plan to end child marriage, with the goal of ending child marriage by 2030 as per the SDGs.¹⁴²

79. GIEACPC reported that Nepal had prohibited corporal punishment in all settings through the 2018 Act Relating to Children, and recommended that the Government ensure its implementation.¹⁴³

*Persons with disabilities*¹⁴⁴

80. JS36 and KOSHISH asserted that the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2017 had focused on the medical model of disability and lacked concrete provisions on psychosocial disability; that persons with disabilities had been struggling for inclusion in State structures, and access to educational and health facilities; and that persons with psychosocial and severe disabilities were often chained, incarcerated and treated inhumanely.¹⁴⁵

81. Both recommended that Nepal amend the Act to address issues of psychosocial and other under-represented disabilities.¹⁴⁶ KOSHISH recommended to investigate and penalize cases of inhumane treatment; provide victim counselling; and collect information on employment quota for persons with disabilities in the civil service.¹⁴⁷ JS14 recommended to ensure disability-friendly public infrastructure.¹⁴⁸

*Minorities and indigenous peoples*¹⁴⁹

82. Several organizations indicated that the 2015 Constitution of Nepal had been drafted without meaningful participation of indigenous peoples, and thus failed to ensure their rights to self-determination, and to their lands, territories and resources; that the Government had recognized 60 indigenous persons groups, leaving out several; that, despite having ratified the ILO Convention 169, Nepal had yet to formulate laws and policies to implement those obligations; and while the Government had endorsed the National Action Plan for implementing the Convention, no action had been taken.¹⁵⁰

83. JS6 and JS27 recommended that Nepal, jointly with representative institutions of indigenous peoples, undertake comprehensive amendments to the Constitution and existing

laws, or formulate new laws and policies to implement ILO Convention 169 and the UNDRIP.¹⁵¹ JS27 and JS36 recommended to implement the Action Plan.¹⁵²

84. JS6 and JS36 noted that the Guthi Bill to nationalize all Guthis had been contested for threatening centuries-old Newar traditions, and while withdrawn, was reportedly being redrafted without meaningful consultation with the community.¹⁵³

85. JS6 and JS15 informed that the Government had used only 69 mother tongues as the medium of educational instruction, of a total 123 languages spoken in Nepal.¹⁵⁴ JS6 recommended that the Government invest more resources to promote mother-tongue based multilingual education in public/community schools and support indigenous communities to establish their own educational institutions.¹⁵⁵

86. JS15 and JS35 recalled that the Constitution provided for the proportional participation of indigenous nationalities in State organs, but indigenous nationalities had secured low representation, notably among women.¹⁵⁶ JS6 and JS27 recommended halting reversal of affirmative measures.¹⁵⁷

87. JS15 and JS27 reported that large swathes of forest area, traditionally used by indigenous peoples for livelihood, had been converted into community forests, national parks, protected or conservation areas without securing their free, prior and informed consent. The National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act contained no provisions to protect their right to consultation or access to land and resources. The army had been mobilized, and indigenous peoples had been denied access to the natural resources, harassed, fined, and imprisoned on various charges.¹⁵⁸

88. Both recommended that the Government, in consultation with indigenous peoples, amend the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act to align with ILO Convention 169.¹⁵⁹ JS27 also recommended to ensure self-management or co-management, in protected areas.¹⁶⁰

89. HRW, JS6 and JS27 reported that those most affected by natural disasters, who disproportionately belonged to indigenous and minority communities, were often not provided with adequate relief, with many survivors of the 2015 earthquake still living in temporary shelter; and that approaches to reconstruction undermined the culture, language, livelihoods and identity of indigenous peoples.¹⁶¹ JS6 recommended that the Government support marginalized groups in post-earthquake reconstruction, entailing meaningful consultation with communities.¹⁶²

*Migrants*¹⁶³

90. HRW noted that remittances from migrant workers contributed around 30 percent of Nepal's Gross Domestic Product. However, migrant workers were frequently victims of abuses, including exploitative fees, physical and sexual abuse in destination countries, unsafe working conditions, and non-payment of wages.¹⁶⁴ AI and JS19 contended that the Government had failed to deliver effective protection for migrant workers, facilitating impunity for unlawful recruitment practices.¹⁶⁵

91. AI recommended that the Government investigate all recruitment related abuses.¹⁶⁶ HRW recommended to introduce laws to end all recruitment charges paid by workers.¹⁶⁷ JS35 and AI recommended that Nepal sign bilateral labor agreements with all destination countries.¹⁶⁸ JS19 recommended to amend the Foreign Employment Act (2007) to ensure provisions for the employer pays principle, and stricter monitoring from diplomatic mission in destination countries.¹⁶⁹

92. HRW and JS38 informed that Nepal had imposed age restrictions on women migrating for employment, and a ban in 2017 on Nepalis working abroad as domestic workers, principally affecting women. They recommended to end discriminatory provisions affecting women's employment abroad.¹⁷⁰

93. JUBILEEE, JS18 and CSW noted challenges for Tibetan refugees regarding gaining legal recognition, negatively impacting their freedoms of movement, religion, and to education and work.¹⁷¹

