

**United Nation**

International Covenant on Economic, Social  
and Cultural Rights, 1966

**Concluding Observations on the  
Third Periodic Report of Nepal**

**2015**



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# Preface

With reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the Convention of International Declaration and Human Rights documents have been introduced for human rights protection and promotion which was based on various instruments of monitoring, regulating, and creation of restoring laws and strikeouts for the various State duties.

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966 was ratified by Nepal in 1991. Being the state party to the treaty, a State is responsible for sending periodic reports every five years to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Nepal submitted its third report on International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 12 July 2011.

Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Coordination Centre (HRTMCC) was established in 2003 for the mobilization of Nepal-based human rights organizations to monitor state activities related to its obligation towards human rights, enshrined in international context. It has also worked for reporting on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966. The report was submitted to the Committee by the HRTMCC on behalf of civil society organizations.

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights considered the third periodic report of Nepal on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its 56<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> meetings held on 19 and 20 November 2014, and adopted, at its 70<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28 November 2014, the concluding observations.

The Concluding Observations of the Committee has been published along with its Nepali translation in order to make the concerned agencies and members of civil society aware of the development. This book will be beneficial for the Human Rights Community as well as for those who are looking for a preview of the economic, social and cultural situation of the country and the international observations regarding it.

**Subodh Raj Pyakurel**

Chairperson

Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC)

# Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Concluding Observations on the Third Periodic Report of Nepal\*

1. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights considered the third periodic report of Nepal on the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/NPL/3) at its 56th and 57th meetings (E/C.12/2014/SR.56-57) held on 19 and 20 November 2014, and adopted, at its 70th meeting held on 28 November 2014, the following concluding observations.

## A. Introduction

2. The Committee notes with appreciation the submission of the third periodic report and the written replies to the list of issues (E/C.12/NPL/Q/3/Add.1). The Committee also welcomes the opportunity to engage with the State party's high level and inter-ministerial delegation and expresses appreciation for the frank and constructive dialogue that it had.

## B. Positive Aspects

3. The Committee welcomes the State party's ratification of:
  - (a) The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, in 2010;
  - (b) The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in 2006 and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention, in 2008.
4. The Committee welcomes the adoption of following policy and legislative steps by the State party:
  - (a) the Prevention of Organised Crime Act, in 2014;
  - (b) the Caste-Based Discrimination and the Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, in 2011;
  - (c) the Domestic Violence Act, in 2009
  - (d) the Human Rights Action Plan 2014-2019;

\* Adopted by the Committee at its fifty-third session (10-28 November 2014).

- (e) the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan, in 2013;
- (f) the National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Empowerment and Elimination of Gender-Based Violence 2012-2017;
- (g) the National Plan of Action Against Human Trafficking, in 2011;
- (h) the National Master Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour, in 2011.

## C. Principal Subjects of Concern and Recommendations

### Adoption of the Constitution

5. While noting that the Interim Constitution adopted by the State party in 2007 included a number of guarantees on economic, social and cultural rights, the Committee is concerned that the drafting process of the new Constitution has still not been finalized. The Committee is further concerned that the lack of a permanent constitutional framework creates obstacles to the full implementation of economic, social and cultural rights. (art. 2)

***The Committee urges the State party to complete the drafting process of the new Constitution within the previously established timeframe and to adopt it, as expeditiously as possible. The Committee also recommends that the State party, in the new Constitution: a) ensure the protection of all economic, social and cultural rights enshrined in the Covenant, b) guarantee the constitutional status of international human rights treaties, c) ensure that under no circumstances will the enjoyment of rights already acquired by women and disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups be restricted.***

### Data Collection

6. The Committee regrets that the State party has not provided sufficient disaggregated and detailed data to enable the Committee to better evaluate the implementation of the rights provided for in the Covenant (art. 2).

