***LIBERIA***

***CIVIL SOCIETY HUMAN RIGHTS***

***ADVOCACY PLATFORM***

***CONTRIBUTION TO THE UPR***

***Mid-Term Review of Liberia 3rd Cycle UPR Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Recommendation Implementation***

**WITH TECHNICAL SUPPORT FROM RFSU**

**(Swedish Federation for Sexuality Education)**



KVINNA till kvinna

CSO-HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY PLATFORM OF LIBERIA

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**LIST OF ACRONYMS**

ART Anti-Retroviral Therapy

BCR Bureau of Corrections and Rehabilitation

CBOs Community-Based Organizations

CEDAW Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

CRC Convention on the Rights of the Child

CSOs Civil Society Organizations

FGM Female Genital Mutilation

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HRC Human Rights Council HRPD Human Rights Protection Division

ICCPR International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

INCHR Independent National Commission on Human Rights

JJSP Joint Justice and Security Programme

LGBTQI Lesbians, Gays, Bi-Sexual, Trans-Gender, Queer, Intersex

LIPRIDE Liberia Initiative for the Promotion of Rights, Identity, Diversity, and Equality

LIS Liberian Immigration Services

LNBA Liberia National Bar Association

LNP Liberian National Police

MGCSP Ministries of Gender, Children and Social Protection

MOH Ministry of Health

MOJ Ministry of Justice

NCD National Commission on Disability

NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations

NHRAP National Human Rights Action Plan

NMRF National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up

NPHIL National Public Health Institute of Liberia

NUOD National Union of Organizations for the Disabled

PWDs People With Disabilities

SRSH Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights

UN-OHCHR United Nations Office of Higher Commission of Human Rights

 **I**

1. **Introduction**

This Mid-Term Review undertaken by CSOs is based on the state party’s implementation assessment and monitoring of UPR recommendations’ implementation status, actions taken, activities carried out, and challenges by the state party during the 3rd Cycle. The Mid-Term Report submission is successful based on support from the international partner, RFSU, and coordination with the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR), Kvinna till Kvinna (KtK), other state institutions, and networking support from Civil Society organizations.

1. **METHODOLOGY**

These include but are not limited to county and regional assessments, mapping and selections of stakeholders, and facilitating consultative dialogues in preparing the current human rights information culminating into this Shadow Report of the UPR implementation.

Counting on the technical and logistical support by Swedish Federation for Sexuality Education “RFSU” and Kvinna till Kvinna, the CSO-Human Rights Advocacy Platform deepened engagement with governments entities like the Justice, Education, Internal Affairs and Gender Ministries, National Commission on Disabilities, and civil society, National Union of Disabilities, (NUOD), National Human Rights Institutions including the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR), the House Committee on Human Rights, parliamentarians, and media institutions such as the Press Union of Liberia, and the National Traditional Council of Liberia to discuss the status of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights in Liberia.

Interactive multi-stakeholder discussions carried out with these institutions were imperative as they paved the way for sustainable, inclusive, and transparent implementation of 3rd Cycle UPR recommendations to Liberia.

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The objectives of the current report submitted are intended to ensure and promote accountability, encourage follow-up to implementations of recommendations from the past UPR cycles; provide updates on the status of implementation of recommendations, and focus on concrete actions undertaken to address the human rights issues of concern within Liberia.

In recognizing the need for strengthened follow-up measures, the HRC institutionalized mid-term reporting as a critical, albeit voluntary, component of the UPR process.

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

1. Hosted 5 Regional Consultative Workshops and separate meetings with state and non-state actors including MOJ, Independent National Commission on Human Rights, National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia in Monrovia, and other line Ministries and NHIs including INCHR and CSOs in Ganta, Zwedru, Bassa, Bomi, Montserrado. The first regional consultation began on November 16, 2022, followed by the second regional consultation on November 20-22, 3rd regional Consultation, on December 15-16, 2022, the fourth Consultation on December 18-12, 2022, and the Final Consultation is March 29-30, 2023 in Gbarnga City Bong County.
2. Conducted technical training and provided tools to CSOs and other NHRIs for monitoring and reporting on SRHR recommendations. That is strengthening participants’ capacities, and developing a national advocacy action plan for monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, and strategies which are necessary to identify a central reporting mechanism.
3. Facilitated National Stakeholders’ Validation and Review session with CSOs, government, NHIs, Traditional Council of Chief and Elders, Women Groups, and PWDs.

