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**Human Rights Council**

**Thirty-ninth session**

10–28 September 2018

Agenda item 6

**Universal Periodic Review**

**Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

**Cameroon**

**Addendum**

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

| *No. recommendation* | *Cameroon’s Decisions* | *Observations* |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| 121.1 | Rejected | Cameroon is a de facto abolitionist.  For several decades, there have been no death penalties.  The legal framework still maintains death penalty as a deterrent. |
| 121.2 | Rejected |  |
| 121.3 | Rejected |  |
| 121.4 | Rejected |  |
| 121.5 | Rejected |  |
| 121.6 | Rejected |  |
| 121.7 | Rejected |  |
| 121.8 | Rejected |  |
| 121.9 | Rejected |  |
| 121.10 | Rejected |  |
| 121.11 | Rejected |  |
| 121.12 | Accepted | As 121.10, 121.11, As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35.  Cameroon signed these instruments and pledges to submit before the Parliament bills for their ratification by the next UPR cycle. |
| 121.13 | Accepted |  |
| 121.14 | Accepted | 121.19 to 121.21, 121.26, 121.32 to 121.35. |
| 121.15 | Accepted  Accepted  Accepted  Rejected | As 121.19 to 121.21, 121.26.  As 121.10, 121.11.  As 121.13.  As 121.1 to 121.9 concerning the second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty. |
| 121.16 | Accepted  Accepted | As 121.13.  As 121.10, 121.11. |
| 121.17 | Accepted  Accepted  Rejected | As 121.10, 121.11.  As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.  As 121.1 to 121.9. on the abolition of the death penalty. |
| 121.18 | Rejected |  |
| 121.19 | Accepted |  |
| 121.20 | Accepted |  |
| 121.21 | Accepted |  |
| 121.22 | Accepted  Accepted | As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.  As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35. |
| 121.23 | Accepted | The 2016 Penal Code and other legal instruments have provisions on child protection. |
| 121.24 | Accepted |  |
| 121.25 | Accepted  Accepted | As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26.  As 121.13. |
| 121.26 | Accepted |  |
| 121.27 | Rejected  Accepted | As 121.28.  As 121.19, 121.20, 121.21, 121.26. |
| 121.28 | Rejected | The ratification of the Rome Statute is not a prerequisite for collaboration with the ICC.  Though not Party to the Rome Statute, Cameroon intends to take into account in its legislative framework, crimes falling under the competence of the ICC. In this regards, the Code of Military Justice enacted in 2017 grants competence to Military courts for the prosecution of war crime and the crime of genocide. |
| 121.29 | Accepted |  |
| 121.30 | Accepted |  |
| 121.31 | Accepted  Accepted  Accepted | As 121.13.  As121.10, 121.11.  As 121.23, 121.24, 121.32 to 121.35. |
| 121.32 | Accepted |  |
| 121.33 | Accepted |  |
| 121.34 | Accepted |  |
| 121.35 | Accepted |  |
| 121.36 | Rejected |  |
| 121.37 | Accepted  Accepted  Accepted | As 121.38, 121.40, 121.41.  As 121.10, 121.11. |
| 121.38 | Accepted | Process is ongoing. |
| 121.39 | Accepted  Accepted  Accepted | As 121.38, 121.40, 121.41.  As 121.10, 121.11.  As 121.13. |
| 121.40 | Accepted |  |
| 121.41 | Accepted |  |
| 121.42 | Rejected |  |
| 121.43 | Accepted |  |
| 121.44 | Accepted |  |
| 121.45 | Accepted |  |
| 121.46 | Accepted |  |
| 121.47 | Accepted |  |
| 121.48 | Accepted |  |
| 121.49 | Accepted |  |
| 121.50 | Accepted |  |
| 121.51 | Rejected |  |
| 121.52 | Rejected |  |
| 121.53 | Accepted |  |
| 121.54 | Accepted |  |
| 121.55 | Accepted |  |
| 121.56 | Accepted |  |
| 121.57 | Accepted |  |
| 121.58 | Accepted |  |
| 121.59 | Accepted |  |
| 121.60 | Accepted |  |
| 121.61 | Accepted |  |
| 121.62 | Accepted |  |
| 121.63 | Accepted |  |
| 121.64 | Accepted | Dialogue is the main option taken by the State to address the situation in the South West and North West. |
| 121.65 | Accepted |  |
| 121.66 | Accepted | As 121.61, 121.63 and 121.64. |
| 121.67 | Accepted |  |
| 121.68 | Accepted |  |
| 121.69 | Accepted | As 121.140. |
| 121.70 | Accepted |  |
| 121.71 | Accepted |  |
| 121.72 | Accepted |  |
| 121.73 | Accepted |  |
| 121.74 | Rejected |  |
| 121.75 | Rejected |  |
| 121.76 | Rejected |  |
| 121.77 | Rejected |  |
| 121.78 | Rejected |  |
| 121.79 | Rejected |  |
| 121.80 | Rejected |  |
| 121.81 | Rejected |  |
| 121.82 | Rejected |  |
| 121.83 | Rejected |  |
| 121.84 | Rejected |  |
| 121.85 | Rejected | As 121.79. |
| 121.86 | Rejected |  |
| 121.87 | Rejected |  |
| 121.88 | Accepted | As 121.56. |
| 121.89 | Accepted |  |
| 121.90 | Noted |  |
| 121.91 | Noted |  |
| 121.92 | Rejected  Noted | As 121.1 to 121.9.  As 121.91, 121.93 to121.96. |
| 121.93 | Noted |  |
| 121.94 | Noted |  |
| 121.95 | Noted |  |
| 121.96 | Noted  Rejected | As 121.92.  As121.6 to 121.9. |
| 121.97 | Rejected |  |
| 121.98 | Rejected |  |
| 121.99 | Accepted |  |
| 121.100 | Accepted |  |
