

ZAMBIA: NEW HUMAN RIGHTS CULTURE VS ENTRENCHED IMPUNITY

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL: SUBMISSION TO THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP, 30 JANUARY 2023

SUMMARY

This submission was prepared for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Zambia in January 2023. In it, Amnesty International evaluates the implementation of recommendations made in Zambia's previous UPR, assesses the national human rights framework and the human rights situation on the ground, and makes recommendations to the government of Zambia to address the human rights challenges mentioned in this report.

On 12 August 2021, Zambia had a peaceful transfer of power ushering a new government led by President Hakainde Hichilema. The United Party for National Development (UPND) which had been the main opposition party, defeated the Patriotic Front (PF) breaking the PF's 10-year rule. When Hichilema assumed office on 24 August 2021, he committed to upholding constitutional rights as well as protecting and promoting human rights. In particular, the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly which were seriously eroded during the PF's rule under former President Edgar Lungu.

However, some key ratifications of international human rights treaties remain outstanding, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Amnesty International also raises concerns about the excessive use of force by the police and impunity for such violations, as well as discrimination and violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people.

FOLLOW UP TO THE PREVIOUS REVIEW

1. During its third review in 2017, Zambia received a total of 203 recommendations of which it accepted 183, partially accepted 1 and noted 19 recommendations.¹ Despite this, very few recommendations were implemented.
2. However, President Hichilema, who came to power in 2021, has openly declared that he wants to lead a country that respects human rights and informed Amnesty International that his administration “wants to institutionalize human rights”.²
3. Zambia committed to make primary education free throughout the territory.³ Under Hichilema’s administration, primary and secondary education is now free, as part of removing barriers to access to education. However, schools still face shortages of resources, from classroom blocks, shortage of books and learning materials.
4. Zambia also supported recommendations to address the situation of persons with albinism, assuring them protection against attacks and killings.⁴ Sadly, persons with albinism continue to be subjected to violent attacks and mutilation due to superstitious misconceptions about albinism.
5. Regrettably, Zambia noted 19 recommendations on ratifying remaining international human rights treaties and on engaging with UN mechanisms,⁵ in particular, on the need to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at abolition of the death penalty, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
6. While Zambia committed to ensuring that the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association are respected, protected, promoted and fulfilled,⁶ the process to amend repressive legislation which poses a threat to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly is slow.
7. Despite committing to reform,⁷ criminal defamation legislation is still being used to suppress criticism of the President.
8. The previous PF government often used oppressive legislation and arbitrary regulation, especially in the run-up to the by-elections of 2019 and general elections of 2021, to step up attacks against media freedom and freedom of peaceful assembly in Zambia. Security forces and political cadres associated with the PF subjected media workers, political activists and others who criticized the government to harassment and intimidation. This is despite Zambia’s acceptance at the previous review of a recommendation to uphold the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, making it more conducive to the rule of law in Zambia.⁸
9. Zambia also committed to extend an invitation to the United Nations (UN) Special Procedures, including the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to visit Zambia.⁹ Amnesty International notes that only the Special Rapporteur on the right to food visited Zambia in May 2017.

THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK

10. Despite Zambia putting in place a National Development Plan 2017-21, committing to put in place policies and strategies to enhance access to justice, observance of the rule of law and human rights and to enacting ‘consequential legislation to give effect to the provisions made in the Constitution’, there is a significant gap in translating this into action. Repressive legislation still exists and has been used to restrict human rights since the last review.
11. Despite committing to take measures to put in place an enhanced Bill of Rights to safeguard human rights in its National Development Plan as well as accepting recommendations to ‘widen the scope of the Bill of Rights’,¹⁰ Zambia is still yet to provide a legal roadmap for public consultations on the amendment of the Bill of Rights to include economic, social and cultural rights in the Constitution to ensure that the right to food is enshrined in the Constitution and can be adjudicated by the courts.
12. Amidst all this, authorities passed the Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act¹¹ in March 2021, which has negative ramifications on the enjoyment of digital rights, and which undermines freedom of expression. The Act contains

broad and overly vague clauses which can limit the work of journalists. President Hichilema has indicated willingness to review and amend this law.¹²

13. The Zambia Law Development Commission (ZLDC) presented a detailed report on 15 February 2022, on laws incompatible with human rights standards that need to be reformed.¹³ These include insult and defamation laws, minimum age of criminal responsibility, and they also called for the abolition of the death penalty. Zambia is yet to ratify key international human rights treaties relevant to these particular laws.¹⁴

