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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Twenty-Seventh session**  
Geneva, 1–12 May 2017

### **Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\***

**Bahrain**

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\* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

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## Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of Bahrain was held at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on 1 May 2017. The delegation of Bahrain was headed by Mr. Abdulla Bin Faisal ALDOSERI, Assistant Foreign Minister of Bahrain. At its 10<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 5 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on Bahrain.
2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Bahrain: Cuba, Ghana and Japan.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Bahrain:
  - (a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BHR/1);
  - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BHR/2);
  - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BHR/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America was transmitted to Bahrain through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the UPR.

### I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 19 May 2017]

- A. Presentation by the State under review
- B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 83 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

### II. Conclusions and/or recommendations\*\*

6. The recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue/listed below will be examined by Bahrain which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council in September 2017.

- 6.1 Ratify the main human rights instruments to which Bahrain is not yet party, and adapt its national legislation to these and withdraw its reservations to the

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\*\* The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Spain);
- 6.2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia) (Uruguay) (Ireland);
- 6.3. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and abolish the death penalty (Portugal) / Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of death penalty (Angola);
- 6.4. Continue the ratification process of the main international human rights related instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Italy);
- 6.5. Consider the possibility of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal) / Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in order to contribute with the work already done (Uruguay) / Ratify before the next UPR cycle the OP-CAT and establish a national preventive mechanism accordingly (Czechia) / Positively examine the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (Cyprus) / Move towards ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);
- 6.6. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Portugal) (Estonia) (Guatemala) (Ghana) (Denmark) (Luxembourg) (Lithuania);
- 6.7. Ratify the first Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political (Estonia);
- 6.8. Ratify OP-CEDAW (Guatemala);
- 6.9. Ratify the International Labour Organization Convention No.189 concerning Decent Work for Domestic Workers (Switzerland) (Philippines) (Ghana) (Uganda);
- 6.10. Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Philippines) (Ghana) (Guatemala);
- 6.11. Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay) (Ghana) (Portugal);
- 6.12. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Portugal) (Estonia);
- 6.13. Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity (Armenia);
- 6.14. Proceed with ratification and full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under the Roma Statute of International Criminal Court, including incorporating the Statute definition of crimes as amended in Kampala Review Conference in 2010 and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court and to accede to the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (Finland);
- 6.15. Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Uganda);

- 6.16. Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (Mexico);
- 6.17. Take steps to establish an independent, effective and well-resourced National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in compliance with Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture requirements (Ghana);
- 6.18. Adhere and adopt national legislation in line with the Rome Statute, including the incorporation of the provisions for swift cooperation with the ICC (Guatemala);
- 6.19. Continue cooperation with the United Nations human rights mechanisms in order to protect and promote human rights (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.20. Continue efforts for international cooperation in the field of human rights and benefit from relevant international experiences (Sudan);
- 6.21. Continue to extend cooperation with the United Nations organization and to make the best use of the international expertise available through the relevant international mechanisms (Azerbaijan);
- 6.22. Ensure that all Bahrainis can freely cooperate with UN human rights mechanisms (Czechia);
- 6.23. Adopt an open, merit based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations Treaty Body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.24. Extend a standing invitation to all special procedures as soon as possible (Netherlands) / Extend the standing invitation to all the mechanisms and special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Honduras) / Facilitate a standing invitation to the Special Procedures Mandates Holders of the Human Rights Council (Guatemala) / Issue a standing invitation to special procedure mandate holders (Bulgaria);
- 6.25. Cooperate with Special Procedures of this Council, including by swiftly providing access to Special Rapporteurs with outstanding requests for visits to Bahrain (Iceland);
- 6.26. Encourage the Government to cooperate with all mandate holders of the Special Procedures (Iraq);
- 6.27. Continue to strengthen its cooperation with United Nations Human Rights mechanisms, in particular by accepting country visits of Special Rapporteurs (Republic of Korea);
- 6.28. Allow the Special Rapporteur on torture to visit Bahrain, following up on the acceptance of recommendations to that effect in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle (Austria);
- 6.29. Accept the request of the Special Rapporteur on the Torture and the Special Rapporteur on peaceful assembly and of association (France);
- 6.30. Implement fully recommendations made by the UN mandate holders, including the immediate release of all political prisoners and ending impunity, thus bringing perpetrators of the human rights to justice (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 6.31. Encourage the Government to implement its pledges and commitments undertaken during the second cycle of the UPR in 2012 (Iraq);

