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Burundi

Compilation of information prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

I. Background

1. The present report was prepared pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21, taking into consideration the outcome of the previous review.¹ It is a compilation of information contained in relevant United Nations documents, presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints.

II. Scope of international obligations and cooperation with human rights mechanisms

2. Given the number of cases pending before the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the numerous reports of enforced disappearances, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi encouraged Burundi to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. He also encouraged Burundi to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families – as did the United Nations country team² – and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.³ The country team reported that in September 2018, the National Assembly had analysed and unanimously adopted two bills by which Burundi acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. There had still been no progress in the procedure for adoption by the Senate.⁴ In the joint submission by the World Food Programme (WFP), it was noted that Burundi had not yet ratified the Convention against Discrimination in Education,⁵ which the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) had recommended for ratification.⁶

3. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recalled that several initial or periodic reports had yet to be submitted or were still awaiting consideration by the treaty bodies.⁷ He considered that the institutionalization of the Standing Committee responsible for drafting initial and periodic reports was a major step forward, and that the provision of adequate human, budgetary and material resources, including capacity-building for its members in terms of coordination, monitoring and evaluation, was conducive to the establishment of sustained collaboration with the various international and regional human rights mechanisms.⁸



4. The Committee against Torture has deplored the lack of cooperation by Burundi in the individual complaints procedure and its failure to implement the Committee's decisions in all cases where human rights violations were found.⁹

5. The Commission of Inquiry on Burundi stated that it had pursued its efforts to establish a dialogue with the authorities of Burundi, including with a view to exchanging relevant information, but the Government of President Ndayishimiye had not officially replied to the Commission's letters.¹⁰ At the end of the mandate of the Commission of Inquiry, by its resolution 48/16, the Human Rights Council decided on 13 October 2021 to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi.¹¹ In its resolution 51/28, the Human Rights Council expressed regret at the lack of cooperation of the Government of Burundi with the Special Rapporteur and called upon the Government to fully implement the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur and the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi in their reports, as well as those accepted in the context of the universal periodic review, and to cooperate fully with special procedure mandate holders and relevant treaty bodies.¹² Also in that resolution, the Council urged the Government of Burundi to continue to cooperate with the United Nations country team in Burundi and to constructively cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in particular its regional office for Central Africa, and to present a timeline for the reopening of the OHCHR country office in Burundi. Similar recommendations were made by the Secretary-General,¹³ the Commission of Inquiry,¹⁴ the Special Rapporteur on Burundi¹⁵ and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence.¹⁶

III. National human rights framework

Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

6. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recommended that continued efforts should be made to guarantee the formal and material independence of the National Independent Human Rights Commission in discharging its mandate and that it should be provided with sufficient material, human and financial resources and a reliable complaints mechanism.¹⁷ Similar recommendations were made by the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi¹⁸ and the Human Rights Council.¹⁹

7. The United Nations country team reported that national consultations in November 2020 had resulted in a consensus to include provisions on the national mechanism for the prevention of torture in the law on the Independent National Human Rights Commission. Following further consultations in May 2021, the draft amended law establishing the Commission had been passed and forwarded to the ministry responsible for human rights for review and adoption by the Government. Since then, there had been no further developments. The country team recommended expediting the legislative review process to effectively establish the national mechanism for the prevention of torture.²⁰

8. The United Nations country team reported that, in line with the relevant recommendation from the third cycle of the universal periodic review,²¹ Burundi had established the National Observatory for the Prevention and Eradication of Genocide, War Crimes and Other Crimes against Humanity by Organic Act No. 1/25 of 23 December 2017. However, the mechanism had divided the political class and public opinion, particularly with regard to its effectiveness. It had not been possible to implement the action plan for the period 2021–2022 owing to a lack of resources and funding, leaving the Observatory redundant.²²