 The focus of this study is to ascertain the specific and concrete actions taken by the Liberian government in response to “Respect for Equity and Non-Discrimination” and in view of the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights of women and girls, People Living with Disabilities, Non-Citizens, LGBTI among others.

The results of the interactions leading to the drafting Mid-Term assessment report have led to an improved quality of questions and recommendations in terms of substantive focus and detail, pointing to the areas that need strengthening to address the root causes of human rights violations, i.e. cross-section of the critical human rights gaps at the country level and followed by active engagement of all stakeholders at the national and international levels.

1. **FOLLOW-UP TO UPR RECOMMENDATIONS RECEIVED**

The steps used by CSO-HRAP and the funding partner included but were not limited to ensuring an effective Mid- Term Review and assessment of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF) taking into consideration four key capacities such as local and National Engagement, Technical Capacity Support to CSOs, supporting Coordination with government and NHIs through direct and indirect consultations, sharing of human rights Information management capacity of the CSO-HRAP.

**A. UPR/SRHR RECOMMENDATIONS OUTLINED ACCORDING TO THEMES**

**THEMES: CONSTITUTIONAL & LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK & EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION**

**UPR Recommendations: 103.54, 103.56, 103.58 &** **103.43, 103.44, 103.45,103.46, 103.49, 103.50, 103.51, 103.52, 103.53, 103.55, 103.56, 103.57**

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1. **Positions Taken by Government**

The Liberia government noted the recommendations to repeal section 14.74 of the 1978 Penal Code, decriminalize same-sex consensual relations, and combat discrimination and abuse against LGBTQ+ persons.

* 1. **Status of Implementation**

Based on our follow-up and monitoring work since 2020, we observe that the GOL has not yet taken significant concrete actions to advance the process of legal amendments necessary for the implementation of the UPR recommendations to decriminalize same-sex consensual relations and combat discrimination.

The 1986 Constitution of Liberia lays the legal framework for the protection of all. Article 11 (a,b&c) states that all persons have inalienable rights irrespective of ethnic background, race, sex, creed, place of origin, or political opinion, are entitled to these fundamental rights as provided for in the constitution, while Art. 11 c provides the right to equality before the law.

The national or policy efforts are stated in the National Human Rights Action Plan and the National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan, which refer to people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, but call for stronger legal and policy measures to protect individuals from violence and discrimination based on their sexual orientation and gender identity. The Decent Work Act protects the rights of LGBTI persons to employment.

In 2023, at the recently held Summit for Democracy Communique in Lusaka, Zambia, Liberia committed to the promotion and respect for human rights and equality for all individuals among others, sexual orientation.

* 1. **Description of Activities Undertaken, Results, Challenges**

In 2005, a multi-stakeholder working group, The National Human Rights Action Plan Steering Committee, was formed, and the **National Human Rights Action Plan[[1]](#footnote-1)** was developed. Also, another multi-stakeholder working group was formed under the National Aids Commission which gave birth to the **National HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan (2015-2020)[[2]](#footnote-2)**. These documents are the only national documents referring progressively to people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities and call for stronger legal and policy measures to protect individuals from violence and discrimination based on their sexual orientation and gender identity. The NHRAP 2019-2024 recognizes SOGIE as persons under vulnerable and marginalized groups but doesn’t specifically include action points for implementation. In 2005 The Decent Work Act was passed into law and this document also protects the rights of LGBTI persons to employment.

LGBT+ persons in Liberia have continuously identified the amendment to the Penal Code as the priority to ultimately eliminate the high levels of discrimination they face around security and access to health. Currently, there are no explicit provisions facilitating legal same-sex relationships in Liberian law and is considered sodomy. LGBT+ couples can have secret/ hidden relationships. In 2020, a UN report highlighted that discriminatory laws in force in Liberia including Section 14.74 of the Penal Law of 1978 criminalize consensual same-sex relations. These legal provisions also have a wider social effect by creating a permissive environment for discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and violence against people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities in employment, health, housing, education, and access to essential services. The report also notes the threat of arbitrary arrest and detention faced by LGBTQI people, and that complainants are faced with antagonism and intimidation from law enforcement officers when reporting attacks. The report notes negative political and public perceptions, as well as incitement, to hatred or violence towards the LGBT community, including media coverage.

