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

Brunei Darussalam

* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-third session from 6 to 17 May 2019. The review of Brunei Darussalam was held at the 9th meeting, on 10 May 2019. The delegation of Brunei Darussalam was headed by the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honourable Dato Erywan Mohd Yusof. At its 14th meeting, held on 14 May 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Brunei Darussalam.

2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Brunei Darussalam: Bangladesh, Bulgaria and Peru.

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 Brunei Darussalam:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/BRN/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.6/33/BRN/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/BRN/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Canada, Germany, Portugal, on behalf of Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America, was transmitted to Brunei Darussalam through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

[To be completed by 24 May 2019]

A. Presentation by the State under review

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

5. During the interactive dialogue, 91 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 following recommendations will be examined by Brunei Darussalam, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council.**

6.1 **Ratify core international human rights treaties (Ukraine); (Slovenia); (Afghanistan)/ Accede to core international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party (Honduras); (Iraq);**

- 6.2 Continue considering the possibility of Brunei Darussalam's accession to other international human rights treaties (Belarus)/ Consider gradual ratification of remaining core international legal instruments (Georgia);
- 6.3 Consider ratifying the main human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party to (Ecuador); (Senegal); Consider acceding to all the core human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Italy);
- 6.4 Consider acceding to the International Convention on the prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);
- 6.5 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Bahamas); (Czechia); (Chile); (Costa Rica); (France); (Croatia); (Belgium); (Switzerland); (Uruguay); (Australia); (Afghanistan); Ratify the International Convention on Civil and Political Right at its earliest convenience (Ghana);
- 6.6 Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as their Optional Protocols (Luxembourg);
- 6.7 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Kazakhstan); (Timor-Leste);
- 6.8 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Croatia); (Czechia); (Chile); (Bahamas); (France); (Belgium); (Switzerland); (Australia); (Afghanistan);
- 6.9 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Kazakhstan); (Timor-Leste);
- 6.10 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Norway); (Slovenia); (Chile); (Czechia); (Belgium); (Australia); (Italy); (Afghanistan); (Bahamas); (Switzerland); / Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment at the earliest opportunity (Ireland)/ Ratify and abide by the Convention against Torture (Greece)/ Immediately ratify the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (Denmark)/ Ratify the Convention against Torture signed in 2015 (France)/ Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, following recent assurances by the Government (Ghana);
- 6.11 Ratify Convention against Torture and amend all laws and punishments to be consistent with the Convention (New Zealand);
- 6.12 Ratify the United Nations Convention Against Torture, which was signed by Brunei Darussalam in 2015 and make declarations according to Art. 21 and 22 of the Convention Against Torture (Austria);
- 6.13 Ratifying the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment without reserve (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.14 Consider ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia); Continue its efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.15 Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Costa Rica.1); (Australia); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal

Court and fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute (Latvia);

6.16 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Namibia); (Armenia); (Senegal);

6.17 Ratify the International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms Racial Discrimination (Bahamas); (Czechia); (Belgium); (Afghanistan); Ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, among others (Honduras);

6.18 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Belgium); (Czechia);

6.19 Consider signing of the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Armenia);

6.20 Accelerate the ratification process of the key international human rights conventions, including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Republic of Korea);

6.21 Consider ratifying the international Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Senegal); (Indonesia.1); (Kyrgyzstan);

6.22 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Second Optional Protocol thereto on abolishing the death penalty, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and to ensure their implementation into national legislation (Ukraine);

6.23 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro); (Uruguay);

6.24 Ratify the International Labour Organization's Convention 189 concerning decent work for domestic workers (Uruguay);

6.25 Accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, of 1951, and its 1967 Protocol (Afghanistan); (Uruguay);

6.26 Ratify the various international conventions on statelessness with a view to regularizing the situation of persons without a nationality (Spain);

6.27 Strengthen efforts to identify and protect victims of labour and sex trafficking and hold traffickers accountable, including by acceding to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons and the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons (United States of America);

6.28 Lift its reservations to Article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Canada);

6.29 Lift its reservations to Article 2 (g) of the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as well as the reserves to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention against Torture (Costa Rica);

