

**Mid-term Report on the progress made  
in the implementation of the recommendations  
issued at the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review**

**TOPIC 1 : CONSOLIDATION OF DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW**

<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<b>Recommendation # 69 (Viet Nam): Intensify efforts and measures to strengthen the rule of law</b>	<p>The Constitution has upgraded the judicial branch to an independent power. In this framework, the High Commission for National Dialogue on Judicial Reform conducted extended regional consultations that led to drafting the National Charter on Justice System Reform, which allows the establishment of the two by-laws of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary and the Statutes of the Judiciary, ensuring a comprehensive and effective representation of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary. The Constitution recommends the need for setting up an inspectorate affiliated to the Supreme Council of the Judiciary in charge of investigation, inquiry and control of courts. The Charter is chaired by the Public Prosecutor of the Kingdom at the Court of Cassation, while the delegated president of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary is in charge of coordination between the Supreme Council and the other branches of power.</p> <p>With regard to the dissemination of legal and judicial information, an electronic portal has been continuously enriched with updated laws and jurisprudence acts, as well as numerous studies, monographs and guides. The website of the Ministry of Justice and Liberties is constantly updated and continuously fed by the activities and initiatives conducted in the field of justice in general. Also, many seminars and study days have been organized to raise awareness to the laws that have come into force.</p> <p>In order to facilitate communication with citizens, reception units have been created at court houses in charge of explaining and simplifying procedures through flyers and leaflets. Citizens now have access to information via the website of the Ministry of Justice and Liberties. They may track their applications online, and consult data on the trade register.</p>
<b>Recommendation # 68: Step up efforts to combat impunity and ensure access to justice;</b> <b>Recommendation # 69: Intensify efforts and measures to strengthen the rule of law;</b> <b>Recommendation # 72: Continue prioritizing the reform of justice, under the principle of separation of powers;</b> <b>Recommendation # 89: Continue efforts to consolidate separation of powers</b>	
<b>Recommendation # 71 (Brazil): Conduct a national program or campaign to raise awareness about and encourage compliance with the new laws, along with similar campaigns directed towards judges and other operators of the law</b>	
<b>Recommendation # 74 (Iraq): Adopt international human rights standards in national trials</b>	
<b>Recommendation # 81 (Turkey): Continue efforts to further enhance the separation of powers</b>	

