



International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Distr.: General
27 December 2023

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Concluding observations on the combined fifteenth to seventeenth periodic reports of Viet Nam*

1. The Committee considered the combined fifteenth to seventeenth periodic reports of Viet Nam,¹ submitted in one document, at its 3035th and 3036th meetings,² held on 29 and 30 November 2023. At its 3046th meeting, held on 7 December 2023, it adopted the present concluding observations.

A. Introduction

2. The Committee welcomes the submission of the combined fifteenth to seventeenth periodic reports of the State party. It also welcomes the resumption of a constructive dialogue with the State party's high-level delegation, 11 years after its last appearance before the Committee. It thanks the State party for the information provided during and after the dialogue.

B. Positive aspects

3. The Committee welcomes the following legislative measures taken by the State party:
- (a) The Law on Residence (No. 68/2020/QH14);
 - (b) The Law on Mediation or Dialogue in Court (No. 58/2020/QH14);
 - (c) The Law on Amendments and Supplements to Certain Articles of the Law on Handling Administrative Violations (No. 67/2020/QH14);
 - (d) The Law on Execution of Criminal Judgments (No. 41/2019/QH14).

C. Concerns and recommendations

Statistics

4. The Committee is concerned that the State party has not developed the necessary tools to collect disaggregated statistics that would allow it to accurately measure the size of the groups covered by the Convention, to assess their socioeconomic situation or to evaluate the impact of the various measures taken by the State party.

5. **The Committee recommends that the State party, in close consultation with the communities affected and development partners, carry out an assessment of its tools for collecting data, take steps to address any weaknesses in collection and improve data verification, diversify data collection activities and allow individuals to report**

* Adopted by the Committee at its 111th session (20 November–8 December 2023).

¹ [CERD/C/VNM/15-17](#).

² See [CERD/C/SR.3035](#) and [CERD/C/SR.3036](#).



anonymously on the basis of the principle of self-identification. The Committee requests that the State party provide, in its next periodic report, comprehensive, precise and reliable statistics on the composition of its population, disaggregated by gender, age, religion, ethnicity and nationality, as well as socioeconomic indicators necessary to assess disparities and evaluate the impact of the various measures taken by the State party.

Legal framework for combating racial discrimination

6. The Committee notes the information provided by the State party that the Convention has been directly incorporated into domestic law in accordance with article 6 of the Law on Treaties (No. 108/2016/GH13). Although the Committee also notes article 16 of the Constitution, which guarantees equality before the law and freedom from discrimination, it is concerned that that article does not encompass both direct and indirect discrimination or incorporate any of the grounds enumerated in article 1 of the Convention. Lastly, the Committee regrets the lack of specific and substantive information provided by the State party on the ongoing drafting process of a law on ethnicity (arts. 1 and 2).

7. **The Committee reiterates its previous recommendations³ to incorporate the Convention into domestic law by adopting a comprehensive anti-discrimination law, to be given full effect by the State party and its judicial authorities, that includes a definition of racial discrimination that encompasses both direct and indirect discrimination and incorporates all of the grounds enumerated in article 1 of the Convention. The Committee also recommends that the State party provide further information on the law on ethnicity, including on its drafting process and on civil society and community consultations.**

National human rights institution

8. While noting that the Ministry of Public Security has been tasked with the establishment of a national human rights institution, the Committee reiterates its regret⁴ that it has not yet established such an institution (arts. 2 and 6).

9. **The Committee recommends that the State party accelerate, with a clear time frame, the establishment of a well-financed and adequately staffed independent human rights institution, in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), with a broad human rights mandate and a specific mandate to address all forms of discrimination.**

Complaints of racial discrimination and access to justice

10. The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on various measures taken to improve access to justice, including on the right of people participating in court proceedings to use their mother tongue, the establishment of legal assistance centres in all provinces, and the distribution of leaflets on the right to legal assistance written in the languages of different ethnic groups. The Committee is nevertheless concerned by the information provided by the State party that there have been no cases or complaints of racial discrimination brought before the courts or relevant authorities. The Committee is particularly concerned by reports that victims attempting to bring a case or complaint concerning racial discrimination before the courts or relevant authorities have faced reprisals (arts. 2 and 6).

