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Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in the reports of treaty bodies, special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, and other relevant official United Nations documents. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other than those contained in public reports issued by OHCHR. It follows the structure of the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the four-year periodicity of the first cycle of the review. In the absence of recent information, the latest available reports and documents have been taken into consideration, unless they are outdated. Since this report only compiles information contained in official United Nations documents, lack of information or focus on specific issues may be due to non-ratification of a treaty and/or to a low level of interaction or cooperation with international human rights mechanisms.

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations¹

<i>Universal human rights treaties²</i>	<i>Date of ratification, accession or succession</i>	<i>Declarations/reservations</i>	<i>Recognition of specific competences of treaty bodies</i>
ICERD	10 Oct. 1967	None	Individual complaints (art. 14): Yes
ICESCR	10 May 1978	None	–
ICCPR	10 May 1978	Reservation (art. 14)	Inter-State complaints (art. 41): No
ICCPR-OP 1	10 May 1978	Same reservation as in ICCPR.	–
ICCPR-OP 2	22 Feb. 1993	None	–
CEDAW	2 May 1983	Reservation (art. 29)	–
OP-CEDAW	13 May 2002	None	Inquiry procedure (arts. 8 and 9): Yes
CAT	29 July 1991	None	Inter-State complaints (art. 21): Yes Individual complaints (art. 22): Yes Inquiry procedure (art. 20): Yes
CRC	13 Sept. 1990	Declaration (art. 21, 30)	–
OP-CRC-AC	23 Sept. 2003	Binding declaration under art. 3: 18 years	–
OP-CRC-SC	8 May 2002	None	–
<i>Treaties to which Venezuela is not a party: OP-ICESCR,³ OP-CAT (signature only, 2011), ICRMW, CRPD, OP-CRPD and CED (signature only, 2007).</i>			
<i>Other main relevant international instruments</i>		<i>Ratification, accession or succession</i>	
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide		Yes	

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	Yes
Palermo Protocol ⁴	Yes
Refugees and stateless persons ⁵	No. Only 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees.
Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Additional Protocols thereto ⁶	Yes, except Additional Protocol III
ILO fundamental conventions ⁷	Yes
UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education	Yes

1. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD),⁸ in 2005, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW),⁹ in 2006, encouraged the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to consider ratifying ICRMW.

2. En 2011, el Sistema de las Naciones Unidas en la República Bolivariana de Venezuela (SNU) informó que Venezuela no era parte en el Protocolo Facultativo de la Convención contra la Tortura y otros Tratos o Penas Cruelles, Inhumanos o Degradantes.¹⁰

3. The Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), in 2007, recommended that Venezuela ratify CRPD and its Optional Protocol.¹¹

4. In 2001, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) encouraged Venezuela to ratify the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, and the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.¹²

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

5. CEDAW welcomed the adoption of the 1999 Constitution, which used non-sexist language, established the equality of rights between women and men in all spheres of life, and included specific provisions that protect the human rights of women.¹³

6. CERD welcomed the rights and principles contained in the Constitution, which established the multi-ethnic and multicultural nature of Venezuelan society and guaranteed the rights of indigenous peoples.¹⁴

7. Once años después de su visita a Venezuela, el Relator Especial sobre la cuestión de la tortura y otros tratos o penas crueles, inhumanos o degradantes se mostró complacido, en 2008, por los progresos en la legislación para la protección de los derechos humanos y, en particular, para la prevención y la represión de actos de tortura.¹⁵ El Relator Especial lamentó que aún no se hubiera tipificado a la tortura como delito específico en la legislación venezolana conforme a la definición prevista en el artículo 1 de la Convención contra la Tortura.¹⁶

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure

8. The Defensoría del Pueblo of Venezuela was accredited with “A” status by the International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in 2002, which was reconfirmed in 2008.¹⁷ In

2007, CRC recommended that Venezuela ensure the independence of the Defensoría del Pueblo in line with the Paris Principles.¹⁸

9. In 2007, CRC noted that Venezuela had established a Special Directorate for Children's and Adolescents' Rights in the Defensoría del Pueblo, but regretted its lack of presence across the country.¹⁹

10. CERD noted the establishment of specialized institutions to combat racial discrimination.²⁰

D. Policy measures

11. El SNU informó que no existía un plan nacional de derechos humanos tal como lo establecía la Conferencia Mundial de Derechos Humanos de 1993²¹ y que aún existían brechas que superar para que las políticas públicas incorporaran plenamente la perspectiva de derechos humanos.²²

12. El SNU indicó que el país había cumplido los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio relativos a reducción de la pobreza extrema y acceso al agua potable y los sistemas de saneamiento, y que se estarían por alcanzar las metas relativas a educación primaria universal, equidad de género en el acceso a la educación y reducción de la mortalidad infantil.²³

13. El SNU manifestó que se habían realizado esfuerzos para mejorar los derechos económicos y la participación social y política de las mujeres. Destacó la creación de instituciones y de programas sociales como el Banco Nacional de la Mujer, la Misión Vuelvan Caras y Madres del Barrio.²⁴ A pesar de estos avances, aún existía una brecha importante entre el marco político-legislativo y las condiciones necesarias para una adecuada implementación y evaluación de programas que garantizaran el ejercicio pleno de la ciudadanía de las mujeres.²⁵ CEDAW appreciated the various measures aimed at the advancement of women to a position of equality with men.²⁶