<p><b>First part of Recommendation # 1 (Uruguay): Establish expressly in the Criminal Code the criminalization of enforced disappearances and a ban of its statute of limitations</b></p>	<p>Within the framework of reviewing the Penal Code so as to align it with the international commitments of Morocco, the scientific committee in charge of preparing this Code has taken account of a set of crimes which did not use to be criminalized in the Moroccan Penal Code, including enforced disappearance. During the preparation of this draft law, the Committee examined the provisions stated in the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons against Enforced Disappearance, as Article 495 of the draft law stipulates the punishment of any person who commits an act of enforced disappearance, detention, arrest or abduction against another person, or any act that leads to the deprivation of personal liberty without an order from the competent authorities, and in cases other than those allowed or required by the law. The draft law also provides for the implementation of mitigating circumstances for any person who voluntarily puts an end to detention or abduction, in conformity with paragraph 2 of Article 9 of the Declaration on the Protection of all Persons against Enforced Disappearances.</p> <p>The Criminal Procedure Code has specified the period of the statute of limitations of public lawsuit and criminal sentence in 20 years (Article 5 and Chapter 649 of the Criminal Procedure Code). By the same token, the Criminal Procedure Code stipulates that the statute of limitations does not apply to public lawsuits as to crimes to which statutory limitation may not apply in conformity with the law or an international convention ratified by the Kingdom of Morocco, published in the Official Gazette.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 20 (France): Continue the implementation of the provisions of the new Constitution so as to ensure full respect for human rights</b></p>	<p>In implementation of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Morocco, which was adopted on 11 July 2011, the Government prepared a legislative plan containing the full programming of the relevant draft laws. In this regard, the Parliament passed many laws, including acts on human rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law N° 64-12 on the creation of the Body for the Control of Insurance and Social security ,</li> <li>- Law N° 146-12 approving the European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights of 25 January 1996 ,</li> <li>- Law N° 144-12 approving Convention 132 on Annual Holidays with Pay.</li> <li>- Law N° 105.12 on the Supreme Council for Education, Training and Scientific Research;</li> <li>- Law N°147-12 approving the Convention on Contact Concerning Children, signed in Strasbourg on 15 may 2003;</li> <li>- Law N°148-12 approving the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, signed in Lanzarote on 25 October 2007;</li> <li>- Law N°128-12 on the Economic, Social and Environmental Council;</li> <li>- Law N°066.13 on the Constitutional Court;</li> <li>- Law N° 20.13 on the Competition Council.</li> </ul> <p>The Government Council also debated, in the period 2012-2014, a set of draft laws and regulations related to the implementation of the provisions of the constitution related to human rights. They are currently at the Parliament to be passed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Law N° 18-12 on compensation for labor accidents;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Law N° 19-12 specifying the conditions of labor and employment with regard to domestic workers;</li> <li>- Draft Law N° 125-12 approving the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, agreed upon in New York on 6 October 1999 by the General Assembly;</li> <li>- Draft Law N° 126-12 approving the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, signed in New York on 16 December 1966;</li> <li>- Draft Law N°87-13 approving the European Convention 108 for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, signed in Strasbourg on 28 January 1981;</li> </ul> <p>The draft legislative texts below are also at the final stage of preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Law N° 13 on the right of access to information;</li> <li>- Draft Law N° 103-13 on combatting violence against women;</li> <li>- Draft regulation N° 100-13 on the Supreme Council of the Judiciary;</li> <li>- Draft Law N° 90-13 on the National Council for the Press.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation # 34 (Nepal): Formulate programs for the effective implementation of the National Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights</b></p>	<p>The Government has updated the content of the National Plan for Democracy and Human Rights in close coordination with the National Council for Human Rights and the supervising committee, taking account of the upcoming context of its adoption, especially the Constitution, the Government Program, the Conventions accessed by Morocco, as well as the reform projects initiated. Necessary funds have been provided within the budget of the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights in order to ensure implementation of the provisions of the National Plan, and the Government is committed to presenting the updated bill at the Government Council, after disclosing it to the entire set of sectors.</p>

