



Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
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Cabo Verde

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. The United Nations country team commended Cabo Verde on its ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, in December 2022, and on the approval by the National Assembly of the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, and its entry into force in March 2023.²

3. The United Nations country team also commended Cabo Verde on its ratification of the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children, which had also entered into force in 2023.³

4. The United Nations country team recommended that Cabo Verde ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.⁴

5. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations country team recommended that Cabo Verde accede to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.⁵

6. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde consider ratifying the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.⁶

7. UNHCR recommended that the Government accede to the Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa of the Organization of African Unity.⁷ The United Nations country team recommended that the Government ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.⁸



8. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde ensure the realization of children's rights in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography throughout the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁹

III. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

9. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Cabo Verde evaluate and revise, where necessary, domestic legal provisions to ensure further harmonization with the rights guaranteed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and that domestic laws were interpreted and applied in conformity with the State's obligations under the Covenant.¹⁰

10. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde ensure passage into law of the gender parity bill and its effective implementation to increase women's participation in all spheres of public and private life.¹¹

11. The Special Rapporteur on the right to development encouraged the Government and the parliament to review and adopt the draft parity bill in order to provide a solid legislative basis for women's participation in both the political process and the economic and social development of the country.¹²

12. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde amend its legislation to remove all exceptions that allowed marriage under the age of 18 years.¹³

13. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) encouraged Cabo Verde to revise the Civil Code to specify that a minor could marry only under exceptional circumstances and only upon judicial decision, in compliance with international human rights law.¹⁴

14. UNESCO also encouraged the Government to introduce in national legislation at least 12 years of free primary and secondary education and to make pre-primary education free and compulsory for at least one year.¹⁵

15. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde review the Statute of the Child and Adolescent, in particular article 43 on access to health and article 61 regarding work, to guarantee the same rights and protection to all children under 18 years of age.¹⁶

16. The same Committee urged Cabo Verde to review article 128 of the Civil Code, article 133 of the Penal Code and article 31 of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the home, schools, childcare institutions, alternative care settings and in the administration of justice, and in all circumstances, including for disciplinary purposes.¹⁷

17. UNESCO recommended that Cabo Verde decriminalize defamation and place it within the Civil Code, in line with international standards, and create an independent oversight board for the implementation of its freedom of information law.¹⁸

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

18. The United Nations country team recommended that the Prime Minister and the parliament take the steps necessary to ensure that the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship complied with the requirements to be attributed A status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions.¹⁹

19. The United Nations country team noted that, in order to fulfil those requirements, the Government had indicated that the Constitution would require amendment, in order for the President of the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship to be directly elected by the parliament, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).²⁰

20. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Cabo Verde strengthen the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship to ensure full compliance with the Paris Principles, and in particular, that it ensure a fully independent, transparent and participative process for the selection and appointment of the members of the Commission with a view to guaranteeing their independence, including by removing any oversight by government entities.²¹

21. The same Committee also urged the Government to provide the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship with the human and financial resources necessary to enable it to carry out its mandate effectively; and make sure that the Commission's geographical coverage was strengthened.²²

22. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde take the necessary measures to adopt the draft policy for the protection of children and adolescents and its national action plan for 2019–2020, and ensure that sufficient human, technical and financial resources were provided for its implementation.²³

IV. Promotion and protection of human rights

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

1. Equality and non-discrimination

23. The Special Rapporteur on development recommended that Cabo Verde adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination law prohibiting all forms of discrimination, including gender-based and indirect discrimination.²⁴

24. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Cabo Verde provide full and effective protection from discrimination in all spheres, public and private, and prohibit direct, indirect and multiple discrimination; and enact legislation containing a comprehensive list of grounds for discrimination in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.²⁵

25. The same Committee urged Cabo Verde to effectively protect and safeguard the fundamental rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons; and provide complaints mechanisms and effective and accessible remedies for all forms of discrimination and collect disaggregated data on complaints of discrimination and their outcomes.²⁶