*Stateless persons*¹⁷²

94. JS21, JS26 and THIRD Alliance reported that several million individuals lacked citizenship documentation and that a large number within this group had either been denied citizenship or risked statelessness. Statelessness was also prevalent among long-term refugee populations, notably ethnic Nepali Bhutanese. An amendment to the Nepal Citizenship Act, the Citizenship Amendment Bill, had been registered in 2018 and had since been debated in parliament.¹⁷³ JS21 and JS26 asserted that the difficulty in obtaining documentation could in part be attributed to the arbitrary discretion applied by relevant authorities.¹⁷⁴

95. JS21, JS26 and THIRD Alliance noted that stateless people were often prevented from accessing basic services, including relief during the COVID19 lockdown. The Supreme Court had issued an interim order to the Government to provide relief without requiring certificates, but cases of denial had been reported.¹⁷⁵

96. JS21, JS26 and THIRD Alliance recommended to pass the Nepal Citizenship Act Amendment Bill.¹⁷⁶ JS21 recommended that Nepal recognize that the right to a nationality is not subject to the discretion of administrative authorities, but is protected by the State.¹⁷⁷

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:*

ADF	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
AHR	Advocates for Human Rights, Minneapolis (United States of America);
AI	Amnesty International, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
BBC-Nepal	Beyond Beijing Committee, Kathmandu (Nepal);
CFCNepal1	Campaign for Change, Kathmandu (Nepal);
CRG	Child Rights Governance, Kathmandu (Nepal);
CSW	Christian Solidarity Worldwide, New Malden (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
ECLJ	European Centre for Law and Justice, Strasbourg (France);
FIAN	FIAN International, Geneva (Switzerland);
GIEACPC	Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
HKC	Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, Sheffield (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
HRW	Human Rights Watch, Geneva (Switzerland);
JAI	Just Atonement Inc., New York (United States of America);
JUBILEE	JUBILEE CAMPAIGN, Fairfax (United States of America);
KOSHISH	KOSHISH, National Mental Health Self-Help Organization, Kathmandu (Nepal);
L4L	Lawyers for Lawyers, Amsterdam (Netherlands);
SOCH	Society for Humanism (SOCH) Nepal, Kathmandu (Nepal);
TCC	The Carter Center, Atlanta (United States of America);
THIRD Alliance	Terai Human Rights Defenders Alliance, Kathmandu (Nepal);
UNPO	Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, The Hague (Netherlands).

Joint submissions:

JS1	Joint submission 1 submitted by: 21 Wilberforce, Falls Church, United States of America, Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW), The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (ERLC), The Intellectual Muslim Association of Nepal (IMAN), Jubilee Campaign, and the Nepal Christian Association (NCS);
JS2	Joint submission 2 submitted by: Advocacy Forum, Kathmandu, Nepal,

- Accountability Watch Committee (AWC), Amnesty International-Nepal, Centre for Legal Studies (CLS), Conflict Victims' Common Platform (CVCP), Conflict Victims' National Alliance (CVNA), Conflict Victims Women National Network (CVWN), Conflict Victims Society for Justice (CVSJ-Nepal), Forum for Protection of People's Rights Nepal, Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD), Human Rights and Justice Centre (HRJC), Justice and Rights Institute Nepal (JURI- Nepal), Legal Aid and Consultancy Centre Nepal (LACC), Nagarik Aawaz (NA), National Network of Disabled Conflict Victims, National Network of Families of Disappeared (NEFAD), Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative, Public Defender Society of Nepal (PDS), Terai Human Rights Defenders Alliance (THRD Alliance), Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Nepal (TPO), The Story Kitchen, and Voice of Women Media;
- JS3 **Joint submission 3 submitted by:** Asia Pacific Transgender Network, Bangkok, Thailand, Blue Diamond Society (BDS), Nepal, Federation of Sexual and Gender Minorities Nepal (FSGMN);
- JS4 **Joint submission 4 submitted by:** Anti-Slavery International, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization (NNDSWO) Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE);
- JS5 **Joint submission 5 submitted by:** Blue Diamond Society, Kathmandu, Nepal, and Women Acting for Transformative Change (Women Act);
- JS6 **Joint submission 6 submitted by:** Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network, Lalitpur, Nepal, Himalayan Human Rights Monitors (HIMRIGHTS) and Save Nepa Valley Movement (SNV);
- JS7 **Joint submission 7 submitted by:** The Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc., Geneva, Switzerland, Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) and Justice and Rights Institute- Nepal (JuRI- Nepal);
- JS8 **Joint submission 8 submitted by:** Campaign for Change, Kathmandu, Nepal, and GESI activist;
- JS9 **Joint submission 9 submitted by:** Center for Global Non-Killing, Geneva, Switzerland, and Conscience and Peace Tax International;
- JS10 **Joint submission 10 submitted by:** Child Centered UPR Reporting Coalition Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Children as Zones of Peace National Campaign (CZOP), Alliance Against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN), CRC Committee, HRTMCC- Nepal Members, Child Care Homes Network (CNET), Consortium of Organizations Working for Child Participation (Consortium Nepal), DU COM Campaign in Nepal, Inclusive Education Forum Nepal (IEF), Men Engaged Alliance Nepal (MEA-Nepal), National Campaign for Education(NCE), National Child Friendly Local Governance-Forum (N-CFLG), National Coalition for Girls Rights (NCRG), National Child Protection Alliance (NCPA), Ratify OP3CRC Coalition Nepal Members, Education Watch Groups;
- JS11 **Joint submission 11 submitted by:** CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Johannesburg, South Africa, and Freedom Forum;
- JS12 **Joint submission 12 submitted by:** Ratify OP3CRC Coalition Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, and 33 member NGOs;
- JS13 **Joint submission 13 submitted by:** Conflict Victims from Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Conflict Victims Common Platform (CVCP), Conflict Victims National Alliance (CVNA), Conflict Victim Women National Network (CVWN), National Network of Disabled Conflict Victims (NNDCV), Conflict Victims Orphans Society (CVOS), Conflict Victims Society for Justice (CVSJ), Conflict Victims Committee, Bardiya, Society of the Families of Disappeared Nepal Maoist Victims Association, Conflict Victims and Farmer Rights Society, Kailali, Disabled Conflict Victims Association, Dolakha, Conflict Affected Peoples Concerns Society Dang, Bandurmudhe Ghatana Sarokar Samiti, Conflict Victims Teachers Society,