- 6.32. Continue the project of technical cooperation with the OHCHR in a number and different areas, particularly to strengthening the capacity of persons in charge of enforcing the law (Djibouti);
- 6.33. Strengthen the cooperation with the OHCHR (Honduras);
- 6.34. Accept a visit from the High Commissioner or a UN special rapporteur to identify steps to strengthen human rights institutions (United States of America);
- 6.35. Review laws and practices to ensure that they are compliant with international human rights law (Portugal);
- 6.36. Adhere and adopt national legislation to bring it in the line with the Armes Trade Treaty (Guatemala);
- 6.37. Set a timeline with clear deadlines for the implementation of all Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry recommendations and provide regular and public reports on the progress of their implementation (Slovenia);
- 6.38. Strengthen partnerships between official institution and the national human rights institutions through the implementation of the bilateral programmes of cooperation (Algeria);
- 6.39. Continue to strengthen the Office of the Ombudsman of the Ministry of Interior, the Ombudsman of the National Security Agency, and the Special Investigations Unit, so they can fulfil their mandates effectively (New Zealand);
- 6.40. Take all measures to ensure independence, including financial, and effectiveness of national human rights institution and to protect it from all forms of pressure or reprisal in connection with their work to promote and protect human rights (Montenegro) / Strengthen the National Human Rights Institution of Bahrain and ensure its full compliance with Paris Principles (Republic of Korea) / Continue strengthening its National Human Rights Institution in accordance with Paris Principles, especially in terms of increasing its independence and authority (Indonesia);
- 6.41. Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles) (State of Palestine); Strengthen the capacity of the National Human Rights Institution to have access to cases that require special attention (Libya);
- 6.42. Continue introducing international norms of human rights in the national legislation and efforts to increase the potential and capacity of national human rights institutions (Uzbekistan);
- 6.43. Continue the implementation of the national strategic action plan 2012-2016 on persons with disabilities (Djibouti);
- 6.44. Further enhance the capacity of the Childhood National Committee for the full implementation of the National Childhood Strategic Action Plan (Ethiopia);
- 6.45. Continue to promote human rights education (Pakistan);
- 6.46. Take measures to improve education system and carry out programs aimed at enhancing awareness about the human rights at the national level (Uzbekistan);
- 6.47. Include human rights education in school curricula (Armenia);
- 6.48. Intensify efforts to promote and protect human rights in school curricula (Kuwait);