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION ON THE GROUND

Restrictions on freedom of expression and the press

14. During the tenure of former President Edgar Lungu between 25 January 2015 and 24 August 2021, there was a systematic erosion of the right to freedom of expression. The state mainly used the law to criminalize peaceful dissent and a wide range of charges, including criminal defamation, incitement of public disorder and sedition were brought against government critics. Opposition leaders, activists, and other people were arrested for questioning certain government decisions.
15. In August 2019, the then President of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) party Chishimba Kambwili was arrested for criminal defamation of President Lungu after the release of a video in which he allegedly implied that the head of state was a dog.¹⁵ In the video that went viral on social media, Kambwili had said, "Some dogs from Chawama do not get tired of travelling." Chawama is a township in the capital, Lusaka, where Lungu previously lived and served as a Member of Parliament. During that time, Lungu had been traveling abroad including to India and Japan.
16. Critics continue to be arrested under the incumbent government of President Hichilema. Opposition official, Raphael Nakacinda, of the PF was arrested in December 2021 in Lusaka on a charge of insulting the president after he advised the frequently travelling Hichilema to "put your buttocks down" and address the prevailing high cost of living.¹⁶ In January 2022, Nakacinda was arrested for defamation of the President again.¹⁷ Chilufya Tayali, leader of Economic and Equity Party was arrested on 19 May 2022 and charged for defamation of the President.¹⁸
17. The 2021 Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act has been used to silence online organizing. Drafted with the aim of protecting people from various forms of online abuse, this law nevertheless contains many draconian provisions including infringing on the right to privacy, giving blanket powers to authorities to conduct searches and seizures without warrants, and ordering internet shutdowns. All these measures are incompatible with an open society and the right to freedom of expression.
18. In May 2021, Dr Brian Sampa, the president of the Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDAZ), was suspended by the Health Professional Council of Zambia (HPCZ) after he convened a meeting on 19 May calling for strike action over poor working conditions and arrears in the payment of doctors' salaries and allowances.¹⁹ He was subsequently sacked from a government post by the Ministry of Health, for inciting doctors to participate in a week-long go-slow.²⁰ As he continued addressing members of the association through Zoom, the Inspector General of Police threatened to arrest him and anyone attending Zoom meetings, under the newly enacted Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes law.²¹
19. The media has not been spared. The previous PF government undermined operations of the media through the deployment of state institutions to shut down independent critical media outlets, especially those deemed to be platforms for opposition parties and civil society.
20. In October 2017, the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) summoned Prime Television's management to answer allegations that they had violated the provisions of their broadcasting license when they covered a story about the then official opposition UPND's parliamentary candidate for Kalulushi town, Everisto Mwalilino, who had accused PF government officials of electoral corruption.²² In April 2020, the IBA subsequently cancelled Prime Television's license "in the interests of public safety, security, peace, welfare or good order" following the media outlet having run

stories about Covid-19 corruption and Bill 10.²³ In August 2021, the IBA granted PRIME Television an operating licence, 16 months after withdrawing it on “public interest” grounds.²⁴

21. Threats to independent media have not stopped under the new UPND government. In June 2022, a UPND lawmaker, Kankonyo MP Heartson Mabeta, threatened News Diggers, a popular private newspaper, with closure after the publication ran a story quoting the UPND secretary general saying the party, which was elected on a campaign of job creation, did not sign a contract with anyone to guarantee them employment.²⁵
22. The use of violence and harassment against journalists working for independent media outlets and damaging the property of these outlets remained rife under the former PF government. PF members used violence to prevent the media from airing programmes which featured opposition leaders. In April 2019, for instance, PF cadres halted a live programme on Power FM Radio Station in Central Province featuring then opposition NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili.²⁶ Incensed by Kambwili’s criticism of the government, the cadres broke the door to the studio, forcibly halted the programme, threatened to kill Kambwili and destroyed property belonging to the station.²⁷ Despite reporting the matter to the police, none of the culprits were arrested.
23. Attacks on the media have continued under the new administration. On 4 December 2021, UPND cadres stormed Mpika FM radio station ordering a stop to a programme featuring a PF Member of Parliament.²⁸