11. **The Committee reminds the State party that a lack or a low number of cases or complaints does not signify the absence of racial discrimination in the State party, but rather may signify that barriers exist with regard to invoking rights in cases of discrimination before domestic courts, including a lack of public awareness of rights and their justiciability, a lack of confidence in the judiciary, fear of reprisals or a lack**

³ CERD/C/VNM/CO/10-14, para. 7; and A/56/18, paras. 414 and 415.

⁴ CERD/C/VNM/CO/10-14, para. 11.

of attention or sensitivity by authorities to cases of racial discrimination. The Committee therefore recommends that the State party:

- (a) Continue to implement measures aimed to increase access to justice, evaluating their impact according to outcomes and indicators;
- (b) Guarantee the right of people participating in court proceedings to use their mother tongue;
- (c) Provide training for all lawyers, legal counsellors, legal assessors and judges on discrimination and the justiciability of rights, in particular those enumerated in the Convention, in accordance with international human rights law;
- (d) Conduct public awareness-raising campaigns on discrimination and human rights, in particular the rights enumerated in the Convention, and on how to bring a case or complaint against incidents of discrimination;
- (e) Investigate, prosecute and, in case of conviction, punish with appropriate penalties all reprisals against victims attempting to bring a case or complaint before the courts or relevant authorities.

Death penalty

12. The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on steps taken to limit the scope of the death penalty, including the reduction of the number of offences under the Criminal Code to which the death penalty may be applied. The Committee nevertheless remains concerned that the State party maintains the death penalty for broad and vaguely formulated offences under the Criminal Code, for which people working on the rights of ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens are often convicted, including article 109 on activities against the people's government. The Committee is also concerned that the State party does not disclose official data on the death penalty, including on the number of individuals on death row and those executed. Decisions on sentencing published on the Supreme People's Court e-portal nevertheless indicate that a disproportionate number of individuals belonging to ethnic minority groups are convicted and sentenced to death (arts. 2, 5 and 6).

13. **With reference to its general recommendation No. 31 (2005) on the prevention of racial discrimination in the administration and functioning of the criminal justice system, and in line with the relevant recommendations of the Human Rights Committee,⁵ the Committee recommends that the State party:**

- (a) Review and amend laws and policies leading to ethnic disparities in criminal convictions and sentences;
- (b) Apply a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolish it;
- (c) Collect and publish statistics on the number of individuals sentenced to death, on death row and executed, disaggregated by ethnicity and national origin.

Racist hate speech, incitement to racial hatred and hate crimes

14. The Committee is concerned about the absence of legislation prohibiting racist hate speech or incitement to racial hatred. The Committee is concerned about the persistent incidents of hate speech and incitement to racial hatred directed at individuals belonging to ethnic and ethno-religious minority groups, in particular that committed by public officials, members of the steering committee implementing Politburo resolution No. 35/NQ-TW on "protecting the party's ideological foundation" and members of the Force 47 (Lực lượng 47) cyberunit established by the General Political Directorate of the Vietnam People's Army. The Committee regrets the lack of information provided by the State party on the existence of legislation recognizing racial discrimination as an aggravating circumstance for all crimes. The Committee is deeply concerned by the persistent hate crimes in the form of attacks committed by "Red Flag Associations", as well as the lack of information provided on

⁵ CCPR/C/VNM/CO/3, para. 24.

investigations, prosecutions and convictions. The Committee regrets that, in the information provided by the State party, it referred to the individuals who comprise the “Red Flag Associations” as patriots thereby legitimizing their discriminatory actions (art. 4).