- 6.49. Strengthen education for law enforcement personnel on international human rights laws including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Republic of Korea);
- 6.50. Improve the capacity and training of the security forces in the area of human rights and moderate use of force, both in their response to peaceful protests and in places of detention (Spain);
- 6.51. Disseminate widely in the society the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.52. Continue the training programmes for magistrates and law enforcement officials in accordance with international standards and human rights principles (Lebanon);
- 6.53. Continue to raise awareness of human rights among all groups particularly the younger generations through education, training and media communications (Thailand);
- 6.54. Raise awareness in the society for all ages for them to recognize the importance of civil society organizations and its role in the dynamics of Bahraini society (Tunisia);
- 6.55. Allow international NGOs to visit Bahrain and to carry out their human rights work without restrictions, including by abolishing the current five-day limit for such visits (Iceland);
- 6.56. Engage in a genuine national dialogue in an open and inclusive manner with all stakeholders, with the aim of effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of all the population in a comprehensive and inclusive manner (Iran (Islamic Republic of));
- 6.57. Take urgent steps to facilitate the work of civil society and human rights defenders, and guarantee protection of all persons from intimidation or reprisals for seeking to cooperate with the UN (Ireland);
- 6.58. Maintain its commitment to achieving concrete political reform based on respect of the legitimate rights and aspirations of all its citizens, consistent with Bahrain's international obligations and acceptance of the findings and recommendations of the 2011 report of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Australia);
- 6.59. Ensure the full implementation of all recommendations from the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (Belgium);
- 6.60. Continue adopting programs and policies to strengthen national unity and cohesion (Egypt);
- 6.61. Take specific and additional measures aimed at strengthening its national unity, internal domestic security and fostering cooperation in order to disseminate the culture of social peaceful coherence and guarantee freedom of expression which ensures social justice between all components of society (Iraq);
- 6.62. Adopt effective measures in law and practice to eradicate all forms of discrimination, in particular, on the bases of religion or belief (Honduras);
- 6.63. Take additional measures to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization, as well as discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against

persons based on religion or belief, in line with Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 (Brazil);

6.64. Continue the application of policies and programmes on comprehensive and sustainable development (Cuba);

6.65. Continue paying attention to achieving comprehensive development through the support to human rights culture through the media and the educational system (Jordan);

6.66. Continue to implement policies and programs for comprehensive and sustainable development (Libya);

6.67. Work towards awareness raising to the right to safe environment through participation and cooperation among all partners (Tunisia);

6.68. Rescind the amendment of law 105b, that allows for civilians to be prosecuted in military courts if accused of terrorism (Netherlands);

6.69. Ensure that counter-terrorists measures are fully consistent with Bahrain's international human rights obligations (Brazil);

6.70. Review the Anti-terrorism Law and its implementation in order to ensure it could not be abused for harassment, detention and prosecution of dissenters (Czechia);

6.71. Amend the 2006 Law of Protecting Society from Terrorist Acts to avoid imposing statelessness on individuals and minimize negative impact on the families of those affected (Germany);

6.72. Continue with the strategy of combatting terrorism in order to protect human rights (Kuwait);

6.73. Continue efforts to promote the participation of women in political, economic, social and all other spheres (Myanmar);

6.74. Abolish the death penalty, and commute all death sentences to prison terms (Sweden);

6.75. Commute all the death penalty sentences and establish a moratorium on executions (Portugal) / Commute all death sentences, declare a moratorium on executions and move towards an abolition of the death penalty (Norway) / Introduce a moratorium on the execution of the death penalty (Germany) / Impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro) / Re-introduce the moratorium on executions with a view to definitively abolishing the death penalty (Spain) / Impose an official moratorium on the death penalty and to replace the death penalty with a sentence that is fair, proportionate, and respects international human rights standards (Bulgaria);

6.76. Suspend without delay the executions and declare the moratorium on the application of death penalty as the first phase to its abolition (France) / Immediately implement a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing the practice (Australia) / Immediately declare an official moratorium on executions with a view to the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and the abolition of the death penalty (Austria) / Establish without delay a legal moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to its subsequent abolition (Luxembourg)

6.77. Establish an official moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania) / Establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolish the death penalty (Italy)



/ Take urgent measures to establish a formal moratorium on executions of prisoners on death row (Argentina) / Establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition (Chile);

6.78. Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the threshold of “most serious crimes” under international law (Belgium);

6.79. Investigate all allegations of torture and start prosecuting all individuals found responsible (Norway);

6.80. Ensure accountability for perpetrators of torture and access of victims of torture to justice, redress and rehabilitation (Czechia);

6.81. Further implement measures on the protection of victims of mistreatment and torture and on the prosecution of perpetrators (Italy);

6.82. Criminalise torture in its legislation and establish a national preventive mechanism for torture (Spain);

6.83. Ensure the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Special Investigation Unit and other relevant human rights institutions in investigating all allegations of torture and other ill-treatment, unlawful killings and deaths in custody (Finland);