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

26. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned about the possible use of police brutality as a form of extrajudicial punishment against juveniles alleged to be involved in gangs and juvenile delinquency. It was also concerned about reports of excessive use of force and aggression against persons arrested and detained by the police and that the media and public discourse seemed to be tolerant of violence by police officials.²⁷

27. The same Committee, while noting efforts made by Cabo Verde to investigate complaints, was concerned about the lack of information about measures taken to prevent violence and about reports indicating that a significant number of cases were dismissed or resulted in minor administrative sanctions, such as fines. It was also concerned about the lack of information on the independent monitoring of police stations, remedies available for victims and steps taken to address societal discourse that might encourage police violence.²⁸

28. The same Committee called on Cabo Verde to continue training police officers on their human rights responsibilities and put in place mechanisms to measure the efficacy of such training; ensure that the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials were implemented through measures to ensure that law enforcement personnel did not use excessive force; and expand measures to address the root causes of juvenile involvement in anti-social and criminal behaviours.²⁹

29. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Cabo Verde promptly adopt the draft parity law establishing parity in the representation of women and men in elected bodies and in public administration and ensure that it took precedence over the law on political parties and the electoral code.³⁰

30. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde provide the police with special training on child-friendly techniques for dealing with children, including children in street situations, and introduce guidelines and protocols specific to children as victims and witnesses and in situations of conflict with the law.³¹

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

31. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde investigate and prosecute all allegations of torture and ill-treatment of children by the police and ensure that perpetrators were duly sanctioned and that child victims received remedies.³²

32. The United Nations country team acknowledged the efforts made within the judicial system to improve the flow of legal cases, including a digitalization initiative.³³

33. The United Nations country team recommended that the Government strengthen investment in the justice sector in order to accelerate conflict resolution and raise public awareness of legal information on the prevention of crime.³⁴

34. The Human Rights Committee recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that accessible complaints mechanisms were put in place, that all reports of violence were thoroughly investigated and that such investigations, where warranted, led to proportionate sanctions; provide remedies to all victims of police violence, including compensation and guarantees of non-repetition; strengthen the independent monitoring of police stations by the National Commission for Human Rights and Citizenship and other oversight bodies; and develop awareness-raising activities to address social discourse that might encourage police violence.³⁵

35. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that allegations of crimes related to gender-based violence were independently and thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators were brought to justice.³⁶

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

36. UNESCO encouraged Cabo Verde to give due consideration to the participation of communities, practitioners, cultural actors and civil society organizations, as well as vulnerable groups (minorities, Indigenous Peoples, migrants, refugees, young people and persons with disabilities), and to ensure that equal opportunities were given to women and girls to address gender disparities.³⁷

37. UNESCO noted that the 1992 Constitution of Cabo Verde explicitly guaranteed respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression and of information.³⁸

38. UNESCO also noted that a new right to information law had entered into force in 2022 to regulate and guarantee access to information under the custody of public agencies and entities. The law also provided for transparent procedures for citizens and entities to request access to documents. While the implementation of the freedom of information law had started in 2022, it was important to note that the law did not provide for the creation of an independent oversight body.³⁹

39. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Cabo Verde conduct awareness-raising campaigns for politicians, community leaders, the media and the public on the importance of the participation of women in political life and their representation in decision-making positions; and increase, in a sustained manner, the representation of women in government, diplomatic posts, international organizations and the judiciary, in particular at decision-making levels.⁴⁰

5. Right to marriage and family life

40. The Committee on the Rights of the Child, while welcoming the awareness-raising campaigns on responsible parenting carried out by Cabo Verde, was concerned that the mother remained the main caregiver in 80 per cent of families, and that most single-parent families that were headed by women were particularly affected by poverty.⁴¹

41. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde support and facilitate family-based care for children wherever possible, and establish a system of foster care for children who could not stay with their families, with a view to reducing the institutionalization of children.⁴²

42. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde ensure adequate safeguards and clear criteria, based on the best interests of the child, for determining whether a child should be placed in alternative care and reintegrated into the family; and ensure periodic review of the placement of children in alternative care, monitor the quality of care therein and provide accessible channels for reporting, monitoring and remedying maltreatment of children.⁴³