- 6.30 Withdraw its general reservation to CEDAW and eliminate all discriminatory legal provisions against women, including those relating to marriage and divorce, property, inheritance and transmission of nationality to their children (Portugal);
- 6.31 Consider the extension of a standing invitation to all Special Procedures mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);
- 6.32 Issue a standing invitation to the UN special procedures (Ukraine);
- 6.33 Continue promoting international technical cooperation including in seeking capacity building assistance (Jordan);
- 6.34 Promote capacity-building cooperation related to gender mainstreaming and share its experiences with ASEAN countries (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.35 Promote international and regional cooperation in the field of human rights (Sudan);
- 6.36 Repeal the new punitive measures of the Shariah Penal Code Order 2013, and ensure that the implementation of this law will not infringe on human rights, and will be fully consistent with the international and regional human rights commitments and obligations undertaken by Brunei Darussalam (Bulgaria);
- 6.37 Repeal the punishments such as death penalty by stoning, hand cutting and whipping that violate international law by constituting torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment and bring the penal code in line with international law standards (Czechia);
- 6.38 Immediately repeal the provisions of the Penal Code, which legalizes cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments, hereunder, death penalty for adultery and consensual same-sex sexual acts (Denmark);
- 6.39 Eliminate all norms, including in the Penal Code, which provide for capital punishment, stoning, maiming and flogging inter alia as sanctions for certain offences or conducts (Ecuador);
- 6.40 Repeal the provisions of the new Penal Code providing for corporal punishment and the death penalty for several crimes including adultery, homosexuality, apostasy or blasphemy, contrary to the international commitments in human rights freely taken by Brunei Darussalam (France);
- 6.41 Decriminalize consensual same-sex conduct and repeal provisions in the Syariah Penal Code Order that are not compliant with international human rights norms (Germany);
- 6.42 Review, revise and repeal provisions of the Penal Code to bring it into conformity with international human rights standards and in particular the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment of Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Greece);
- 6.43 Repeal the newly-implemented sections of the Penal Code and bring the Penal Code in line with international human rights laws and standards (Iceland);

- 6.44 Repeal the new provisions of the revised Penal Code which, if implemented, will enshrine in legislation a range of extreme punishments that amount to torture, acts of cruel, and inhuman or degrading treatment (Ireland);
- 6.45 Repeal the Penal Code Order in order for it to comply with international human rights law (Italy);
- 6.46 Repeal the recent revisions to the Penal Code which stipulate the death penalty (Portugal);
- 6.47 Repeal the new penalties of the 2013 Penal Code Order, and ensure that the implementation of the 2013 Penal Code Order and the related 2018 Criminal Court Order is fully consistent with all international and regional human rights commitments and obligations undertaken by the Government (Latvia);
- 6.48 Abolish all provisions of the revised Penal Code which are contrary to Brunei's international human rights obligations and commitments, including with regards to the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments or treatments, as well as the right to equal protection before the law for all without discrimination (Luxembourg);
- 6.49 Ensure that the criminalization of offences in the Syariah Penal Code is compliant with international human rights standards by undertaking immediate efforts to review, revise and repeal sections that are contrary to its legal obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and human rights treaties that Brunei Darussalam has signed or ratified (Netherlands);
- 6.50 Repeal or amend those sections of the Penal Code that criminalize consenting same-sex conduct and discriminate against people based on sexual orientation and gender identity, in line with SDG 10 (Netherlands);
- 6.51 Review and rescind any laws that contravene Brunei Darussalam's obligations under CEDAW, CRC and CRPD, or that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or religion (New Zealand);
- 6.52 Amend the Sedition Act to strengthen freedom of expression in line with international human rights obligations (Norway);
- 6.53 Guarantee the freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association, inter alia by repealing the Sedition Act (Germany);
- 6.54 Repeal the emergency powers and the Sedition Act and protect the freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly (United States of America);
- 6.55 Reform laws and policies limiting freedoms of expression and association, such as the Sedition Act (Australia);
- 6.56 Repeal or amend the Sedition Act and the Local Newspapers Order so that they conform with international human rights standards and take concrete legal action to protect the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of the press, abolish censorship and foster a pluralistic and independent media environment (Portugal);
- 6.57 Repeal the revised Penal Code Order and ensure that any measures introduced are consistent with Brunei's international human rights obligations and international human rights law (Slovenia);