## **TOPIC 2: CONTINUATION OF COMMITMENT AND COOPERATION WITH THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM**

<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<b>Recommendation # 129 (Uruguay, Argentina, the first part of Recommendation # 1): Ratify the International Convention against Enforced Disappearances and recognize the competence of its Committee</b>	The Kingdom of Morocco signed the International Convention on the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances (ICCPED) on 6 February 2007; it was ratified on 15 May 2013, and published in the Official Gazette # 6078 on 30 August 2013.
<b>The first part of Recommendation # 2 and Recommendation # 8 (Australia, Moldavia): Accession to the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</b>	The Ministerial Council held on 12 November 2012 ratified the Draft Law N° 126-12 approving accession to the Protocol, which has been submitted to the Parliament for approval.
<b>The second part of Recommendation # 2 and Recommendations # 7 and 11 (Australia, Moldavia, Slovenia): Accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</b>	The Ministerial Council held on 12 November 2012 ratified the Draft Law N° 125-12 approving accession to the Protocol, which has been submitted to the Parliament for approval.
<b>The third part of Recommendation # 2 and Recommendation # 4 (Australia, Denmark): Accession to the Optional Protocol of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment</b>	conducted on 17 November 2013, and was published in the Official Gazette on 4 July 2013.
<b>Recommendation # 3 - Recommendation # 4 (Chad): Consider ratifying the ILO Convention No. 87 on the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize</b>	<p>The Convention Concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize (No. 87) is still subject to consultation and coordination among the different government departments in order to overcome the discords posed by the by-laws of some government sectors with the principles of this Convention such as the Bylaws of Judges.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Labor Law takes account of all the provisions of this Convention. It guarantees the rights and liberties regarding association, and ensures a set of rights and principles including the right to establish labor organizations, to be a member therein and to end membership therefrom. It prevents the dissolution of labor unions without a court order. Professional unions play an effective role in the consolidation of the culture of social dialogue and strengthening of professional relations at all levels. In this regard, the rounds of social dialogue between the Government, major labor unions and professional organizations have led to many agreements, the last of which was on 26 April 2011, whose clauses include the commitment of our country to the ratification of Convention 87.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation # 5 (Belgium, Estonia, France, Spain): Consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</b></p>	<p>Morocco witnesses extensive dialogue conducted by various components of society, especially civil society associations working on human rights, with a view to intensifying accession to international human rights conventions, including the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 10 (Portugal): Sign the Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</b></p>	
<p><b>The first part of Recommendation # 6 (Austria, Costa Rica, Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia, Switzerland): Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;</b>  <b>The first part of Recommendation # 6 (Austria, Costa Rica, Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia, Switzerland): Fully align legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including incorporating the Rome Statute definition of crimes and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court</b></p>	<p>The Moroccan Constitution criminalizes all acts considered as crimes under the Rome Statute. The Draft Criminal Law criminalizes such crimes, including the crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity, and contains punitive measures for them. The Government has also reviewed Military Justice Law, by adopting a new Draft Law # 108-13 on military judiciary, pending the completion of the procedure by the Parliament.</p> <p>Morocco witnesses a public debate conducted by the civil society and Parliament for awareness-raising and advocacy for the accession of Morocco to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 9 (Philippines): Consider ratifying the ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers</b></p>	<p>The preparation by Morocco of Draft Law N° 19-12 specifying the conditions of labor and standards in social legislation. The entire set of provisions of this Draft Law are in line with the ILO Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers. It should be noted that under Article 19 of ILO Constitution, this Convention was proposed to Morocco to be taken into account in every legislative initiative related to any issue addressed in this regard, which was done during the preparation of Draft Law N° 19-12 mentioned above.</p>
<p><b>Second part of Recommendation # 38 (Latvia, Uruguay): Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council</b></p>	<p>Morocco officially declared its unconditional openness to Special Procedures, and renewed such declaration in May 2012 on the occasion of submitting its National Report in the Second Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review. So far Morocco, has received 9 Special Procedures, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography in 2000;</li> <li>2. The Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in 2003;</li> <li>3. The Special Rapporteur on the right to education in 2006;</li> <li>4. The Special Rapporteur on enforced or involuntary disappearances in 2009.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Recommendation # 53 (Belarus): Consider the possibility of inviting the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children</b></p>	<p>After the adoption of the new Constitution in 2011, Morocco intensified its interaction with the mechanisms of Special Procedures, and 5 Procedures have been received:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5- The Independent Expert on Cultural Rights in 2011;</li> <li>6- The Working Group on discrimination against women in law and in practice in 2012;</li> </ol>

	<p>7- The Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in 2012;</p> <p>8- The Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children in 2013;</p> <p>9- The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in 2013.</p> <p>Moreover, preparations are underway to receive the Special the Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers in 2014.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 123 (Costa Rica): Continue cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms</b></p>	<p>The Kingdom of Morocco has stepped up the momentum of its interaction with the various UN human rights bodies and mechanisms, such as the Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures. The Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights (DIDH) is working on the submission of the remaining reports in conformity with the schedule set by Treaty Bodies. The Kingdom of Morocco intensified its interaction with the UN human rights mechanisms even further after the creation of the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights in April 2011 (see Recommendation above).</p>