43. The same Committee further recommended that Cabo Verde strengthen its efforts to promote domestic adoption and ensure that national policies and practices on intercountry adoptions complied with international standards.⁴⁴

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

44. The Human Rights Committee remained concerned about trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, and the use of the State's territory for transit purposes, while recognizing the 2018–2021 national action plan against trafficking in persons and the fact that the State had been involved in a range of important training, awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing activities.⁴⁵

45. The same Committee called on Cabo Verde to significantly increase efforts to address impunity for trafficking in persons, including by providing accessible and effective complaints mechanisms and assurances that all those accused of trafficking were investigated, prosecuted and, if convicted, adequately sanctioned.⁴⁶

46. The same Committee stated that Cabo Verde should provide additional support for the rehabilitation and integration of survivors of trafficking, including effective remedies that provided compensation and guarantees of non-repetition.⁴⁷

47. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Cabo Verde develop standard protocols for early identification, referral and provision of support to victims of trafficking and ensure that all relevant professional categories received adequate training on such protocols.⁴⁸

48. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde investigate, prosecute and adequately punish traffickers and ensure that women and girls who were victims of trafficking, including migrant women, were exempted from any criminal liability and had access to adequate health care, shelters, counselling services and redress, including reparations and compensation.⁴⁹

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

49. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cabo Verde increase measures to reduce unemployment among young graduates, especially young women, in both urban and rural areas, including by developing curricula and training programmes that enabled them to acquire skills that were needed in the labour market; and expand the coverage of its national professional internship programme and vocational training programmes.⁵⁰

50. The same Committee recommended assessing the effectiveness of tax incentives in place for hiring young people; and ensuring that those measures were also tailored to the needs of young women seeking employment.⁵¹

51. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde strengthen its enforcement of the minimum wage, including through inspections in sectors such as agriculture and domestic service.⁵²

52. The same Committee further recommended that the State ensure that the minimum wage provided a decent living for workers and their families, including by periodically reviewing its amount and indexing it to at least the cost of living.⁵³

53. The same Committee, while acknowledging the need to strike a balance between the security of employment and the flexibility of the economy, recommended that Cabo Verde safeguard the rights of workers, especially the most vulnerable.⁵⁴

54. The Special Rapporteur on development encouraged the Government to invest in further developing vocational training opportunities, to provide young people with better chances to find jobs and to start addressing the high unemployment rates among young people.⁵⁵

55. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women welcomed the creation in 2018 of a Domestic Workers' Association and noted that the majority of domestic workers were women. It expressed concern that a regulatory framework for domestic work had not yet been approved and that, despite the extension of social protection to domestic workers under decree law No. 49/2009, in 2018 only 17.5 per cent of domestic workers had been enrolled in the national system of compulsory social protection.⁵⁶

56. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde promptly adopt a regulatory framework for domestic work; and ensure that labour inspections extended to households with domestic workers to monitor compliance with relevant standards and regulations, including the minimum wage, working hours, holidays and maternity leave.⁵⁷

57. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde apply adequate sanctions in cases of non-compliance with relevant standards and regulations; and ensure domestic workers' enrolment in the national system of compulsory social protection and promote the payment of unemployment subsidies for unemployed domestic workers.⁵⁸

58. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cabo Verde increase measures to reduce unemployment among young graduates, especially young women, in both urban and rural areas.⁵⁹

8. Right to social security

59. The United Nations country team recognized the efforts of the Government to consolidate the Single Social Registry as the unique entry point for access to social benefits and the sole mechanism to target families living in extreme poverty.⁶⁰

60. The Special Rapporteur on development encouraged the social consultation council and the national institute for social security to increase their efforts to foster dialogue with communities and to work on expanding the contributory schemes to the informal economy sectors. He encouraged the Ministry of Labour to continue strengthening the capacity of the labour administration and inspectorates in order to ensure full implementation of the existing labour and social protection laws and regulations.⁶¹

61. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that social allowances were adequate, including by indexing revisions of the basic social pension to the cost of living; and that it ensure effective control of the enrolment of workers in the social security system and of the payment of compulsory contributions, in particular for domestic workers.⁶²