***The Committee recommends that the State party undertake progressively regular and systematic assessment, against a clear set of indicators of the level of enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, continuing to take into account the conceptual and***

***methodological framework for human rights, continuing to use the conceptual and methodological framework for human rights indicators developed by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (HRI/MC/2008/3), and to include such data in its next periodic report.***

## **Corruption**

7. While noting measures taken by the State party to prevent and combat corruption, such as the Prevention of Corruption Act of 2002, the establishment of the National Vigilance Centre and other bodies, as well as plans and guidelines, the Committee is concerned that corruption negatively impacts the use of available resources to their maximum for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. The Committee is also concerned at the lack of information on redress provided by the State party to victims (art. 2.1).

### ***The Committee urges the State party to:***

- (a) intensify its efforts to combat corruption and reinforce good governance, by ensuring that public affairs, in law and in practice, are conducted in a transparent and accountable manner;
- (b) set up its awareness-raising campaigns among politicians, members of Parliament, national and local Government officials, and the population in general, including in rural areas, of the economic and social costs of corruption;
- (c) further sensitize and train judges, prosecutors and the police on the need for strict enforcement of its anti-corruption legislation;
- (d) protect from any reprisals, those who report on acts of corruption.

## **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**

8. The Committee is concerned that the National Human Rights Commission Act of 2012 contains restrictions and limitations to the independence, mandate and powers of the NHRC. The Committee is also concerned at the lack of financial independence of the NHRC and the power to recruit its own staff. The Committee is further concerned that the State party has not yet implemented

the Supreme Court's decision of 6 March 2013 which declares some provisions of the Act of 2012 null and void. (art. 2).

***The Committee recommends that the State party amend the National Human Rights Commission Act of 2012 to guarantee its independence, mandate and powers as well as the financial autonomy necessary for its functioning, in compliance with the Supreme Court's decision of 6 March 2013 and the Paris Principles (General Assembly resolution 48/134, annex).***

### **Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

9. Notwithstanding the progress made by the State party in recognising indigenous peoples, the Committee notes that the process of consideration of the claims for recognition by some indigenous peoples has not yet been completed. The Committee is also concerned at information that indigenous peoples have been deprived of traditionally owned lands, territories and resources due to development projects carried out by the State party without seeking their free, prior and informed consent. The Committee is further concerned that, although the State party has ratified the ILO Convention 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, there is no legal provision that recognizes community ownership of lands by indigenous peoples. (art. 1).

***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) Complete, as soon as possible, the process of recognition of indigenous peoples whose claims are under consideration;
- (b) ensure that indigenous peoples are represented through their own chosen representatives in the work of the Constituent Assembly and in the decision making-process on all issues that affect them;
- (c) guarantee the right of indigenous peoples to own, use and develop their ancestral lands, territories and resources so as enable them to fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights;
- (d) seek their free, prior and informed consent before launching any development project;
- (e) undertake ongoing monitoring of projects being developed so as to take corrective measures, if necessary;

- (f) provide displaced families and groups with fair and adequate compensation;
- (g) incorporate the provisions of the ILO Convention 169 in its domestic law.

## Refugees

10. The Committee is concerned that the lack of a refugee law and of an appropriate refugee status determination procedure constitute obstacles for refugees to fully enjoy their economic, social and cultural rights, despite a 2007 Supreme Court Order to enact such legislation. It is also concerned at reports that, under the 1994 Immigration Rules, refugees and asylum-seekers are penalized by the imposition of fines per day for their over-staying in the territory of the State party. The Committee is further concerned that some Tibetan refugees remain unregistered and do not possess identification documents. The Committee regrets that the State party has not yet acceded to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. (art.2)

***The Committee recommends that the State party adopt a refugee law in order to put in place a national refugee protection framework in compliance with the 2007 Supreme Court Order. It also recommends that the State party proceed to register all Tibetan refugees in its territory and provide them with identification documents. The Committee further recommends that State party consider ratifying the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.***