Freedom of peaceful assembly, use of excessive force and impunity

24. During the PF’s rule, police continued to implement the 1955 Public Order Act in a selective manner, which restricted the right to freedom of assembly of opposition parties and civic society organizations. Section 54 of the Public Order Act provides that anyone who intends to assemble or convene a public meeting, procession or demonstration must give the police seven days’ notice. The law does not require formal approval by the authorities for such assemblies; however, the police interpret this provision to mean that permission is required before any public assembly can proceed.
25. Under PF administration, peaceful assemblies organized by political parties or civil society organizations and activists were banned or dispersed by the police using excessive force; however, those suspected to be responsible for using excessive force have rarely been held to account. In April 2017, police stopped a UPND rally in Kanyama Township in the capital, Lusaka, on “security” grounds.²⁹ Although the UPND had notified the police in advance of the rally, they unlawfully dispersed the rally, resulting in the death of 20-year-old Stephen Kalipa, one of the protesters.³⁰ Although an investigation was opened in 2017, no one has yet been arrested in connection with the incident.
26. There have been sporadic incidents of violent clashes between supporters of the former governing PF and the incumbent ruling UPND since Hichilema came to power. Violent clashes marred the Kaumbwe parliamentary by-elections in December 2021 in Eastern Province where suspected cadres from the ruling UPND are reported to have attacked the campaign teams of the opposition Socialist Party and PF.³¹ The by-elections in Lusaka’s Kabwata constituency in February 2022 also featured a series of violent activities that saw the beating of opposition PF supporters by suspected UPND cadres.³²

The death penalty

27. Although during its last UPR, Zambia rejected recommendations to abolish the death penalty in line with its hiatus on executions in place since 1997, Zambia continued to commute death sentences. On 24 May 2022, President Hichilema pledged to abolish the death penalty.³³ The President has also vowed to work with Parliament to amend the country’s penal laws under which the death penalty is permissible to fully repeal this punishment.
28. In his announcement, the President also indicated that he will be commuting 30 death sentences to life imprisonment.

Persons with albinism

29. Persons with albinism continued to be subjected to violent attacks and mutilation due to superstitious misconceptions about albinism. In June 2021, criminal gangs posing as police officers attacked a home in the Senga district, mutilating a two-year-old child.³⁴ In July 2021, a nine-year-old boy from Chasefu district had his finger chopped off by a relative and another man. One of the men fled and the other was arrested and detained awaiting trial.³⁵ The latest report was on 25 June 2022, where a 10-year-old boy's finger was chopped off by three identified people.³⁶

LGBTI Rights

30. During its last review, Zambia merely noted recommendations to repeal laws that criminalize same-sex conduct between consenting adults and review all legislation, policies and programmes to foster equality and prevent discrimination on the basis of real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.³⁷ This follows a similar trend in the two previous reviews in 2012 and 2008 where Zambia also rejected recommendations to decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct
31. On 27 November 2019, the Lusaka High Court sentenced two men, Japhet Chataba and Steven Sambo, to 15 years' imprisonment for engaging in consensual same-sex sexual conduct in a hotel in 2017.³⁸ In May 2020, former President Lungu pardoned the couple among 3000 pardons in commemoration of Africa Day.³⁹
32. In May 2022, current President Hichilema reiterated his stance against gay rights stating that he has from the days of opposition been against 'gayism'.⁴⁰ This followed pronouncements made by the Minister of Information and Media, Chushi Kasanda, during her first press briefing in September 2021 that the UPND government does not support gay rights as Zambia was a Christian nation.⁴¹

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION BY THE STATE UNDER REVIEW

Amnesty International calls on the government of Zambia to:

The national human rights framework

33. Urgently develop a clear roadmap to institutionalize human rights through legal and institutional reforms.
34. Provide a legal roadmap for public consultations on the amendment of the Bill of Rights to include economic, social and cultural rights in the Constitution to ensure that the right to food is enshrined in the Constitution and can be adjudicated by the courts.

Restrictions on freedom of expression and the press

35. In line with previous recommendations, repeal Section 69 of the Penal Code on criminal defamation of the President.
36. Repeal sections that are inconsistent and incompatible with international human rights standards in the Cyber Security and Cyber Crime Act.
37. In line with Zambia's previous commitment, issue a standing invitation to all UN Special Procedures.
38. Speedily enact and operationalize the Access to Information bill.

Freedom of peaceful assembly, use of excessive force and impunity

39. Prohibit the use of live ammunition in public order or crowd control situations in line with the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.
40. Repeal or amend laws violating the rights to freedom of assembly, in particular the Public Order Act and the criminal defamation clauses in the Penal Code, and ensure their alignment with international human rights to which Zambia is

a state party, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

41. Ensure the non-recurrence of human rights violations by state security, in particular the Zambia Police Service, through undertaking a programme of institutional and other reforms to ensure respect for the rule of law and foster respect for human rights.

The death penalty

42. As previously recommended, ratify without reservation the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the abolition of the death penalty.
43. Establish an official moratorium on execution with a view towards abolishing the death penalty.
44. Review all death penalty cases with a view to commuting all death sentences to terms of imprisonment.

Rights of persons with albinism

45. Protect persons with albinism from further attacks by providing secure houses and visible police patrol and expediting prosecution of suspected perpetrators of such attacks.
46. Conduct community education programmes to debunk superstitious beliefs that body parts of persons with albinism bring luck in business and politics.