9. The Commission of Inquiry on Burundi reported that the consociational democracy ushered in by the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi had envisaged the participation of the political opposition, and President Nkurunziza's successive Governments had included a few ministers from the opposition. However, the current political institutions, from the central to the local level, were completely dominated by the Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie-Forces pour la défense de la démocratie (CNDD-FDD). The services of the Office of the President had been reorganized to place eight specialized agencies, including the Bank of the Republic of Burundi, the National Intelligence Service, the Permanent Secretariats of the National Security Council and the

Supreme Council of Justice, and the General State Inspectorate, under the direct oversight of the President. That concentration of power in favour of CNDD-FDD and the President was part of a locked political and democratic space devoid of any real checks and balances. The CNDD-FDD-controlled parliament adopted bills almost unanimously and was not a space for discussion or a means of overseeing the executive branch.²³ The Human Rights Council encouraged the Government of Burundi to engage in a genuine and inclusive spirit with all Burundian stakeholders, operating from both inside and outside the country, to effectively address the multiple, deep-rooted challenges that Burundi was experiencing and to sustainably reintegrate returnees into Burundian society.²⁴

IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

A. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Right to life, liberty and security of person, and freedom from torture

10. The Commission of Inquiry on Burundi found that arbitrary killings linked to the political crisis had been committed by different components of the defence and security forces, including agents of the National Intelligence Service and the police, in particular specialized units such as the Unit for the Protection of Institutions and the Anti-Riot Brigade, and elements of the army, including the Combat Engineer Battalion (Camp Muzinda), in many cases acting alongside the Imbonerakure, a youth political movement in Burundi affiliated with the CNDD-FDD, the ruling party. The Commission of Inquiry also determined that executions committed by the Imbonerakure of their own accord were violations of human rights.²⁵ The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recommended holding the State agents involved criminally accountable and adopting reparation measures, including thorough and impartial investigations of violence and abuse by law enforcement officials and members of the Imbonerakure.²⁶

11. Arbitrary arrest and detention is the violation most frequently documented by the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi. It has led to many other violations, such as extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and sexual violence.²⁷ The Commission of Inquiry has also documented testimonies referring to unofficial places of detention where victims are often subjected to torture or sexual violence. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi noted that cases of enforced disappearance of political opponents or of Imbonerakure suspected of collaborating with armed opposition groups or returnees had been documented by the Commission of Inquiry.²⁸ He also noted that, in the view of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, cases of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, including sexual violence against both men and women, had primarily taken place at the headquarters of the National Intelligence Service in Bujumbura or in official or non-official detention centres under its supervision.²⁹ He recalled the recommendation of the Human Rights Committee that Burundi should establish an independent mechanism for investigating complaints of torture or ill-treatment at the hands of members of police or security forces or the intelligence services and facilitate the filing of complaints by the victims.³⁰

12. The Special Rapporteur also recalled that the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi had determined that gross systematic human rights violations, some of which might constitute crimes against humanity, had been perpetrated in Burundi since April 2015, primarily by State officials at the highest level.³¹

2. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

13. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi considered that the judiciary was still largely dependent on the executive branch. For example, under article 219 of the Constitution, judges were appointed by the President of the Republic on nomination by the Attorney General, after consultation with the Judicial Service Commission. The remuneration of judges was also controlled and decided by the executive branch. The Special Rapporteur found that there was a deep and structural dependence of the

judiciary that raised doubts about its real independence.³² He recommended developing a statute for the judiciary that ensured not only formal independence, but also real independence; strengthening the Judicial Service Commission and its powers in the areas of career management and disciplinary matters concerning judges; and implementing the principle of the irremovability of judges.³³

14. The Special Rapporteur was also concerned about selective impunity in the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of serious violations, with priority given to ordinary offences. He emphasized that the lack of judicial independence had worsened since the political crisis of 2015.³⁴ According to the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi, the few cases where complaints of serious violations had been filed had rarely led to impartial investigations, and even more rarely to the prosecution and conviction of the perpetrators, which was in itself a violation of the right to an effective remedy.³⁵