6.84. Strengthen health services for prisoners and detainees (Qatar);

6.85. Continue efforts and further efforts to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons (Saudi Arabia);

6.86. Further improve measures aimed at combating human trafficking including victim assistance (Sri Lanka);

6.87. Promptly carry out an in-depth investigation into all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, such as the case of the three persons executed in 2017, and bring those responsible to justice, (Switzerland);

6.88. Implement a national strategy to tackle the trafficking of women and girls, whilst building on their excellent work to ensure the effective protection of all workers – including migrant workers - against discrimination, and to ratify the 2014 ILO protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

6.89. Step up efforts to combat human trafficking and strengthen protection of victims (Angola);

6.90. Further intensify combating human trafficking and protecting the victims of trafficking in persons by removing the existing obstacles (Ethiopia);

6.91. Consider formulating a strategy against trafficking in persons (India);

6.92. Adopt a comprehensive national strategy against trafficking in persons (Maldives);

6.93. Intensify efforts to provide public education and training on the human trafficking law (Azerbaijan);

6.94. Ensure that all allegations of enforced disappearances, torture or any other form of ill-treatment are independently, promptly and thoroughly investigated, and perpetrators are brought to justice in accordance with international rule of law standards (Germany);

- 6.95. Release all arbitrary detained persons in Bahrain, including the Danish-Bahrain citizen Mr. Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja a victim of torture who needs treatment and rehabilitation (Denmark);
- 6.96. Take necessary measures to guarantee the enjoyment of all fundamental freedoms including the participation in political and public affairs by all (Botswana);
- 6.97. Avoid the intimidation and harassment of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations, lifting the restrictions imposed on them and allowing them to freely exercise their rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly (Spain);
- 6.98. Adopt a law to protect human rights defenders, which includes special protection for vulnerable groups of defenders, including women defenders and those who express themselves through the internet and social media (Mexico);
- 6.99. Rescind impediments to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly (New Zealand);
- 6.100. Release as soon as possible all individuals, including human rights defenders, having been imprisoned solely due to exercising their fundamental rights of expression and assembly (Norway);
- 6.101. Protect the rights to freedom of association and assembly, in accordance with its international obligations, notably the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and cease the dissolution of political parties and civil society organizations (Sweden);
- 6.102. Release all persons detained solely for the exercise of their right to freedom of expression or their right to peaceful assembly and repeal all legislative provisions criminalizing the exercise of these rights (Switzerland);
- 6.103. Review convictions, commute sentences, or drop charges for all persons imprisoned solely for non-violent political expression (United States of America);
- 6.104. Remove undue restrictions on the online publication of news media, and on licencing restrictions on media organisations and individuals seeking to practice journalism (Canada);
- 6.105. Amend the Penal Code and the Press Law to remove criminal penalties for alleged libel and insult offences, as accepted by Bahrain during its last universal periodic review (Canada);
- 6.106. Align the Press law and Penal Code with the obligations under international human rights law, especially art. 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political (Estonia);
- 6.107. Redouble efforts to promote and safeguard the freedom and independence of the press and electronic media on the basis of international standards and norms (Cyprus);
- 6.108. Ensure that the new bill for the press and electronic media complies with international norms and continues its efforts to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression, the right to peaceful assembly and association (State of Palestine);
- 6.109. Take measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to freedom of association and peaceful manifestation and to promote and facilitate the activities of the NGOs (France);