- Conflict Victims Self-Employment Skill Training Centre Nepal, Conflict Victims' National Society, Conflict Management and Displaced Concern Centre, Discharged People's Liberation Army Nepal, Guru Luitel Study and Development Center, *Muktinath Adhikari Memorial Foundation*, Maina Bal Bikash Samiti, Rina Apain Smiriti Pratisthan, Ganesh Ujjan Foundation, Bhairab Memorial Foundation, Gorkha, Laxmi Acharya Memorial Trust, Jajarkot Martry Bashistha Koirala (Sureshchandra) Memorial Foundation, Sindhuli Manilal Memomial Trust, Myagdi, Nandalal Koirala Memorial Trust, Gorkha, Ra.Si.Pa. Memorial foundation, Arghakhachi, Peace Envisioners, Shiva Prasad Bhatta Memorialization, Gorkha, Martyr Jaya Bahadur Rawal Memorial Foundation, Jajarkot, Martyr Tikaraj Aran Memorial Foundation, Ramechhap, Hari Bhakta Memorial Foundation, Rukum, Martyrs, and Disappeared Warrior Children Foundation, Martyr Dasarath Thakur Memorial Trust, Rajbiraj, Bhupendra Memorial Trust Nepal, Martyr Ajablaal Yadav Memorial Trust, Dhanusha, Bhupendra Smriti Pratisthan Nepal, Banke, Conflict Victims Women Network, Banke;
- JS14 **Joint submission 14 submitted by:** Consortium of organizations working for Child participation, Kathmandu, Nepal, Alliance Against Trafficking of Women in Nepal (AATWIN), Child Care Homes Network- Nepal(CNET), Children in Zone of Peace(CZOP), CRC Committee HRTMCC 5.Destination Unknown Children on Move Nepal(DUCOM), Education Watch Group, Inclusive Education Forum Nepal, National Campaign for Education Nepal(NCEN), N-CFLG Forum 10.National Coalition for Girls Rights(NCGR), National Alliance of Organizations Working for Street Children (NAOSC), National Child Protection Alliance (NCPA), Ratify OP3CRC Coalition Nepal;
- JS15 **Joint submission 15 submitted by:** Cultural Survival, Cambridge, United States of America, Sunuwar Sewa Samaj, Indigenous Women's League, Newa Misa Daboo, Nepal Tamang Women Ghedung, Indigenous Media Foundation, Cultural Survival;
- JS16 **Joint submission 16 submitted by:** Dalit NGO Federation, Kathmandu, Nepal, on behalf of 222 organizations;
- JS17 **Joint submission 17 submitted by:** ECPAT International, Bangkok, Thailand, and ECPAT Nepal;
- JS18 **Joint submission 18 submitted by:** International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Paris, France, and International Campaign for Tibet (ICT);
- JS19 **Joint submission 19 submitted by:** Forced Labor Elimination Advocacy Group, Lalitpur, Nepal, National Child Protection Alliance (NCPA) Members Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal (SAN) Center for Labor and Social Studies (CLASS Nepal) National Institute of Contemporary Studies (NICS) General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT) Maiti Nepal Pourakhi Nepal Trade Union Congress (NTUC) Shakti Samuha Children Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Center (CWIN) Women Forum for Women Nepal (WOFWON) BISWAS Nepal Center for Social Transformation (CST) Nepal Goodweave Foundation National Network Against Girls Trafficking (NNAGT) National Labor Academy (NLA) Domestic Workers Forum Rastriya Haruwa Charuwa Mahasangh Mukta Kamaiya Sangh Rastriya Mukta Haliya Mahasangh Forum for Human Rights and Environment (FOHREn) Human Rights Forum Nepal (HURF) Human Rights Social Awareness and Development Centre (HUSADEC) Human Rights and Environmental Development Center (HURENDEC) Makalu Trishakti Samuha Nepal Underprivileged Children's Association (UPCA) Nepal Child Protection Nepal Child Protection Organization AASMAN Nepal Change Nepal Center to Assist and Protect Child Rights of Nepal (CAP-CRON) Child Development Society Child Nepal Child Welfare Society Concern Nepal FHRD Forum for