- 6.58 Amend the Penal Code to ensure that it meets minimum human rights standards (Spain);
- 6.59 Revoke immediately the new legislation from April 3rd 2019 that imposes the use of death penalty for homosexuality and adultery and introduces other cruel and inhuman punishments (Sweden);
- 6.60 Revise its amendments to the Penal Code of 3rd April 2019 in order to bring it in line with the international human rights standards (Switzerland);
- 6.61 Speed up the adoption of national legislation aimed at harmonization with ratified international instruments (Ukraine);
- 6.62 Repeal criminal penalties under the Sharia Penal Code Order of 2013 that undermine the freedoms of religion and expression and prohibitions on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and would have a detrimental impact on a number of vulnerable groups, including women at risk of violence, religious and ethnic minorities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (United States of America);
- 6.63 Ensure that all amendments to the Penal Code announced in April, which reintroduced the death penalty for adultery and same sex relations and other offences considered serious by the new legislation, remain without effect (Uruguay);
- 6.64 Review the provisions of the Penal Code of 2013 in order to ensure that they comply with international human rights law (Argentina);
- 6.65 Review the penal code in order to ensure its strict compliance with Brunei Darussalam's human rights obligations and commitments (Austria);
- 6.66 Repeal all legislation giving rise to discrimination against people on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity (Austria);
- 6.67 Suspend the Syariah Penal Code and make comprehensive amendments to reflect its obligations under international law (Canada);
- 6.68 Ratify the State's commitment with the protection of human rights, by repealing all regulations that sanction and discriminate against people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (Chile);
- 6.69 Consider alternatives to the current Penal Code, which enshrines in legislation cruel and inhuman punishments such as the application of the death penalty for offences such as rape, sodomy, extramarital sexual relations, among other offences (Malta);
- 6.70 Lift the state of emergency systematically renewed since 1962, which restricts fundamental freedoms such as freedom of expression, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly or freedom of association (France);
- 6.71 Lift the state of emergency and introduce legislation that guarantees freedom of speech, religion and belief as well as freedom of peaceful assembly, in accordance with international standards (Spain);
- 6.72 Lifting the State of Emergency and removing related restrictions, including on the media (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.73 Implement the Syariah Penal Code Order in a manner consistent with International human rights standards (Australia);

- 6.74 The Special Committees under the National Council on Social Issues, such as the Special Committee on Family Institution, Women and Children, and the Special Committee on Immoral Activities and the Prevention of Crime to undertake programmes which are inclusive and sustainable (Azerbaijan);
- 6.75 Strengthen the institutional and legal framework with respect to the promotion and protection of human rights, especially in rural areas (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.76 Continue to build institutional capacity, data and knowledge to integrate environment and climate considerations more fully into the national regulatory framework and to develop new capacities and systems for implementation and compliance monitoring across all sectors (Fiji);
- 6.77 Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Ukraine); (Costa Rica); (Iraq) / Consider the establishment of an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris principles (Djibouti);
- 6.78 Establishment of quality and quantitative institutions aimed at ensuring the ability to measure the level of progress in human rights (Sudan);
- 6.79 Continue to undertake its programmes to ensure the continuity of efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.80 Further strengthen human rights education and expand engagement with stakeholders (Sri Lanka);
- 6.81 Continue the fair and equitable implementation of the Shariah Penal Code Order, by providing appropriate training and capacity-building for relevant officials (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.82 Encourage participation of relevant officials in workshops, seminars, and training programmes that can contribute towards better understanding of Brunei's obligations to international conventions and agreements that the country is party to in order to ensure their effective implementation (Egypt);
- 6.83 Encourage the participation of relevant government officials in workshops, seminars and training programmes that can contribute to better understanding of Brunei's obligations pursuant to the international instruments to which it is party and in order to ensure the effective implementation of these instruments (Jordan);
- 6.84 Encourage participation of the relevant officials in workshops and training programmes that can contribute towards better understanding of Brunei's obligations to international conventions and agreements that the country is party to in order to ensure their effective implementation (Myanmar);
- 6.85 Continue the work to implement the programme for training those health care professionals who provide assistance to persons with dementia (Russian Federation);
- 6.86 Continue training of professionals and officers to improve the lives and circumstances of children under their care (Bhutan);
- 6.87 Ensure respect for the dignity and life of all persons regardless of gender, sex, race, national origin, ethnicity or sexual orientation, including the decriminalization of same-sex relations (Costa Rica);

