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Congo

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 Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and deposit the instrument of ratification for the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.² The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) recommended that the Congo deposit the instruments of accession for the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and domesticate them into national legislation without delay.³

3. The United Nations country team reported that the Government would soon establish, with support from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), a national mechanism for the drafting of reports and follow-up to recommendations.⁴

III. National human rights framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

4. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo accord priority to the law reform process and set a clear time frame for the finalization and adoption of the eight draft revised codes, in particular the Civil Code, the Personal and Family Code and the Criminal Code.⁵



5. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reported that the Congo had passed Act No. 19-2022 of 4 May 2022, the Mouebara Act, on combating violence against women; Act No. 1-2023 of 21 February 2023 establishing the Mouebara Shelter and Centre for the Reintegration of Women and Girl Victims of Violence; and Decree No. 2022-237 of 4 May 2022 establishing and setting out the duties and organizational structure of the National Programme to Combat Violence against Women.⁶

6. UNHCR noted the adoption of Decree No. 2022-1301 of 21 September 2022 establishing and setting out the duties, organizational structure and terms of operation of the National Committee for the Eradication of Statelessness in the Republic of the Congo. Additionally, Act No. 41-2021 on the right of asylum and refugee status had been adopted on 29 September 2021.⁷

7. OHCHR noted the adoption of Act No. 22-2019 of 17 June 2019, the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act, and Act No. 10-2022 of 20 April 2022, the Prisons Code.⁸

2. Institutional infrastructure and policy measures

8. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was particularly concerned about the low representation of women in the National Human Rights Commission and recommended that the Congo strengthen the independence, effectiveness and visibility of the national human rights institution, in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and provide it with sufficient human and financial resources.⁹

9. The same committee recommended that the Congo expedite the roll-out of the second-generation national gender policy and the action plan for its implementation for the period 2017–2021.¹⁰

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

10. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women, in line with article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, that covers all prohibited grounds of discrimination, including direct and indirect discrimination in the public and private spheres, and intersecting forms of discrimination.¹¹ According to the United Nations country team, the United Nations Development Programme had supported the Government in carrying out campaigns to fight against the stigmatization and discrimination faced by women living with HIV, including in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and Dolisie, between 2018 and 2022.¹²

11. The Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to provide information on measures taken to prevent and combat acts of discrimination against persons on the grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity and respond to allegations that: (a) persons frequently suffered stigmatization, discrimination and violence on the grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity; and (b) members of law enforcement agencies harassed individuals because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, claiming that homosexuality was prohibited, in order to extort money from them.¹³

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

12. The Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to indicate the measures that it had taken to combat impunity for law enforcement officials and to respond to allegations that: (a) law enforcement officials resorted to unlawful and arbitrary killings, including in the context of combating organized crime; and (b) such killings were not systematically investigated.¹⁴

13. The same committee asked the Congo to provide information on measures taken to prevent arbitrary behaviour by law enforcement officials and respond to allegations that such officials regularly committed arbitrary acts of violence, racketeering and extortion against the population.¹⁵

14. That committee also noted that there had been numerous allegations of torture and ill-treatment resulting in death, most often practised with impunity in places of detention, particularly police stations, gendarmeries and the premises of the General Directorate for Territorial Surveillance. It asked the Congo to provide information on measures taken to include a definition of torture in the Criminal Code and to make it a separate and imprescriptible offence and on complaint mechanisms and remedies available to persons who claimed to have been subjected to torture or ill-treatment. The Congo was also asked to respond to allegations that: (a) torture was used as a means of punishment and extortion against detainees and as a means of obtaining confessions in the course of investigations; and (b) confessions extracted under torture were accepted as evidence in court.¹⁶

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

15. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo investigate and prosecute cases of corruption of justice personnel and punish the perpetrators adequately, and ensure the independence of the judiciary.¹⁷ The Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to describe measures taken to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, in particular to ensure respect for the principle of the separation of powers, including the independence of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary, and respond to allegations that: (a) the executive branch, in particular the Government, exercised inappropriate and excessive control over the judiciary, namely judges and prosecutors; and (b) the judiciary suffered from a chronic lack of financial resources, which led to serious delays in the administration of justice.¹⁸

16. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo: (a) continue to develop the court system, with the aim of establishing a court of major jurisdiction in every region, and initiate a reform process aimed at establishing a single unified legal system throughout its territory that complied with the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; (b) enhance awareness among women and girls of their rights and how to claim them, including by strengthening cooperation with civil society organizations; (c) enhance the geographical reach of the judiciary, including by increasing the human, technical and financial resources dedicated to mobile justice units, and remove all direct and indirect fees impeding women's access to justice; and (d) review Act No. 001/84 of 20 January 1984 on the reorganization of legal aid and ensure that women without sufficient means had access to free legal aid so that they could claim their rights.¹⁹ OHCHR reported that the Supreme Council of the Judiciary had imposed penalties on judicial officials in March 2023. Judicial officials had been dismissed, suspended or demoted.²⁰

17. Referring in particular to the context of the civil wars that had shaken the country from 1993 to 2002 and to the violence that had occurred in the Pool region in 2016 and 2017 and during the period when action was being taken against organized crime in the major urban centres, the Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to provide information on the measures taken: (a) to shed light on past human rights violations committed by both government forces and militias, particularly cases of torture, enforced disappearances, extrajudicial executions and arbitrary arrest and detention; and (b) to guarantee the establishment of the truth and the right to reparation for victims and their families.²¹

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

18. The Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to comment on reports that: (a) the operating licences and publication of certain newspapers or radio programmes had been suspended or withdrawn following the publication of critical content; (b) journalists had been prosecuted, convicted and imprisoned; and (c) journalists had been subjected to expulsion, threats, attacks or acts of police violence.²²

19. The same committee asked the Congo to respond to allegations that demonstrations were rarely authorized, organizers were frequently arrested and security forces often resorted to violence or used force.²³

20. According to the United Nations country team, after the 2022 legislative and local elections, the number of women in the National Assembly rose from 17 (following the 2017 legislative elections) to 21, or from 13 to 16 per cent. Although the representation of women had increased, it remained well below the minimum quota of 30 per cent for women candidates.²⁴

21. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo: (a) amend the Electoral Act to reject any candidate list that did not respect the newly introduced quota of 30 per cent, to adopt the practice of listing a woman on every two ranks of the electoral lists and to apply penalties for non-compliance with the legislation; (b) implement temporary special measures to ensure gender parity in appointments to decision-making positions in the civil and foreign service and in the judiciary; (c) expedite the finalization and adoption of the bill on parity; (d) increase the availability of training and capacity-building programmes for women wishing to enter political life or hold public office and continue to encourage the media to ensure that women and men who are candidates or elected representatives receive equal visibility, especially during election periods; and (e) raise awareness among politicians, the media, traditional leaders and the general public that the full, equal, free and democratic participation of women on an equal basis with men in political and public life is a requirement for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the political stability and economic development of the country.²⁵

5. Right to marriage and family life

22. UNFPA reported that the articles of the Family Code that criminalized adultery had not been repealed and that spousal abuse had been made illegal under the new law on combating violence against women.²⁶ The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo ensure that all existing discriminatory provisions were eliminated in the revised codes, in particular with regard to the disproportionate sanctions for women guilty of adultery.²⁷ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) recommended that the Congo revisit the minimum age for marriage and ensure that a child under 16 could not be married, even with the approval of a judge.²⁸

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

23. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women expressed its concern that the Congo was a country of origin, transit and destination for trafficking in persons.²⁹ It recommended that the Congo investigate, prosecute and adequately punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls; provide adequate protection and redress to women and girls who were victims of trafficking; and expedite the adoption of the bill on trafficking in persons and ensure that it complied with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The Committee also recommended that the Congo address the root causes of exploitation of women and girls in prostitution by offering educational and alternative income opportunities to at-risk women and girls and adopt and implement adequately resourced exit programmes for women and girls who wished to leave prostitution.³⁰

24. In light of reports of high rates of child labour, children in street situations and the trafficking of children for the purpose of economic or sexual exploitation, including migrant children forced into begging or servitude, the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families asked for information on measures taken by the Congo to ensure that the rights of migrant children, including those who were unaccompanied, in an irregular situation or transiting through the country, were respected and that such children were protected from all forms of exploitation.³¹

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

25. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo improve access for women to formal employment through measures, including temporary special measures under article 4 (1) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 (2004), such as providing incentives for public and private sector employers to recruit women, introducing favourable work arrangements, such as day-care centres, and strengthening professional training for women.³²

8. Right to social security

26. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo ensure that social protection schemes applied to all women, including those working in the informal sector, and that rural women had access on an equal basis with men and with their urban counterparts to basic services, including social protection services.³³ UNHCR recommended that the Congo step up its activity to extend its social protection network provision to all parts of the country, and to asylum-seekers and refugees.³⁴