| 121.101 | Accepted |  |
| 121.102 | Rejected |  |
| 121.103 | Accepted |  |
| 121.104 | Noted |  |
| 121.105 | Accepted | The improvement of detention conditions is a continuous endeavour. With the increased available means, infrastructure is constantly improved, human capacity strengthened, in order to humanize the condition of detainees. |
| 121.106 | Accepted | As 121.105. |
| 121.107 | Accepted  Accepted | The guarantees against arbitrary detention are set in the legal framework and are applied by the courts.  As 121.105.  The National Commission on Human Rights and Freedoms on a regular basis visits detention facilities.  More so, initial and continuous training of Judicial and Legal officers incorporate human rights modules.  Furthermore, the National Compensation Commission for victims of abusive arrests and detention is operational. |
| 121.108 | Rejected |  |
| 121.109 | Noted | Persons deprived of liberty are detained in official detention facilities. |
| 121.110 | Noted |  |
| 121.111 | Accepted | As 121.109. |
| 121.112 | Accepted | The Minister of Defence has repeatedly taken public stance for a no tolerance policy in case of torture, excessive use of force by military forces.  Investigations are opened on alleged cases and perpetrators sanctioned if found guilty. |
| 121.113 | Accepted | As 121.120. |
| 121.114 | Accepted | As 121.112. |
| 121.115 | Accepted | As 121.112. |
| 121.116 | Accepted | As 121.112. |
| 121.117 | Accepted | As 121.107. |
| 121.118 | Noted | The right to public demonstration is guaranteed and expected to be peaceful.  Violence is not allowed and perpetrators are accountable in accordance with the law. |
| 121.119 | Noted | The rules of admissibility of evidence in electoral matters before a court are stated in the Electoral Code. |
| 121.120 | Accepted | The rights to freedom of expression, association and of assembly are guaranteed.  Limitations to civil rights and liberties are aimed at protecting the rights of other citizens as well as public order, security, tranquillity and morality. |
| 121.121 | Accepted | Freedom of expression is guaranteed and can be exercised in accordance with laws and regulations. |
| 121.122 | Accepted |  |
| 121.123 | Accepted | As 121.120. |
| 121.124 | Accepted | As 121.120. |
| 121.125 | Accepted |  |
| 121.126 | Accepted |  |
| 121.127 | Accepted |  |
| 121.128 | Accepted |  |
| 121.129 | Noted | An assessment of the implementation of the programme will determine how it should continue.  However, the promotion of decent work is at the centre of Government priorities.  Actions include the implementation of voluntary insurance for workers of the informal sector, ongoing consultations on universal healthcare, the establishment of the consultative and follow-up committee on social dialogue, the signing of many collective conventions in 2015, etc. |
| 121.130 | Accepted | The legal framework provide for equal opportunities for men and women in the labour market.  Efforts are made to eliminate discrimination against women in the labour market. |
| 121.131 | Accepted |  |
| 121.132 | Accepted |  |
| 121.133 | Accepted | To curb violence against women, the National Strategy to Fight against GBV is being implemented. It includes awareness raising, capacity building and sanctions against perpetrators.  The Penal Code contains offences likely to address various types of violence against women.  Call centres and gender desks have been established for the psychosocial assistance of victims, alongside civil society initiatives.  As 121.130. |
| 121.134 | Accepted |  |
| 121.135 | Accepted | Resources are being transferred to councils for assistance to vulnerable persons. Cash transfer to poor households has improved under the social safety net.  Voluntary insurance has been opened to workers of the informal sector.  The Universal health coverage system is under development.  Increase of the amount of families allowances.  Income Generating Activities for women and youth.  Special Youth Programme with a budget of 102 billion FCFA (180,5 million US Dollars).  Within the context of the implementation of the Decent Work country Program, the 1st priority is to increase decent employment opportunities and Income Generating Activities, especially for women, youth and vulnerable groups. |
| 121.136 | Accepted | Vision 2035 for Cameroon’s Development is in line with the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) adopted in 2009.  The GESP lays emphasis on accelerating growth, creating formal employment and reducing poverty. It aims at increasing growth to 5.5% annual average in the 2010-2020 period ; reduce under employment from 75.8% to less than 50% by 2020 with the creation of many tens of thousands of formal jobs per year over the next ten years; and reduce the rate of monetary poverty from 39.9% in 2007 to 28.7% in 2020.  Programmes are being implemented in order to combat poverty.  National Community Driven Development Programme (NCDDP)/ Project for the Improvement of Agricultural competitiveness (PACA). |