- 6.110. Modify the legislation to repeal criminal responsibility for the activities which fall within the legitimate exercise of the exercise of the freedom of expression, particularly on the Internet and twitter (France);
- 6.111. Repeal or amend all laws which restrict the freedoms of expression, association or assembly, including Decree 31 of 2013, Law 34 of 2014, and Law 26 of 2015 (Germany);
- 6.112. Immediately and unconditionally release all prisoners of conscience imprisoned only for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iceland);
- 6.113. Implement relevant legislation for the full exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association (Italy);
- 6.114. Continue strengthening the freedom of the media and the rights of media workers (Lebanon);
- 6.115. Respect the legitimate rights of all its citizens to freedom of assembly, expression and participation in political societies (Australia);
- 6.116. Reduce restrictions on peaceful assembly and association, allow individuals to participate freely in independent political societies, consistent with the Constitution and National Action Charter, and cease unwarranted legal action against Wifag and Wa'ad for engaging in protected activities (United States of America);
- 6.117. Take further steps to create a more enabling environment for international and national media platforms and ensure plurality of opinions within the country (Lithuania);
- 6.118. Allow journalists to exercise their profession, and to refrain from arbitrarily withholding license renewals (Lithuania);
- 6.119. Adopt appropriate measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists and the political opposition members from acts of aggression and intimidation and abstain from taking any restrictive measures or reprisals against human rights defenders, notably those who cooperate with the Human Rights Council (Luxembourg);
- 6.120. Finalize and enact the new media law under the meaningful involvement of all stakeholders and providing for a truly independent regulatory body (Austria);
- 6.121. Remove undue restrictions on the organization of peaceful protest in opposition to the Government, and repeal the application of criminal penalties to peaceful participation in unauthorized protests (Canada);
- 6.122. Respect and protect the right of all groups and individuals to participate in legitimate political activities (New Zealand);
- 6.123. Remove restrictive limitations on the establishment of political parties or membership therein, and cease the dissolution by law of opposition political societies (Canada);
- 6.124. End immediately the reprisals against human rights defenders and lift restrictions on civil society (Estonia);
- 6.125. Take effective measures to raise awareness of the rights stipulated in the conventions it acceded to, concerning the judiciary and law enforcement officials (Qatar);

- 6.126. Ensure that oversight-institutions established following the recommendations of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry are fully impartial and independent in order for them to effectively carry out their work (Sweden);
- 6.127. Ensure that all aspects of criminal procedure are in line with accepted international standards (Australia);
- 6.128. Focus on strengthening the legal framework, the institutions and the judiciary to guarantee the independent judicial system and the right to the fair trial (guaranteed by the arts. 9 and 14 ICCPR) (France);
- 6.129. Continue making progress on its reform agenda and to become a role model for the region, including through strengthening the independence, effectiveness and transparency of its oversight bodies, and cooperating with the United Nations system (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.130. Guarantee the fight against impunity ensuring that all those persons found guilty are brought to justice, in the context of allegations of the use of torture to obtain confessions from detainees (Luxembourg);
- 6.131. Take further steps to ensure equality with respects to all aspect of employment and occupation (Republic of Korea);
- 6.132. Continue to promote the rights of vulnerable groups, in particular, girls, women, migrants and persons with disabilities (Senegal);
- 6.133. Consider adopting a unified and modern personal status law which is compatible with all legal and procedural requirements (Morocco);
- 6.134. Review its legislation in order to eliminate provisions discriminatory against women (Czechia);
- 6.135. Take necessary measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (Myanmar);
- 6.136. Pursue efforts to enhance women's rights and fight all sorts of discrimination against women (Tunisia);
- 6.137. Further its work in empowering women, promoting gender equality and eliminating discrimination and violence against women and children by, *inter alia*, amending and promulgating relevant laws and implementing the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (Thailand);
- 6.138. Continue to implement policies that promote gender equality and provide women with opportunities to play an active role in social, economic and political spheres (Singapore);
- 6.139. Continue to seek and cooperate with partners in the field of the implementation of the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (2022) in order to build a competitive and sustainable society in the Kingdom (Oman);
- 6.140. Continue to promote gender equality and actively implement "The National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women 2013-2022" (China);
- 6.141. Fully implement the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (2022) in its five lines (Cuba);
- 6.142. Pursue further measures to strengthen gender equality and guarantee the status of women in society at all levels (Algeria);