9. Right to an adequate standard of living

27. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo ensure: (a) that rural women had access to land on an equal basis with men, including by raising awareness of the law on land occupation and acquisition, of the prohibition of customs and traditions that often suppressed or restricted women's rights to occupy or acquire land and of the importance of equal access for women to land as a factor for development and for achieving the substantive equality of women and men; and (b) that the interests of rural women were protected when developing land policies and allocating land and that the traditional users of land, including Indigenous communities, could have access to property and to appropriate reparations and compensation for full recovery of any losses incurred.³⁵

28. The Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples recommended that the Government prioritize the effective access to and ownership of lands for Indigenous Peoples, as that was a foundation for the realization of the other rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. She also called for greater efforts to ensure that national and international efforts to alleviate poverty included special measures to make the relevant activities and services culturally appropriate for Indigenous Peoples, particularly with respect to education, health services (in particular reproductive and maternal health services) and income-generating activities. In addition, all government actions in favour of Indigenous Peoples should, in her view, aim to promote Indigenous People's participation in decision-making and autonomy and a strong gender perspective.³⁶

10. Right to health

29. As unsafe abortion was a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women encouraged the Congo to: (a) step up its efforts to increase access to health care, in particular in rural areas, by improving the infrastructure and increasing the number of trained medical staff; and (b) legalize abortion, in particular in cases of rape, threats to the life and health of the mother, incest and severe fetal impairment, decriminalize abortion in all other cases and provide women with access to high-quality post-abortion care.³⁷ The World Health Organization reported that the Congo had prepared an integrated strategy for reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health for the period 2022–2026.³⁸

30. UNHCR recommended that the Congo continue its efforts to increase investment in the health sector, including for asylum-seekers and refugees.³⁹

11. Right to education

31. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo: (a) increase its efforts to ensure the enrolment and retention of girls in school, in particular at the secondary level, paying special attention to Indigenous girls; (b) take

measures to increase the enrolment rate of girls in mathematics and science courses, such as the distribution of scholarships to increase their access and incentives to pursue such studies; and (c) construct and improve school infrastructure in rural and remote areas to ensure access for girls to high-quality education, and improve the quality of distance education.⁴⁰ UNESCO recommended that at least one year of pre-primary education be made free and compulsory under the law.⁴¹

32. UNHCR recommended that the Congo prioritize investment in school infrastructure and in the hiring, training and retention of teaching staff, including by substantially raising pay scales.⁴²

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

33. According to the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, conservationists and international donors concerned with the environment and the preservation of biodiversity should promote and fund Indigenous-led conservation initiatives while focusing restrictive measures on threats to ecosystems coming from non-Indigenous sources, including criminal poaching networks, corruption and unsustainable forest exploitation.⁴³

B. Rights of specific persons or groups

1. Women

34. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo set time-bound targets and allocate sufficient resources for the implementation of temporary special measures, such as quotas and other proactive measures, accompanied by sanctions for non-compliance, with a view to achieving substantive equality between women and men in all areas covered by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in which women were underrepresented or disadvantaged.⁴⁴

35. The same committee recommended that the Congo adopt and implement comprehensive measures to modify and transform discriminatory stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and at all levels of society and eliminate gender stereotypes.⁴⁵

36. The Committee on the Rights of the Child requested up-to-date information on the measures taken to ensure the eradication of female genital mutilation and eliminate child marriage and teenage pregnancy.⁴⁶

37. UNFPA indicated that a national strategy to combat gender-based violence was being implemented and awareness-raising campaigns were being run around the country. UNFPA also noted that the sexual exploitation of adolescents and girls continued, as did the practice of forced labour.⁴⁷

2. Children

38. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) noted the enactment of the 1984 Family Code, Act No. 5-2011 of 25 February 2011 on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Act No. 12-2014 of 13 June 2014 establishing the Fund for Families and Children in Need and Act No. 22-2019 of 17 June 2019, the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act, but observed that many of those laws lacked implementing regulations or were not applied in practice. There was as yet no human rights monitoring mechanism in the country that was authorized to receive, investigate and suitably address complaints from children, although juvenile judges had been posted in all 12 of the country's departments.⁴⁸

39. UNICEF welcomed the signing of the decree establishing a standing national monitoring committee for the Global Movement for Children under the authority of the President of the Republic, but it noted that that committee, like the national child protection coordination office, still had not been put in place. UNICEF recommended that a strong

appeal be made for the committee to be established and for the national child protection coordination office to be put in place.⁴⁹