	<p>Concerning violence at school, it should be noted that the basic training of educational staff contains the subject of school legislation, which prohibits physical punishment of girls and boys in schools, along with the provisions of the internal regulation of educational institutions on rights and obligations as well as the disciplinary mechanisms in the event of breaching such regulations, and the follow up of the implementation of the legislation in force, which prohibits corporal punishment at educational institutions. In this respect, counseling and mediation centers have been established in educational institutions, amounting to 3289 centers. This was corroborated by the establishment of regional centers for monitoring violence at schools, and thematic units and groups set up under the guidance and orientation of qualified educational staff. The government is currently working on the preparation of a draft law on the creation of the Commission for Parity and the Fight against all Forms of Violence against Women, an advisory council on the family and childhood, as well a draft law on combatting violence against women.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 18 (Ecuador): Study the possibility of harmonizing the domestic legislation with recently ratified international conventions and protocols</b></p>	<p>The Constitution stipulates in its Preamble that duly ratified international conventions are granted supremacy over national legislation as soon as they are published, within the scope of the provisions of the Constitution, the laws of the Kingdom, and its deep-rooted national identity. It calls for the alignment of these legislations with the requirements of such ratification. In this regard, many projects have been launched on the alignment of national legislations with the requirements of the ratification of international conventions, chief of which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Law, taking account of international instruments and conventions that the Kingdom of Morocco has ratified in order to align them with international standards.</li> <li>- Amendment of Nationality Code: The Ministry of Justice and Liberties prepared in 2013 a draft law on the amendment and completion of Article 10 of Nationality Code, targeting the establishment of equality in granting the Moroccan nationality through marriage to Moroccan men and women, which currently allows only foreign women married to Moroccan men to submit a statement to obtain Moroccan nationality through marriage.</li> <li>- Preparation of Draft Law of Violence against women N° 103.13 mentioned above (Recommendations N° 12, 14, 16, 24, 51, 54, 55, 63, 64, 25, 26, 62 and the first part of Recommendation N° 21).</li> </ul> <p>Moreover, a draft alignment frame of reference is under preparation, along with a set of legislative and regulatory texts in the light of international standards, and the preparation of standards and indicators in the area of alignment and harmonization. In this respect, MPs and legal officers in government departments and national institutions received training in the field of harmonization on national laws with international commitments on equality and non-discrimination against women. A guide on this matter is being prepared.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 15 and 23 (Belgium, Norway): Revise the Penal Code as well as other legislation such as the Family Code to</b></p>	<p>The drafting of the Charter of the Justice System Reform was completed in July 2013. It contains two volumes. The first concerns the general foundations of reform, the second outlines the major strategic objectives of reform, through six main goals: 1) consolidation of the justice system autonomy, 2)</p>

<p><b>ensure that they are in line with international standards</b></p>	<p>moralization of the justice system, 3) strengthening of the protection of rights and liberties by the judiciary, 4) upgrading the effectiveness and efficiency of the judiciary, 5) institutional capacity building of the justice system and 6) modernization of judicial management and consolidating its governance. The Penal Code and Family Code constituted important topics addressed at the forums of the national dialogue on the justice system reform.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 17 (Belgium) Codify the principles of gender equality in all areas of its national legal framework</b></p>	<p>In the framework of activating the principle of equality and non-discrimination against women, approved by the Constitution, the codification of the principles of gender equality enjoys special priority, through strengthening the institutional framework by the creation of the Commission for Parity and the Fight against all Forms of Discrimination as well as by establishing the Government Plan for Equality in View of Parity 2012/2016 "<i>Ikram</i>", which comprises a set of measures for equal and equitable access to administrative, political and economic decision-making positions. (See also Recommendation No. 93 - (Greece): Adopting more policies to promote the participation of women in all settings of public life, including the political and professional ones.</p>

#### **TOPIC 4: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

<b>Relevant Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<p><b>Recommendation # 13 (Zimbabwe):</b> Continue to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	<p>Refer to the legal and institutional framework of the protection of human rights at the national level, in the</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 29 (Nepal):</b> Continue strengthening the institutional mechanism for the promotion and protection of human rights</p>	
<p><b>Recommendation # 28 (Hungary):</b> Cooperate regionally in the field of National Human Rights Institutions</p> <p><b>Recommendation # 125 (Venezuela):</b> Actively pursue the program scheduled by the National Human Rights Institution and share the best practices acquired with the international community</p>	<p>With a view to promoting the exchange of experiences and expertise, the National Council for Human Rights intensifies its activities at the regional and international levels. In this context, it has organized several forums, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- An international symposium in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights processes" (19 - 20 December 2013);</li> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">(30 October 2013);</li> <li>- An international symposium in collaboration with the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Reintegration of Prisoners and Non-governmental International Organization for Penal Reform on "criminal policies and their effects on punitive systems " (4 - 5 February 2014);</li> <li>- An international symposium in partnership with DIDH and the Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights on "the governance of immigration and human rights" (July 2013).</li> </ul> <p>The Council also participated in a series of international meetings to provide its recommendations on the rights of foreigners in Morocco (Council of Europe, the high-level discussion on global migrations in New York ...). The Council contributed to a study prepared by the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and participated in four international forums on this topic in Dakar, Accra and Geneva, where it exposed the Moroccan experience in the field of entrepreneurship and human rights. It also participated in the consultative meeting on "the role of African National Human Rights Institutions</p> <p>The Council is a board member of the General Assembly of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), and participates in regular sessions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights. The National Council for Human Rights also hosted the Ninth session of the General Assembly of the Arab Network of National Institutions, which it chairs. It presided over the proceedings of this Network, which culminated in the adoption of the strategy and action program of the Network. The Council also participated in all the meetings of the Network Executive Committee hosted by the State of Qatar.</p> <p>The Council participates as observer in the work sessions 34 and 35 of the Permanent Arab Committee for Human Rights of the League of Arab States. It took the initiative to organize a coordination meeting</p>