15. The Commission of Inquiry also stated that there were persistent dysfunctions in the justice system, including corruption, influence peddling, interference by various authorities and members of CNDD-FDD, non-compliance with legal procedures and deadlines, failure to enforce judicial decisions, in particular release orders, and delays in certain proceedings. It also noted that victims of violations continued to be deprived of effective remedies and subjected to threats and intimidation.³⁶ The United Nations country team reported that the justice sector continued to face several operational and technical challenges, of which corruption and impunity were the most significant and most widely reported by the public,³⁷ and that prison overcrowding had persisted for years, with an occupancy rate of approximately 287 per cent in June 2022.³⁸

16. The Special Rapporteur recalled that, during the 2018 universal periodic review, Burundi had accepted recommendations aimed at combating impunity and had agreed to establish a fully transparent and equitable judicial system, in line with international standards.³⁹ In this regard, the Special Rapporteur recommended, firstly, the adoption of priority measures to put an end to human rights violations and to provide reparation for the harm caused and, secondly, the implementation of the recommendations of the treaty bodies, the special procedures and the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi.⁴⁰ He also recommended that Burundi should strengthen the rule of law and the administration of justice by conducting an assessment of access to justice in Burundi, instituting legal aid programmes and providing capacity-building to judges,⁴¹ and that it should demonstrate real political will to effectively fight impunity for violations and abuses committed since 2015 while strengthening national mechanisms for the prevention of human rights violations and abuses.⁴² The United Nations country team considered it necessary to establish a regular and continuous mechanism for inspecting and monitoring places of deprivation of liberty, provide the relevant institutions with adequate human and material resources, and prioritize alternatives to imprisonment.⁴³ It also recommended digitizing justice services to improve transparency and the monitoring of rights violations.⁴⁴

17. The Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence noted that in November 2018, the Government had revised the mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to cover the period from 26 February 1885 to 4 December 2008, and that the Commission had been criticized for focusing primarily on the excavation of sites dating back to the 1972 massacres, the main victims of which are known to have been members of the Hutu ethnic group, and for including few victims of Tutsi ethnicity in its investigations.⁴⁵ While acknowledging the progress made by the Commission in identifying and exhuming the remains of thousands of people, the Special Rapporteur recalled the need to ensure ethnic balance in the investigations. He noted with concern the reported political affiliation of Commission members with CNDD-FDD.⁴⁶ The same Special Rapporteur underlined that the lack of progress on most key aspects, compounded by actions and omissions of the Government that had undermined his recommendations and accelerated the erosion of accountability and the rule of law, were cause for ever-deepening concern.⁴⁷ He recommended guaranteeing the independence of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission while ensuring the progress of other pillars of transitional justice, in particular accountability, reparations, institutional reforms through land restitution, and security and justice sector reform.⁴⁸

3. Fundamental freedoms and the right to participate in public and political life

18. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recalled that the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi and the Human Rights Committee had been able to identify obstacles to the exercise of the freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly. With regard to the infringement of the right to freedom of expression, for example, the Commission of Inquiry noted that the Government had taken measures to loosen restrictions on the press, but that those measures, which were more symbolic than structural, could not effectively or durably guarantee freedom of information and expression.⁴⁹ With regard to freedom of peaceful assembly, the Commission of Inquiry found that opposition political parties and even trade unions had difficulty holding meetings. In fact, they were either refused permission or the meetings, when they could be held, were disrupted.⁵⁰ Numerous restrictions had been imposed on meetings and rallies of the opposition party *Congrès national pour la liberté*, its offices had been ransacked and activists had been harassed by members of the *Imbonerakure*.⁵¹ Concerned about the numerous abuses committed by the *Imbonerakure* during the political crisis that has affected Burundi since 2015, the Special Rapporteur recommended that the perpetrators should be systematically brought to justice.⁵²

19. The Commission of Inquiry on Burundi also received testimonies from people who had been forced to participate in meetings organized at the local level by CNDD-FDD or members of the *Imbonerakure*, particularly meetings to raise awareness about the revision of the Constitution.⁵³ The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi encouraged the Government to ensure that all violations against political parties and trade unions were thoroughly and impartially investigated.⁵⁴