40. In addition, UNICEF pointed out that, while the principle of non-discrimination was enshrined in the Congolese Constitution, all children were not equal in practice, including in terms of their access to basic services.⁵⁰

41. UNICEF noted that, although corporal punishment had been banned under article 53 of Act No. 4-2010 of 14 June 2010, the Child Protection Act, it continued to be practised, both at home and, especially, in police stations and schools. Unfortunately, acts of violence and instances of corporal punishment were seldom reported to the authorities.⁵¹ The United Nations country team observed that public officials failed to take action to protect child victims of violence and discrimination. In addition, there were almost no reception centres for such children, other than the Institute for Psychoeducation in Brazzaville and the Institute for Hard-of-Hearing Persons in Pointe-Noire.⁵²

42. According to the United Nations country team, law enforcement officials' ignorance of Act No. 4-2010 exposed children in street situations to round-ups, threats and arbitrary arrests, which were often followed by torture. There was a toll-free hotline for reporting cases of violence against children, but it remained out of service.⁵³

3. Older persons

43. UNFPA indicated that steps were being taken to assist older persons, particularly by the ministry responsible for social affairs, and a national strategic plan for older persons was being implemented for the period 2022–2026. Additional measures must be taken to best support the strategy in light of the violence that older persons experienced, including within their families.⁵⁴

4. Persons with disabilities

44. The United Nations country team noted that, although there was a constitutional body for persons with disabilities, there were no regulations to implement Act No. 009-92 of 22 April 1992 on the Status, Protection and Advancement of Persons with Disabilities. The Strategic Framework on the School Enrolment and Re-Enrolment of Children with Disabilities and the National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities had still not been implemented.⁵⁵

45. Although it was difficult to obtain data on children with disabilities, UNICEF noted that the forms of violence that such children were subjected to could encompass infanticide.⁵⁶

46. UNICEF also reported that there were no public facilities for children with psychomotor disabilities⁵⁷ and there were no policies or laws protecting children with albinism.⁵⁸

5. Indigenous Peoples and minorities

47. According to the United Nations country team, provisions of Act No. 5-2011 of 25 February 2011 on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples addressed the protection of Indigenous children and their enjoyment of their rights, including to education and health. However, UNICEF reported that, in practice, Indigenous children were present in schools in very low numbers and had limited access to health-care and civil registration services. In 2022, in some regions of the country, more than 65 per cent of primary school-age Indigenous children had not been to school.⁵⁹ UNESCO recommended that efforts to ensure the availability of inclusive education, particularly to Indigenous children, be continued.⁶⁰

48. UNICEF also reported that the planning framework for Indigenous Peoples prepared in 2018 by the Ministry for Forest Economics, Sustainable Development and the Environment had been disseminated neither to the groups concerned nor to the general public and had, to date, not been implemented. As a result, the Indigenous community was experiencing economic discrimination, often living off subsistence farming and work done for the Bantu as labourers.⁶¹

49. The Human Rights Committee asked the Congo to respond to allegations that Pygmy populations were subjected to acts of violence, including by forest rangers, and evictions or land grabbing.⁶²

50. According to the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations should, with guidance from OHCHR, assist the Government and Indigenous Peoples to carry out training and peer-to-peer exchanges to promote greater knowledge of international standards and good practices regarding Indigenous Peoples' rights.⁶³ OHCHR reported that, in March 2020, the Government had adopted a national action plan for the improvement of the quality of life of Indigenous Peoples for the period 2022–2025. In 2023, OHCHR had provided training on Indigenous Peoples' rights to staff from the Directorate General for the Advancement of Indigenous Peoples.⁶⁴ UNFPA pointed out that campaigns had been carried out to facilitate Indigenous women's access to sexual and reproductive health services around the country through the Eboteli project.⁶⁵

6. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

51. UNHCR recommended that the Congo: (a) publish regulations and ensure full and effective implementation of Act No. 41-2021 on asylum, without delay; (b) consider a prima facie approach to granting refugee status to asylum-seekers from the Democratic Republic of the Congo currently in the Plateaux and Pool departments who had fled from Mai-Ndombe province in 2018, ensuring they were fully registered, recognized and issued with refugee identity cards; and (c) develop and implement more efficient and differentiated refugee status determination procedures to eliminate the backlog of cases and issue notifications to applicants in a timely manner.⁶⁶

52. UNHCR also recommended that the Congo provide adequate resources to ensure that all people identified in the national civil registry census as being without a birth certificate obtained a birth certificate.⁶⁷