As a result, LGBTQ+ persons in Liberia are denied the essential protections and security that only legal decriminalization can provide. Based on the prioritization of decriminalizing same-sex relations for consenting adults, CSOs working with LGBT+ communities founded the Liberian Initiative for the Promotion of Rights, Identity, and Equality (LIPRIDE) to advocate for the rights of minority groups by raising the voices and stories of the Liberian LGBT+ communities, allies from all sectors, and the general public through the media and social media for more understanding, acceptance, and support for combating discrimination and abuse against LGBTQ+ persons.

* + 1. **Recommendations-CSOs: That state party**
* Take concrete steps working with all relevant stakeholders to review and repeal the Penal Code 14.74, in consultation with its international and regional human obligations;
* Ensure the protection of LGBTQI persons from all forms of violence and discrimination based on their sexual orientation and gender identity; effective investigations through adequate remedy and protection for victims and witnesses of homophobic, transphobic violence and ill-treatment;
* Prioritize training for law enforcement officers, the judiciary, and health care personnel on the human rights of persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity.
* Revise the NHRAP to include action plans for implementation with a timeframe and allocate the needed resources

**THEMES: CHILDREN DEFINITION, AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROTECTION**

**Recommendation: 103.98**

1. **Position Taken by Government**

The Liberian government noted this recommendation to prioritize strategies for the protection of girls against child marriage in 2016, in conformity with the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and criminalize Female Genital Mutilation (refers to the partial or complete removal of external female genitalia or other harm to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons).

1. **Status of Implementation**

Liberia has a constitutional and legislative framework that protects children. The country has also adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child and is committed to ensuring that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, exploitation, and harmful practices[[3]](#footnote-3).

The 53rd Legislature of Liberia struck out a criminalization clause in the Domestic Violence Act based on the culturally sensitive nature of the practice. The 2011 Education Law of Liberia provides that no child shall be subjected to harmful cultural practices, including FGM during the school period. In 2017 Executive Order 92 was issued by President Johnson Sirleaf seeking to ban FGM for girls under 18 years. The Executive Order nonetheless, leaves room for FGM to be performed with consent from adults. This was followed by current President, George Weah’s executive order in 2019, which banned the practice of FGM for a year. On 10 February 2022, several Special Procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council issued a communication about FGM to the Government. In that communication, they expressed their concern over several violations of rights, including her rights to life; physical integrity; liberty; not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. On 21 February 2022, the Government of Liberia and the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia announced a three-year moratorium on FGM.

**Description of Activities Results and Challenges**

Liberia remains one of three West African countries that have not yet made female genital mutation (FGM) illegal. FGM is considered a violation of the human rights of girls and women, with no health benefits, and is extremely harmful. However, many children of school-going age continue to undergo FGM. Girls are abducted by traditional leaders in Liberia, known as the Zoes, and taken to the Sande Bush, where they are forcibly initiated into the Zoes’ secret society. For these zones, initiation includes female genital mutilation (FGM). Additionally, according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, a number of Paramount and Town chiefs continue to issue permits to bush school practitioners without official authorization from the ministry. The ministry also disclosed that it has halted the issuance of any current certificates since the moratorium on FGM and is in the process of withdrawing old certificates.

In 2022, February, a “National Working Group against FGM” was set up to secure the criminalization of FGM and monitor the implementation of the moratorium.

According to UNICEF Liberia 2020 report[[4]](#footnote-4)  the number of girls and women of all ages who were first married or in union before age 15 is at 65%, and 18 is at 25%. Liberia is home to over 480,000 child brides for which 1 in 4 young women was married in childhood. The Republic of Liberia has two types of legal marriages: western or faith-based marriages and traditional/customary marriages. The legal age for marriage is 18 years for females and 21 years for males under the statutory law, whereas traditional marriages can occur at age 16 for both sexes with parents' or guardians' consent.