## Caste-Based Discrimination

11. The Committee is concerned that article 13 of the Interim Constitution which guarantees the right to equality and non-discrimination does not include discrimination on the grounds of property and birth. While noting the adoption of the Caste-Based Discrimination and the Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, in 2011, the Committee is concerned that Dalits continue to face widespread discrimination in the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, in particular access in education, health care, food, housing, employment and income generating activities and that Dalit women are victims of multiple discrimination as they are more vulnerable to sexual exploitation, trafficking and various

forms of violence, including domestic violence. . The Committee is further concerned that the National Dalit Commission does not have adequate resources to carry out its mandate. (art. 2)

***The Committee urges the State party to:***

- (a) include property and birth as grounds for discrimination in the Constitution;
- (b) take all measures for the effective implementation of the Caste-Based Discrimination and the Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, in particular by sensitizing law enforcement officials, investigating and prosecuting those responsible for discrimination against Dalits and conducting awareness-raising campaigns on the rights of Dalits;
- (c) establish a National Strategy and Plan of Action with time bound objectives to eliminate discrimination and guarantee the rights of Dalits, as well as indicators to monitor its compliance;
- (d) reinforce the National Dalit Commission and provide it with necessary resources to fulfil its mandate;
- (e) take specific and targeted measures to protect the rights of Dalit women;
- (f) facilitate complaints from Dalit and ensure access to justice for discriminatory acts;
- (g) adopt strict sanctions for those found guilty of acts of discrimination against Dalit men and women.

**Equality between Men and Women**

12. The Committee is concerned at the persistent inequality between men and women with regard to the rights of inheritance, land ownership and assets. The Committee is also concerned that, notwithstanding citizenship provisions in the Interim Constitution, the transmission of nationality by a Nepalese woman to her child is not always granted.

***The Committee recommends that the State party take adequate measures to effectively implement its non-discrimination legislation in order to allow women to exercise their rights to inherit, to own land and assets in their name. The Committee also recommends that the State party promote awareness-raising measures in order***

***to ensure that local administration authorities involved in granting transmission of nationality are fully informed about the legal provisions in place and effectively implement them.***

13. The Committee is concerned at the low representation of women in decision-making positions in public and political affairs. The Committee is also concerned about the pay gap between men and women. (art. 3, 7).

***The Committee recommends that the State party increase the representation of women, including Dalit and indigenous women, in decision-making positions in public and political affairs. The Committee further recommends that the State party address obstacles to the career advancement of women through temporary special measures and education of men and women about equal career opportunities.***

### **Harmful Traditional Practices**

14. The Committee is concerned that deep-rooted stereotypes and patriarchal attitudes that discriminate against women and girls continue to be prevalent in the society, despite measures taken to curb them. It is particularly concerned that women and girls, in particular of Dalit origin, continue to suffer from harmful traditional practices such as forced and early marriages, accusations of *boxi* (witchcraft), *deuki* tradition (offering girls to deities to fulfil religious obligations), *jhumas* (offering young girls to Buddhist monasteries for performing religious functions, *kamlari* (offering girls for domestic work to families of landlords) *chapaudi* (isolating menstruating girls), and *badi* (widespread practice of prostitution). (art. 3, 10)

***The Committee urges the State party to:***

- (a) effectively implement measures to eradicate harmful traditional practices;
- (b) reinforce its awareness-raising campaigns among the population and in particular in districts and social groups where such practices are prevalent, reiterating that these practices are violating human rights and that they have long lasting negative effects. ;

- (c) enforce its Domestic Violence Act of 2009, investigate cases of harmful traditional practices and punish those responsible;
- (d) provide protection and rehabilitation to victims;
- (e) expedite the adoption of the Bill prepared by the National Women's Commission to criminalize all kinds of harmful practices, as well as of the National Strategy to End Child Marriages.

### **Conditions of Work in the Informal Economy**

15. The Committee is concerned that the majority of the State party's population that is employed in the informal economy does not have guarantees with regard to wages, working hours, health and safety and social benefits. The Committee is particularly concerned about the situation of women, in particular in the agricultural sector. The Committee is further concerned that in spite of the commitment of the State Party to develop, through the Labour Employment Policy, a social security system that would extend to the informal sector, no tangible progress has been made. (art. 6, 7, 9).