20. While noting a degree of flexibility on the part of President Ndayishimiye, the United Nations country team expressed concern about the situation of human rights defenders and members of human rights organizations who were critical of the Government. In light of this and given the absence of a specific law protecting human rights defenders, the role of civil society, which was critical in a democratic society, had been compromised. A procedure to amend the law on the press had been initiated by the Government in collaboration with UNESCO.⁵⁵ The country team recommended expediting the amendment of the law in line with freedom of expression standards and the adoption of a law on the protection of human rights defenders.⁵⁶ Noting that human rights organizations operated in a climate of fear of reprisals⁵⁷ and regretting, along with the Committee against Torture, the failure of the Burundian Government to provide information on the investigations carried out since the 2015 crisis, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recommended guaranteeing the freedoms of movement, expression, assembly and association and the freedom and integrity of human rights defenders, and ending the intimidation and unwarranted prosecution of journalists and members of civil society who were carrying out legitimate work in support of human rights and fundamental freedoms.⁵⁸

21. The Human Rights Council deplored the persistent restrictions on the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association, and the reduced space for civil society and citizen activism, and stressed the need for the Government of Burundi to provide a safe and enabling environment for civil society, human rights defenders, journalists, bloggers and other media workers to carry out their work independently, without intimidation or undue interference, and to release all those who were still in detention for doing their work in defence of human rights.⁵⁹

22. The United Nations country team reported that the Constitution adopted by referendum in 2018, based on the core values of human rights, democracy and separation of powers, was to some extent a step backwards in terms of the rights of the parliamentary opposition, since the proportion of votes required to enact legislation was three fifths, as compared to two thirds under the previous Constitution. Furthermore, the provision on incorporating opposition parties that met certain legal requirements into the Government (art. 129 of the 2005 Constitution) had been cut from the 2018 Constitution.⁶⁰

4. Prohibition of all forms of slavery, including trafficking in persons

23. With regard to the fight against trafficking in persons, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi reported several advances, including the initiation of several investigations and proceedings concerning alleged offences, the conviction of traffickers, the referral of victims for assistance, the institutionalization of anti-trafficking training for law enforcement officers and the adoption of Act No. 1/25 of 5 November 2021, regulating migration in Burundi.⁶¹ The United Nations country team has confirmed and detailed these significant advances, made since the third cycle of the universal periodic review.⁶²

5. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

24. In the joint submission by WFP, it was reported that the relevant recommendation from the third cycle of the universal periodic review⁶³ had been implemented with regard to the revision of the Labour Code, but remained relevant with regard to the pursuit of judicial reforms to strengthen the right to work and the right to just and favourable conditions of work for women and other vulnerable groups, including children and persons living with disabilities. Legislation was required to fully protect domestic workers from sexual exploitation and violence.⁶⁴ The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi stressed that the fight against youth unemployment must be intensified in order to address their exploitation by political actors.⁶⁵

6. Right to social security

25. In the joint submission by WFP, it was recommended that efforts should be continued to establish a non-contributory social protection system, which would enable people living in poverty and older persons to have an adequate standard of living.⁶⁶

7. Right to an adequate standard of living

26. In the joint submission by WFP, it was recommended that income-generating activities and investments by people living in poverty or on low incomes should be promoted, and that their security and stability should be better protected by considering and assessing the consequences of government policies, measures and decisions for those people. It was also recommended that sufficient resources should be mobilized to significantly reduce the rate of chronic malnutrition throughout the country.⁶⁷ The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi recommended increasing investment in local food systems to make them more resilient to external and internal shocks through the transformation of key value chains.⁶⁸

8. Right to health

27. In the joint submission by WFP, it was recommended that serious consideration should be given to the strengthening of the health-care system and, in particular, prevention of the spread of infectious diseases, and that concrete measures should continue to be taken to reduce the high maternal and infant mortality rate, improving access to basic prenatal and postnatal care provided by qualified workers, emergency obstetric services and skilled birth attendance. It was also recommended that efforts to reduce maternal mortality and child malnutrition should be continued in collaboration with the relevant United Nations agencies, including UNICEF and the World Health Organization.⁶⁹