14. CRC encouraged Venezuela to elaborate a comprehensive national plan of action for children in consultation with civil society and all other sectors concerned. Such a plan should have effective mechanisms for monitoring and the necessary resources.²⁷

15. El SNU expresó que la inseguridad continuaba siendo uno de los principales desafíos para el Estado y que se requería la elaboración de políticas en materia de seguridad ciudadana con un enfoque de derechos humanos. En este contexto, era importante el impulso que el Poder Ejecutivo estaba dando a la reforma policial.²⁸

II. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

A. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

1. Cooperation with treaty bodies

<i>Treaty body</i> ²⁹	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
CERD	2004	August 2005	Overdue since 2006.	Combined nineteenth and twentieth report overdue since

<i>Treaty body</i> ²⁹	<i>Latest report submitted and considered</i>	<i>Latest concluding observations</i>	<i>Follow-up response</i>	<i>Reporting status</i>
				2008.
CESCR	1998	April 2001	–	Third report overdue since 2006.
HR Committee	1998	April 2001	Responses received in 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2007.	Fourth report overdue since 2005.
CEDAW	2004	January 2006	–	Seventh report overdue since 2008.
CAT	2000	November 2002	–	Fourth report overdue since 2004.
CRC	2006	September 2007	–	Third to fifth report overdue since April 2011.
OP-CRC-AC	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2005.
OP-CRC-SC	–	–	–	Initial report overdue since 2004.

16. CRC encouraged the speedy submission of the State's overdue initial reports under both of the Optional Protocols to the Convention, if possible at the same time.³⁰

2. Cooperation with special procedures

<i>Standing invitation issued</i>	No
<i>Latest visits or mission reports</i>	–
<i>Visits agreed upon in principle</i>	Special Rapporteur on the right to food (dates to be agreed).
<i>Visits requested and not yet agreed upon</i>	Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression (requested visit in 2003 and 2009), Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (requested visit in 2006 and 2008), Special Rapporteur (previously Special Representative of the Secretary-General) on the situation of human rights defenders (requested visit in

	2007 and 2010).
<i>Facilitation/cooperation during missions</i>	–
<i>Follow-up to visits</i>	–
<i>Responses to letters of allegations and urgent appeals</i>	During the period under review, 30 communications were sent. The Government replied to 22 communications.
<i>Responses to questionnaires on thematic issues</i>	Venezuela responded to 7 of the 24 questionnaires sent by special procedures mandate holders. ³¹

3. Cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

17. Venezuela is covered by the OHCHR Regional Office for South America (Santiago, Chile).³² OHCHR assisted Venezuela in initiating the process for the ratification of CRPD³³ and provided training on the UPR to Government institutions, civil society and UNCT.³⁴

18. Venezuela contributed financially to three humanitarian funds in 2004, 2006 and 2009, and to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery in 2007.³⁵

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations

1. Equality and non-discrimination

19. While noting the adoption of measures aimed at combating gender-role stereotypes, CEDAW was concerned about the persistence of stereotypical attitudes and patriarchal patterns of behaviour that undermined women's human rights in respect of the roles and responsibilities of women and men in family and in society.³⁶

20. CEDAW recommended that Venezuela distinguish between general social and economic policies and programmes which also benefited women, and temporary special measures which were necessary to accelerate the achievement of de facto equality for women.³⁷

21. CRC welcomed the creation of the Network of Afro-descendant Organizations but noted that there was a lack of reliable statistics related to the situation of the Afro-descendant population. It also noted that there were discriminatory practices against children of Afro-descendants.³⁸

22. CRC recommended that Venezuela: ensure that all children with disabilities receive education and encourage their inclusion in regular schools; undertake an in-depth study on the prevention of disabilities; and promote and expand community-based rehabilitation programmes, including parent support groups.³⁹

23. El SNU manifestó que no existían normas ni políticas que protegieran a las personas lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, transexuales e intersexuales del rechazo, la discriminación y las violaciones de sus derechos humanos.⁴⁰

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

24. El Relator Especial sobre la cuestión de la tortura expresó en 2008 su preocupación por presuntas muertes de niños bajo custodia policial y por alegaciones de ejecuciones extrajudiciales cometidas por agentes estatales bajo el fenómeno de "ajusticiamiento de

delincuentes". El Relator Especial lamentó la supuesta ausencia de investigaciones prontas e imparciales con relación a muchos de estos casos.⁴¹ CRC made similar observations.⁴²

25. In 2011, the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations deplored the high number of assassinations of trade union leaders and members and expressed its concern at the fact that the number of alleged assassinations provided by trade union organizations differed considerably from those emerging from the information provided by the Government.⁴³

26. El Relator Especial sobre la cuestión de la tortura también expresó su preocupación por presuntos casos de tortura por parte de las fuerzas de seguridad.⁴⁴ CAT expressed similar concerns.⁴⁵ The HR Committee was pursuing dialogue with Venezuela on a case of arbitrary detention and ill-treatment during detention.⁴⁶