- 6.143. Continue empowering Bahraini women in the economic, political and social spheres (Egypt);
- 6.144. Continue efforts to promote gender equality and women's political, social and economic empowerment (Nepal);
- 6.145. Continue efforts to empower and advance women and facilitate women's participation in the society, particularly in political life, decision making and holding leadership positions (Jordan);
- 6.146. Adopt holistic plans and policies to achieve gender equality in public and private spheres and further recommends that specific measures be taken to increase women participation at all levels and promote women appointment in leadership positions (Chile);
- 6.147. Further efforts to increase the representation of women in leadership, public and decision-making positions (Sierra Leone);
- 6.148. Continue to bolster progress in the education of girls and women and to further diversify their educational and professional choices (Libya);
- 6.149. Amend the Citizenship Law to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restrictions and on equal basis to men (Slovenia);
- 6.150. Finalise the draft law amending certain provisions of the 1963 Citizenship Act to enable Bahraini women married to non-Bahraini men to confer their nationality on their children without any conditions (Botswana) / Expedite the legal procedures relating to the Bahraini Nationality Act of 1963, thus, allowing citizenship to be granted-without restrictions- to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Sierra Leone);
- 6.151. Step up efforts in amending the law to allow the grant of Bahraini citizenship to children whose mothers are married to foreigners (Philippines);
- 6.152. Deploy all necessary measures to ensure a quick pass and implementation of the Law on Nationality to give nationality to children of Bahraini women married to foreigners (Uruguay);
- 6.153. Make necessary efforts to reform all discriminatory legislation towards women in particular the nationality act and the family affairs laws (Argentina);
- 6.154. Continue efforts to ensure the safety, security and dignity of the foreign migrant workers, including women domestic workers, through requisite institutional and legislative measures (Nepal);
- 6.155. Continue the important process of reconciling the improvement of women rights and duties within the provision of the Sharia Law (Indonesia);
- 6.156. Continue strengthening the policies aiming at protecting women (Kuwait);
- 6.157. Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women 2013-2022 (Brunei Darussalam);
- 6.158. Increase the number of women in political and public life at all levels and in all areas and to promote women in leadership positions and ensure that they are granted opportunities in the higher education system (Turkey);
- 6.159. Continue to promote rights of children (Pakistan);
- 6.160. Prohibit by law corporal punishment against children in all settings and contexts, including in the home, and repeal all exceptions to its use (Mexico);

- 6.161. Unify the juvenile age in the kingdom's legislation to uphold the best interest in the treatment of the child in a manner compatible with his age, dignity and to facilitate his rehabilitation and reintegration in society (Morocco);
- 6.162. Take effective measures to realize the rights enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which was ratified in 2011 (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.163. Develop health programmes in the health care centres and correctional and rehabilitation centres to accommodate all age groups and people with special needs (Oman);
- 6.164. Continue to improve social security system, and take further steps to guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups (China);
- 6.165. Continue to support the integration of persons with disabilities in society through strengthening educational support and jobs training (Singapore);
- 6.166. Promote the participation of persons with disabilities and integrate them more widely in the Bahraini society (Sudan);
- 6.167. Continue its steps to promote human rights through effective measures to realize the rights set out in the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) (Yemen);
- 6.168. Ensure the completion and successful running of the nine rehabilitation centres in a comprehensive disability complex (Brunei Darussalam);
- 6.169. Continue strengthening its sound social policies that favour the people with special emphasis on the most vulnerable groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.170. Ensure the effective protection of migrants, particular women migrant workers, against discrimination (Philippines);
- 6.171. Strengthen the legal protection for migrant workers, including domestic workers against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, religion or nationality (Sierra Leone);
- 6.172. Continue to improve measures to strengthen the rights of foreign migrant workers including putting in place the necessary domestic legislation and access to healthcare and legal aid (Sri Lanka);
- 6.173. Speed up the legislative process to operationalize the draft law amending the Nationality Act so as to address the problem of statelessness in the country (Uganda) / Amend article 10 (c) of the 1963 Citizenship Act to bring it into line with international standards (Belgium);
- 6.174. End the practice of revoking citizenship from individuals (Denmark);
- 6.175. End the practice of revocation of citizenship and adopt legal and institutional safeguard to prevent discrimination against members of religious minorities and provide effective remedy for victims of arbitrary arrests, detention, summons or travel bans (Czechia);
- 6.176. Abolish the practice of revoking nationality as a punishment on any grounds (Mexico) / End the practice of arbitrarily revoking citizenship, especially where this renders individuals stateless and forces them into exile (Belgium).