**RECOMMENDATIONS CSO: That State Party:**

* Ensure the full and effective implementation of the Children’s Law and that of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child[[5]](#footnote-5) which reiterates its recommendation (CRC/C/15/Add.236, para. 10, 2004) that the State party undertake a comprehensive review of all domestic legislation to ensure full conformity with the principles and provisions of the Convention, and in the meantime ensure that in case of conflict, the Children’s Law prevails over all statutory and customary legislation;
* Ensure the harmonization of the laws on the ages of marriage for women.
* Ensure the implementation of the moratorium on FGM and enacts a law that will criminalize the practice of FGM[[6]](#footnote-6) in the country as signed onto under the CEDAW Treaty, to ensure that the practice is prohibited in all circumstances.

**THEME: RIGHTS TO HEALTH and SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)**

**UPR Recommendations 165, 171, 172, & 103.166, 103.167, 103.168**

**Position Taken by Government**

**The Liberia government supported the UPR recommendation to** strengthen measures which address barriers for women to access health-care services, including sociocultural barriers, safeguard the rights of women and girls, particularly in the areas of maternal health, sexual reproductive health and rights, safe and legal abortion, and health care for people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Status of Implementation**

The government of the Republic of Liberia published its Essential Package of Health Services[[7]](#footnote-7) (EPHS) in the ***National Health and Social Welfare Policy and Plan of 2011–2021***, which is clearly defined by specific health interventions and service delivery levels. Phase One builds upon the country’s prior Basic Package of Health Services (developed in 2007), and emphasizes maternal and child health services, adolescent health services, emergency services, and communicable disease control. Originally, it was intended to cover 2011–2013, after which Phase Two would expand the EPHS to include chronic disease care such as for reproductive cancers, non-communicable diseases, and tropical diseases. As of the date of reporting, an updated document for Phase Two has not been published.

Liberia has a “Reproductive, Maternal, New Born, Child, and Adolescent Health program” (RMNCAH 20116-2020), which supports the “National Health Policy and Plan” aimed at addressing Maternal Mortality in Liberia. However, Liberia still maintains section 16.3 of the 1976 Penal Law, which criminalizes abortion.

The Ministry of Health has proposed to repeal TITLE 33 of THE LIBERIAN CODE OF LAWS and revise the PUBLIC HEALTH LAW (1976) and enact a new Title 33 which comprehensive legislation and addresses new and emerging public health challenges such as emergency treatment, discrimination, mental health, nutrition, regulation of marketing of products for infants and young children, zoonotic diseases, non-communicable diseases, environmental sanitation, and regulation of drugs.

**Description of Activities Results and Challenges**

Section 16.3 of the 1976 Penal Law, criminalizes abortion in Liberia, abortion is severely restricted in Liberia,[[8]](#footnote-8) it is only legal in cases of rape, incest, or if a woman can prove that childbirth would pose a serious threat to her health. In such instances, written justification must be provided by at least two medical doctors, and in cases of rape or incest, police, and legal investigations are required. The inequitable lack of access to information about contraceptive methods has triggered a number of unsafe abortions, putting the lives of women and girls at risk. The government’s strategy for implementing the EPHS includes specific activities to improve equity of access for specific populations; these include women, adolescents, indigent, and rural populations. Other healthcare services include Curative care, Communicable Disease Control. Emergency Care, Specialist Care, Health Care for Women, Primary Care, including community Health System, anti-tuberculosis medicines and supply of drugs and Anti-malaria, Anti-retroviral, subject to current National AIDS Control Program Protocols.

Community Primary Referral includes RMCH Services including Family planning for Adolescence and pre-pregnancy, Pregnancy (antenatal), Postnatal (Mother), Postnatal (Newborn), and Infancy and Childhood. The challenges remain huge within the healthcare sector of Liberia namely on the issues of effective and efficient services based on the right to health.

Patients with disabilities face barriers when they attempt to access health care.1 These barriers include physical barriers to entering health care establishments, lack of accessible equipment, lack of a safe method for transferring the patient to an examination table, and lack of sign language translators for communications between health service providers and patients of speech and hearing impairment.