27. El SNU manifestó su preocupación por la situación de las personas privadas de libertad. A pesar del Plan de Humanización del Sistema Penitenciario (2004), existían altos niveles de retardo procesal que generalmente desencadenaban manifestaciones de los internos. Era imperativo diseñar una política penitenciaria y proveer los recursos necesarios.⁴⁷

28. El Relator Especial sobre la cuestión de la tortura manifestó su preocupación por la presunta ausencia de criterios de separación y clasificación de las personas privadas de libertad, situación que se encontraría relacionada con el hacinamiento y las deficientes condiciones de los establecimientos carcelarios.⁴⁸ En 2001, el Comité de Derechos Humanos manifestó preocupaciones similares⁴⁹ y recibió comentarios del Gobierno.⁵⁰ Asimismo, el Relator Especial llamó la atención, en 2010, sobre el aumento del 25% de muertes (352) y del 31% de lesiones (736) en las cárceles venezolanas en relación con las cifras de 2009. El Relator Especial añadió haber recibido información acerca de que en el Centro Penitenciario de la Región Centro-Occidental se organizarían riñas entre prisioneros en presencia de funcionarios encargados de hacer cumplir la ley en la cárcel.⁵¹

29. CRC noted programmes on violence against children but was concerned about allegations of ill-treatment, reported substandard conditions of prisons, and reports of children dying in custody.⁵²

30. The HR Committee was concerned about the level of violence against women, and at the many allegations of rape or torture of women in custody by members of the security forces.⁵³

31. CEDAW called upon Venezuela to ensure that perpetrators of violence against women were prosecuted and punished. It encouraged Venezuela to enhance effective access to legal aid for women from all regions, including indigenous women and women of African descent.⁵⁴

32. CERD noted that in the centres of illegal gold prospecting in the upper Orinoco and the Casiquiare and Guainia-Río Negro basins there was evidence that indigenous children and adolescents were subjected to labour exploitation and the worst forms of child labour, including servitude and slavery, child prostitution, trafficking and sale.⁵⁵

33. In 2007, the ILO Committee of Experts noted the enactment of various provisions penalizing the trafficking in persons and requested the Government to provide information on the effect given to them.⁵⁶ CRC recommended that Venezuela establish mechanisms that facilitate the implementation and monitoring of plans and programmes on the subjects of trafficking, sexual exploitation and sale of children.⁵⁷ While noting the establishment of the National Programme of Protection of Child Workers, CRC was concerned about allegations that children were involved in the worst forms of child labour in slavery-like conditions.⁵⁸

34. CRC urged Venezuela to conduct awareness-raising campaigns against corporal punishment.⁵⁹

35. CRC recommended that Venezuela ensure that street children were provided with adequate nutrition, shelter, health care and educational opportunities as well as adequate protection and assistance.⁶⁰

3. Administration of justice and the rule of law

36. El SNU indicó que la provisionalidad de los jueces suponía una limitante y podía condicionar su independencia. El fortalecimiento institucional y material del Sistema de Administración de Justicia y la supresión de la provisionalidad en el nombramiento de jueces, como medidas para reforzar la independencia judicial, constituía un desafío para el Estado.⁶¹ En 2001 el Comité de Derechos Humanos manifestó preocupaciones similares.⁶²

37. El Relator Especial sobre la independencia de los magistrados y abogados llamó la atención del Gobierno en dos oportunidades durante 2009 en relación con una sentencia de la Sala Constitucional del Tribunal Supremo de Justicia que declaraba “inejecutable” un fallo de la Corte Interamericana de Derechos Humanos que ordenaba, entre otros elementos, la reincorporación de varios jueces provisionales de la Corte Primera de lo Contencioso Administrativo. La sentencia solicitaba asimismo al Poder Ejecutivo proceder a la denuncia de la Convención Americana sobre Derechos Humanos. El Relator Especial recordó que los principios de estabilidad e inamovilidad del juez debían aplicarse incluso a los jueces provisorios. El Relator Especial también recibió información sobre la existencia de fiscales provisorios que podrían ser despedidos sin que mediara ningún tipo de proceso.⁶³ En 2010, la nueva Relatora Especial agradeció la respuesta del Gobierno pero siguió preocupada por la vulnerabilidad de los fiscales y jueces provisorios.⁶⁴

38. CRC recommended that Venezuela consider raising the age of criminal responsibility, and take all necessary measures to ensure that children be held in detention only as a last resort, as briefly as possible and separately from adults; that they not be subject to ill-treatment; and that the deprivation of liberty be reviewed on a regular basis.⁶⁵