**7. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

### **III. Voluntary pledges and commitments**

8. Bahrain is working on:
  - (a) The promulgation of a consolidated law on family provisions;
  - (b) Put in place family courts with all the judicial facilities and services related to the family, including taking due account of the specificity and nature of family disputes.
9. Work towards a new law on the press and the electronic media.
10. Consider amending the Bahraini Citizenship Act to grant citizenship to the children of Bahraini women married to foreigners in accordance with the rules regulating the granting of citizenship.
11. The application of policies and programmes on comprehensive and sustainable development continues. Bahrain will submit its first report on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to be held in New York in July 2018.
12. Increased awareness in all areas of human rights through the available means, including education and the media.
13. Submit a voluntary report on what has been accomplished within two years of the adoption of the universal periodic review report.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Bahrain was headed by H.E. Mr. Abdulla Bin Faisal ALDOSERI, Assistant Foreign Minister and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Ambassador Abdulla Abdullatif ABDULLA, Undersecretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- H.E. Dr. Yusuf Abdulkarim BUCHEERI, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Dr. Ibrahim Ali Badawi ELSHEIKH, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Mohamed Rashed ALSOWAIDI, Minister Plenipotentiary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Budoor AHMED, 1st Secretary, Permanent Mission of Bahrain, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Majed ALNOAIMI, 3rd Secretary, Permanent Mission of Bahrain, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Asma Khalifa ALKAABI, Attaché, Permanent Mission of Bahrain, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Lieutenant Colonel Rashid BUNAJMA, Director of legal Directorate, Ministry of Interior;
- Captain Abdulla Ahmed ABDULLA Director of Ministerial Committees Directorate, Ministry of Interior;
- Ms. Alya Yusuf ALBENALI, Legal Researcher, Ministry of Interior;
- Dr. Waleed Khalifa Yusuf ALMANEA Hospitals' Assistant-Undersecretary, Ministry of Interior;
- Shaikh Salman Bin Hamad ALKHALIFA Counsellor, Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs;
- Dr. Mohamed ALANSARI Assistant Undersecretary for Labours Affairs, Ministry of Labour & Social Development;
- Mrs. Ahlam Ahmed ALAMEER Director of the Special Education Directorate, Ministry of Education;
- Mr. Ezuddin Khalil Ebrahim ALMOYED, Director of Administrative and Information Affairs, Supreme Council for Women;
- Dr. Mohamed Walid ALMASRI, Legal Adviser, Supreme Council for Women
- Mr. Nawaf AL MA'AWDAH, Secretary General Ombudsman, Ombudsman
- Mr. Abdulla Mohamed ALHAJERI, Director of Ombudsman's Office, Ombudsman Director of Ombudsman's Office, Ombudsman
- Mr. Mohamed Ahmed ALBUSMAIT Legal Adviser, Labour Market Regulatory Authority
- Mr. Fawzan Khalifa BUFARSAN Legal Adviser, Information Affairs Authority
- Mr. Ahmed Mahdi ALHADDAD, Shura Member, Shura & Representatives Councils;



- Mr. Naser Abdulredha ALQASEER, Council of Representatives Member, Shura & Representatives Councils.
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