



PALAIS DES NATIONS – 1211, GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

COURTESY TRANSLATION

9 October 2024

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the fourth cycle review of Chad by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group at its 45th session in January-February 2024. As the final outcome report on the review of Chad was recently adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 56th session, I have taken note of the efforts of your Government to implement specific recommendations since the previous review.

A matrix of thematically clustered recommendations, starting with those supported by your Government, is available at OHCHR's website (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/td-index>) and should be considered as part of this letter. The matrix indicates the recommending State and links each recommendation to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In annex, I have also attached my Office's observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the UPR. In line with previous practice, I will be sending similar observations to all Member States once their fourth cycle UPR outcome is adopted by the Human Rights Council, with a view to follow-up action in close cooperation with national entities and other stakeholders.

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the support available through the Voluntary Fund for UPR Implementation, which may be activated at the request and with the consent of a concerned State, along with tools such as the "UPR practical guidance" and the "UN good practices" repository on how the UPR process supports sustainable development, available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main>, with a view to facilitating efforts to implement UPR recommendations in line with the SDGs.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Volker Türk

His Excellency
Mr. Abderaman Koulamallah
Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs, of African integration of Chadians abroad
and of International Cooperation of Chad



Observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review

Progress made in improving the constitutional and legislative framework, including vesting the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) with constitutional status and the abolition of the death penalty for terrorist acts, through the adoption of Act No. 003/PR/2020, is welcomed. In line with the pledge made on 11 December 2024 at the seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, would be an effective step to make the abolition of the death penalty definitive and irrevocable.

The publication, on 21 February 2023, by the NHRC of the findings of its investigation into the protests of 20 October 2022 is welcomed. The Government of Chad is encouraged to implement the Commission's recommendation to identify and prosecute the perpetrators or instigators of acts of torture, killings and abductions, and to release all peaceful demonstrators arrested during the events of 20 October 2022, as well as to repeal the amnesty law (2023), which prevents the perpetrators of these violations from being brought to justice.

Chad is urged to adopt the bill on the protection of human rights defenders in line with international human rights standards, as well as to develop a national human rights policy, in line with UPR recommendations supported and pledges made by Chad on 11 December 2023. Chad is also encouraged to decriminalize homosexuality and respect the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons by repealing article 354 of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes sexual relations between consenting adults of the same sex.

Further efforts are also needed to guarantee the access of women and girls to education and to combat early marriage and violence against women, including by fully implementing the provisions of the new Criminal Code that punish gender-based and sexual violence against women and girls.

Chad is also encouraged to continue the practice of developing an implementation plan in follow up to the UPR outcome, in close consultation and cooperation with all stakeholders, in particular the parliament, the judiciary, the National Human Rights Commission, local and regional governments, and civil society organizations. The matrix may be of use in the development of such an implementation plan. The Government is encouraged to explicitly link each UPR recommendation to corresponding recommendations from other international and regional human rights mechanisms and to the relevant SDG and its targets. This will, in turn, facilitate the creation of synergies between UPR implementation and SDG-related actions and reporting within the context of the Voluntary National Review (VNR).

The Government is further encouraged to further strengthen the Interministerial Committee for the Follow-up of International Human Rights Instruments, with the aim of



ensuring a coordinated and effective approach to reporting to international human rights mechanisms, and to implementing the recommendations, in line with the guidance provided by OHCHR following regional consultations and the High Commissioner's report to the Human Rights Council ([A/HRC/50/64](#)).

Further, an important measure that could positively contribute to follow-up action is voluntary mid-term UPR reporting. All Member States are encouraged to submit a voluntary mid-term UPR report in about two years after the adoption of the UPR outcome. In this regard, the Government of Chad may wish to consider submitting a mid-term report on follow-up to the fourth cycle UPR recommendations by 2026, detailing both implementation efforts as well as challenges to implementation, including the possible need for technical or capacity-building assistance.

OHCHR
9 October 2024