39. En septiembre de 2010 el Grupo de Trabajo sobre la detención arbitraria emitió la opinión 20/2010 relativa a la jueza María Lourdes Afiuni Mora quien, en diciembre de 2009, había decretado la liberación bajo caución de una persona detenida que había sido objeto de otra opinión del Grupo de Trabajo.⁶⁶ La jueza Afiuni fue arrestada por los Servicios de Inteligencia y Prevención y fue acusada de los delitos de corrupción, abuso de autoridad, asociación para delinquir y favorecimiento de evasión. El Grupo de Trabajo consideró que la privación de la libertad de la jueza Afiuni era arbitraria y pidió al Gobierno su libertad inmediata o someterla a un debido proceso, gozando la detenida de libertad provisional.⁶⁷ El Gobierno respondió señalando, entre otros elementos, que la jueza Afiuni había desconocido una resolución del Tribunal Constitucional e informó que las alegaciones referidas a atentados contra la vida de la jueza Afiuni no habían ocurrido.⁶⁸ Otros procedimientos especiales manifestaron su preocupación de que el arresto y la detención de la jueza Afiuni se hubieran llevado a cabo como represalia por el ejercicio legítimo de sus funciones constitucionales y hayan representado un intento de reprimir la independencia de jueces y abogados en el país.⁶⁹

40. CERD noted with interest the existence of special courts to settle conflicts in accordance with the traditions and customs of indigenous peoples.⁷⁰

4. Right to marriage and family life

41. CRC was concerned about the difference between the minimum age of marriage for girls (14 years) and boys (16 years) and recommended establishing the same minimum age

and considering raising it to 18 years.⁷¹ CEDAW⁷² and the HR Committee⁷³ made similar recommendations.

42. CRC welcomed the various initiatives and achievements made in facilitating registration of children at birth, such as the National Plan for Identity entitled “*Yo Soy*”.⁷⁴

5. Freedom of religion or belief, expression, association and peaceful assembly, and right to participate in public and political life

43. In 2009 the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief brought to the attention of the Government information regarding acts of religious intolerance and violence against members of the Catholic and Jewish communities.⁷⁵ The Government sent a reply.⁷⁶

44. In 2011, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that the situation of the right to freedom of expression had deteriorated over the last years.⁷⁷ It noted that the Constitution recognized freedom of expression (arts. 57 and 58) but also established a number of prerequisites (art. 58) that were incompatible with the international human rights instruments.⁷⁸ Other legislation could also restrict the right to freedom of expression:⁷⁹ the Penal Code was reformed in 2005 to broaden the scope of the norms protecting the honor and reputation of State officials from the broadcasting of critical expressions that might be considered offensive (arts. 147 and 148);⁸⁰ the Law on Social Responsibility in Radio and Television provided for seven restrictions on information that could be considered to “incite or promote hatred”, “foment anxiety in the citizenry” or “ignore the authorities”.⁸¹ UNESCO recommended that Venezuela: reassess media legislation provisions to guarantee that it is not in contradiction with the Government’s expressed commitment to defend freedom of expression; improve the safety of journalists; and investigate the crimes against media workers, and report on those investigations to counter impunity.⁸²

45. Entre 2009 y 2010, el Relator Especial sobre la promoción y protección del derecho a la libertad de opinión y de expresión envió siete comunicaciones al Gobierno.⁸³ En julio de 2009, envió un llamamiento urgente en relación con la revocación de las licencias estatales a 285 emisoras de radio y televisión⁸⁴ y, en enero de 2010, envió otro llamamiento urgente en relación con el cierre colectivo de canales de televisión por cable.⁸⁵ En agosto de 2009, envió un llamamiento urgente en relación con el “Proyecto de Ley Especial contra los Delitos Mediáticos”.⁸⁶ En enero de 2010, envió un llamamiento urgente en relación con el hostigamiento, la intimidación y las amenazas en contra de Globovisión.⁸⁷ El Relator Especial agradeció al Gobierno por su respuesta a esta última comunicación pero lamentó no haber recibido respuestas a varias comunicaciones enviadas entre 2004 y 2010.⁸⁸

46. UNESCO noted that the National Sovereignty and Self-Determination Law, reformed in December 2010, established that political freedom and national self-determination should be protected from any foreign interference, such as financial support, that might be intended to undermine the stability and functioning of democratic institutions. The Law instituted that political organizations, organizations for the defence of political rights or persons involved in political activities could only receive donations or contributions from national individuals or corporations. UNESCO noted that those limitations could affect the stability of NGOs that received international funds and that did not have any other income.⁸⁹ CEDAW was concerned that the requirement of double registration with civil and institutional entities, by sector, might constitute an obstacle for NGOs.⁹⁰

47. El SNU informó que en materia de participación política de las mujeres se habían producido avances y retrocesos. Cuando en 2008 el Consejo Nacional Electoral aprobó la paridad de mujeres y hombres en las postulaciones, las mujeres obtuvieron casi el 50% de

los cargos elegibles, mientras que en las elecciones más recientes para la Asamblea Nacional - que no contaron con el instrumento de paridad en las postulaciones - la representación de mujeres fue inferior al 20%.⁹¹

48. CRC welcomed that young adolescents could vote at the municipal level at the age of 15 and the general practice that children were heard in judicial and administrative proceedings. It remained concerned that the creation of space for children to be heard was not stimulated sufficiently.⁹²

49. CRC noted that the legislation guaranteed the right to information but was concerned about the quality of the television and radio programmes and their compatibility with a child rights approach. It was also concerned that indigenous children and children of Afro-descendants did not receive sufficient information relevant to their needs. It encouraged Venezuela to ensure that public programmes were consistent with children's rights in all sectors of the population.⁹³

50. CERD noted progress in the interaction between the Government and NGOs representing Afro-descendants and the designation of 10 May as Afro-Venezuelan Day.⁹⁴