LGBTI Rights

47. Repeal laws that criminalize consensual same-sex conduct between adults and review all legislation, policies and programmes to foster equality and prevent discrimination on the basis of real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

ANNEX 1

KEY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

Zambia: Amnesty International Secretary General urges President Hichilema to move with speed to honour his commitment to human rights, March 21, 2022. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/03/zambia-amnesty-international-secretary-general-urges-president-hichilema-to-move-with-speed/>

Zambia: End of visit to Zambia statement, Zambia: End of visit to Zambia statement (Index Number: AFR 63/5376/2022), March 21, 2022. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr63/5376/2022/en/>

Zambia: President-elect Hakainde Hichilema must turn the tide on repression, August 24, 2021. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/08/zambia-president-elect-hakainde-hichilema-must-turn-the-tide-on-repression/>

Zambia: Ruling by fear and repression (Index Number: AFR 63/4057/2021), June 28, 2021. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr63/4057/2021/en/>

Zambia: Authorities escalate attacks on dissent by denying youth leaders right to protest (Index Number: AFR 63/2571/2020), June 24, 2020. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr63/2571/2020/en/>

Zambia: Authorities must immediately reinstate broadcasting license of Prime TV and stop targeting the station, (Index Number: AFR 63/2140/2020), April 14, 2020. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/afr63/2140/2020/en/>

ANNEX 2

MATRIX OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS CYCLE, WITH COMMENTS ON PROGRESS

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
<p>131.10 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the three Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Spain);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2c</p> <p>Comments: Ratification of ICCPR-OP2 is NOTED. The remaining part of the recommendation is supported.</p>	Supported/Noted	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation</p> <p>D23 Death penalty</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general - women - children 	Not Implemented
<p>131.28 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark) (Ghana);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	Not implemented
<p>131.29 Consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Georgia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	Not implemented
<p>131.32 Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education (Portugal);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>E51 Right to education - General</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general 	Implemented
<p>131.3 Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Guatemala);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & 2b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>F12 Discrimination against women</p> <p>S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment</p> <p>Affected persons:</p>	Not Implemented
<p>131.13 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Armenia);</p> <p>Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b</p>	Supported	<p>A12 Acceptance of international norms</p> <p>F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection</p> <p>F33 Children: protection against exploitation</p> <p>F35 Children in armed conflict</p> <p>S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>Affected persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - children 	Not Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.14 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Benin); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation F35 Children in armed conflict S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.15 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (India); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para .2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation F35 Children in armed conflict S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.16 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Botswana); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para .2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation F35 Children in armed conflict S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.12 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Togo); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.21 Ratify the first and second Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Rwanda); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.22 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Congo); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.23 Continue its efforts to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Children (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.11 Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Angola); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.17 Ratify the first and second Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Iraq); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.20 Ratify all three optional protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.77 Ratify the Optional Protocols of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, raise the age of criminal responsibility to 18 years, ensure the adequate separation of children and adults in penitentiaries and jails, and ensure due legal representation for children and persons under 18 years of age within the judicial system (Paraguay); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F34 Children: Juvenile justice D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.31 Expedite the process to ratify important international instruments relevant for the advancement of human rights in Zambia, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Uganda); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F4 Persons with disabilities F12 Discrimination against women F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - women - children - persons with disabilities	Not Implemented
131.30 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Ghana); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms F4 Persons with disabilities S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - persons with disabilities	Not Implemented
131.35 Ratify all the different conventions and protocols relating to human rights to ensure their enjoyment by its citizens (Chad); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	
131.36 Ratify those international human rights instruments which have not been ratified (Mongolia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A12 Acceptance of international norms S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented

Theme: A21 National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF)