9. Right to an adequate standard of living

62. The United Nations country team commended Cabo Verde on its efforts to alleviate poverty, particularly during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, when support mechanisms for the poorest and most vulnerable populations had been strengthened.⁶³

63. The United Nations country team noted the social inclusion income, with which the Government aimed to increase the disposable income of the poorest and most vulnerable

families for two years, and the emergency social inclusion income, which provided support to 48.2 per cent of the population living in extreme poverty.⁶⁴

64. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cabo Verde pursue its efforts to reduce the number of persons living in unhealthy and unsafe conditions, including by upgrading informal settlements and providing access to affordable basic services, including water, sanitation and electricity.⁶⁵

65. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde ensure access to affordable and adequate housing for the most vulnerable individuals and groups, particularly through the development of the housing programme “Home for All” (*Casa para Todos*) and through provision of assistance tailored to the needs of persons and families with a low income.⁶⁶

10. Right to health

66. The United Nations country team noted the development of a sexual and reproductive health policy, which placed particular focus on improving the quality of women’s health and the health of boys. It also noted that Cabo Verde was rated 69 on the universal health coverage index, meaning that the population was less than 30 minutes from a primary care facility.⁶⁷

67. The United Nations country team congratulated Cabo Verde on the introduction of the human papillomavirus vaccine, initially for girls aged 10, then extended to those aged 12; its efforts to eliminate malaria; the introduction of new vaccines in the national vaccination calendar; its maintenance of the polio-free country certificate; and its development of a national strategy for responding to health emergencies.⁶⁸

68. The United Nations country team recommended strengthening efforts to promote health and improve the public’s health literacy, since chronic non-communicable diseases were the third cause of death among the population. It also recommended strengthening human resources in, and the resilience of, the health system in the face of health emergencies.⁶⁹

69. During his visit to Cabo Verde in 2018, the Special Rapporteur on development was informed that the basic health indicators, including the infant and maternal mortality rates and immunization coverage, had been steadily improving.⁷⁰

70. The Special Rapporteur called on the Government to increase health-care expenditure as share of gross domestic product, in line with the level recommended by the World Health Organization. He called on the authorities to continue the dialogue with organizations of persons with disabilities, with civil society and patients’ organizations and with medical practitioners to bring about the necessary reforms in the health-care system.⁷¹

71. He also called on the ministry responsible for health to address the gaps in the training of medical personnel with regard to attending to persons with disabilities, including through training sessions.⁷²

11. Right to education

72. The United Nations country team recommended that the Government continue its efforts to effectively implement a national strategy for human rights education at all levels.⁷³

73. The United Nations country team also recommended that the Ministries of Education and the Family introduce legislation to make pre-primary education free and compulsory for at least one year.⁷⁴

74. UNESCO encouraged Cabo Verde to introduce in its legislation at least 12 years of free primary and secondary education and to introduce legislation to make pre-primary education free and compulsory for at least one year.⁷⁵

75. The Committee on the Rights of the Child welcomed the integration of “education for citizenship” and “artistic education” in the school curriculum, but was concerned that the measures taken were insufficient to address the persistence of deep-rooted negative stereotypes against girls and women, and that education relating to the environment had not been sufficiently developed.⁷⁶

76. The same Committee commended Cabo Verde for achieving almost universal free primary education, adopting eight years of compulsory schooling and allocating significant budgetary resources to education.⁷⁷

77. The same Committee was concerned about the quality and relevance of education; and the high repetition and dropout rates in secondary education, including among pregnant teenagers and adolescent mothers.⁷⁸

78. The same Committee was also concerned about the significant number of children not attending preschool; and the regional differences in access to education.⁷⁹

79. The United Nations country team noted that the Constitution of Cabo Verde, as amended in 2010, provided for the right to education and the freedom to learn.⁸⁰

12. Cultural rights

80. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was concerned that Cabo Verdean Creole was not valued sufficiently in public and cultural life or in the media, despite the efforts made by the State party.⁸¹

81. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde pursue its efforts to promote the use of Cabo Verdean Creole as the national language of Cabo Verde.⁸²