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

51. The ILO Committee of Experts noted the various provisions of the reformed Penal Code and other legislation which restricted the exercise of the rights to demonstrate and to strike, and which criminalized legitimate trade union activities, as well as the allegations that a climate of intimidation was being intensified towards workers and employers organizations and leaders which did not support the Government.⁹⁵ The HR Committee raised similar concerns in 2001.⁹⁶

52. Furthermore, the ILO Committee of Experts urged Venezuela to take all necessary measures to protect workers in both the public and private sectors from discrimination on the grounds of political opinion, in accordance with Convention No. 111 (1958) concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation.⁹⁷ El SNU consideró como un importante avance el considerar nulo cualquier acto o medida de discriminación del patrono, fundada en razones de VIH/SIDA.⁹⁸

53. The ILO Committee of Experts regretted, also, that nine years after its finalization, the bill to reform the Basic Labor Act to eliminate restrictions on the rights granted by Convention No. 87 (1948) concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, had still not been adopted by the National Assembly, despite enjoying tripartite consensus.⁹⁹

54. CEDAW was concerned about the persistent wage differential between women and men and about the insufficient understanding of the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.¹⁰⁰

7. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

55. CRC welcomed State efforts to reduce poverty through its social programmes, especially through the missions, but remained concerned that children continued to be most affected by poverty.¹⁰¹

56. El Marco de Asistencia de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (MANUD) 2009-2013 informó que a pesar de las políticas de inclusión las disparidades en Venezuela seguían siendo importantes.¹⁰² CERD reiterated its concern at the persistence of profound structural inequalities which affected Afro-descendants and indigenous peoples.¹⁰³

57. El SNU expresó que se habían cumplido las metas de reducción de la pobreza extrema y la mejora del acceso al agua potable y los sistemas de saneamiento. Sin embargo,

quedaban por resolver la sostenibilidad institucional y la mejora de la calidad de los servicios.¹⁰⁴

58. El SNU indicó que los esfuerzos para fortalecer el acceso de la población a alimentos en cantidad suficiente habían mejorado los niveles de nutrición, aunque éstos no necesariamente fueran los más adecuados para una alimentación balanceada.¹⁰⁵

59. En cuanto a la salud, el SNU explicó que la falta de un sistema unificado que universalizara las políticas estatales ha sido una de las limitantes para el pleno goce del derecho a la salud.¹⁰⁶

60. CRC recommended that Venezuela strengthen its efforts to reduce neonatal and maternal mortality throughout the country by providing quality care and facilities; continue to address the problem of malnutrition and low vaccination rates; and integrate the Barrio Adentro health mission and the public health network so they complement each other.¹⁰⁷

61. CEDAW urged Venezuela to ensure effective access of women to sexual and reproductive health services, particularly to young women, women from rural areas, indigenous women and women of African descent.¹⁰⁸ The HR Committee expressed concern about the criminalization of all non-therapeutic abortion, particularly in the light of unchallenged reports that many women were undergoing life-threatening illegal abortions.¹⁰⁹

8. Right to education

62. UNESCO stated that Venezuela recognized education as one of the basic human rights and a fundamental social obligation of the State. The existing constitutional and legal framework provided for quality education, respect for the principles of non-discrimination, cultural diversity, participation, inclusiveness, the best interest of the child and social justice.¹¹⁰ El SNU informó que la tasa de alfabetización se había incrementado notablemente.¹¹¹

63. Por su parte, el SNU manifestó que, sin perjuicio de los avances logrados, quedaba por mejorar la desigual distribución de oportunidades de educación que todavía afectaba principalmente a algunos segmentos de la población con más bajos recursos.¹¹²

64. CRC welcomed that children's education was a top priority of the Government's policies and that progress was evident. It remained concerned however that enrolment rates were still not satisfactory; dropout was high after the first grade; enrolment rates for indigenous children, Afro-descendants and children living in rural areas were low; refugee and asylum-seeking children faced obstacles in continuing their education; and that the quality of education was unsatisfactory.¹¹³

9. Minorities and indigenous peoples

65. El SNU reconoció que los pueblos indígenas gozaban de derechos específicos que buscaban saldar la deuda histórica de colonización y discriminación. A la vez, hubo importantes avances institucionales como la creación del Ministerio del Poder Popular para los Pueblos Indígenas. No obstante, el avance en la implementación de las normas había sido limitado y los resultados en la práctica ambiguos, debido a las dificultades para elaborar políticas con enfoque intercultural, así como a la carencia de una plataforma de diálogo continuo entre el Estado y los pueblos indígenas.¹¹⁴

66. El SNU añadió que se requería implementar políticas dirigidas a fortalecer la educación intercultural bilingüe, la educación en derechos humanos en idiomas indígenas y la extensión de campañas educativas sobre salud sexual y reproductiva dirigidas a las poblaciones rurales, indígenas y afrodescendientes que tomaran en cuenta el enfoque de género e intercultural.¹¹⁵