| 121.137 | Accepted |  |
| 121.138 | Accepted | The new Health sector Strategy (2016–2027) sets out the strategic orientation for the development of the health sector:   * Improve services of health districts; * Promoting healthcare; * Preventing sickness; * Mother, child, and adolescent health; * Improving living conditions. |
| 121.139 | Accepted |  |
| 121.140 | Accepted  Accepted  Accepted | Equal access to healthcare is guaranteed.  The Penal Code sanctions discrimination based on medical status.  Furthermore, the fight against discrimination is a core element of the National Strategic Plan to fight against HIV/AIDS.  The right to health is included in the National Action Plan for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. |
| 121.141 | Noted | As 121.140. |
| 121.142 | Accepted | As 121.140. |
| 121.143 | Accepted | As 121.138. |
| 121.144 | Accepted |  |
| 121.145 | Accepted |  |
| 121.146 | Accepted |  |
| 121.147 | Rejected |  |
| 121.148 | Accepted |  |
| 121.149 | Accepted | At the level of higher education:   * Expansion of the offer of academic training by opening new institutes of higher learning laying emphasis on technological and professional fields * Strengthening of the development of ICT to enhance distance education. |
| 121.150 | Accepted |  |
| 121.151 | Accepted |  |
| 121.152 | Noted | The Priority Education Area Support Programme (PASZEP) considers regions with indigenous populations and nomadic communities. |
| 121.153 | Accepted |  |
| 121.154 | Noted | Cameroon is party to human rights conventions relating to the fight against discrimination (CERD, CEDAW, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa…).  Policies and programmes are being developed towards an inclusive educational system. |
| 121.155 | Noted | Cameroon will organize the Estates general of Education at the end of which a position will be adopted concerning the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education. However, Cameroon is committed to the policy of non-discrimination, including in the field of education. |
| 121.156 | Noted |  |
| 121.157 | Noted | Sexual harassment is criminalised under the 2016 Penal Code (section 302-1), cases of sexual harassment of students by teachers are heavily sanctioned (both criminal and disciplinary), the Gender National Policy document has also included the improved access to education for girls in its Strategic orientation No. 2. |
| 121.158 | Accepted |  |
| 121.159 | Accepted |  |
| 121.160 | Accepted |  |
| 121.161 | Accepted | The fight against child marriage, enhancement of sexual and reproductive health of adolescents contribute to increase the attendance rate of girls. |
| 121.162 | Accepted |  |
| 121.163 | Accepted  Accepted | As 121.133; 121.161.  The Penal Code has criminalised various forms of violence against women, including Female Genital Mutilation (art 277-1), early and forced marriages (art 356).  Henceforth giving a boy or girl below 18 in marriage is a criminal offence contrary to the previous law which set different ages for boys (18) and girls (15).  Regarding FGM, less than 1% of the population is concerned by this practice. Two regions are concerned by this practice namely: The Far North and the South West. The cosmopolitan nature of some towns has led to the spread of this phenomenon giving the impression that it is a national concern.  Though insignificant, this proportion is considered huge by Cameroonian authorities for measures to be taken to stamp it out.  Also, Government showed its determination to combat FGM by signing, on 11 September 2011, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Council of Muslim Dignitaries to continue this sensitisation.  Furthermore, proximity actions are carried out through local structures created for the sensitisation activities of Traditional Authorities.  The five year action plan to fight against FGM adopted in 2011 was revised in 2016. |
| 121.164 | Accepted |  |
| 121.165 | Accepted |  |
| 121.166 | Accepted |  |
| 121.167 | Noted |  |
| 121.168 | Accepted | The Penal Code of 12 July 2016 has made provisions to combat discriminatory practices in marriage and family relations. The legal framework is under review to repeal other discriminatory provisions.  Female Genital Mutilation is criminalised under Section 277-1 of the Penal Code. |
| 121.169 | Accepted | Women empowerment is an important component of the National Gender Policy. |
| 121.170 | Accepted | In 2009, Cameroon adopted the law on legal assistance which enables underprivileged women to receive assistance. |
| 121.171 | Accepted |  |
| 121.172 | Accepted |  |
| 121.173 | Accepted  Accepted | As 121.133; 121.161.  There are provisions of the Penal Code to investigate and prosecute domestic violence. |