**Recommendations by CSOs: That state party:**

* Increase access to comprehensive, safe, and affordable modern contraceptives and information on family planning for women and men of all ages throughout Liberia
* Promotion and utilization of comprehensive sexual education and the human rights-based approach for students and youth in general. This will include a curriculum that uses a comprehensive sex education program and will emphasize information on menstruation, menstrual hygiene, puberty, and access to contraception as key aspects to delivering the best health care to adolescents leading to overall increased health and dignity.
* Increase efforts to reduce high maternal mortality rates by ensuring that women and adolescents girls can access safe abortion and free services in accordance with Liberian obligations under the Maputo Protocol.124.64;
* Take all necessary steps to ensure access for the population to comprehensive sexuality information and services on the full range of family planning and contraceptives and expand programs and services relating to the provision of abortion and post-abortion care and services to ensure accessibility;
* Repeal the law on abortion and ensure women can receive health services related to abortion as a right. Eliminate all barriers that prevent the provision of abortion services that lead women to resort to unsafe abortions, including eliminating unacceptable delays in providing medical attention.
* Safeguard to Integrate age-appropriate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights into school curricula, including comprehensive sex education for adolescent girls and boys covering responsible sexual behaviors, focused on preventing early pregnancy.
* Strengthen measures that address barriers for women to access healthcare services, including sociocultural barriers, and safeguard the rights of women and girls, in particular in the areas of maternal health, sexual and reproductive health, and health care for people living with HIV/AIDS.
* Improve access to health care for patients with disabilities

**THEME: RIGHTS TO EDUCATION**

**Recommendations 173 & 174**

1. **Position Taken by Government**

The Liberian government supported the UPR recommendations to pursue the steps taken to ensure the provision of quality education, inclusive education for all Improve access to education, and impose laws that ensure inclusive education, giving particular attention to people with disabilities, girls and women.

1. **Status of Implementation**

According to “Rights To Education Country Fact Sheet[[9]](#footnote-9)” Liberia’s constitution guarantees equal access to educational opportunities and facilities for all citizens. Liberia has ratified the key regional and international conventions protecting the right to education. Liberia has developed a number of key national policy documents on education, specifically; the inclusive education policy of 2022.

Liberia has also developed a number of policies to ensure gender equality and non-discrimination in education, which include measures to encourage girls to attend schools and strategies to ensure that the content of curricula is free of gender bias.

The government has ensured the New Education Reform Act to drive reforms In 2011, a new education law strengthened the right to quality education, restructured the MoE, introduced country school systems; and set up the National Education Advisory Board to improve accountability and decision-making; Restructure of the Ministry of Education to improve efficiency In 2015.

1. **Description of Activities Result and Challenges**

Based on the Education Sector Plan[[10]](#footnote-10) (ESP 2017-2021), the Ministry of Education and its partners have launched a series of new laws, policies, programs, and pilots to improve education access and quality in the last five years. The Getting to Basic Education Sector Plan (G2B-ESP), is based on the priorities identified in the Getting to Best Roadmap and Priorities 2015-2017 (2015), uses the latest data available, and builds on the achievements and learning from the previous Education Sector Plan 2010-2020. It includes ongoing or planned activities that align with the Getting to Best priorities and implements the national development priorities in the Agenda for Transformation (2015-2017) and Liberia Rising: Vision 2030.

Challenges include; budgetary support, limited monitoring & supervision, limited qualified personnel, internet connection, bad road conditions, limited mobility (vehicles & motorbikes), lack/limited logistics (stationeries, computers, chalks, benches, chairs e.t.c), limited teaching and learning materials, cultural & traditional practices/beliefs, inadequate infrastructures (school buildings, wash facilities).

United State Department 2022 Human Rights Report on Liberia, Persons with disabilities could not access education, health services, public buildings, and transportation on an equal basis with others. The Constitution prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities, but these prohibitions were not always enforced. Most government buildings were not easily accessible to persons with mobility impairment. The government did not provide information and communication on disability concerns in accessible formats. Sign language interpretation is often not provided for deaf persons in criminal proceedings or in the provision of state services. Election ballots were not available in braille, but visually impaired voters could be accompanied by a sighted helper during voting.