15. The Committee recalls its general recommendation No. 15 (1993) on article 4 of the Convention, in which it stresses that the provisions of article 4 are of a mandatory character. Recalling further its general recommendation No. 35 (2013) on combating racist hate speech, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Adopt legislation prohibiting racist hate speech and incitement to racial hatred and violence;

(b) Recognize in law racial discrimination as an aggravating circumstance for all crimes and take measures to guarantee the effective implementation of that regulation;

(c) Ensure that proposed laws, including forthcoming amendments to the Law on the Press, recognize racist hate speech and incitement to racial discrimination as offences punishable by law with appropriate penalties;

(d) Ensure that all incidents of hate speech are effectively investigated and prosecuted and that those found guilty are punished, regardless of their official status;

(e) Ensure that all racially motivated crimes, including those committed by “Red Flag Associations”, are effectively investigated, that perpetrators are prosecuted and, where convicted, appropriately punished;

(f) Conduct training for law enforcement and communal-level officials on monitoring and reporting racist hate speech and hate crimes;

(g) Ensure that the public authorities, including high-level public officials, distance themselves clearly and explicitly from all incidents of hate speech and that they formally and publicly reject and condemn hate speech and the dissemination of racist ideas;

(h) Take measures to promote ethnic and cultural diversity, tolerance and inter-ethnic understanding among communities, in particular those residing in the Mekong Delta, the Central Highlands and the northern mountainous region.

Racial profiling and excessive use of force

16. The Committee is concerned about reports of persistent racial profiling, torture, ill-treatment, deaths in custody, abuse of authority and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials against individuals and groups at risk of racial discrimination, as well as those working on the rights of ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens, during the investigation led by the Ministry of Public Security following the attacks on the commune police stations in Dak Lak Province on 11 June 2023.

17. Recalling its general recommendations No. 31 (2005) and No. 36 (2020) on combating racial profiling by law enforcement officials, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Ensure that racial profiling is clearly defined and prohibited by law, establish an adequately resourced oversight mechanism responsible for investigating complaints of excessive use of force and racial profiling by law enforcement officials and ensure that the mechanism carries out its functions independently;

(b) Investigate in an effective and timely manner all incidents of racial profiling, racist abuse, ill-treatment and abuse of authority by law enforcement officials and ensure that those responsible are prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate penalties;

(c) Ensure that members of groups more at risk of being targeted by racism and racial discrimination who are victims of racial profiling by law enforcement officials have access to effective remedies and adequate compensation and do not face reprisals for reporting such acts;

(d) **Promote ethnic diversity within the police and ensure the presence of police officers belonging to targeted ethnic groups on the front line in order to help reduce racism and discriminatory practices;**

(e) **Take effective measures to prevent excessive use of force, ill-treatment and abuse of authority by the police, including by ensuring that appropriate training in human rights is provided to law enforcement officials throughout the country, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 13 (1993) on the training of law enforcement officials in the protection of human rights.**

Equal participation in public and political affairs

18. The Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on the adoption of special measures to ensure representation of officials from ethnic minority groups in public and political positions, including that the quota of 18 per cent established by the Law on Election of Deputies to the National Assembly and People's Councils (No. 85/2015/GH13) has been met by the 15th National Assembly, with smaller ethnic minority groups, including the Mang and the Brau, represented for the first time. The Committee is, however, concerned that, although ethnic minority groups account for 15 per cent of the overall population, officials belonging to ethnic minority groups account for just 3 per cent of official and public positions in the Communist Party, while accounting for 18 per cent of the lower-ranking communal positions. The Committee notes the information provided by the State party on the relative representation of some ethnic minority groups within localities, such as the Cao Bang and the Bac Kan. While the Committee notes that the Law on Promulgation of Legislative Documents (No. 80/2015/QH13) provides for public consultations, the Committee is deeply concerned that only consultations carried out through the Vietnamese Fatherland Front, led by the Communist Party, are guaranteed, while consultations of communities on decision-making that affects them are not guaranteed (art. 5).