***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) take measures to enable workers from the informal economy to benefit from adequate wages, and just and favourable working conditions, including wages, working hours and health and safety;
- (b) undertake all necessary measures to comply with its commitment to extend social security to workers in the informal economy, in particular regarding maternity and old age. In this connection, the Committee refers the State party to its General Comment No. 19 on the Right to Social Security and recommends that the State party assess the possibility of establishing a Social Protection Floor, in line with the ILO Recommendation 202, seeking, if necessary, technical assistance from the International Labour Organization. The Committee is concerned at reports that more than 50.000 women work in the "entertainment" sector in the Kathmandu Valley alone and that they are stigmatised and subject to abuse. (art. 7)

***The Committee urges the State party to implement the 2009 directive of the Supreme Court for a five-year action plan (2012-2016) to regulate work in the “entertainment” sector and to ensure the labour and social security rights of women working in this sector as well as to protect them from abuse. The Committee also recommends that the State party conduct awareness-raising campaigns to eliminate stigmatisation against these women.***

### **Minimum Wage**

16. The Committee is concerned about difficulties faced by the State party to enforce the legislation on minimum wage. (art. 7)

***The Committee recommends that the State party take concrete measures to effectively implement its legislation on minimum wage in all sectors.***

### **Situation of Former Bonded Labourers**

17. The Committee is concerned that, although the traditional bonded labour system (*Kamaiya, Haliya and Kamalari*) has been formally eradicated and measures have been taken for the rehabilitation of former bonded labourers, many of them, in particular in the western part of Nepal, face obstacles to social reintegration, due to the lack of skills and access to fertile land for cultivation, which leads them to return to their previous employers, by whom they are often exploited. (art. 2, 7)

***The Committee recommends that the State party increase its efforts to ensure that freed bonded labourers are entitled to full rehabilitation and integration, in particular through access to fertile lands for cultivation, access to housing, food, health, education and vocational training for income generating- activities and employment.***

### **Women Migrant Workers**

18. The Committee is concerned that migrant women migrating from Nepal in search of work are subject to unfair working conditions and to violence and abuse in some host countries. (art. 3, 7).

***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) Provide adequate information to women migrant workers on procedures for access to, and enjoyment of, their economic, social and cultural rights;

- (b) Continue to sign bilateral agreements with host countries and monitor their enforcement in order to better protect the rights of women migrant workers.

## **Domestic Violence**

19. The Committee is concerned about the prevalence of gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence, in particular among the Dalit and other disadvantaged groups, despite the adoption of the Domestic Violence Act, 2009, the Domestic Violence (Crime and Punishment) Regulations, 2010 and other measures. The Committee is also concerned about the lack of information on the protective measures provided to victims of domestic violence, including assistance, rehabilitation and shelters. The Committee is further concerned about the lack of information on investigations, prosecutions, convictions and sanctions against the perpetrators. The Committee regrets the lack of information on the impact of awareness-raising campaigns on the reduction of domestic violence, carried out by the State party. (art. 10)

### ***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) enforce its legislation on domestic violence;
- (b) investigate cases of gender-based violence, prosecute perpetrators and, if convicted, punish them with adequate sanctions;
- (c) facilitate complaints from victims of gender-based violence as well as their access to justice and protect them from any kind of reprisals;
- (d) continue to provide law enforcement officials with necessary training on gender-based violence, including domestic and sexual violence;
- (e) develop protective and rehabilitation measures, including shelters and hotlines for victims;
- (f) increase its awareness-raising campaigns on women's rights and the negative effects of gender-based violence, in particular in rural and remote areas and among disadvantaged and marginalized groups;
- (g) expedite the adoption the Bill, presently before the Parliament, which includes provisions on effective compensation and services to victims.