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.18 Consider the establishment of a, or strengthen the existing national mechanism for coordination, implementation, reporting and follow-up, in line with elements arising from good practices identified in the 2016 OHCHR guide on national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A21 National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) A23 Follow-up to treaty bodies A25 Follow-up to special procedures A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR) A42 Institutions & policies - General A44 Structure of the national human rights machinery S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: A23 Follow-up to treaty bodies			
129.15 Implement the Convention on the Rights of Child in the context of its national policy on children (Benin); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A23 Follow-up to treaty bodies A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A43 Human rights policies Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
Theme: A24 Cooperation with special procedures			
131.39 Present a standing invitation to United Nations special rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to visit Zambia (Republic of Korea); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A24 Cooperation with special procedures D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D43 Freedom of opinion and expression S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR)			
129.13 Finalize an action plan to guide the implementation of all universal periodic review recommendations (South Africa); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A27 Follow-up to Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
129.1 Accelerate the process of domestication of international human rights instruments to which it is a party (Zimbabwe); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms A22 Cooperation with treaty bodies A23 Follow-up to treaty bodies S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
130.1 Continue its efforts to incorporate and harmonize its internal national legislation with the main international human rights instruments in the most expeditious way (Chile); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14/Add.1 - Para. 2a	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.23 Adopt specific legislation to provide women with sufficient protection against all discriminatory practices (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework B31 Equality & non-discrimination F12 Discrimination against women S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - women	Not Implemented
129.42 Strengthen legislation on the prohibition of torture and improve conditions of detention in prisons (France); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment D26 Conditions of detention S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - persons deprived of their liberty	Not Implemented
129.41 Adopt as soon as possible a draft law introducing criminal responsibility for the use of torture by law enforcement officers (Russian Federation); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.79 Live up to the highest standards of international law by repealing or amending the criminal defamation clauses in its Penal Code (Lithuania); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D43 Freedom of opinion and expression S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.69 Improve and make clearer the legislation to support the freedom of assembly (Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D44 Right to peaceful assembly S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
129.5 Continue the efforts to widen the scope of the 1996 Bill of Rights to include economic, social and cultural rights (Republic of Korea); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
129.4 Reform the Public Order Act and ensure that law enforcement agencies are instructed to uphold the Act without political bias (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: A42 Institutions & policies - General			
129.16 Implement the Seventh National Development Plan (2017–2020) in order to address the human rights challenges that it recognizes as pending (Cuba); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A42 Institutions & policies - General A43 Human rights policies S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Implemented
Theme: A43 Human rights policies			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.56 Continue promoting the national human rights policies, especially in the field of economic, social and cultural rights, in order to improve the quality of life of its population, to alleviate the standard of living of the most vulnerable (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A43 Human rights policies E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation E21 Right to an adequate standard of living - general S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - vulnerable persons/groups	Not Implemented
Theme: A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)			
129.7 Grant sufficient means and resources to the National Human Rights Commission (Algeria); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Implemented
129.8 Provide the National Human Rights Commission with sufficient financial resources to carry out its activities more effectively (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Implemented
129.9 Consider ways to strengthen the National Human Rights Commission in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Implemented
129.10 Strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Commission by allocating sufficient resources for its activities (Uganda); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A45 National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Implemented
Theme: A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas)			
129.11 Adopt a national human rights action plan (Sudan); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
129.12 Expedite the formulation of a national action plan on human rights (Uganda); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
129.14 Adopt the national action plan on children (Benin); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A46 National Plans of Action on Human Rights (or specific areas) S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
Theme: A47 Good governance			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.49 Engage civil society, activists, non-governmental organizations and the media in dialogue to seek common ground on the draft Access to Information bill and governance issues, such as corruption (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A47 Good governance D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A61 Cooperation with civil society S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - media	Not Implemented
Theme: A51 Human rights education - general			
131.43 Utilize human rights training and education as a way to mainstream the promotion of the rights of women and children (Philippines); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A51 Human rights education - general A52 Human rights education - in schools A53 Professional training in human rights A54 Awareness raising and dissemination S10 SDG 10 - inequality S05 SDG 5 - gender equality and women's empowerment F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women - children	Not Implemented
Theme: A53 Professional training in human rights			
129.19 Continue its efforts to include human rights issues in the training programmes for military personnel and security personnel (Russian Federation); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	A53 Professional training in human rights S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - law enforcement / police officials	Not Implemented
Theme: A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation)			
131.107 Make efforts to reverse the downward budgetary allocations to the education and health sectors in order to meet the African thresholds on health and education, respectively set in the Abuja and Dakar Declarations (Namibia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	A63 Budget and resources (for human rights implementation) E41 Right to health - General E51 Right to education - General S03 SDG 3 - health S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons:	Partially Implemented
Theme: B31 Equality & non-discrimination			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.20 Intensify efforts on the development of a legal framework aimed at the elimination of discrimination based on sex, race, disability, status or any other ground (Ukraine); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - women - girls - migrants - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups - Indigenous peoples - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI) - persons with disabilities - internally displaced persons - refugees & asylum seekers - vulnerable persons/groups - persons living with HIV/AIDS - persons living in poverty - persons living in rural areas - non-citizens - stateless persons - older persons - children in street situations	Not Implemented
129.24 Take the necessary measures to put an end to discrimination against those who are HIV-positive and those suffering from albinism (Burkina Faso); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A42 Institutions & policies - General S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups - persons living with HIV/AIDS	Implemented
131.52 Promote non-discrimination and inclusion campaigns with particular focus on migrants and people with albinism (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	B31 Equality & non-discrimination G4 Migrants S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - migrants - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	Implemented
Theme: D21 Right to life			
129.38 Address the situation of persons with albinism, assuring them protection against attacks and killings (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	D21 Right to life B31 Equality & non-discrimination G1 Members of minorities Affected persons: - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	Implemented
129.39 Take vigorous measures to protect people suffering from albinism against the different forms of violence of which they are victims (Central African Republic); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	D21 Right to life B31 Equality & non-discrimination G1 Members of minorities Affected persons: - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
129.40 Strengthen national policies to ensure that persons with albinism are fully protected from attacks and implement awareness-raising programmes which also promote their social integration in rural areas (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	D21 Right to life B31 Equality & non-discrimination G1 Members of minorities A42 Institutions & policies - General A43 Human rights policies S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - minorities/ racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious or descent-based groups	Implemented
Theme: D23 Death penalty			