19. **The Committee recommends that the State party take measures to promote equal participation in public and political affairs across ethnic groups, including the adoption of further special measures to guarantee proportionate representation at all levels of government. The Committee urges the State party to reinforce trust in its official institutions by actively promoting the consultation and participation of ethnic minority communities in decision-making that affects them, including through open calls for input and consultations independent of those carried out through the Vietnamese Fatherland Front.**

Civic space

20. The Committee is concerned that various laws and decrees maintained by the State party have been interpreted and applied so as to have the effect of intimidating or restricting the rights of those working on the rights of ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens, including human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists. In particular, the Committee is concerned by chapter XIII (offences against national security) of the Criminal Code, as well as article 117 thereof on information designed to oppose the State and article 331 thereof on abusing democratic freedoms. The Committee is also concerned about the Law on the Press, including article 9 thereof on offending the nation or causing division, and article 13 thereof on abuse of freedom of the press, as well as the Law on Cybersecurity (No. 24/2018/QH14), including article 8 thereof on publishing defamatory information and article 16 thereof on propaganda against the State (arts. 2 and 5).

21. **Noting the commitment of the State party to amend, rescind or nullify any laws and regulations that have the effect of creating or perpetuating racial discrimination, the Committee recommends that the State party review and amend the Criminal Code, the Law on the Press and the Law on Cybersecurity with a view to guaranteeing that provisions are not so broad and vague as to allow for discriminatory and arbitrary interpretation or application that would intimidate or restrict the rights of, and intimidate those working on the rights of, ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens, including human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists.**

22. The Committee is concerned by the disproportionate number of individuals belonging to ethnic minority groups charged and convicted under articles 109, 113 and 229 of the Law on Counter-Terrorism (No. 28/2013/QH13) in relation to offences classified as “terrorist”, defined as acts aimed to “oppose the people’s government” or to “cause panic”, including the 81 Montagnards involved in the attacks of 11 June 2023, who were charged and convicted under article 113 of the Criminal Code in relation to terrorism to oppose the people’s government (art. 4).

23. **The Committee recommends that the State party amend article 3 of the Law on Counter-Terrorism, as well as other relevant laws and regulations, in order to ensure a sufficiently narrow definition of “terrorism” that prohibits specific acts and prevents interpretation and application that constitutes profiling or discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, descent, nationality, ethnicity or ethno-religious identity.**

24. The Committee is deeply concerned about reports that people working on the rights of ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens, as well as leaders of ethno-religious associations, are systematically targeted using violence, intimidation, surveillance, harassment, threats and reprisals as a consequence of their work. The Committee is particularly concerned by reports of reprisals for cooperating or attempting to cooperate with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights, including the cases of two Montagnards, Y Khiu Niê and Y Sĩ Êban, who attempted to travel to a conference on freedom of religion and belief in 2022, as well as the cases of two Khmers-Krom youths, Duong Khai and Thach Cuong, who were detained by police on three separate occasions between 2021 and 2022, after having translated and disseminated copies of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (art. 5).

25. **The Committee urges the State party to guarantee the rights of persons working on the rights of ethnic minorities, Indigenous Peoples and non-citizens and to end the systematic practice of violence, intimidation, surveillance, harassment, threats and reprisals. The Committee recommends that the State party take steps to reinforce trust in its official institutions by conducting effective, thorough and impartial investigations into all reported incidents and by prosecuting and, where convicted, punishing perpetrators with appropriate penalties.**

Equal enjoyment of freedom of movement

26. The Committee is concerned that individuals belonging to ethnic and ethno-religious minority groups, including Khmers-Krom monks who attempted to travel to teach language classes and individuals working on the rights of ethnic minorities who attempted to attend a conference abroad, have been prevented from leaving Viet Nam on the basis of the Law on Entry and Exit of Vietnamese Citizens (No. 49/2019/QH14). The Committee is also concerned that individuals attempting to leave Viet Nam have been arrested on the basis of article 121 of the Criminal Code on illegal emigration for the purpose of opposing the people’s government. The Committee regrets the lack of information provided by the State party on the definition of illegal emigration or the legal requirements to demonstrate intent to oppose the people’s government (art. 5).