1. **Recommendations by CSOs: That state party**
* Ensure that all educational policies and programs including Persons with disabilities are implemented to the fullest.
* Ensure the provision of quality education by revising and implementing the Education Sector Plan[[11]](#footnote-11) (ESP 2017-2021)

**THEMES: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN**

1. **UPR Recommendations 186, 192 & 184**
2. **Position Taken by Government**

The State party supported this UPR recommendation to Intensify efforts in promptly addressing incidents of gender-based violence, including sexual assault and rape, as well as promote the empowerment of girls and women, leading to their full participation in national decision-making, their full integration into the security apparatus and building an inclusive society where women’s rights are protected. It further calls to amend the customary and statutory laws in order to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls and Take steps to further promote and enhance the economic participation of women.

1. **Status of Implementation**

Liberia as a state party to the CEDAW has made no specific definition of discrimination in line with Article 1 of the Convention. There was also no line in the propositions of the December 8, 2020 referendum, addressing the issues. Moreover, the September 29, 2016 “Equal Representation and Participation Act” provides for exclusive seats for women, youth, and persons with disabilities in the legislature, the “June 2019 Domestic Violence Law” guaranteed under Chapter 3 of the 1986 Constitution of Liberia.

1. **Description of Activities Result and Challenges**

However; the State party has made some efforts to promote the political participation of women, though the Affirmative Action Bill which aimed to create 21 constituencies in the House of Representatives for women, youth, and persons with disabilities has not been passed into law. It is also concerned about women’s underrepresentation in public affairs and in decision-making positions, including at lower-level courts, and about the small number of women candidates in past elections, particularly, local elections (CEDAW Arts. 2, 3, and 26). Some challenges include but are not limited to low women’s participation in public affairs, decision-making positions, obstacles to repealing laws for the registration fees of women candidates in elections, gender biases, and stereotypes regarding the role and responsibilities of men and women in Liberian society.

1. **Recommendations by CSOs: That state party**
* Adopt comprehensive legislation against discrimination that includes a definition of all forms of discrimination and an expanded list of prohibited grounds of discrimination, including national or ethnic origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity, and any other status, and provide for effective remedies in case of violations; gender biases and stereotypes regarding the roles and responsibilities of men and women;

**4. NEED FOR CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

**4.0 Recommendations by CSO:**

* That state party informs and educates citizens about the UPR and SRHR Recommendations in all forms;
* That OHCHR and international Human rights development partners build the “Sense of Urgency” to support and strengthen CSOs through the creation of Database and technical Capacity Building to conduct local and National database Monitoring, Tracking, and Reporting of UPR recommendations and implementation status of reporting UPR recommendations to the Liberian public for accountability;
* OHCHR supports a quarterly series of interactive and online training workshops for CSOs and government agencies responsible for UPR that will focus on technical guidelines on how to monitor, report and measure the indicators and feature national and international human rights experiences from Liberia.

**ANNEXES 1**

**References**

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* Mid-term Report on the UPR: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRImplementation.aspx>;
* National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP): <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/PlansActions/Pages/PlansofActionIndex.aspx>;
* National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF): http://www.ohchr.org/\_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/Documents/Publications/HR\_P UB\_16\_1\_NMRF\_PracticalGuide.pdf&action=default & DefaultItemOpen=1
* Sustainable Development Goals: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainabledevelopment-goals/>;
* Universal Human Rights Index: <http://uhri.ohchr.org/en/>;
* Universal Periodic Review: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRMain.aspx>;