- 6.88 Enhance efforts to concretely recognize equal rights for all citizens, irrespective of their religious affiliation (Greece);
- 6.89 Ensure equal rights and fair treatment to all, regardless of race, nationality, gender or sexual orientation (Norway);
- 6.90 Decriminalize sexual activity between same-sex consenting adults and ensure that the protection of human rights for LGBTI persons is in conformity with its human rights obligations (Canada);
- 6.91 Decriminalize homosexuality, cross-dressing and other “offenses” used to target the LGBTIQ community (Greece);
- 6.92 Decriminalize consensual same-sex acts and adultery (Iceland)/ Decriminalize same-sex sexual conduct between consenting adults (Belgium) / Decriminalise all sexual activity between consenting adults (Australia);
- 6.93 Decriminalize consensual same-sex relationships among adults as well as enact a law and policies against discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Mexico);
- 6.94 Continue its actions towards the accomplishment of its national vision/action in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.95 Continue the implementation and review of National Youth Policy with the view to make it relevant to current developments (Egypt);
- 6.96 Continue implementing the Wawasan Brunei 2035, which we consider worthy to be replicated in other countries (Equatorial Guinea);
- 6.97 Implement further the youth empowerment program, by ensuring the effective operation of relevant legal frameworks and programs (Indonesia);
- 6.98 Continue its efforts to implement national priorities to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (Myanmar);
- 6.99 Continue to implement programmes that empower youth in different areas including those related to entrepreneurship (Pakistan);
- 6.100 Ensure effective operations of the Youth Entrepreneurship Steering Committee (Pakistan);
- 6.101 Continue enhancing its programs on the economic participation of women and youth (Philippines);
- 6.102 Continue implementing the national youth policy and renew it in line with current requirements (Russian Federation);
- 6.103 Continue its efforts in the implementation of the SDGs with the focus on ensuring sustainable livelihood and improving accessibility to information and fundamental freedoms (State of Palestine);
- 6.104 Strengthen the mutually reinforcing links and synergies between human rights and the SDGs, including within the work of the Special Committee for National Coordination of the SDGs (Thailand);
- 6.105 Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and further raise people’s living standard (China);
- 6.106 Continue the effective implementation of the Development Plan “Wawasan Brunei 2035” for a better standard of living of its population (Cuba);

- 6.107 Intensify its efforts to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative framework to address the cross-sectoral environmental challenges including climate change mitigation and adaptation (Fiji);
- 6.108 Immediately suspend any kind of punishment that would harm the life or physical integrity of human beings (Austria);
- 6.109 Consider establishing a formal moratorium on executions (Namibia);
- 6.110 Implement an official moratorium on the death penalty (Australia)/ Immediately establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Greece) / Immediately establish an official moratorium on the application of the death penalty and all forms of corporal punishment, with a view to their abolition (Brazil)/Declare and uphold a de facto moratorium on the application of death penalty, as a first step towards its full abolition (Norway) /Establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death Penalty (Croatia)/ Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty (Italy)/ Adopt a formal moratorium on death penalty, with a view towards its abolition (Denmark)/ Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty and commute all existing death sentences to terms of imprisonment (Iceland)/ Approve an immediate official moratorium to abolish the death penalty and commute all existing death sentences to prison terms (Chile)/ Maintain its de-facto moratorium and establish an official moratorium on execution with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Austria)/ Maintain its moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing the death penalty (Holy See); (France)/ Maintain the current de facto moratorium with a view to formally abolishing the death penalty (Germany)/ Maintain a moratorium on the death penalty under both the Civil and Syariah Penal Codes (Canada)/ Maintain the moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty and revoke the Shariah penal code which foresees in the death penalty (Belgium)/ Maintain the de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition, and amend the Penal Code to reduce the number of offences punishable by death (Spain);
- 6.111 Declare an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty under both syariah and common law, as a step towards its eventual abolition (New Zealand);
- 6.112 Uphold long-lasting moratorium on the death penalty, as previously recommended (Czechia);
- 6.113 Abolish the death penalty and commute all existing death sentences, and explicitly prohibit the application of the death penalty against children, corporal punishment and life imprisonment (Costa Rica);
- 6.114 Abolish the death penalty and other cruel, inhuman or degrading punishments such as whipping and lashings, particularly against minors, as well as raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility, which is currently 7 years old (Mexico);
- 6.115 Continue the efforts to end trafficking in persons (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.116 Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Bangladesh);
- 6.117 Promote freedom of religion and belief, including by increasing access to religious literature, places of worship and public religious gatherings for both non-Muslims and non Shafi' Muslims (Canada);