27. **The Committee recommends that the State party take steps to ensure that any exit restrictions that individuals belonging to ethnic minority groups face are necessary and proportionate to a legitimate aim. In that regard, the Committee recommends that the State party review and amend the Law on Entry and Exit of Vietnamese Citizens, in particular article 36 (6) thereof on persons subject to “exit suspension” on the basis of national security, as well as article 121 of the Criminal Code, so as to ensure legal certainty and to guarantee that provisions are not so broad and vague as to allow for discriminatory or arbitrary interpretation.**

Freedom of religion or belief

28. The Committee is deeply concerned by restrictions on freedom of religion that disparately affect members of ethnic minorities, in particular:

(a) Requirements to register religious associations with the Government Committee for Religious Affairs and the lack of information provided on possibilities to appeal a decision or to make a complaint to an oversight mechanism;

(b) Reports of harassment, intimidation and threats faced by individuals belonging to ethno-religious minority groups who refuse to renounce their religion or belief or to join the State-controlled religious associations;

(c) Reports of the use of force and abuse of power by law enforcement and public officials, including confiscation of religious materials and interruption of religious activities or gatherings, against individuals and leaders belonging to ethno-religious minority groups;

(d) Institutionalized forms of religious intolerance and discrimination, including denial of school admission or medical treatment, of individuals belonging to ethno-religious minority groups who refuse to renounce their religion or belief or to join the State-controlled religious associations;

(e) Inadequate protection of ethno-religious minority groups from various forms of attacks by private individuals on the grounds of religion (art. 5).

29. Considering the intersectionality of religion and ethnicity, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) **Review existing registration requirements and procedural practices in order to guarantee the equal enjoyment of the right of all persons, in particular those belonging to ethno-religious minority groups, to manifest their religion or belief, alone or in community with others, and in public and private, regardless of registration status;**

(b) **Ensure that all reports of harassment, intimidation and threats faced by individuals belonging to ethno-religious minority groups, in particular those who refuse to renounce their religion or belief or to join the State-controlled religious associations, are effectively investigated and prosecuted and that those found guilty are punished, regardless of their official status;**

(c) **Take immediate steps to stop the use of force and abuse of power by law enforcement and public officials against individuals and leaders belonging to ethno-religious minority groups;**

(d) **Hold all perpetrators of religious intolerance, including private and State actors, fully to account for violations of the rights of individuals belonging to ethno-religious minority groups who refuse to renounce their religion or belief or to join the State-controlled religious associations, and provide effective remedies to victims;**

(e) **Take steps to guarantee the protection of ethno-religious minority groups from various forms of attacks by private individuals on the grounds of religion, including training of law enforcement officials on monitoring and reporting of crimes motivated by racism or religious intolerance.**

Equal enjoyment of economic and social rights

30. While the Committee welcomes the information provided by the State party on its policies and programmes to address the socioeconomic disparities among ethnic groups, it regrets the lack of information provided on their implementation, as well as their impact. The Committee is concerned that some policies and programmes have not been effectively implemented, such as the National Target Programme on Socioeconomic Development in Ethnic Minority Areas (2021–2025), for which less than 20 per cent of its planned budget has been dispensed as of 2023. The Committee is further concerned by the number of proposed projects to improve the socioeconomic situation of, or to provide basic services to, ethnic minority groups that have been allocated donor funding but that have not received government approval (art. 5).

31. The Committee recommends that the State party continue to implement measures aimed to address socioeconomic disparities among ethnic groups, carry out regular evaluations of their implementation, measure their impact according to outcomes and indicators and make adjustments in situations in which targets are not

met. It also recommends that the State party improve transparency and collaboration with development partners, ensuring a human rights-based and gender-sensitive approach to all policies and programmes.

Boarding schools for children belonging to ethnic minority groups

32. While noting the disproportionately high rates of school dropouts among students belonging to ethnic minority groups, the Committee regrets the lack of information provided on the impact of the closure of community-based satellite schools and the establishment of competitive boarding schools for children belonging to ethnic minority groups. The Committee is concerned that students belonging to ethnic minority groups are now required either to travel to attend a main school or to compete academically to attend a remote boarding school, where they may be isolated from their communities, languages and traditional practices (art. 5).