28. The United Nations country team considered that the concept of “no one left behind” should be strengthened and used to underpin country-level programme planning. Young people and adolescents were left behind in terms of access to accurate information on sexual and reproductive health and to health and family planning services. That was especially true for the Batwa people, those living in remote places and persons with disabilities.⁷⁰

29. Since induced abortion is banned under Burundian legislation, the Special Rapporteur recommended that the authorities should improve access to information, amend legislation to permit medically assisted abortion and bring national law into line with international and regional commitments to eliminate all grounds for accusation that were discriminatory in nature and violated the rights of women.⁷¹

9. Right to education

30. In the joint submission by WFP, it was recommended that action to promote girls' schooling should continue, so as to guarantee equal access to education, and that efforts should be made to eliminate discrimination and violence against girls. It was also recommended that efforts to improve literacy rates, including the establishment and strengthening of partnerships, should be continued.⁷² UNESCO made similar recommendations.⁷³

10. Development, the environment, and business and human rights

31. In the joint submission by WFP, it was recommended that Burundi should step up its efforts to better protect the rights of its citizens from the effects of climate change through State-supported strategies, action plans and disaster risk management. It was also recommended that policies and action plans for risk prevention and disaster management should be developed in order to reduce the adverse effects of those events on infrastructure and poor families, and that efforts to reintegrate disaster victims should be continued through the effective implementation of the national reintegration strategy, with the allocation of the necessary resources.⁷⁴

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

32. In the joint submission by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), it was recommended that Burundi should expedite national legislative reforms to bring all laws into line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and ensure the proper implementation of those laws. It was also recommended that the amendment of the Personal and Family Code and the Nationality Code should be expedited in order to remove discriminatory provisions based on gender, and that effective measures be taken to guarantee parity in inheritance.⁷⁵

33. Welcoming the measure to apply a quota under which women must account for at least 30 per cent of the members of Burundian political institutions in order to guarantee their participation in political life, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi highlighted the need to better equip them in order to ensure their effective participation in public administration.⁷⁶ In the joint submission by UN-Women, it was recommended that Burundi should ensure parity at the *colline* (a subdivision of rural communes) level, both in *colline* councils and in unelected political positions, which were currently not regulated by law, and continue to implement policies to promote the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at the national and local levels. It was also recommended that specific measures should be taken to remove structural and legal barriers to women's participation in politics and decision-making processes, and that funding should be increased for grassroots organizations that built women's capacity to participate, both individually and collectively, in social, economic, political and public life.⁷⁷

34. In the joint submission by UN-Women, it was recommended that Burundi should ensure that allegations of violence against women were thoroughly investigated and perpetrators were brought to justice; amend the law on the prevention and punishment of gender-based violence; establish a national legal aid programme for the most vulnerable populations, especially women and girls victims of violence; and take effective measures to improve access to legal aid, without discrimination, for the most vulnerable people who had suffered gender-based violence, in order to ensure that perpetrators were punished. It was also recommended that resources should be mobilized and made available for a national programme to combat violence against women and girls; that shelters and comprehensive care centres for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence should be established in all provinces; and that the necessary legislation should be enacted to fully protect domestic workers from sexual exploitation and abuse.⁷⁸

35. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi encouraged the implementation of actions and policies for the empowerment of women, particularly women

and girls with disabilities or albinism, in order to curb the harmful sociocultural practices, prejudices and multiple forms of discrimination to which they were subjected.⁷⁹ In the joint submission by UN-Women, it was recommended that adequate human, technical and financial resources should be allocated to the implementation of the national gender policy.⁸⁰

2. Children

36. The United Nations country team recommended expediting the process of amending the Personal and Family Code and incorporating provisions to end corporal punishment in all circumstances, including in the family environment; accelerating the process of adopting the child protection code; and promulgating the law on family protection.⁸¹

37. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi expressed concern about the round-ups organized in Bujumbura, Kayanza, Kirundo and Ngozi and their impact on children's rights. He highlighted the need to establish protection mechanisms at the level of communes and *collines*, particularly in planning and budgeting.⁸²

38. Noting that the climate change-related disasters in Kirundo and the flooding in the provinces of Bubanza, Bujumbura Rural, Cibitoke, Makamba and Rumonge damaged 56 classrooms and 534 hectares of food crops and led to the displacement of 180 households, the Special Rapporteur, along with the humanitarian agencies of the United Nations system, including UNICEF, also advocated the mobilization of resources to support victims and, in particular, to promote the rights of women and children.⁸³

39. The Special Rapporteur also encouraged increased protection for girls (access to education, inheritance), children with disabilities, children with albinism, Batwa children, children in prison with their mothers, unaccompanied children and internally displaced or refugee children.⁸⁴

3. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

40. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi expressed concern that, among Burundian refugees, distinctions were being made between exiled politicians and civil society activists who had reportedly been involved in the 2015 demonstrations and others who had left the country as a result of the crisis. Human rights organizations operated in a climate of fear of reprisals and, despite the invitation for all Burundians in exile to return home, none of those organizations had yet made a request to that effect due to the lack of measures to ensure their safe return. Although Protocol IV of the Arusha Agreement listed the principles and mechanisms to be applied to land issues, the Special Rapporteur noted that there were no mechanisms in Burundian legislation to provide refugees with access to land. Under customary arrangements, they were only given revocable rights, usually to the least desirable areas of the host territory. If there was pressure in the community, they lost their rights to those already less desirable lands and were thus exposed to violence and to problems in exercising their right to food, as their production was affected.⁸⁵

41. The Special Rapporteur also recommended that Burundi should strengthen measures to promote the return and sustainable reintegration of refugees.⁸⁶

Notes

¹ [A/HRC/38/10](#), [A/HRC/38/10/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/38/2](#).

² Country team submission for the universal periodic review of Burundi, p. 9.

³ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 18.

⁴ Country team submission, para. 6.

⁵ Joint submission by WFP, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for the universal periodic review of Burundi, para. 1.

⁶ UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Burundi, para. 24 (i).

⁷ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 18.

⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 21.

- ⁹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/12/burundi-un-torture-committee-deplores-lack-cooperation-torture-complaints>.
- ¹⁰ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 5.
- ¹¹ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 6.
- ¹² See also https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/lib-docs/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/Session29/BI/Burundi_LetterHC_EN.pdf; [A/HRC/48/68](#), paras. 12 and 91 (g); and [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 12 and 88 (a) and (b).
- ¹³ [S/2020/1078](#), annex, para. 61.
- ¹⁴ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 91 (g).
- ¹⁵ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 22.
- ¹⁶ [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), para. 10.
- ¹⁷ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 89.
- ¹⁸ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 17.
- ¹⁹ Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 5.
- ²⁰ Country team submission, para. 12 and pp. 9–10. See also [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 91 (f); and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 88 (g).
- ²¹ [A/HRC/38/10](#), para. 137.145 (Estonia).
- ²² Country team submission, para. 21.
- ²³ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 76.
- ²⁴ Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 8.
- ²⁵ See the conference room papers containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2017 (para. 284), 2018 (para. 247) and 2021 (paras. 212–213), available on the web page of the Commission (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-i-burundi/co-i-burundi>); and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 28.
- ²⁶ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 88 (d). See also Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 1.
- ²⁷ See the conference room papers containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2017 (paras. 356–399), 2018 (paras. 297–335), 2019 (paras. 114–141), 2020 (paras. 169–179) and 2021 (paras. 114–121, 152 and 161); and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 32. See also Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 1.
- ²⁸ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2021, paras. 162–165; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 33.
- ²⁹ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2021, paras. 114–121, 157 and 170; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 31. See also Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 1.
- ³⁰ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 31; and [CCPR/C/BDI/CO/2](#) and [CCPR/C/BDI/CO/2/Corr.1](#), para. 14.
- ³¹ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 5. See also the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2017, paras. 709–710; and [A/HRC/48/68](#), paras. 70–72.
- ³² [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 34–35.
- ³³ *Ibid.*, para. 88 (i)–(k). See also the country team submission, paras. 17–19; and Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 4.
- ³⁴ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2018, para. 467; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 36.
- ³⁵ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2019, para. 297; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 36.
- ³⁶ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 54, and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 36.
- ³⁷ Country team submission, para. 18.
- ³⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 8.
- ³⁹ [A/HRC/38/10/Add.1](#), para. 7; [A/HRC/38/10](#), para. 137.146 (Italy); and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 37.
- ⁴⁰ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 37. See also [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), para. 12.
- ⁴¹ See also the country team submission, paras. 17–19.
- ⁴² [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 88 (e) and (h). See also Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 3.
- ⁴³ Country team submission, para. 8.
- ⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 9–10.
- ⁴⁵ [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), annex, para. 9; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 40.
- ⁴⁶ [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), annex, para. 9; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 41.
- ⁴⁷ [A/HRC/48/60/Add.2](#), annex, para. 5.
- ⁴⁸ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 88 (f). See also [CCPR/C/BDI/Q/3](#), para. 12.
- ⁴⁹ [A/HRC/48/68](#), para. 25; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 43.
- ⁵⁰ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2018, para. 449; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 44.
- ⁵¹ [A/HRC/48/68](#), paras. 35–36; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 44.
- ⁵² [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 44.

