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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
Eighth session  
Agenda item 6

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Argentina**

**Addendum**

**Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented  
by the State under review**

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1. The Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations Office at Geneva reaffirmed the commitment of Argentina to the universal system for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms.
2. For Argentina, the system of bodies created pursuant to human rights treaties and special procedures of the Human Rights Council is one of the main achievements of the United Nations in the field of the promotion and protection of human rights at the universal level, and constitutes one of the principal tools of the Organization for ensuring the compliance with international human rights obligations assumed by States.
3. Argentina noted that in the framework of the reform of the United Nations system some three years ago, the establishment of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) was one of the main innovations. The UPR enables the Council to assess the human rights situation in a given country within a framework of universality and non-selectivity, while ensuring equal treatment for all States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/251 which created the Council.
4. Argentina noted that with the two first sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, the system has been put in place. Throughout these two sessions, a genuine and constructive international dialogue and an excellent cooperation among States took place, and this will certainly contribute to improving the compliance with human rights obligations and commitments. Nevertheless, Argentina noted that it is important to further improve the mechanism within the framework of the Working Group. In particular, it is necessary to work with a view to contributing to the uniformity of certain key aspects of the mechanism, such as the preparation of the reports of the Working Group, in coordination with the troika and the Secretariat, as well with regard to the format to be used for the section on recommendations.
5. Argentina was in the first group of countries to be reviewed in the context of the UPR. Within the framework of the review of Argentina, 21 recommendations were made. The Government of Argentina has accepted all those recommendations.
6. Argentina considers that this last stage of the mechanism – the adoption of the outcome by the Council – is of particular importance since it makes it possible to include civil society in the process, in an active and participatory manner. Argentina has supported the participation of the civil society since the beginning of the negotiations on the institution-building process. Argentina highlighted the importance of contributions by non-governmental organizations to the debate.
7. Argentina also wished to emphasize the issue of follow-up to the recommendations and commitments made within the framework of the UPR. The Council will in the future have the task of carrying out that work in the most appropriate manner. In this regard, Argentina has embarked on domestic measures to comply with the recommendations made during the review and with its voluntary commitments. Argentina will report in due course on the follow-up to the recommendations and commitments. Argentina indicated that it had already decided to announce its decision to recognize the competence of the Committee established under the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance to examine individual complaints and inter-State communications, through a communication sent to the relevant office of the United Nations in New York.

8. Similarly, Argentina announced that on 21 May, the Congress approved the legislation authorizing the executive branch to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto, the Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights to Abolish the Death Penalty and the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

9. The Government of Argentina is also developing new initiatives to comply with recommendation number No. 4 in respect to witness protection, in particular those witnesses giving evidence in trials related to human rights violations.

10. Argentina further indicated that it is committed to keep the Council informed of developments for the fulfilment of its commitments and follow-up to the recommendations, and reiterated its commitment to continuing to take an active part in the work of the Council.

11. Argentina thanked the various actors who have made it possible for this new mechanism to come to life for their work and efforts, in particular, the President, the Secretariat of the Human Rights Council and the delegations that worked in the preparation of the guidelines and modalities for the process, the methods to elect the States to be reviewed and the troika members. Argentina also expressed its appreciation to the troika members for Argentina – the delegations of Cameroon, Cuba and Ukraine - for their work and efforts during the review, as well as for the constructive spirit and dialogue on issues under consideration.

12. Argentina thanked the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for its crucial cooperation and support. The inputs provided by the Office, both substantive and logistic, made a significant contribution to the mechanism, in particular, for the consolidation of the practice in the preparation of reports, which include the views and contributions from the treaty monitoring bodies, the special procedures mechanisms and the civil society. The contributions from stakeholders and other actors strengthen the mechanism and should be further supported and consolidated in the near future.

13. Argentina noted that it had also taken due note of the statements and suggestions expressed during the adoption of the final outcome of the UPR. Argentina reiterated its firm support to the UPR as well as its commitment to continue to work in a constructive way within the framework of the UPR in the near future.

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