- Wildlife and Environment Preserve Global Action Nepal Human Rights and Environmental Education Centre Legal Aid and Consultancy Center Loo Niva Child Concern Group Mahila Aatma Nirbhar Kendra Nangshal Association Nepal Narayangarh Youth Club Nepal Good Weave Foundation SathSath Srijanshil Yuba Club Sindhu Utthan Kendra Nepal Voice of Children Concerned Society Nepal Youth Along Voice Nepal (YAV) Children Nepal Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal Active Forum for Human Rights Awareness Freed Kamlari Development Forum Indreni Samaj Kendra (ISK) NEW CPC Rural Society Upliftment Forum (RUSUF Nepal) Siddhartha Social Development Centre (SSDC) Social Service Centre (SOSEC);
- JS20 **Joint submission 20 submitted by:** Free Press Unlimited, Amsterdam, Netherlands, and Freedom Forum;
- JS21 **Joint submission 21 submitted by:** Forum for Women, Law and Development, Kathmandu, Nepal; on behalf of the Nepal Civil Society Network on Citizenship Rights, a network of over 50 civil society organizations;
- JS22 **Joint submission 22 submitted by:** HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Zurich, Switzerland, and FEDWASUN (Federation of Drinking Water and Sanitation Users Nepal);
- JS23 **Joint submission 23 submitted by:** TRIAL International, Kathmandu, Nepal, Human Rights and Justice Centre, and Terai Human Rights Defenders Alliance;
- JS24 **Joint submission 24 submitted by:** International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, Switzerland, Advocacy Forum-Nepal, Terai Human Rights Defenders Alliance And University Of Passau;
- JS25 **Joint submission 25 submitted by:** International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations, Chatelaine, Switzerland, The Leprosy Mission Nepal, International Association for Integration, Dignity and Economic Advancement (IDEA) Nepal;
- JS26 **Joint submission 26 submitted by:** Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, Eindhoven, Netherlands, Citizenship Affected People's Network (CAPN), Community Action Centre Nepal (CAC Nepal), Dignity Initiative, Nepal Institute of Peace (NIP), Statelessness Network Asia Pacific (SNAP), Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights (GCENR);
- JS27 **Joint submission 27 submitted by:** Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples, Kathmandu, Nepal, Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples (LAHURNIP), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), National Indigenous Women's Federation (NIWF), Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities, Tamu Hyula ChhonjaDhi, Newa: Dey Dabu (Newar's National Forum), Nepal JirelSangh, Topkegola SewaSamaj, Kathmandu, Thakali Sewa Samiti, Binayakbasti, Balaju, Tharu Kalyankarini Sabha, Bhimsengola, Nepal Kumal Sudhar Samiti, Anamnagar, Nepal Chepang Sangh, Pulchok, Nepal Chantyal Sangh, Manamaiju Kathmandu, Nepal Tamang Ghedung, Putalisadak, Kathmandu, Lila Fung, Basundhara, KTM, Dura Sewa Samaj, Basundhara, KTM, Dhimal Jati Bikash Kendra, Urlabari -6, Mangalbare, Morang, Bhujel Sewa Samaj Samitee, Kupandole, KTM, Nepal Majhi Uthan Sangh, Chandole, KTM, Kirat Yakha Chumma, Mahalaxmasthan, Lalitpur, KiratYakthumChumlung, Mahalaxmasthan, Kirat Rai Yayokha, Mahadevsthan, Koteshwor, Sunuwar Sewa Samaj, Koteshowor, Nepal Hyolmo Sewa Samaj Sangh, Jorpati, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs, Classengade Federation Indigenous Peoples in America (FIFNA), Nepali American Solidarity Front for Democracy in Nepal(NASFDN),Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalists (NEFIN), Portugal, NEFIN Belgium, NEFIN Israel, National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN), Nepal Indigenous Disabled Association (NIDA), Nepal Chhantyal Association, Tarkeshwor, Indigenous Women's Legal Awareness Group (INWOLAG), Kumari, Lalitpur, Nepal, NGO-Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities (NGO-FONIN), Nepal Bhasha Misa Khala, Dhimal Women Association, Nepal Thami Society, Koteshwor, National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF), Nepal Thami Women Society, Kathmandu, Nepal;