33. **The Committee recommends that the State party carry out an evaluation of the impact of the closure of the community-based satellite schools and the establishment of remote boarding schools, measured according to outcomes and indicators, taking into consideration variables such as the quality of education, school dropout rates, whether instruction is provided in a child's mother tongue, as well as the preservation of communities and their cultures.**

Situation of Indigenous Peoples

34. The Committee is concerned that, despite its previous recommendation⁶ to respect and protect the existence and cultural identity of all ethnic groups, in line with the principle of self-identification, the State party has been reluctant to engage in open and inclusive discussions on the recognition of Indigenous Peoples, including the Khmers-Krom and Montagnards, in line with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Moreover, while noting the ongoing drafting process of the amended Land Law, the Committee is concerned that, in accordance with the present Land Law (No. 45/2013/QH13) and relevant decrees, communities, including those of Indigenous Peoples, are only notified 15 days in advance that their land has been acquired and are subject to relocation, without compliance with the principle of free, prior and informed consent or consultation throughout the development of resettlement plans (arts. 2 and 5).

35. **The Committee recommends that the State party recognize Indigenous Peoples in accordance with the principle of self-identification and ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization. The Committee also recommends that the State party carry out public consultations, ensuring the participation of individuals belonging to ethnic minority groups that self-identify as Indigenous, throughout the drafting process of the amended Land Law and guarantee, in law and in practice, the rights of Indigenous Peoples to free, prior and informed consent, adequate compensation and consultation throughout the development of resettlement plans.**

Trafficking in persons

36. While noting the efforts of the State party to prevent trafficking in persons, including those made under the national programme to prevent such trafficking for the period 2021–2025, the Committee is deeply concerned that the majority of victims of trafficking for forced labour, in particular for domestic work and marriage, continue to be women belonging to ethnic minority groups residing in the North-West Highlands. The Committee is also concerned by the overall lack of information provided by the State party on victims of trafficking, including on those trafficked for forced labour or criminality in scam compounds across South-East Asia, on investigations, prosecutions, convictions, penalties for the perpetrators, as well as on measures to ensure that victims are protected and provided with reparations (art. 5).

⁶ CERD/C/VNM/CO/10-14, para. 12.

37. **The Committee recommends that the State party reinforce its efforts to eliminate trafficking in persons and:**

- (a) **Address the factors that create or increase situations of vulnerability that place individuals at risk of trafficking, including structural and intersecting forms of discrimination, poverty and a lack of decent work opportunities;**
- (b) **Investigate, prosecute and, in cases that result in convictions, punish with appropriate penalties all perpetrators, regardless of their official status, while adopting proactive procedures that avoid an overreliance on the testimonies or cooperation of victims;**
- (c) **Apply the principle of non-punishment to victims of trafficking;**
- (d) **Guarantee that assistance to victims of trafficking, including safe access to shelter and psychological support, is provided without conditions and irrespective of the ability or willingness of the victim to cooperate with investigating or prosecutorial authorities;**
- (e) **Guarantee the protection of victims of trafficking from reprisals.**

Situation of non-citizens, including migrant workers, stateless persons, refugees and asylum-seekers

38. The Committee notes the State party's promulgation in 2020 of the decision on the plan on implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (No. 402/QD-TTg). While the Committee welcomes the measures taken and planned to combat statelessness and to address the needs of migrants, it regrets the lack of information on measures in relation to refugees, asylum-seekers, children of returned migrant women with foreign nationalities and internally displaced persons, including the Christian Hmong people who fled from the northern provinces to the Central Highlands (art. 5).

39. **Recalling its general recommendation No. 30 (2004) on discrimination against non-citizens, the Committee recommends that the State party fully realize its plan on implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in collaboration with civil society organizations. The Committee recommends that the State party collect comprehensive, precise and reliable data, including socioeconomic indicators, on refugees, asylum-seekers, children of returned migrant women with foreign nationalities and internally displaced persons, disaggregated by gender, age, religion, ethnicity and nationality. The Committee also recommends that the State party seek technical support for the development of measures to improve the reception, registration, identification and social integration of refugees, asylum-seekers, children of returned migrant women with foreign nationalities and internally displaced persons, and guarantee the protection and promotion of their rights and ensure their access to basic services.**

Public awareness-raising and human rights education on racial discrimination

40. The Committee is concerned by the lack of information provided on school and teacher training curricula to promote human rights education. The Committee is also concerned that current school curricula, academic debates and public discourse foster a dominant historical narrative and ethnic hierarchization (art. 7).