- 6.118 Ensure that the right to freedom of religion or belief, as enshrined in the Constitution, is implemented, and that religious minorities are allowed to practise freely (Ghana);
- 6.119 Promote the full enjoyment of the fundamental human right of freedom of religion or belief, as recognized in the national Constitution (Holy See);
- 6.120 Guarantee effectively the freedom of religion or belief (Italy);
- 6.121 Further promote religious cultural understanding and social harmony and to foster a culture of peace and coexistence (Oman);
- 6.122 Strengthen norms guaranteeing the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, through the revision of the obligation to study the Islamic religion (Peru);
- 6.123 Strengthen its efforts to combat intolerance on the grounds of religion or belief (Timor-Leste);
- 6.124 Deepen the measures aimed at effectively guaranteeing the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, particularly those of boys and girls, promoting tolerance and understanding between boys and girls from all communities including religious and non-religious groups (Argentina);
- 6.125 Ensure the freedom of expression and put an end to the censorship of the media, as previously recommended (Czechia);
- 6.126 Consider revising relevant acts restricting the freedom of expression and media in order to ensure that they conform with international human rights standards (Slovenia);
- 6.127 Review its legislation to effectively guarantee the rights to freedom of expression and religion and to combat intolerance on the grounds of religion or belief, promoting dialogue and understanding among all communities (Brazil);
- 6.128 Continue the policy that allows those sentenced to death to continue to be able to postpone the execution and afforded the maximum guarantees of a fair trial (Oman);
- 6.129 Strengthening measures around investigating, prosecuting and punishing those responsible for modern slavery offences, and ensuring adequate victim protection and care (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.130 Tackle some remaining social issues particularly challenges faced by low-income families (Cambodia);
- 6.131 Continue efforts to preserve and further strengthen the family institution in line with traditional family values (Malaysia);
- 6.132 Continue policies aimed at strengthening and supporting the institution of the family (Belarus);
- 6.133 Continue efforts to preserve and further strengthen family institution in line with the traditional family values (Myanmar);
- 6.134 That efforts be continued to support and strengthen the historical family institution in line with the instinct and the guarantor of social cohesion (Oman);