131.61 Consider the abolition of the death penalty, in accordance with the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Honduras); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.62 Strengthen its efforts to abolish the death penalty in law (Mongolia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.48 Take measures to introduce a de jure moratorium on executions and take concrete steps towards the abolition of the death penalty (Rwanda); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.49 Consider taking steps to establish a de jure moratorium with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Italy); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.50 Continue with the moratorium on the death penalty and continue making efforts towards abolishing it (Namibia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.45 Take concrete steps towards the abolition of the death penalty (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.46 Continue the public political debate to go from the current de facto abolition to the definitive abolition of the death penalty in the country (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
131.47 Endeavour to abolish the death penalty (South Africa); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented
Theme: D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking			
131.85 Continue efforts to consolidate the rights of the child, protect them from sexual exploitation and combat trafficking in children and child marriage (Tunisia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
131.86 Strengthen the implementation of measures taken to fight against child labour and trafficking of children (Djibouti); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
Theme: D43 Freedom of opinion and expression			
131.81 Guarantee that journalists and other media workers can carry out their work independently and without fear of persecution, including by reviewing its defamation laws to make sure they are in full compliance with international human rights law (Finland); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - media	Not Implemented
131.74 Ensure media freedom by providing full editorial independence to publicly-owned media. Ensure the impartiality of the Independent Broadcasting Authority and enact legislation to facilitate access to information (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - media	Not Implemented
131.78 Ensure that necessary reforms are undertaken to guarantee the effective protection of the rights to freedom of expression, assembly and association. This includes enacting without delay an expanded Bill of Rights and Access to Information Bill and ensuring that the Public Order Act is implemented objectively and with professionalism by the police (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.68 Create and maintain, in law and in practice, an enabling environment that guarantees freedom of expression and peaceful assembly (Guatemala); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.72 Make efforts to ensure access to information of public interest to citizens and guarantee the rights of freedom of assembly (Paraguay); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: D44 Right to peaceful assembly			
131.67 Ensure that freedom of association and the right to peaceful assembly are respected and protected, to include promoting better implementation of the Public Order Act (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D44 Right to peaceful assembly D45 Freedom of association S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: D45 Freedom of association			
131.71 Make the necessary legislative changes, including restricting the scope of the Public Order Act, to ensure the freedoms of association and expression are protected; and to ensure the police enforce these and other laws in a proportionate manner (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D45 Freedom of association D43 Freedom of opinion and expression A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general - media	Not Implemented
Theme: D51 Administration of justice & fair trial			
131.64 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility and provide adequate protection of child victims and witnesses of crime during trial (Slovenia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D51 Administration of justice & fair trial F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection Affected persons: - children	Not Implemented
Theme: D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote			
131.73 Guarantee respect for the rights of the opposition, in particular freedom of assembly and demonstration, the freedom of the press and the media, by making the necessary corrections to the Constitution, the electoral commission, the status of the parties, as well as to the legal framework on the maintenance of public order (France); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D44 Right to peaceful assembly F32 Children: family environment and alternative care S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.70 Reform the current Public Order Act to include measures that fully uphold the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, making it more conducive to political participation by all Zambians and ensure that enforcement of the Act is consistent with Zambia's human rights obligations, including through training of its security forces (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote D43 Freedom of opinion and expression D44 Right to peaceful assembly A42 Institutions & policies - General A51 Human rights education - general S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.80 Engage in constructive dialogue and reconciliation with the main opposition party to diffuse lingering tensions from the August 2016 general election (United States of America); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	D7 Right to participation in public affairs and right to vote S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation			
129.25 Continue to promote economic and social sustainable development, raise people's standard of living and lay a solid foundation for the enjoyment of all human rights by its people (China); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation E21 Right to an adequate standard of living - general Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
131.105 Strengthen public policies to address economic and social challenges, particularly in the area of health, such as access to drinking water (France); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	E1 Economic, social & cultural rights - general measures of implementation E26 Human Rights & drinking water and sanitation E41 Right to health - General S06 SDG 6 - water and sanitation S03 SDG 3 - health Affected persons: - general	Not Implemented
Theme: E51 Right to education - General			
129.70 Strengthen efforts to broaden access to education in accordance with the revised Education for All National Policy and increase allocations to the education sector (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - general	Implemented
129.71 Pursue further reforms in the education sector to improve the availability, accessibility, affordability and quality of education for all (Brazil); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - general	Implemented
129.72 Further ensure access to compulsory education and equal learning opportunities for all children (Indonesia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - children	Implemented
129.73 Make education reforms to increase the quality of education, make it more accessible and facilitate re-entry of adolescent mothers back to school (Kenya); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - women - children - girls	Implemented
129.74 Continue its efforts to provide universal access to education (Mongolia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - general - women - children - girls	Implemented
129.75 Work to extend its efforts regarding free primary education to all (State of Palestine); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	E51 Right to education - General E52 primary education A42 Institutions & policies - General S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - children	Implemented
131.106 Make primary education free throughout the territory (Central African Republic); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	E51 Right to education - General E52 primary education S04 SDG 4 - education Affected persons: - children	Implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.91 Set a minimum age for leaving school, which would provide incentives for addressing early marriage and child labour (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	E51 Right to education - General F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
Theme: F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection			
129.81 Take all necessary measures to accelerate the adoption and implementation of the Marriage Bill (2015) to help end child marriage in Zambia (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.92 Set a minimum age for marriage under customary law, to be in line with the legal age of marriage determined by statutory law (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.78 Further strengthen the policies to protect children's rights (Georgia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection A42 Institutions & policies - General A43 Human rights policies S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.79 Include children's participation in formal consultative processes that require citizens' contributions (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection A42 Institutions & policies - General A43 Human rights policies S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.108 Take measures to strengthen efforts to reduce infant and child mortality, including by focusing on preventative measures and treatment, improved nutrition and a structured vaccination process (Botswana); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection E22 Right to food E41 Right to health - General S03 SDG 3 - health Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.80 Enhance protection of the rights of the child, including by abolishing child labour, combating malnutrition and shielding child perpetrators during detention (Norway); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection E22 Right to food F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.102 Adopt and implement improvements to the legislation relating to children, in particular, increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility to an internationally acceptable level, address the high rate of child labour, prohibit the forced marriage of children, and end violence and sexual exploitation, including abuse, neglect and ill-treatment (Uruguay); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms D27 Prohibition of slavery, trafficking D25 Prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.82 Continue and strengthen efforts to prevent and eliminate child marriage (Maldives); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.83 Continue efforts to combat child marriage (Morocco); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
129.84 Take additional steps aimed at addressing the high rate of child marriage, including by fully implementing the national strategy aimed at reducing child marriage by 2021 (Namibia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 129	Supported	F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented

Theme: F33 Children: protection against exploitation

131.88 Review the Employment of Young Persons and Children's Act with a view to including in its domestic labour and family-based enterprises and improve its data collection mechanisms on violations of the Act (Slovakia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F33 Children: protection against exploitation A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.84 Take appropriate steps to prohibit and combat child labour and the worst forms of exploitation of children (Senegal); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F33 Children: protection against exploitation F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.90 Modify its national and customary laws in order to prevent child, early and forced marriage (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F33 Children: protection against exploitation F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.89 Step up its efforts to bring an end to all forms of child labour (Timor-Leste); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F33 Children: protection against exploitation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented

Theme: F34 Children: Juvenile justice

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.65 Consider reviewing the legal age of criminal responsibility with a view to ensuring full protection for juveniles in conflict with the law (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F34 Children: Juvenile justice A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
131.66 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility above 8 (Sierra Leone); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	F34 Children: Juvenile justice A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented
Theme: H1 Human rights defenders			
131.82 Comply with its obligation under international law to guarantee that human rights defenders, journalists and activists can carry out their work independently and free from attacks, harassment or intimidation (Netherlands); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131 & A/HRC/37/14/Add. 1, para. 2b	Supported	H1 Human rights defenders A12 Acceptance of international norms S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - media - human rights defenders	Not implemented
Theme: A12 Acceptance of international norms			
131.6 Ratify, without reservation, the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and take the necessary measures so as to commute the sentences of those under the death penalty (Mexico); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.9 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Sweden) (Togo); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation D23 Death penalty S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.5 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Angola) (Montenegro); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	A12 Acceptance of international norms D23 Death penalty D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
Theme: A41 Constitutional and legislative framework			
131.54 Adopt legislation that combats discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and protects the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons (Honduras); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.93 Ensure country-wide implementation of the Marriage Act establishing the legal age for marriage as 21 years of age (Slovenia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - children	Not implemented