67. CERD requested Venezuela to take efficient and urgent measures to end violence related to land conflicts, which mainly affected indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, including the establishment of an independent monitoring mechanism to investigate such incidents to ensure that they do not go unpunished.¹¹⁶ Furthermore, CERD took note of the efforts made by Venezuela to demarcate indigenous lands, but remained concerned that the effective ownership of indigenous lands and resources continued to be threatened and restricted by repeated aggression from individuals and private groups.¹¹⁷

68. CERD noted that the identity document issued to indigenous persons included the name of the ethnic group, the people and community to which such persons belonged, and requested Venezuela to ensure that the identity document for indigenous persons be based upon self-identification.¹¹⁸

69. El SNU observó que un importante avance para los afrodescendientes en Venezuela había sido la inclusión de su identificación, vía auto reconocimiento, en el Censo de Población y Vivienda 2011.¹¹⁹

10. Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers

70. El SNU informó que el retraso en la aprobación del Reglamento de la Ley de Extranjería y Migración, que debía incluir claramente a refugiados y solicitantes de refugio, dificultaba la adecuada implementación de esta norma.¹²⁰ Adicionalmente, no existía un documento de política pública para atender la situación de las personas en necesidad de protección internacional (PNPI).¹²¹ Además, la legislación interna no había recogido la definición ampliada de refugiado contenida en la Declaración de Cartagena sobre los Refugiados de 1984. Consecuentemente, muchas PNPI que habían huido de la violencia generalizada o de violaciones de derechos humanos no tenían acceso a la protección del Estado.¹²²

71. En Venezuela los solicitantes de refugio y los refugiados tenían un acceso relativo a la educación y al mercado laboral por la falta de documentación y por la centralización de la emisión de documentación permanente en Caracas. El acceso de estos derechos para los migrantes irregulares estaba restringido por la falta de documentación.¹²³

72. CRC recommended that Venezuela establish institutional agreements between the National Commission for Refugees and the child protection institutions and that it ensure rapid access to age-sensitive refugee status determination procedures and assistance for unaccompanied children.¹²⁴

III. Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints

73. CERD noted with satisfaction that indigenous peoples were represented in the National Assembly with deputies elected by indigenous peoples in keeping with their traditions and customs.¹²⁵

74. El SNU informó que el acceso al tratamiento del VIH/SIDA era universal y gratuito, garantizado y sin discriminación.¹²⁶

75. El SNU informó que la inflación, la disminución del producto interno bruto y la tasa de desempleo afectaban los derechos económicos de la población ante el aumento de los precios y la aún insuficiente provisión de oportunidades de empleo. A esto había que añadir las inundaciones de finales de 2010, que ocasionaron más de 100.000 damnificados y muchas necesidades de emergencia, situación que presionó sobre otras prioridades de la agenda nacional pública.¹²⁷

76. El SNU señaló que, aunque se habían realizado importantes esfuerzos para garantizar el acceso a la información pública, era necesario mejorar los registros y estadísticas nacionales y poner esta información a disposición del público.¹²⁸

77. CRC recommended that Venezuela seek technical assistance and cooperation from the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice.¹²⁹

IV. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

Specific recommendations for follow-up

78. CERD requested Venezuela to inform it within a year of the implementation of its recommendations contained in paragraphs 14 (disaggregated statistical data on the Afro-descendants), 18 (indigenous individuals or Afro-descendants murdered in land conflicts) and 19 (indigenous peoples of the upper Orinoco and the Casiquiare and Guainia-Río Negro) of the concluding observations.¹³⁰

79. The HR Committee requested Venezuela to furnish, within one year, information on, inter alia, actions taken on recommendations related to torture (para. 8 of the concluding observations), police detention (para. 9), prisons (para. 11) and the status of the judiciary and due process (12–14).¹³¹ Four replies were received.¹³²

80. El SNU formuló, entre otras, las siguientes recomendaciones:

a) Fortalecer sistemas de información, generar estadísticas adecuadas y establecer mecanismos de monitoreo sobre acciones destinadas a igualdad de género, soberanía alimentaria, niñez y adolescencia, medio ambiente, pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes, PNPI, administración de justicia y seguridad ciudadana, a fin de facilitar la rendición de cuentas y la definición de políticas adecuadas;¹³³

b) Aprobar una Ley Orgánica de reforma del Registro Civil así como legislación antidiscriminatoria y para el reconocimiento legal de las parejas del mismo sexo;¹³⁴

c) Aprobar el Reglamento de la Ley Orgánica Sobre el Derecho de las Mujeres a una Vida Libre de Violencia e introducir las reformas correspondientes en los Códigos Civil y Penal;¹³⁵

d) Establecer el programa formativo de jueces en materia de derechos humanos como requisito para el ingreso y la permanencia en la carrera judicial;¹³⁶

e) Diseñar y aplicar políticas y programas de acceso a la justicia, con particular atención a las personas privadas de libertad, con ayuda del SNU y el ACNUDH;¹³⁷

f) Generar espacios de diálogo con todos los integrantes de la sociedad organizada, independientemente de las tendencias políticas;¹³⁸

g) Mejorar los mecanismos necesarios para asegurar y ampliar la participación política de la mujer venezolana;¹³⁹

h) Aprobar la propuesta de Ley Orgánica de Salud dirigida a la consecución del Sistema Público Nacional de Salud;¹⁴⁰

i) Documentar a todos los solicitantes de refugio y refugiados que se encuentren en el territorio venezolano garantizando el principio de no devolución y otras normas internacionales.¹⁴¹

V. Capacity-building and technical assistance

N/A

Notes

¹ Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratifications of instruments listed in the table may be found in *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 1 April 2009* (ST/LEG/SER.E/26), supplemented by the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, <http://treaties.un.org/>.