- JS28 **Joint submission 28 submitted by:** The Law Society of England and Wales, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Collective Campaign for Peace (COCAP);
- JS29 **Joint submission 29 submitted by:** Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, Switzerland, Finn Church Aid; Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission; Samari Utthan Sewa; Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Federation Nepal; Campaign for Human Rights and Social Transformation; and Lutheran Community Welfare Society;
- JS30 **Joint submission 30 submitted by:** Mitini Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Blue Diamond Society, Dhanusha, Nepal, Sunaulo Bihani Samaj, Jiwan Jiti Samaj, Chautari, Ekata, Sudur Paschim Samaj, Naulo Sirjana, WNS, Nepalgunj, Sahara Samaj, Lead Nepal, Pariwartanshil Samaj, Friends Hetauda, Manav Sachet Samaj;
- JS31 **Joint submission 31 submitted by:** National Campaign for Education Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) Children As Zones of Peace-National Campaign (CZOP) Confederation of Nepalese Teachers(CNT) CONSORTIUM CRC Monitoring Committee- HRTMCC Education Journalists' Group (EJG) Education Journalists' Network (EJON) Guardian Association of Nepal Nepal Child Protection Alliance SMC Federation Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), Global Campaign for Education (GCE), Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Nepal, and 364 Civil Society Organizations working in education and child rights;
- JS32 **Joint submission 32 submitted by:** National Coalition for Girls Rights, Kathmandu, Nepal, with 45 member organisations;
- JS33 **Joint submission 33 submitted by:** Network of Families of the Disappeared, Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Committee for Social Justice, and Foundation of Memory of Martyrs and the Disappeared, Nepal;
- JS34 **Joint submission 34 submitted by:** Nepal Dialogue Forum, Berlin, Germany, Adivasi-Koordination Deutschland, Amnesty International – Ländergruppe Nepal, Bischöfliches Hilfswerk Misereor, Brot für die Welt, Gossner Mission, Food Information Action Network International (FIAN International), Peace Brigades International (PBI) – deutscher Zweig, Stiftung Asienhaus, Südasienbüro;
- JS35 **Joint submission 35 submitted by:** National Human Rights Commission*, Lalitpur, Nepal, National Women's Commission and National Dalit Commission,;
- JS36 **Joint submission 36 submitted by:** Nepal NGO Coalition for UPR, Kathmandu, Nepal, National Women Coalition and Durban Review Conference Follow-up Committee Nepal;
- JS37 **Joint submission 37 submitted by:** Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization, Kathmandu, Nepal, Finn Church Aid and International Dalit Solidarity Network;
- JS38 **Joint submission 38 submitted by:** Forum for Protection of People's Rights, Kathmandu, Nepal, Forum for Women, Law and Development, Legal Aid and Consultancy Center, Centre for Legal Research and Resource Development, Malti Nepal, SwatantrataAbhiyan Nepal, and Saathi;
- JS39 **Joint submission 39 submitted by:** Coalition of NGOs on Human Rights and Drug Policies for UPR-Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal, Recovering Nepal, Recovering Nepal Women or RN Women, Dristi Nepal, Coalition of Drug Users in Nepal or CDUN, Youth Rise International, YKP (Young Key Affected People) LEAD Nepal, Sparsha Nepal, Community Support Group Nepal, and International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC);
- JS40 **Joint submission 40 submitted by:** South Asia Forum for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Mumbai, India, Samari Utthan Sewa, and Federation of National Christian Nepal;

- JS41 **Joint submission 41 submitted by:** The Sexual Rights Initiative, Ottawa, Canada, The Asian Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and members of the Right Here Right Now Platform in Nepal;
- JS42 **Joint submission 42 submitted by:** Coalition of NGOs for UPR of Nepal, Copenhagen, Denmark, Transcultural Psychosocial Organization Nepal (TPO Nepal) - International Alert - Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) - International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT);
- JS43 **Joint submission 43 submitted by:** World Evangelical Alliance, Geneva, Switzerland, The Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Baptist World Alliance, Nepal Christian Society, National Christian Fellowship of Nepal, International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief (IPPFoRB) - Nepal Chapter Transformation Nepal, ITEEN, Safe Family Nepal, Religious Liberty Forum – Nepal, Interfaith Peace Federation of Nepal, Network for Christian NGOS Nepal (NECON), and Pax Romana – Nepal.

² The following abbreviations are used in UPR documents:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR;
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR;
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW;
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT;
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child;
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict;
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure;
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD;
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

³ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.1, 121.14–121.15, 122.26, 122.28, 122.31, 122.29, 123.1–123.6, 123.10–123.22, 123.26–123.27, 124.1–124.6, 124.9, and 124.11–124.14.

⁴ AI, p. 5, HRW, para. 13, JS13, para. 37 (v), JS24, para. 36 I, JS34, para. 21, JS36, p. 1, JAI, para. 37, JS42, p. 4, and JUBILEE, para. 4.

⁵ JS10, paras. 3.17–3.19, JS12, para. 15, JS17 p. 9, JS35, para. 28, and JS36, p. 1.

⁶ AI, p. 5, HRW, para. 20, JS38, para. 5.7, and JUBILEE, para. 4.

⁷ JS36, p. 1 and FIAN, para. 7/2.

⁸ HRW, para. 20 and JS19, para. 15.