41. **The Committee recommends that the State party review its school and teacher training curricula to promote human rights education, in particular on racial discrimination. The Committee also recommends that the State party ensure that school curricula, academic debates and public discourse include and accurately reflect its history, as well as the cultures and contributions to nation-building of ethnic minority groups and Indigenous Peoples.**

D. Other recommendations

Ratification of other treaties

42. Bearing in mind the indivisibility of all human rights, the Committee encourages the State party to consider ratifying those international human rights treaties that it has not yet ratified, in particular treaties with provisions that have direct relevance to communities that may be subjected to racial discrimination, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the Migration for Employment (Revised) Convention, 1949 (No. 97), and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143), of the International Labour Organization. The Committee encourages the State party to accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Amendment to article 8 of the Convention

43. The Committee recommends that the State party accept the amendment to article 8 (6) of the Convention adopted on 15 January 1992 at the fourteenth meeting of States parties to the Convention and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111.

Declaration under article 14 of the Convention

44. The Committee encourages the State party to make the optional declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual communications.

Follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

45. In the light of its general recommendation No. 33 (2009) on follow-up to the Durban Review Conference, the Committee recommends that, when implementing the Convention in its domestic legal order, the State party give effect to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted in September 2001 by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, taking into account the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva in April 2009. The Committee requests that the State party include in its next periodic report specific information on action plans and other measures taken to implement the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at the national level.

International Decade for People of African Descent

46. In the light of General Assembly resolution 68/237, in which the Assembly proclaimed 2015–2024 the International Decade for People of African Descent, and Assembly resolution 69/16 on the programme of activities for the implementation of the Decade, the Committee recommends that the State party prepare and implement a suitable programme of measures and policies. The Committee requests that the State party include in its next report precise information on the concrete measures adopted in that framework, taking into account its general recommendation No. 34 (2011) on racial discrimination against people of African descent.

Consultations with civil society

47. The Committee recommends that the State party continue consulting and increasing its dialogue with civil society organizations working in the area of human rights protection, in particular those working to combat racial discrimination, in connection with the preparation of the next periodic report and in follow-up to the present concluding observations.

Dissemination of information

48. The Committee recommends that the State party's reports be made readily available and accessible to the public at the time of their submission and that the concluding observations of the Committee with respect to those reports be similarly made available to all State bodies entrusted with the implementation of the Convention, including municipalities, in the official and other commonly used languages, as appropriate.

Common core document

49. The Committee encourages the State party to update its common core document in accordance with the harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties, in particular those on the common core document, as adopted at the fifth inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies held in June 2006.⁷ In the light of General Assembly resolution 68/268, the Committee urges the State party to observe the limit of 42,400 words for such documents.

Follow-up to the present concluding observations

50. In accordance with article 9 (1) of the Convention and rule 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee requests the State party to provide, within one year of the adoption of the present concluding observations, information on its implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 13 (c) (death penalty), 17 (e) (racial profiling and excessive use of force) and 29 (c) (freedom of religion or belief) above.

Paragraphs of particular importance

51. The Committee wishes to draw the attention of the State party to the particular importance of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 21 (civic space), 29 (freedom of religion or belief) and 41 (public awareness-raising and human rights education on racial discrimination) above and requests the State party to provide detailed information in its next periodic report on the concrete measures taken to implement those recommendations.

Preparation of the next periodic report

52. The Committee recommends that the State party submit its combined eighteenth to twenty-third combined periodic reports, as a single document, by 9 July 2027, taking into account the reporting guidelines adopted by the Committee during its seventy-first session⁸ and addressing all the points raised in the present concluding observations. In the light of General Assembly resolution 68/268, the Committee urges the State party to observe the limit of 21,200 words for periodic reports.

⁷ HRI/GEN/2/Rev.6, chap. I.

⁸ CERD/C/2007/1.