² The following abbreviations have been used for this document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
CED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

³ Adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/117 of 10 December 2008. Article 17, paragraph 1, of OP-ICESCR states that “The present Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Covenant”.

⁴ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

⁵ 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

⁶ Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field (First Convention); Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea (Second Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War (Third Convention); Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Fourth Convention); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II); Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem (Protocol III). For the official status of ratifications, see Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, at www.eda.admin.ch/eda/fr/home/topics/intla/intrea/chdep/warvic.html.

⁷ International Labour Organization Convention No. 29 concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour; Convention No. 105 concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour; Convention No. 87 concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise; Convention No. 98 concerning the

Application of the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively; Convention No. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value; Convention No. 111 concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation; Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment; Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

- ⁸ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD/C/VEN/CO/18), para. 23.
- ⁹ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6), para. 38.
- ¹⁰ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 5.
- ¹¹ Concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC/C/VEN/CO/2), para. 57.
- ¹² Concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (E/C.12/1/Add.56), para. 21.
- ¹³ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, para. 5.
- ¹⁴ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 4.
- ¹⁵ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, para. 816. See also the concluding observations of the Committee against Torture (CAT/C/CR/29/2), para. 6.
- ¹⁶ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, para. 820. See also the concluding observations of the HR Committee (CCPR/CO/71/VEN), para. 8.
- ¹⁷ For the list of national human rights institutions with accreditation status granted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC), see A/HRC/16/77 of 3 February 2011, annex. See also the report and recommendations of the Subcommittee on Accreditation (A/HRC/10/55), annex II, para. 3.8.
- ¹⁸ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 17.
- ¹⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 16.
- ²⁰ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, paras. 5-6.
- ²¹ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 8.
- ²² *Ibid.*, para. 10.
- ²³ *Ibid.*, para. 12.
- ²⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 58.
- ²⁵ *Ibid.*, para. 59.
- ²⁶ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, para. 7.
- ²⁷ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 11.
- ²⁸ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 34.
- ²⁹ The following abbreviations have been used for this document:
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|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| CERD | Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination |
| CESCR | Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights |
| HR Committee | Human Rights Committee |
| CEDAW | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women |
| CAT | Committee against Torture |
| CRC | Committee on the Rights of the Child |
- ³⁰ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 82.
- ³¹ The questionnaires referred to are those reflected in an official report by a special-procedure mandate holder issued between 1 January 2007 and 1 June 2011. Responses counted for the purposes of this section are those received within the relevant deadlines, and referred to in the following documents: (a) A/HRC/6/15, para. 7; (b) A/HRC/7/6, annex; (c) A/HRC/7/8, para. 35; (d) A/HRC/8/10, para. 120, footnote 48; (e) A/62/301, paras. 27, 32, 38, 44 and 51; (f) A/HRC/10/16 and Corr. 1, footnote 29; (g) A/HRC/11/6, annex; (h) A/HRC/11/8, para. 56; (i) A/HRC/11/9, para. 8, footnote 1; (j) A/HRC/12/21, para. 2, footnote 1; (k) A/HRC/12/23, para. 12; (l) A/HRC/12/31, para. 1, footnote 2; (m) A/HRC/13/22/Add.4; (n) A/HRC/13/30, para. 49; (o) A/HRC/13/42, annex I; (p) A/HRC/14/25, para. 6, footnote 1; (q) A/HRC/14/31, para. 5, footnote 2; (r) A/HRC/14/46/Add.1; (s) A/HRC/15/31/Add.1, para. 6 – for list of responding States, see www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/WaterAndSanitation/SRWater/Pages/ContributionsPSP.aspx; (t) A/HRC/15/32, para. 5; (u) A/HRC/16/44/Add.3; (v) A/HRC/16/48/Add.3, para. 5, endnote 2; (w) A/HRC/16/51/Add.4; (x) A/HRC/17/38, see annex I.