⁹ HRW, para. 28.

¹⁰ JS36, p. 1.

¹¹ JS21, p.11 and JS26, para. 78. VIII).

¹² AI, p. 4, JS9, p. 11, JS13, para. 37 (v), JS23, p. 7, JS34, para. 20, JS36, p. 1, and HRW, para. 13.

¹³ HRW, para. 13 and JS11, para. 6.5.

¹⁴ JS13, para 37 (w) and JS18 para. 44.

¹⁵ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras.121.2–121.13, 122.1, 122.6, 122.8–122.9, 122.11–122.17, 122.19–122.22, 122.36–122.37, 122.33, 122.40, 122.42–122.43, 122.67, 122.69–122.73, 123.23–123.25, 123.29, and 124.7–124.8.

- ¹⁶ JS35, paras. 6-7, JS13, para. 21, and AI, para. 5.
- ¹⁷ JS35, paras. 6-7, AI, para. 5 and p. 4, JS13, para. 21, and JS36, p. 2.
- ¹⁸ JS35, paras. 5-6.
- ¹⁹ JS11, para. 2.6, JS35, paras. 5-6, AI, para. 7, and HRW, para. 16.
- ²⁰ JS36, p. 2, JS35, paras. 5-6, AI, para. 7 and p. 4, and HRW, para. 17.
- ²¹ HRW para. 27, JS36 para. 9 and JS37 para. 18.
- ²² JS3,4 para. 61, JS35, para. 6, JS36, para. 9 and p. 2, JS37, para. 18 and p. 3, and HRW, para. 27.
- ²³ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.16–121.18, 121.120, 122.2–122.3, 122.35.122.39, and 122.41.
- ²⁴ JS16 paras. 15-22, JS37 paras. 3-4, JS35 para. 31, AI para. 16 and JS36 p. 2.
- ²⁵ JS16, pp. 9-10.
- ²⁶ JS37, p. 9.
- ²⁷ JS16 p.s 5-6 and JS37 p. 10.
- ²⁸ JS16 p.s 7-8.
- ²⁹ AI, para. 18, JS3 para. 5, JS5, pp. 1-2 and JS30, p. 4.
- ³⁰ JS5, p. 2, JS41, paras. 24-26, and 29, AI, para. 18, JS5, p. 1, and JS30, p. 4, JS3 para. 5.
- ³¹ JS30, pp. 6 and 9, CFCNepal1, p. 1, JS36, p. 4, and JS5, pp. 6 and 8, JS3 p. 10 and 11.
- ³² AI, p. 5, HRW, para. 30, JS30, p. 10 and JS41, para. 27.
- ³³ JS5, p. 5 and JS41, para. 28.
- ³⁴ JS5, pp. 3, 5 and 8, JS30, pp. 4 and 10, HRW, para. 30, JS41, paras. 27-28 and 31, JS3 p. 10 and AI, p. 5.
- ³⁵ JS8, pp. 2-5.
- ³⁶ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.30, 121.32, and 122.115.
- ³⁷ JS35, para. 35.
- ³⁸ JS6, paras 2.6-3.4, JS15, pp. 4-5, and JS27, paras 11-12.
- ³⁹ JS6, para. 8.1(c), JS15, p. 9, and JS36, p. 3.
- ⁴⁰ JS27, p. 12.
- ⁴¹ JS6, paras. 2.6-3.4, JS15, p. 6, and JS27. paras. 16-18.
- ⁴² JS6, para. 8.1(b).
- ⁴³ JS27, p. 12.
- ⁴⁴ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.23, 122.25 and 122.44.
- ⁴⁵ AI, p. 4 and para. 12 and JS23, p. 15.
- ⁴⁶ AI, p. 4 and para. 12, JS2, p. 11, and JS23 p. 15.
- ⁴⁷ JS23 paras. 7,8,13, 17 and p. 6.
- ⁴⁸ AI paras. 10-11, JS13 p. 9, JS24 paras. 6-18, JS33 para. 29, JS42 paras. 3 and 7.
- ⁴⁹ JS42 p. 4, AI p. 5, JS33 para. 47, JS13 para. 37 k), JS23 para. 19 and p. 6, JS24 para. 36 a.
- ⁵⁰ JS35 para. 16 and JS42 p. 5.
- ⁵¹ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.26121.28, 122.4122.5, 122.52122.65, 123.28, 123.30, and 124.15.
- ⁵² AI, para. 8, HRW, para. 6, JS2, pp. 3-5, JS23, paras. 24–32, JS24, para. 32, JS33, paras. 13-23, JS35, paras. 12 and 15 and p. 5, JS42, paras. 15-22, JS13, paras. 7-10, and JS20, paras. 47-49.
- ⁵³ AI para. 8, HRW para. 6, and JS36 paras. 9 and 27-29.
- ⁵⁴ HRW para. 7, JS13 p. 11, JS23 p. 10, JS33 para. 43, JS42 p. 8, JS20 paras. 51-52, JS36 paras. 9 and 27-29.
- ⁵⁵ AI para. 9, JS23 paras. 24 -30.
- ⁵⁶ JS33 paras. 46 and 51, JS2 p. 6, JS23 p. 10, AI p. 4, JS13 p. 10-11, and JS34 para. 12, JS35 para. 12.
- ⁵⁷ JS2, pp. 9-10, JS34, paras. 4-15, and JS42, para. 19.
- ⁵⁸ JS34, paras. 4-15p.
- ⁵⁹ JS2, p. 9 and JS13, para. 37(n).
- ⁶⁰ JS2, p.9.
- ⁶¹ L4L, paras. 9-13 and p. 5, and JS28, para. 35.
- ⁶² JS2, pp. 15-16.
- ⁶³ For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.74 and 124.16.
- ⁶⁴ JS1, paras. 8 and 12, CSW, paras. 9-14, ADF, paras. 12-17, JUBILEE, paras. 9,11 and 15, ECLJ, paras. 4-16, JS40, paras. 18-21, and JS43, paras. 11-16.
- ⁶⁵ JUBILEE paras. 9,11 and 15, JS40, paras. 18-21, and ECLJ, paras. 4-16.
- ⁶⁶ JS1 paras. 13-14 and para. 31, JS40 para. 22.
- ⁶⁷ ADF para. 34 iii), vii), and viii), CSW paras. 15-16, JS1 para. 30, and JS40 paras. 31-32. See also ECLJ para. 17 and JS43 paras. 30-34.
- ⁶⁸ ADF, para. 34 iii), vii), and viii).
- ⁶⁹ JS11 paras. 3.2–3.12, JS20 paras. 28 and 39-44, HRW para. 14.
- ⁷⁰ JS11, paras. 3.2–3.12 and JS20, paras. 28 and 39-44.