**ANNEX 2**

**List of Participating Institutions during the Process of CSO Midterm Review**

**Non-Governmental**

1. Action for Community Health Empowerment
2. Africa Center for Democratic Engagement and Human Rights
3. African Platform
4. Amplifying Rights Network
5. Amu-Wulu Forum Inc
6. Association of Female Lawyers of Liberia
7. Bassa Youth Caucus Inc.
8. Big Dreams
9. Capacity for Youth
10. Care Foundation Liberia
11. Center for Liberian Assistance
12. Center for Peace Building and Democracy in Liberia
13. Civil Society Human Rights Advocacy Platform
14. Community Healthcare initiative
15. DELTA-Human Rights Foundation
16. Development Education Learning & Training Network
17. Disability Community
18. Feeding House Organization
19. Female Journalist Association of Liberia
20. Foundation for Human Rights Defense
21. Girls Education
22. Greater Life Foundation
23. Health Education Network-Liberia
24. Help Liberia Grow
25. Hope in God Association of the Blind
26. Human Rights Defender
27. Humanity Care Liberia
28. Inclusive Development Initiatives
29. Liberia Council of Churches
30. Liberia Inclusive Development Initiative
31. Liberia Initiative for the Promotion of Rights, Identity, Diversity and Equality
32. Liberia institute for Empowerment
33. Liberia Women Empowerment Network
34. Liberia Women Initiative for Development
35. Liberia Youth Development Institute
36. Lives is Good
37. Muslim Aid Liberia
38. National Civil Society Council of Liberia
39. National Coalition Against Harmful Practices
40. National Teachers Association of Liberia
41. National Union of Organizations of Disable
42. Network for Better Liberia
43. Nimba United Blind Association
44. Org. Empowering Young Women and Children for Sustainable Development
45. Orphan Vision Aid Liberia
46. Press Union of Liberia
47. Rescue Children Africa
48. Rural Women’s Rights Structure
49. Safety and Environment Services
50. South Eastern Women Development
51. Survivor Aid International Inc
52. Teach Teens to Fish
53. United Family for Reconstruction
54. Tubmanburg University Students
55. Via Town Girls Organization
56. Women Aid Liberia
57. Women Human Rights Defenders
58. Women in Media Development
59. Women Initiative and Protection
60. Women Initiative for Self Help
61. Women NGO Secretariat of Liberia
62. Women Passion
63. Rural Women Passion
64. Women Rights Watch Liberia
65. Young People Health Peer Educator
66. Youth Development Association
67. Youth for Action and Health Promotion
68. Youth for Human Rights International, Bassa Chapter
69. Youth Movement for Collective Action
70. Zwedru Disabled Association

**GOVERNMENTAL**

1. Ministry of Internal Affairs
2. Ministry of Education
3. Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection
4. Ministry of Justice/Human Rights Division
5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
6. Independent National Commission on Human Rights
7. National Aids Commission of Liberia
8. Liberia National Police/Women and Children Protection
9. National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia
10. National Public Health Institute of Liberia
11. Planned Parenthood Association of Liberia
12. National Commission on Disability
1. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/NHRA/Liberia_en.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. h[ttps://www.childrenandaids.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/Liberia%20NSP%202015-2020%20Final%20\_Authorized\_%20OK.pdf](https://www.childrenandaids.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/Liberia%20NSP%202015-2020%20Final%20_Authorized_%20OK.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. *Source: AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE CHILDREN’S LAW OF LIBERIA, 2011;* [*https://liblaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Children-Law-Liberia-September-2011.pdf*](https://liblaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Children-Law-Liberia-September-2011.pdf)*;*  [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. UNICEF 2020 Report on child marriage in Liberia. Child Marriage Country Profile\_LBR-UNICEF.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. United Nations Committee/CRC/C/LBR/CO/2-4Committee on the Rights of the Child Sixty - first session 17 September – 5 October 2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. *Ref. Liberia Domestic violence bill is amended to include section 16.21l and enacted into law to prosecute and adequately punish perpetrators of female genital mutilation* [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. MOH-EPHS: <https://www.hfgproject.org/essential-package-of-health-services-country-snapshot-liberia/>; [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Spoiling The Belly’: The Dangers Of Backstreet Abortions In Liberia, <https://www.huffpost.com/entry/liberia-backstreet-abortions_n_59021196e4b0af6d718c63b8> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. *Liberia Country Fact sheet on RTE:* [*https://www.right-to-education.org/sites/right-to-education.org/files/resource-attachments/RTE\_Country\_Factsheet\_Liberia\_2012.pdf*](https://www.right-to-education.org/sites/right-to-education.org/files/resource-attachments/RTE_Country_Factsheet_Liberia_2012.pdf); [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Ministry of Education-ESP: <https://www.globalpartnership.org/sites/default/files/getting_to_best_education_sector_plan_2017-2021._liberia.pdf>; [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Ministry of Education-ESP: <https://www.globalpartnership.org/sites/default/files/getting_to_best_education_sector_plan_2017-2021._liberia.pdf>; [↑](#footnote-ref-11)