- 6.135 Continue efforts to improve the standard of living of the citizens, including by providing adequate housing at affordable prices (Qatar);
- 6.136 Ensure food security for disadvantaged groups (Malaysia);
- 6.137 Continue to update and improve the National Housing Programme, the Landless Citizens' Scheme and the National Housing Scheme to ensure the provision of sustainable and affordable housing for its people (Singapore);
- 6.138 Continue improving and strengthening programmes on employment and assistance catered for the poor and underprivileged (Azerbaijan);
- 6.139 Continue its efforts in ensuring social security programmes to move towards building a resilient and cohesive society (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.140 Increase efforts to provide employment and assistance to the poor and the low-income groups (Qatar);
- 6.141 Continue strengthening existing programmes and plans aimed to eradicate and alleviate poverty (Bahrain);
- 6.142 Continue implementing programs aimed at eliminating poverty and promoting health, education programs and cultural diversity (Sudan);
- 6.143 Further strengthen existing programs and plans on poverty eradication (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.144 Strengthen actions to continue moving ahead with poverty reduction (Cuba);
- 6.145 Continue to invest in improving its water and sanitation infrastructure to ensure that its people can have access to clean, safe and affordable water as well as good sanitation facilities (Singapore);
- 6.146 Share best practices arising from the Brunei National Multisectoral Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (Viet Nam);
- 6.147 Strengthen health services through the allocation of sufficient financial and human resources (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.148 Continue allocating resources for programmes aimed at raising public awareness on the harm of narcotic drugs (Philippines);
- 6.149 Take effective measures that take care of the mental health of the adolescent group and facilitate their ability to receive the necessary consultations and treatment in the area of mental health (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.150 Ensure the effective implementation of the Health System and Infrastructure Master Plan, including the provision of universal health coverage and quality health care (Thailand);
- 6.151 Ensuring an effective and successful implementation of the healthcare system, and the masterplan to develop infrastructure (Kuwait);
- 6.152 Share best practices arising from Brunei's National Multisectoral Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable diseases (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.153 Take measures to ensure that all women have access to legal abortion and high-quality post-abortion services (Iceland);

- 6.154 Continue to strengthen services for the education of children to ensure they are resilient to adversity, particularly those who have suffered from abuses or come from dysfunctional families (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.155 Strengthen partnership with regional and international bodies in the area of education with a view to providing quality and inclusive education to the people (Jordan);
- 6.156 Strengthen partnership with regional and international bodies in continuing to provide quality and inclusive education (Malaysia);
- 6.157 Continue its efforts in ensuring people's access to education including all children with disabilities, and to allocate adequate financial and technical resources for schools to effectively strengthen inclusive education (State of Palestine);
- 6.158 Enhance actions to improve access to and the quality of education and healthcare, ensuring that they are inclusive for persons with disabilities (Cuba);
- 6.159 Continue to take steps in ensuring the sustainability of the Senior Citizens Activity Centres (Viet Nam);
- 6.160 Pursue efforts towards the sustainability of Senior Centres and activities (Kuwait);
- 6.161 Continue its commitment in caring for the welfare and well-being of differently-abled persons including increased collaboration with relevant local NGOs (Pakistan);
- 6.162 Better protect the rights of the elderly and continue to enhance their welfare and social protection (China);
- 6.163 Accelerate ongoing work on the draft Plan of Action dedicated to women's issues with a view to conclude the Plan of Action as part of the country's commitment to improving the promotion of the rights of women (Philippines);
- 6.164 Continue developing and implementing targeted strategies and activities to expand the rights of women (Russian Federation);
- 6.165 Continue its efforts to formulate and implement focused strategies to improve the rights of women and children (Bhutan);
- 6.166 Provide continuity to the national action plan dedicated to women issues and consider the recommendations made by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.167 Strengthen the policy towards equality between women and men and the empowerment and advancement of women (Bulgaria);
- 6.168 Strengthen the capacity and authority of the national machinery for the advancement of women by allocating to it increased, sustainable human and financial resources (Bahamas);
- 6.169 Further promote gender equality and empowerment of women (Georgia);
- 6.170 Take all necessary steps to ensure equality between men and women and eliminate gender stereotypes (Costa Rica);
- 6.171 Take concrete steps to dismantle gender stereotypes and eliminate structural barriers to women and girls' enrolment in non-traditional fields, such as technical and vocational sectors (Bahamas);