## **Economic Exploitation of Children**

20. The Committee is concerned that child labour remains widespread in the State party. It is also concerned about the high number of children under the minimum age that work in agriculture, quarries and mining, domestic servitude and pottering, despite the existence of Child Labour Act of 2000; the Child Labour Regulations of 2006 and the National Master Plan Relating to Child Labour, 2011-2013. The Committee is further concerned about the weak enforcement of the legislation which prohibits child labour under the minimum age of 14 years and the lack of information on the impact of awareness-raising campaigns conducted by the State party. (art. 10)

***The Committee recommends that the State party strengthen its efforts to combat child labour, by;***

- (a) taking concrete measures to enforce legislation which prohibits child labour and hold accountable those responsible for non-compliance;
- (b) increasing measures aimed at facilitating access to education for poor and disadvantaged children;
- (c) reinforcing its awareness-raising campaigns among disadvantaged families and social groups and sensitizing parents on children' rights and the lifelong negative effects of child labour;
- (d) reinforcing labour inspections in activities where children are engaged.

## **Trafficking in Persons including Children**

21. The Committee expresses concern at the high number of children who are trafficked for labour and sexual exploitation, as well as for begging, forced marriages and slavery, including in neighbouring countries. The Committee is also concerned at the ineffective application of the Human Trafficking Control Act of 2007 and the Children Act of 1992. It is further concerned at the lack of information on investigations, prosecutions, convictions and sanctions imposed on traffickers. (art. 10)

***The Committee urges the State party to effectively enforce the current legislation, by:***

- (a) investigating trafficking cases, prosecuting and sanctioning the traffickers and providing rehabilitation and reparation to victims;
- (b) sensitizing the population on measures taken to combat trafficking such as the Child Search Rescue Center in Kathmandu;
- (c) further developing its cooperation with neighbouring countries in order to prevent and combat trafficking across borders;
- (d) bringing its legislation in full compliance with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, specially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

## **Poverty**

22. While noting efforts to reduce poverty, the Committee is concerned that around 25% of the population in the State party lives below the poverty line, in particular in the Far-East and among the most disadvantaged groups, such as Hill and Terai Dalits, as well as women in rural and remote areas, and indigenous peoples. The Committee is also concerned about the fact that poverty faced by these groups is exacerbated by the lack of their access to, and ownership of, land and related resources, livelihoods and income generating activities. (art. 11)

***The Committee recommends that the State party: a) adopt a human rights based approach to poverty eradication; b) strengthen its efforts to reduce poverty in particular among the most marginalized and disadvantaged groups, such as Hill and Terai Dalits, as well as women in rural and remote areas, and indigenous peoples, including by expanding its programs under the Poverty Alleviation Fund; c) facilitate access to, and ownership of, land for these groups as well as to income generating activities. The Committee refers the State party to the Committee's Statement on Poverty and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted on 4 May 2001 (E/C.12/2001/10).***

## **Forced Evictions and Right to Housing**

23. The Committee is concerned at the lack of a comprehensive housing policy which can enable poor, disadvantaged and marginalized persons to access housing. It is also concerned at reports of forced evictions, including in the context of development projects, without free, prior and informed consent of those affected, reasonable notice, and adequate compensation or alternative housing provided to them. (art. 11)

***The Committee recommends that the State party develop a comprehensive housing policy in order to facilitate access to housing for poor, marginalized and disadvantaged persons and families. It also recommends that the State party:***

- (a) enact legislation to determine the circumstances and safeguards under which evictions can take place and ensure that evictions are only used as a last resort;
- (b) ensure that victims of forced evictions are provided with alternative housing or adequate compensation.

***The Committee refers the State party to its general comment No. 7 (1997) on forced evictions and to the Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development-based Evictions and Displacement (A/HRC/4/18).***

## **Right to Food**

24. The Committee is concerned about the significant increase in the food prices that has made food less and less affordable for the State party's disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups and which aggravates malnutrition in the State party. While noting efforts made through the Food and Nutrition Security Plan, the Committee is concerned about the lack of a comprehensive and effective strategy to combat hunger and tackle food insecurity which is prevalent in some districts and among certain groups of population in Nepal (art. 11).