- 71 JS11 para. 6.2.
- 72 HRW para. 15 and JS11 paras 4.8-4.9.
- 73 AI p. 5, JS11 para. 6.3, HRW para. 17, JUBILEE para. 42, JS20 para. 26, and JS35 para. 14.
- 74 AI para. 13, JS2 p.s 15-16.
- 75 JS2 pages 10-11.
- 76 AI para. 15, JS2 p.s 10-11 and 15, JS11 paras. 5.3-3.9.
- 77 JS11 para. 6.4, HRW para. 33, JS2 p. 11, AI p. 5.
- 78 JS11 paras. 2.3–2.5, JS28 paras. 11-26, JS43 paras. 21-29.
- 79 JS34 para. 78, JS28 para. 42 a-b, JS43 para. 37, JS11 para. 6.1.
- 80 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.25 and 122.46.
- 81 JS4 p.s 2-3, JS36 p. 4, JS19 paras. 29-32, JS29 paras. 30-33.
- 82 JS36 p. 4, JS4 p.s 3 and 11, JS29 paras. 71 and 73.
- 83 JUBILEE para. 25, AHR paras. 9-13, JS4 p. 1, HKC paras. 7-10, JS38 para. 4.1, JS10 para. 3.5, JS15 p. 3.
- 84 AHR, paras. 9-13 and JUBILEE, para. 25.
- 85 AHR, paras. 9-13, JS17 paras. 15-17 and JS38, para. 4.1.
- 86 AHR, para. 31, JS4, pp. 2 and 8, JS10, p. 9, JS38, para. 5.1, and JUBILEE, paras. 34-36.
- 87 AHR, para. 31.
- 88 JS4 p. 3.
- 89 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.78, 122.80 and 122.82.
- 90 JS19 paras. 12 and 14.
- 91 JS35, paras. 23-24 and JS19, paras. 17 and 23.
- 92 JS19 paras. 40-44, and para. 45.
- 93 JS36, para. 35 and p. 6, and JS19, para. 12.
- 94 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.30, 122.79, 122.83–122.89, 122.111, 122.113–122.114.
- 95 JS35 para. 17 and FIAN paras. 3.1, 3.3, 6.1 and 6.2.
- 96 AI, para. 24.
- 97 FIAN, paras. 7/1, 7/3, 7/4, and 7/5, JS34, para. 31, and JS35 para. 17.
- 98 FIAN, paras. 7/1, 7/3, 7/4, and 7/5.
- 99 AI, p. 6.
- 100 AI, paras. 22-23. See also JS36 para. 37 and p. 6.
- 101 AI, p. 5.
- 102 JS36, p. 6.
- 103 JS22, paras. 8-12. See also JS35, para. 19.
- 104 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.22, 122.90–122.95, and 122.98.
- 105 JS2, paras. 15-16.
- 106 JS36, p. 7.
- 107 JS7 paras. 4-18, JS36 p. 7, JS41 paras. 7-9, BBC-Nepal paras. 23-26 and 27-28.
- 108 BBC-Nepal, paras. 23-26 and 27-28, JS7, paras. 4-18, and JS36, p. 7.
- 109 BBC-Nepal paras. 27-28, JS7 para. 20, and JS41 para. 11.
- 110 JS25 p. 1-3.
- 111 KOSHISH paras. 24-26 and p. 6.
- 112 KOSHISH, para. 37 and p. 8.
- 113 JS9, p. 8.
- 114 KOSHISH, para. 37 and p. 8, and JS9, p. 8.
- 115 JS39, paras. 16, 19-20, 24-30, 38, 45 and 65.
- 116 JS39, para. 66 b-d, f-g.
- 117 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.24, 122.96–122.97, 122.99–122.103, 122.106–122.108, and 124.18.
- 118 JS35 para. 20, JS31 p.s 3-4.
- 119 JS31 p. 4.
- 120 AHR, paras. 15-23.
- 121 AHR, paras. 15-23, JS36, p. 7, JS10, paras. 3.17-3.19, and JS29, paras. 16-21.
- 122 p.p. AHR, para. 32p.
- 123 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.18–121.19, 121.21, 121.24, 122.7, 122.10, 122.23, 122.32, 122.34, 122.45, 122.75–122.77, 122.81, and 122.104.
- 124 AI para. 17 and HRW para. 21.
- 125 JUBILEE para. 27, AI p. 5, HRW para. 28, JS34 paras. 46 and 48, JAI para. 34, JS35 paras. 26-27 and JS36 p. 2.
- 126 SOCH, paras. 3-4 and JS32, paras. 31-33.
- 127 AI, para. 19.