- 6.172 Pursue the policy for the elimination of inequalities between men and women by taking measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life, particularly in positions of responsibility (Djibouti);
- 6.173 Allow women to enjoy equal rights in conferring citizenship to their children and spouses (Germany);
- 6.174 Address the gender pay gap between men and women (Iraq);
- 6.175 Continue its efforts in promoting equal economic opportunities for women and men and reducing gender gap in decision-making processes (Bangladesh);
- 6.176 Remove laws discriminating against women with regard to marriage and divorce (Peru);
- 6.177 Continue efforts towards aligning its national legislation, policies and programmes on women and children with the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sri Lanka);
- 6.178 Continue the efforts to combat discrimination against women, especially in the sector of the labour market (Tunisia);
- 6.179 Strengthen its efforts to promote women's participation in labour force by adopting comprehensive legislation that combats discrimination and sexual harassment at workplace and, eliminates the persisting gender wage gap (Afghanistan);
- 6.180 Take the necessary measures to guarantee that women enjoy the same rights as men to transmit nationality to their children and spouses (Argentina);
- 6.181 Respect the fundamental principle of equality between women and men, in particular by allowing Brunei women to transmit their nationality to their children and by removing reservations to Article 9 of CEDAW (France);
- 6.182 Repeal all the discriminatory laws against women to ensure equal rights and opportunities, and adopt a national legislation that would criminalize all forms of violence against women (India);
- 6.183 Enact the laws that sanction gender violence, in particular domestic violence, marital rape and female genital mutilation (Mexico);
- 6.184 Strengthen mechanisms for addressing the issue of domestic violence including access to temporary security shelter homes, counselling and other forms of assistance (Bhutan);
- 6.185 Cease the practice of female genital mutilation, locally referred to as female circumcision (Australia);
- 6.186 Take measures to reduce the gender wage gaps and to increase participation of women in public and political life (Namibia);
- 6.187 Consider the adoption of a comprehensive strategy that would include awareness raising, the elimination of gender stereotypes, and to implement measures that would significantly enhance women's participation in political and public life (Serbia);
- 6.188 Adopt a National Action Plan together with the National Strategy to further continue efforts towards a better promotion of gender equality and women participation (Armenia);

- 6.189 Take measures to consistently apply the principle of the best interests of the child in all legislative, administrative and judicial procedures (Bulgaria);
- 6.190 Review the sharia code with a view to repealing provisions negatively affecting children and develop institutional capacity for the effective implementation of child-related laws (Croatia);
- 6.191 Further strengthen efforts to protect the rights of children (Georgia);
- 6.192 Strive towards the implementation of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in order to guarantee children's rights (Holy See);
- 6.193 Adopt a comprehensive strategy that includes awareness-raising activities aimed at eradicating gender stereotypes and discrimination against all marginalized groups of children as well as girls (Honduras);
- 6.194 Continue its endeavour to promote and protect the human rights of children, including developing a more specific policy on children rights within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Kyrgyzstan);
- 6.195 Conduct legal reforms in order that the minimum age for marriage is 18 years for both men and women (Mexico);
- 6.196 Undertake law reform and eliminate all cruel violations of the rights of the child such as capital punishment, amputation and whipping of children (Montenegro);
- 6.197 Increase the age of criminal responsibility from seven years and raise the minimum age of marriage for all children to 18 (Namibia);
- 6.198 Consider expanding and accelerating the ongoing work with regard to the establishment of childcare centers in workplaces (Cambodia);
- 6.199 Ensure allocation of adequate human, technical and financial resources to alternative child care centers and relevant child protection services (Maldives);
- 6.200 Continue the effort to promote child care, to protect their rights and to combat child labour (Tunisia);
- 6.201 Ensure that the minimum age applies to all types of work, including work outside a contractual employment relationship (Algeria);
- 6.202 Fully harmonize the juvenile justice system with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant norms, by raising without delay the minimum age of criminal responsibility of 7 years to an internationally acceptable level, and eliminating whipping and flogging as penalties applicable to children (Chile);
- 6.203 Consider raising the minimum age of criminal responsibility for children (Belarus);
- 6.204 Continue to harmonize its juvenile justice system with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially with regard to the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Peru);
- 6.205 Ensure that all children with disabilities have access to education and allocate sufficient human and financial resources for schools to strengthen their inclusive education (Bulgaria);
- 6.206 Continue to address the needs of persons with disabilities, including by implementing relevant program of action (Viet Nam);