***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) adopt a comprehensive human rights-based strategy with a clear gender dimension to combat hunger and ensure food security for marginalized and disadvantaged individuals and groups;

- (b) address structural causes of poverty, hunger and malnutrition including through measures in the fields of health and education, land reform and distribution, especially for the landless, tenants, smallholders and disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups;
- (c) strengthen the capacity of public institutions and monitoring mechanisms to deliver food aid programmes in a non-discriminatory manner.

***The Committee draws the attention of the State party to its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food.***

### **Maternal Mortality and Sexual and Reproductive Health**

25. The Committee is concerned that, in spite of the State party's positive interventions in improving maternity services and neonatal care, approximately 5% of maternal deaths are caused by unsafe abortions or antepartum haemorrhage, due to low awareness of legality of abortion and the existence of safe abortion services as well as the lack of access to trained health assistants and adequate services which lead many women, in particular those living in rural areas and from disadvantaged and marginalized groups, to seek unsafe abortions. The Committee is further concerned that uterine prolapse is common even among women under 30 years of age, resulting, inter alia, from lack of adequate sexual and reproductive health care. (art. 12)

***The Committee recommends that the State party:***

- (a) conduct dissemination campaigns on the legality of abortion in the State party;
- (b) ensure access to sexual and reproductive health services as well as to safe abortion services;
- (c) provide adequate training to health assistants; and
- (d) take measures to prevent uterine prolapse among women by ensuring adequate sexual and reproductive healthcare over the life cycle and combatting poverty that is the main cause for women not to rest sufficiently after delivery.
- (e) the State party is encouraged to consider the OHCHR's technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach

to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity (A/HRC/21/22).

### **Older Persons**

26. The Committee is concerned that older persons are not entitled to universal healthcare and that healthcare is unaffordable for many of them (art. 9, 12).

***The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that older persons are entitled to universal healthcare and access to affordable healthcare services. The Committee also recommends that the State party disseminate information on the annual provision of 2000 Nepalese Rupees per person to help cover health related expenses of older persons in government hospitals.***

### **Primary Education and Dropout Rates among Girls**

27. The Committee is concerned that primary education is not yet compulsory in law and that the State party does not guarantee free secondary school. It is also concerned about the high school drop-out rate of girls, in particular during the transition between the primary and the secondary levels, and at the secondary level, due, inter alia, to the unavailability of adequate sanitary infrastructure. (art. 13).

***The Committee calls on the State party to adopt legislation making primary school compulsory. It further recommends that the State party:***

- (a) ensure access to school in rural areas and for Dalit and indigenous children in the context of its “Program of Education for All 2015”;
- (b) make all necessary efforts to make secondary school free;
- (c) address the high rate of school drop-out of girls, including by providing adequate sanitary infrastructure in all schools;
- (d) step up its efforts to provide mother tongue based multilingual education through coherent language policy framework, especially for schools with linguistically diverse populations.

## Cultural Rights

28. The Committee is concerned that the lack of recognition of some indigenous peoples by the State party prevents them from fully enjoying their cultural rights, which are deeply rooted in their ancestral lands, territories and resources. (art. 15)

***The Committee recommends that the State party take all necessary measures to ensure that all indigenous peoples fully enjoy their cultural rights.***

## D. Other Recommendations

29. The Committee encourages the State party to consider signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
30. The Committee requests the State party to disseminate the present concluding observations widely at all levels of society, particularly among parliamentarians, public officials, judicial authorities and civil society organizations, and to inform the Committee in its next periodic report on the steps taken to implement them.
31. The Committee invites the State party to submit its common core document in accordance with the harmonized guidelines on reporting (HRI/MC/2006/3) approved by the human rights treaty bodies.
32. The Committee encourages the State party to continue to engage with civil society organizations in constructive cooperation in the process of preparation and submission of its next periodic report.
33. The Committee requests the State party to submit its fourth periodic report in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Committee in 2008 (E/C.12/2008/2), by 30 November 2019.