- 128 JS16, p. 10.
- 129 JS34, para. 47 and JS36, p. 2.
- 130 JAI para. 30, SOCH para. 29, JS14 para. 29, JS34 para. 47, JS36 p. 2.
- 131 HRW, para. 24 and JS21. paras. 8-14 and 27.
- 132 UNPO, paras. 8-12.
- 133 JS35, para. 27.
- 134 JS21, paras. 8-14 and 27. See also JS10, para. 3.8.
- 135 JS21 paras. 8-14, 27 and 30, HRW para. 28, JS35 para. 27, JS10 p. 5, JS26 para. 78 I), JS36 p. 1 and JAI para. 31, THIRD Alliance p. 5, UNPO para. 20.
- 136 JS35 paras. 26-27.
- 137 TTC paras. 4-5.
- 138 JS32 paras. 35-38 and 39.
- 139 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.47-122.51, and 122.66.
- 140 JS35 para. 28, AHR paras. 24-30, JS19 paras. 24-27, JS10 paras. 3.2-3.4.
- 141 JUBILEE paras. 51 and 54 and AHR para. 33.
- 142 HRW paras. 26 and 28, JS10 para. 3.5, JS17 paras. 21-22 and JS36 p. 6.
- 143 GIEACPC p. 1.
- 144 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.109-122.110.
- 145 JS36 p. 3, KOSHISH paras. 6-15, 18-21, 32-36.
- 146 JS36, p. 3 and KOSHISH, pp. 2, 4 and 7-9.
- 147 KOSHISH, pp. 2, 4 and 7-9.
- 148 JS14, para. 84p.p.
- 149 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.38 and 122.105.
- 150 JS6 paras. 6.1 and 6.7, JS36 para. 16 and p. 3, JS15 paras. 9-10, JS27 para. 10.
- 151 JS6, para. 8.1 (e) and JS27, p. 12.
- 152 JS27, p. 12 and JS36, p. 3p.
- 153 JS6 paras. 2.1-2.5 and JS36 para. 16.
- 154 JS6, para. 6.5 and JS15, p. 7. See also JS31, p. 7.
- 155 JS6, paras. 6.5 and 8.1 (h). See also JS15, p. 7 and p. 9 para. 7.
- 156 JS15, pp. 2-3 and JS35, para. 30.
- 157 JS6, paras. 6.2 and 8.1 (f), and JS27, p. 12p.
- 158 JS15 p. 8, JS27 paras. 13-15.
- 159 JS15, p. 9 and JS27, p. 13.
- 160 p.JS27, p. 13.
- 161 HRW para. 30 and JS6 para. 7, JS27 paras. 25-31.
- 162 JS6, paras. 7 and 8.1 (i).
- 163 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 121.29, 122.112, and 123.7-123.9.
- 164 HRW para. 18.
- 165 AI para. 20 and JS19 paras. 34-38.
- 166 AI, p. 5.
- 167 HRW, para. 20.
- 168 JS35, para. 25 and AI, p. 5.
- 169 JS19, para. 39p.
- 170 HRW paras. 19-20 and JS38 paras. 4.6 and 5.6.
- 171 JUBILEE paras. 45-46, CSW para. 37 and JS18 paras. 18-43, 46 and 56-57.
- 172 For relevant recommendations see A/HRC/31/9, paras. 122.68 and 122.70.
- 173 JS21 paras. 8-14, JS26 paras. 27 and 47-54, THIRD Alliance paras. 4-6.
- 174 JS21 paras. 8-14, JS26 paras. 27 and 47-54.
- 175 JS21 para. 23, and JS26 paras. 70-73, THIRD Alliance para. 3.
- 176 JS21, p. 9, JS26, paras. 78 I) and IV)-V), and THIRD Alliance, p. 5.
- 177 JS21, p.9.