- 6.207 Uphold commitment to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in ensuring that legislations are harmonized with obligations under the Convention (Egypt);
- 6.208 Adopt a national legislation to protect and guarantee the rights of persons with disabilities (India);
- 6.209 Take further steps to improve the welfare and well-being of persons with disabilities, including through increased collaboration with local NGOs (Indonesia);
- 6.210 Continue efforts in advancing the rights and welfare of persons with disabilities (Kazakhstan);
- 6.211 Continue to develop an efficient system for the early detection and diagnosis of disabilities to ensure protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities (Maldives);
- 6.212 Respect the rights of persons with mental health conditions and psychosocial disabilities in line with CRPD, including by combating institutionalization, stigma, violence and over medicalization, and by developing community-based and people-centred mental health services which promote inclusion in the community (Portugal);
- 6.213 Continue efforts to promote the integration of persons with disabilities into society by building their capacity and ensuring their access to all appropriate services (Qatar);
- 6.214 Continue efforts to improve the conditions of life to all members of society in order to promote social welfare and development of the people and assist vulnerable groups to live, particularly, children, women and persons with disabilities (Saudi Arabia);
- 6.215 Incorporate the provisions of the CRPD into its national legal framework and effectively implement the Different Abilities Design Guidelines (Sri Lanka);
- 6.216 Finalize the centralized database on the employment status of differently-abled peoples in the public and private sectors (United Arab Emirates);
- 6.217 Better protect the rights of people with disabilities, continue to provide them with life skills training and to increase their employment (China);
- 6.218 Develop a comprehensive strategy for the inclusion of children with disabilities (Algeria);
- 6.219 Protect the rights of migrant workers, including improving their living and working conditions (Bangladesh);
- 6.220 Continue its efforts to reduce the number of stateless persons, including by reviewing its Nationality Act (Republic of Korea).
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.

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Brunei Darussalam was headed by The Honourable Dato Erywan Mohd Yusof; Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Hj Mohammad Rosli Hj Ibrahim, Permanent Secretary, Prime Minister's Office;
- Ms. Hjh Dyg Siti Norishan Hj Awg Abdul Ghafor, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awg Hj Mazanan Hj Yusof, Assistant Mufti (Buhuth), State Mufti's Office;
- Mrs. Datin Hjh Hasnah Hj Ibrahim, Assistant Solicitor-General, Attorney General's Chambers;
- Ms. Nazirah Hj Zaini, Acting Director, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Mr. Hj Hardifadhillah Hj Mohd Salleh, Acting Director, Islamic Legal Unit, Ministry of Religious Affairs;
- Mrs. Hjh Noridah Abdul Hamid, Acting Director, Social Services Division, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports;
- Mr. Hj Muhammad 'Isamuddin Abdullah Juna, Acting Director, Prisons Department, Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Mr. Azmi Hj Hafneh, Acting Senior Special Duties Officer, Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Mr. Pg Zamiri Pg Hj Jamaluddin, Senior Buhuth Officer, States Mufti's Office;
- Ms. Hjh Anifa Rafiza Hj Abd Ghani, Senior Counsel and Deputy Public Prosecutor, Attorney General's Chambers;
- Ms. Dr. Noryati Hj Ibrahim, Acting Assistant Director, Islamic Legal Unit, Ministry of Religious Affairs;
- Ms. Dk Hjh Ena Suraya Pg Hj Mohammad, Deputy Senior Counsel, Law and Welfare Division, Prime Minister's Office;
- Ms. Noorfadlina Damit, Assistant Director, Office of the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Ms. Dayang Hjh Norhartijah Hj Puteh, Syariah Legal Officer, Islamic Legal Unit, Ministry of Religious Affairs;
- Ms. Hjh Qistina Hj Murad, Community Development Officer, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports;
- Ms. Hjh Dyg Aimi-Athirah Hj Awang, Legal Officer, Attorney General's Chambers;
- Ms. Dk Nur Maseleiana Rahimah Pg Ibrahim, Second Secretary, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Dr. Mohammad Hussin Ali Idris, Legal Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers.

Delegates from the Permanent Mission:

- H.E. Hjh Masurai Hj Masri, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam;
 - Ms. Ni'matullah Athirah Muntassir, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brunei Darussalam Geneva;
 - Mohammad Yusri Yahya, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brunei Darussalam Geneva.
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