| 121.174 | Accepted | Section 277-1 Penal Code.  Section 277-2 Penal Code / The Penal Code, in its Article 277 paragraph 2, punishes any attempt to prevent an organ from growing. This violation includes breast ironing.  Provisions of the Penal Code on the protection of the physical integrity of the person sanctions discriminatory widowhood rites. |
| 121.175 | Accepted | As 121.133. |
| 121.176 | Accepted | As 121.133. |
| 121.177 | Accepted | As 121.133. |
| 121.178 | Accepted | As 121.133. |
| 121.179 | Accepted | The Penal Code contains provisions on violence against women. Subsequent marriage of the victim and the perpetrator does not cancel prosecution as per section 297 of the Code. |
| 121.180 | Accepted | As 121.133.  There are provisions in the Penal Code that are used to prosecute domestic violence.  The Cameroonian Penal Code punishes rape.  The formulation of this punishment does not say marital status should be an excuse. |
| 121.181 | Accepted | A multi-sectoral action plan for the implementation of the national gender policy and the concept of gender sensitive budgeting as lever for its effective implementation have been adopted. |
| 121.182 | Accepted | As 121.133. |
| 121.183 | Accepted | Elaboration of the National Plan of Action for child Protection is ongoing.  Early childhood policy document validated. |
| 121.184 | Accepted | In 2014, a quadripartite Committee was set up including Government, employers, workers, and the civil society.  Later, the national action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour was adopted in 2017.  This plan is in line with the resolutions adopted during the 4th Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, in November 2017 in Buenos Aires. |
| 121.185 | Noted | As 121.30.  Moreover the protection of children’s rights as a cross cutting issue is taken into account in the different legal initiative reforms. |
| 121.186 | Noted | As per section 350 of Penal Code, assault on children is an aggravating circumstance. |
| 121.187 | Noted |  |
| 121.188 | Accepted |  |
| 121.189 | Accepted |  |
| 121.190 | Accepted |  |
| 121.191 | Accepted | Cameroon is party to international and regional conventions prohibiting the recruitment of children in armed groups and armed forces. Some of these are the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.  Policies aimed at eradicating the recruitment of children by armed groups are twofold, prevention and rehabilitation.  The preventive approach focuses on affording children better conditions of life thus diverting them from possible attractions by armed groups. In this regard, employment opportunities developed include integrating them into the Army as well as the Public Service, development projects are being implemented in areas likely to be affected by insecurity including terrorism.  For instance: PLANUT (2014-2017), Projects dedicated to the development of the territory have integrated the areas affected by terrorism.  The Lake Chad Basin Development Plan was set up by the LCBC for countries hit by Boko Haram. One of the aspects of this plan was dedicated to the Far North Region of Cameroon and had as objective to fight transnational insecurity through many actions. One is the strategy for the consolidation of peace in the Northern and East Regions of Cameroon (2018-2022).  Children associated with armed groups offered rehabilitation opportunities through rehabilitation centres. |
| 121.192 | Accepted | A coordination and follow-up committee of strategies to fight against traffic of human organs and ritual crimes was created by Oder No. 012/CAB/PM of 31 January 2013.  Kidnappers are prosecuted before the courts and when found guilty are punished. |
| 121.193 | Accepted | Apart from the legislative and regulatory framework already mentioned above (as 121.10),to implement its policy for the integration of persons with disabilities at the strategic and operational levels, two Decrees have been issued by the Prime Minister:   * Decree No. 2018/PM of 26 July 2018 concerning modalities for the application of Law No. 2010/002 of 13 April 2010 on protection and promotion of persons with disabilities; * Decree No. 2018/6234/PM of 26 July 2018 reorganising the National Committee for Re-adaptation and Socioeconomic Reinsertion of Persons with Disabilities, which has branches at the national level. |
| 121.194 | Accepted | As 121.127. |
| 121.195 | Accepted | Life Saving Project for the protection of women and children against GBV in humanitarian situation in the Adamawa and East Regions.  Government has established a gender desk, call centres, social cohesion areas and committees to assist victims of GBV in all areas. |
| 121.196 | Accepted | Cameroon cooperates with stakeholders to provide humanitarian assistance to affected population. |

N.B. Different positions are given when necessary, to recommendations with multiple components.

1. \* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)