- ⁵³ See the conference room paper containing the detailed findings of the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi from 2018, para. 450; and [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 45.
- ⁵⁴ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 46.
- ⁵⁵ UNESCO submission, para. 12.
- ⁵⁶ Country team submission, para. 24 and pp. 9–10.
- ⁵⁷ See also [A/HRC/51/47](#), para. 47 and annex II, paras. 26–27.
- ⁵⁸ [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 83, 84 and 88 (r).
- ⁵⁹ Human Rights Council resolution 51/28, para. 2.
- ⁶⁰ Country team submission, para. 22.
- ⁶¹ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 24.
- ⁶² Country team submission, paras. 25–38.
- ⁶³ [A/HRC/38/10](#), para. 137.185 (Senegal).
- ⁶⁴ Joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, para. 9.
- ⁶⁵ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 65.
- ⁶⁶ Joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, pp. 7–8.
- ⁶⁷ *Ibid.*
- ⁶⁸ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 88 (o).
- ⁶⁹ Joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, pp. 7–8. See also [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 56–58.
- ⁷⁰ Country team submission, para. 16.
- ⁷¹ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 68. See also [CCPR/C/BDI/Q/3](#), para. 8.
- ⁷² Joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, pp. 7–8. See also [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 51–55.
- ⁷³ UNESCO submission, para. 24 (ii)–(vii).
- ⁷⁴ Joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, pp. 7–8. See also [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 76.
- ⁷⁵ Joint submission by UN-Women, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and WFP for the universal periodic review of Burundi, pp. 6–7. See also https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCEDAW%2FFUL%2FBDI%2F41607&Lang=en; and [CCPR/C/BDI/Q/3](#), para. 5.
- ⁷⁶ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 67.
- ⁷⁷ Joint submission by UN-Women, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, IOM and WFP, pp. 6–7.
- ⁷⁸ *Ibid.* See also [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 68, and [CCPR/C/BDI/Q/3](#), para. 6.
- ⁷⁹ [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 72.
- ⁸⁰ Joint submission by UN-Women, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, IOM and WFP, pp. 6–7. See also [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 88 (m).
- ⁸¹ Country team submission, pp. 9–10.
- ⁸² [A/HRC/51/44](#), para. 73.
- ⁸³ *Ibid.*, para. 74.
- ⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 75. See also the joint submission by WFP, WHO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN-Women, UNFPA and UNHCR, para. 1.
- ⁸⁵ [A/HRC/51/44](#), paras. 77, 81 and 83.
- ⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 88 (n).