- ³² OHCHR, *High Commissioner's Strategic Management Plan 2010-2011* (Geneva), p. 89.
- ³³ *Ibid.* and OHCHR, *2010 Report*, p. 165.
- ³⁴ OHCHR, *2010 Report*, p. 165.
- ³⁵ OHCHR, *2009 Report: Activities and Results*, pp. 190 and 217.
- ³⁶ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, paras. 23–24.
- ³⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 16.
- ³⁸ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, paras. 80–81.
- ³⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 57.
- ⁴⁰ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 47.
- ⁴¹ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2 para. 818.
- ⁴² CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, paras. 35–36.
- ⁴³ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Observation concerning ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), 2011, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062011VEN087, twenty-seventh paragraph.
- ⁴⁴ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, para. 818.
- ⁴⁵ CAT/C/CR/29/2, para. 10. See also CAT/C/21/D/110/1998.
- ⁴⁶ CCPR/C/27/D/156/1983 and *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 40*, vol. I (A/59/40 (Vol. I)), pp. 149 and 157.
- ⁴⁷ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 38.
- ⁴⁸ A/HRC/7/3/Add.2, para. 819.
- ⁴⁹ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 11.
- ⁵⁰ CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.1.
- ⁵¹ A/HRC/16/52/Add.1, para. 246.
- ⁵² CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, paras. 43–44.
- ⁵³ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 17.
- ⁵⁴ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, paras. 25–26.
- ⁵⁵ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 19. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), 2008, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092008VEN182, twelfth paragraph.
- ⁵⁶ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Observation concerning ILO Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), 2007, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062007VEN029, second and third paragraphs.
- ⁵⁷ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 75.
- ⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, paras. 70–71.
- ⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 55.
- ⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 73.
- ⁶¹ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 36.
- ⁶² CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 13. For the Government response, see CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.5.
- ⁶³ A/HRC/14/26/Add.1, paras. 1169–1188.
- ⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 1208; see also paras. 1220–1229, and CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 14.
- ⁶⁵ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 77.
- ⁶⁶ Opinion 10/2009. See A/HRC/13/30/Add.1.
- ⁶⁷ A/HRC/16/47/Add.1, pp. 92–101, paras. 4, 7, 12, 49 and 50.
- ⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 25.
- ⁶⁹ See A/HRC/16/44/Add.1, paras. 2417–2434; A/HRC/16/52/Add.1, para. 245; A/HRC/14/26/Add.1, paras. 1230–1235.
- ⁷⁰ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 8.
- ⁷¹ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, paras. 27–28.
- ⁷² CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, paras. 33–34.
- ⁷³ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 18.
- ⁷⁴ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 39.
- ⁷⁵ A/HRC/13/40/Add.1, paras. 248–250.
- ⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, paras. 251–257.
- ⁷⁷ UNESCO submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 17.1.

- ⁷⁸ Ibid., para. 17.3.
⁷⁹ Ibid., para. 17.4.
⁸⁰ Ibid., para. 17.7.
⁸¹ Ibid., para. 17.5.
⁸² Ibid., para. 31.
⁸³ A/HRC/14/23/Add.1.
⁸⁴ Ibid., paras. 2606-2611.
⁸⁵ Ibid., paras. 2623-2626.
⁸⁶ Ibid., paras. 2612-2615.
⁸⁷ Ibid., paras. 2627-2635.
⁸⁸ Ibid., para. 2636.
⁸⁹ UNESCO submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 17.10.
⁹⁰ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, para. 19.
⁹¹ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 42.
⁹² CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 37.
⁹³ Ibid., paras. 41-42.
⁹⁴ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 13.
⁹⁵ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Observation concerning ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062011VEN087, sixth and eighth paragraphs.
⁹⁶ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 27.
⁹⁷ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Observation concerning ILO Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062010VEN111, eighth paragraph.
⁹⁸ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 33.
⁹⁹ ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Observation concerning ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), 2011, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 062011VEN087, thirty-seventh paragraph.
¹⁰⁰ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, para. 29.
¹⁰¹ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 64.
¹⁰² The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, UNDAF 2009-2013, para. 24. Available from www.undg.org/docs/9751/MANUD-DOCUMENTO-COMPLETO.doc.
¹⁰³ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 17.
¹⁰⁴ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 12.
¹⁰⁵ Ibid., para. 18.
¹⁰⁶ Ibid., para. 23.
¹⁰⁷ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 59.
¹⁰⁸ CEDAW/C/VEN/CO/6, para. 32.
¹⁰⁹ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 19.
¹¹⁰ UNESCO submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 7.1.
¹¹¹ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 27.
¹¹² Ibid., para. 30.
¹¹³ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 66.
¹¹⁴ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 43. See also CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 28.
¹¹⁵ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 45.
¹¹⁶ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 18.
¹¹⁷ Ibid., para. 20. See also A/HRC/12/34/Add.1, paras. 448-465 and E/C.12/1/Add.56, para. 12.
¹¹⁸ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 15. See also ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Individual Direct Request concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), 2010, Geneva, doc. No. (ILOLEX) 092010VEN169, para. 1.
¹¹⁹ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 45.
¹²⁰ Ibid., paras. 60-61.
¹²¹ Ibid., para. 67.

- ¹²² Ibid., para. 64.
¹²³ Ibid., para. 65. See also E/C.12/1/Add.56, para. 11.
¹²⁴ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 69.
¹²⁵ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 7.
¹²⁶ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 25.
¹²⁷ Ibid., para. 14.
¹²⁸ Ibid., para. 11.
¹²⁹ CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, para. 77.
¹³⁰ CERD/C/VEN/CO/18, para. 25.
¹³¹ CCPR/CO/71/VEN, para. 30.
¹³² CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.1, CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.2, CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.3, CCPR/CO/71/VEN/Add.5.
¹³³ UNCT submission to the UPR on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, para. 73.
¹³⁴ Ibid., para. 69.
¹³⁵ Ibid., para. 70.
¹³⁶ Ibid., para. 78.
¹³⁷ Ibid., para. 85.
¹³⁸ Ibid., para. 74.
¹³⁹ Ibid., para. 79.
¹⁴⁰ Ibid., para. 71.
¹⁴¹ Ibid., para. 92.
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