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

82. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that economic, social and fiscal policies, including the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development, sought to end the unequal enjoyment of the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.⁸³

83. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde address the root causes of corruption and continue its efforts to combat the practice by pursuing ongoing initiatives and reforms related to taxation, procurement, oversight and money-laundering, and ensuring the effective implementation of the integrated plan to combat corruption.⁸⁴

84. The Human Rights Committee welcomed the commitment of the State, as a small island State particularly vulnerable to climate change, to adaptation and mitigation measures.⁸⁵

85. The same Committee urged Cabo Verde to develop mechanisms and systems to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, develop and implement environmental standards, conduct environmental impact assessments, provide appropriate access to information on environmental hazards and adopt a precautionary approach to protect persons in the State party, including the most vulnerable, from the negative impacts of climate change and natural disasters.⁸⁶

86. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended that Cabo Verde allocate adequate resources and set clear indicators for the implementation of the National Programme for the Fight against Poverty and the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development, and pursue targeted measures to bring children and households out of poverty in urban and rural areas.⁸⁷

87. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that women were meaningfully involved in the development of legislation, national policies and programmes on climate change, disaster response and disaster risk reduction. It also recommended taking measures to address hunger and ensure food security for rural women in the light of the effects of climate change.⁸⁸

88. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde establish and implement regulations to ensure that the business sector, in particular the tourism and extractive industries, complied with international human rights and environmental standards, particularly with regard to children's rights; and undertake awareness-raising campaigns with the tourism industry and the public at large on the prevention of sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism.⁸⁹

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

89. The Special Rapporteur on development encouraged the Government to consider taking temporary special measures to increase the participation of women in political and public life, particularly in elected office and decision-making positions.⁹⁰

90. The Human Rights Committee noted that a number of important steps had been taken to combat violence against women, including the enactment in 2011 of a law on gender-based violence, the development of awareness-raising campaigns targeting personnel working in education facilities, the development of training activities for the police and different groups within society and the provision of shelters.⁹¹

91. The same Committee expressed concern about gaps in the State's response to violence against women. In particular, it was concerned about barriers to reporting, including due to insufficient numbers of relevant police officers being present throughout the country, fear of stigmatization and discrimination among women, shelters not being available in all 22 municipalities and the closure of the domestic violence hotline. It also noted with concern the lack of information about investigations, prosecutions and convictions of perpetrators of violence against women and about the remedies provided to victims.⁹²

92. The same Committee called on Cabo Verde to investigate further the root causes of and prevalence levels of violence against women, including to understand the extent of such violence and the barriers to reporting among victims; ensure that women who were victims of violence had access to a range of reporting mechanisms in all parts of the country; and provide shelter to victims of violence against women throughout the country.⁹³

93. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde remove all barriers to access to safe, legal and effective abortion services for all and collect disaggregated data on all forms of terminations of pregnancies.⁹⁴

94. The United Nations country team recommended that the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers strengthen their efforts to combat stereotypes against women and girls, which would help reduce the amount of gender-based violence, and that they increase public education programmes to inform the public about the negative impact of discriminatory stereotypes and harmful practices.⁹⁵

95. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that Cabo Verde provide legal training, in a sustained and structured manner, on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, substantive gender equality, combating gender-based violence and the elimination of gender stereotypes to the members of the judiciary, legal professionals and law enforcement personnel.⁹⁶

96. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that court decisions in cases of gender-based discrimination were easily accessible, such as by being posted on the websites of the Supreme Court and the Ministry of Justice.⁹⁷

97. The same Committee recommended that Cabo Verde ensure that the Superior Council of Magistrates collected sex-disaggregated data, to enable an analysis of cases of gender-based discrimination and violence; and raise awareness among the public, including among women and girls, of legislation prohibiting discrimination against women and of the remedies available to victims of such discrimination.⁹⁸

2. Children

98. The United Nations country team praised Cabo Verde on its efforts to improve the quality of maternal, neonatal and child services, the provision of educational materials, school uniforms and school transport and social action programmes for families in vulnerable situations, and the fact that all children received a hot meal at school. It noted the high schooling rate, which was around 96 per cent in basic education and about 70 per cent in secondary education, with gender parity in access.⁹⁹