7. Internally displaced persons

53. UNFPA reported that, of the 134,430 people considered to have been internally displaced during the conflict that had followed the 2016 presidential election, in the Pool department, only 26,875 were still displaced, according to a government census conducted in early 2022. The United Nations country team had since expressed the view that those persons had found durable solutions to their forced displacement.⁶⁸

8. Stateless persons

54. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Congo: (a) amend its nationality law to allow Congolese women to transfer their nationality to their foreign spouses on an equal basis with Congolese men;⁶⁹ and (b) intensify its efforts to ensure timely birth registration and issuance of birth certificates, free of charge, throughout its territory, paying particular attention to Indigenous children.⁷⁰

Notes

¹ A/HRC/40/16, A/HRC/40/16/Add.1 and A/HRC/40/2.

² CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7, paras. 58 and 31 (d).

³ UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of the Congo, p. 4.

⁴ United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of the Congo, para. 3.

⁵ CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7, para. 11.

⁶ United Nations country team submission, para. 6.

⁷ Ibid., para. 7.

⁸ Ibid., para. 8.

⁹ CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7, paras. 18 and 19. See also CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3, para. 3, CMW/C/COG/QPR/1, para. 5, and A/HRC/45/34/Add.1, para. 25.

¹⁰ CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7, para. 17 (a).

¹¹ Ibid., para. 13.

¹² United Nations country team submission, para. 13. See also CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7, paras. 44 and 45.

- 13 [CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3](#), para. 7.
- 14 *Ibid.*, para. 8.
- 15 *Ibid.*, para. 14.
- 16 *Ibid.*, para. 12.
- 17 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 15 (e).
- 18 [CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3](#), para. 16.
- 19 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 15. See also UNHCR submission, p. 4.
- 20 United Nations country team submission, para. 15. See also paras. 16–21.
- 21 [CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3](#), para. 5.
- 22 *Ibid.*, para. 18. See also UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of the Congo, para. 15.
- 23 [CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3](#), para. 19.
- 24 United Nations country team submission, para. 22.
- 25 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 35.
- 26 United Nations country team submission, para. 23.
- 27 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 51 (b).
- 28 UNESCO submission, para. 13 (iii).
- 29 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 30. See also United Nations country team submission, para. 66.
- 30 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), paras. 31 (b) and (c) and 33 (a) and (b).
- 31 [CMW/C/COG/QPR/1](#), para. 14.
- 32 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 43 (a).
- 33 *Ibid.*, paras. 43 (b) and 47 (c).
- 34 UNHCR submission, p. 5.
- 35 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 47 (a) and (b). See also United Nations country team submission, paras. 26–30.
- 36 [A/HRC/45/34/Add.1](#), para. 108 (a) and (e).
- 37 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 45 (a) and (b).
- 38 United Nations country team submission, para. 31.
- 39 UNHCR submission, p. 5.
- 40 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 41 (a)–(c). See also [A/HRC/45/34/Add.1](#), paras. 44–54.
- 41 UNESCO submission, para. 13 (ii).
- 42 UNHCR submission, p. 6.
- 43 [A/HRC/45/34/Add.1](#), para. 108 (f).
- 44 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 23.
- 45 *Ibid.*, para. 25 (a).
- 46 [CRC/C/COG/Q/5-6](#), para. 8 (e).
- 47 United Nations country team submission, para. 77.
- 48 *Ibid.*, para. 53.
- 49 *Ibid.*, para. 54.
- 50 *Ibid.*, para. 55.
- 51 *Ibid.*, para. 61.
- 52 *Ibid.*, para. 69.
- 53 *Ibid.*, para. 62.
- 54 *Ibid.*, para. 80.
- 55 *Ibid.*, para. 57.
- 56 *Ibid.*, para. 68.
- 57 *Ibid.*, para. 79.
- 58 *Ibid.*, para. 75.
- 59 *Ibid.*, para. 56.
- 60 UNESCO submission, para. 13 (iv).
- 61 United Nations country team submission, para. 65. See also paras. 82 and 83.
- 62 [CCPR/C/COG/QPR/3](#), para. 24.
- 63 [A/HRC/45/34/Add.1](#), para. 108 (h).
- 64 United Nations country team submission, para. 83.
- 65 *Ibid.*, para. 82.
- 66 UNHCR submission, p. 3.
- 67 *Ibid.*, p. 4.
- 68 United Nations country team submission, para. 88.
- 69 See also UNHCR submission, p. 4.
- 70 [CEDAW/C/COG/CO/7](#), para. 39 (a) and (b).