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: B31 Equality & non-discrimination			
131.55 Take steps to decriminalize homosexuality and promote respect for the principles of equality and non-discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (France); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.56 Take actions aimed at putting an end to discrimination based on sexual orientation, beginning by eliminating the criminalization of consensual sexual relationships between adults of the same gender (Spain); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.94 Decriminalize same-sex relationships between consenting adults (Sweden); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.95 Repeal laws that criminalize same-sex conduct between adults and review all legislation, policies and programmes to foster equality and prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity (Canada); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.96 Decriminalize same-sex relationships between consenting adults and strengthen efforts to address inequality and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.97 As recommended during the universal periodic review in 2012, respect the rights and fundamental freedoms of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons through the repeal of all norms that criminalize and stigmatize them (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
131.98 Review and repeal the legislation that criminalizes consensual sexual behaviour between people of the same sex, and prohibit degrading practices imposed on people of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, such as forced anal examinations (Uruguay); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	B31 Equality & non-discrimination A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S10 SDG 10 - inequality S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (LGBTI)	Not implemented
Theme: D23 Death penalty			

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Amnesty International's assessment/comments on level of implementation
131.7 Formalize the abolition of the death penalty and accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.8 Abolish the death penalty in law and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (France); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework A12 Acceptance of international norms D1 Civil & political rights - general measures of implementation S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.60 Legislate to remove the death penalty from its statute books and commute to custodial sentences those death sentences that have already been passed down (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework D51 Administration of justice & fair trial S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.58 Abolish the death penalty (Central African Republic) (Paraguay) (Portugal); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Not implemented
131.59 Take the necessary public and legislative steps in order to abolish the death penalty (Ukraine); Source of position: A/HRC/37/14 - Para. 131	Noted	D23 Death penalty A41 Constitutional and legislative framework S16 SDG 16 - peace, justice and strong institutions Affected persons: - general	Partially Implemented

- ¹ Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review: Zambia, UN Doc. A/HRC/37/14, 9 January 2018 and its Addendum UN Doc. A/HRC/37/14/Add.1 16 March 2018.
- ² High Level Mission to Zambia, Amnesty International, March 2022
- ³ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendation 131.106 (Central African Republic)
- ⁴ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendation 129.38 (Portugal), 129:39 (Central Africa Republic), 129.40 (Sierra Leone), 129.86 (Iraq)
- ⁵ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendations 131.1-131.111 (Lithuania, Mauritius, Guatemala, Italy, Angola, Mexico, Australia, France, Sweden, Togo, Spain, Armenia, Benin, India, Botswana, Iraq, Burkina Faso, Slovakia, Rwanda, Chile, Congo, Honduras, Ghana, Indonesia, Denmark, Uganda, Portugal, Chad, Mongolia, Azerbaijan, Cote d'Ivoire, Republic of Korea, Nigeria, South Africa, Philippines, Kenya, Norway, Madagascar, Central African Republic, Paraguay, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Montenegro, Republic of Venezuela, Sierra Leone, United States of America, Canada, Finland, Netherlands, Senegal, Tunisia, Djibouti, Timor-Lester, Argentina, Maldives, Uruguay, Germany, and Namibia).
- ⁶ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendations 131.67-68 (United States of America, Guatemala), 131.70 (Canada), 131.72-73 (Paraguay, France), 131.78 (Sweden).
- ⁷ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendation 131.79 (Lithuania)
- ⁸ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendation 131.70 (Canada).
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- ¹⁰ WG UPR, Report: Zambia, (previously cited), recommendation 129.5 (Republic of Korea).
- ¹¹ Zambia, Cyber Security and Cyber Crimes Act, 2021, <https://www.parliament.gov.zm/sites/default/files/documents/acts/Act%20No.%20of%202021The%20Cyber%20Security%20and%20Cyber%20Crimes.pdf>
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- ¹³ Zambia Law Development Commission, *Review of the Penal Code Act, Chapter 87 of the Laws of Zambia and the Criminal Procedure Code Act, Chapter 88 of the Laws of Zambia*, 16 February 2022, <https://www.zambialawdevelopment.org/download/reportreview-of-the-penal-code-act-chapter-87-of-the-laws-of-zambia-and-the-criminal-procedure-code-chapter-88-of-the-laws-of-zambia/>
- ¹⁴ These include the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming to the abolition of the death penalty, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children child prostitution and child pornography.
- ¹⁵ Lusaka Times, "Chishimba Kambwili arrested for defamation of President Lungu", 29 August 2019, <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2019/08/28/chishimba-kambwili-arrested-for-defamation-of-president-lungu/>
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