99. The United Nations country team commended measures taken to ensure that young offenders were held separately from adults in detention facilities at all times, in accordance with decree-law No. 2/2006, and the creation of the Orlando Pantera social and educational centre, which met the specific needs of such young people.¹⁰⁰

100. The Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended that Cabo Verde strengthen its efforts to register all children, paying particular attention to rural areas; and provide information about stateless children in its forthcoming report.¹⁰¹

101. The same Committee also recommended that Cabo Verde strengthen its efforts to ensure children's right to identity and allocate the resources necessary to continue promoting responsible parenthood.¹⁰²

102. The same Committee urged Cabo Verde to raise the awareness of parents, professionals working with children and the public in general of the harm caused by corporal punishment and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline.¹⁰³

3. Persons with disabilities

103. The United Nations country team commended the approval of the law on prevention and on rehabilitation and participation of persons with disabilities, and the adoption of a strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities 2022–2026, which ensured greater inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in the country's development process.¹⁰⁴

104. The United Nations country team recommended that the Government improve overall conditions for persons with disabilities, including access to public buildings for those with motor difficulties, and general access to health, education, information and public transport and that it ensure more inclusive communication.¹⁰⁵

105. The United Nations country team also recommended that Cabo Verde effectively implement the strategic plan on the rights of persons with disabilities and invest more in the skills of health technicians or front-line workers to attend to the special needs of persons with disabilities in order to ensure they had a more equitable right to health.¹⁰⁶

106. In 2018, the Special Rapporteur on development called on the Government and the legislature to accelerate the adoption of the bill on the rights of persons with disabilities.¹⁰⁷

107. He also called on the Government and the legislature to take a comprehensive approach with respect to the rights of persons with disabilities, including by investing in gathering adequate disaggregated data on the different types of disability and on the needs of persons with disabilities.¹⁰⁸

108. He recommended that the executive branch broaden the dialogue with organizations of persons with disabilities, disseminate among those organizations and the wider public the existing regulations on the employment of persons with disabilities and assess the effectiveness of those regulations.¹⁰⁹

4. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons

109. The United Nations country team noted that the rights of lesbian gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons were guaranteed under the Constitution. However, the specific programmes and legislative framework necessary for the enjoyment of those rights needed to be reinforced and public awareness of the situation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons raised.¹¹⁰

5. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

110. The United Nations country team noted the efforts made by the Government to address the multisectoral protection needs of migrants in West and Central Africa and the launching of an awareness-raising campaign to combat discrimination and promote respect and appreciation for cultural diversity in the context of migration. Nevertheless, more needed to be done to ensure that migrant workers were protected against discrimination on the grounds of national origin.¹¹¹

111. UNHCR noted that Cabo Verde did not fully meet its international obligations in the field of refugee protection, since it had no national legislation or institutional body within the Government that took full responsibility for asylum-seekers and refugees.¹¹²

112. UNHCR also noted that, while very few asylum applications were received each year, the actual number of asylum-seekers arriving in the territory remained unknown and there was no procedure in place to ensure systematic registration and processing of asylum claims. There was also no information available on the treatment of persons in need of international protection or on the effective safeguards against refoulement at the border or from within the territory.¹¹³

113. UNHCR recommended that Cabo Verde establish national asylum legislation and a refugee status determination procedure and that it accord legal status to asylum-seekers and recognized refugees.¹¹⁴

6. Stateless persons

114. UNHCR also recommended that Cabo Verde investigate and seek solutions for the persons at risk of statelessness identified in the Government's census, in full collaboration with UNHCR, in order to grant them the protection necessary.¹¹⁵

115. UNHCR further recommended that the Government ensure that stateless populations, and those at risk of statelessness, were carefully considered and that their situation was captured in the forthcoming census.¹¹⁶

Notes

- 1 [A/HRC/39/5](#), [A/HRC/39/5/Add.1](#) and [A/HRC/39/2](#).
- 2 United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Cabo Verde, p. 1.
- 3 Ibid.
- 4 Ibid., p. 2.
- 5 UNCHR submission for the universal periodic review of Cabo Verde, p. 2, and United Nations country team submission, p. 12.
- 6 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 32.
- 7 UNCHR submission, p. 2.
- 8 United Nations country team submission, p. 12.
- 9 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 4.
- 10 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 6.
- 11 Ibid., para. 12.
- 12 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 73.
- 13 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 24.
- 14 UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Cabo Verde, p. 6.
- 15 Ibid.
- 16 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 6.
- 17 Ibid., para. 42.
- 18 UNESCO submission, p. 6.
- 19 United Nations country team submission, p. 6.
- 20 Ibid.
- 21 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 8.
- 22 Ibid.
- 23 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 8.
- 24 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 73.
- 25 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 10.
- 26 Ibid.
- 27 Ibid., para. 19.
- 28 Ibid.
- 29 Ibid., para. 20.
- 30 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 26 (c).
- 31 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 40.
- 32 Ibid.
- 33 United Nations country team submission, p. 2.
- 34 Ibid.
- 35 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 20.

- 36 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 48.
37 UNESCO submission, p. 6.
38 *Ibid.*, p. 5.
39 *Ibid.*
40 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 26 (a) and (b).
41 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 52.
42 *Ibid.*, para. 55 (a).
43 *Ibid.*, para. 55 (b) and (c).
44 *Ibid.*, para. 57.
45 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 25.
46 *Ibid.*, para. 26.
47 *Ibid.*
48 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 24 (a).
49 *Ibid.*, para. 24 (c).
50 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 25 (a) and (b).
51 *Ibid.*, para. 25 (c) and (d).
52 *Ibid.*, para. 29.
53 *Ibid.*
54 *Ibid.*, para. 31.
55 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 71.
56 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 32.
57 *Ibid.*, para. 33 (a) and (b).
58 *Ibid.*, para. 33 (b) and (c).
59 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 25.
60 United Nations country team submission, p. 8.
61 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 75.
62 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 39.
63 United Nations country team submission, p. 8.
64 *Ibid.*
65 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 51.
66 *Ibid.*
67 United Nations country team submission, p. 8.
68 *Ibid.*
69 *Ibid.*, p. 9.
70 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 30.
71 *Ibid.*, para. 67.
72 *Ibid.*
73 United Nations country team submission, p. 3.
74 *Ibid.*, p. 4.
75 UNESCO submission, p. 6.
76 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 78.
77 *Ibid.*, para. 76.
78 *Ibid.*
79 *Ibid.*
80 United Nations country team submission, p. 3.
81 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 68.
82 *Ibid.*, para. 69.
83 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 11.
84 *Ibid.*, para. 15.
85 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 17.
86 *Ibid.*, para. 18.
87 [E/C.12/CPV/CO/1](#), para. 42.
88 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 37.
89 [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 22.
90 [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 73.
91 [CCPR/C/CPV/CO/1/Add.1](#), para. 13.
92 *Ibid.*
93 *Ibid.*, para. 14.
94 *Ibid.*, para. 16.
95 United Nations country team submission, p. 11.
96 [CEDAW/C/CPV/CO/9](#), para. 12 (a).
97 *Ibid.*, para. 12 (b).
98 *Ibid.*, para. 12 (d) and (e).

- ⁹⁹ United Nations country team submission, p. 12.
¹⁰⁰ Ibid., p. 5.
¹⁰¹ [CRC/C/CPV/CO/2](#), para. 32.
¹⁰² Ibid., para. 34.
¹⁰³ Ibid., para. 42.
¹⁰⁴ United Nations country team submission, p. 2.
¹⁰⁵ Ibid.
¹⁰⁶ Ibid., p. 13.
¹⁰⁷ [A/HRC/42/38/Add.1](#), para. 69.
¹⁰⁸ Ibid.
¹⁰⁹ Ibid.
¹¹⁰ United Nations country team submission, p. 4.
¹¹¹ Ibid., p. 12.
¹¹² UNCHR submission, p. 3.
¹¹³ Ibid.
¹¹⁴ Ibid.
¹¹⁵ Ibid., p. 2.
¹¹⁶ Ibid.
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