	<p>bringing together Arab institutions and non-governmental organizations for the advocacy of the institutionalization and activation of the observer status within this Committee. The Council also contributed in 3 sessions of the high-level Committee of Experts of Arab countries to the preparation of the statute of the Arab Court of Human Rights.</p> <p>Since October 2012, the Council has been chairing the Assembly of the Francophone Association of National Human Right Institutions, and participates in the forums organized by the Association, including a conference held in Paris in November 2013. The Council participates in the European - Arab dialogue of national institutions for human rights, the most recent of which was the eighth meeting of the dialogue on autonomy and accountability.</p> <p>The Council works with the Mexican Commission for Human Rights on the preparation of the second meeting of the Ibero - Arab Network for Human Rights, which will be held on the issue of immigration in June 2014 in Mexico. The Council participated in 2013 and 2014 in the 26th and 27th annual meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for Human Rights.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 84 (Azerbaijan): Continue the effective and action-oriented cooperation between Government and national human rights institutions</b></p>	<p>The National Council contributes to the preparation of periodic reports on the implementation of international conventions and UPR reports, as well as the coordination for the preparation of Morocco's participation in the sessions of the Human Rights Council, along with visits in the framework of special procedures.</p> <p>Within the setting of its interaction with government sectors, the Council received their response regarding the implementation of the recommendations contained in its report on prisons (October 2013). The bilateral interaction with government sectors has been enhanced: DIDH , Ministry of Interior (the new policy of immigration , association liberties) , Ministry of Foreign Affairs , Ministry of Health , Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development , Ministry of Culture , Ministry of Education (updating the Comprehensive Convention on 14 December 2013).</p> <p>The Council participates in national dialogues and the preparation of public policies, such as the National Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights, justice system reform, strategic planning on disability, national dialogue on civil society, Advisory Committee in charge of preparing a draft law on the Advisory Council for Youth and Associative Action, the framework law on youth, as well as the contribution to the preparation of the national strategy on human rights and HIV / AIDS.</p> <p>The Council prepares and sends memoranda and expert opinions concerning the draft laws prepared by the Government, such as the draft regulatory law on the Supreme Council of the Judiciary, the draft regulatory law on the statute of judges, the draft law on the fight against violence against women, a bill related to the conditions of labor and employment for domestic workers and the regulatory law on Government action.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 125 (Venezuela): Actively pursue the program scheduled by the National Human Rights Institution and</b></p>	

<p><b>share the best practices acquired with the international community</b></p>	
<p><b>Recommendation # 30 (Norway): Prioritize and sufficiently resource the National Human Rights Council and the Office of the Ombudsman</b></p>	<p>in order to increase the annual budget allocated to the Council, to enable it to fully perform its roles, following its restructuring at the regional and central levels.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 31 and 89 (Jordan and Egypt): Continue cooperation and constructive dialogue between the Government and the entire set of non-governmental organizations</b></p>	<p>Decree N° 45-12-2 was promulgated on 26 January 2012 specifying the scope of competence of the Minister in charge of Relations with the Parliament and Civil Society. In this context, the Ministry launched the national dialogue on civil society and its new constitutional roles, on 13 March 2013, which resulted up to 21 March 2014 in holding 18 regional meetings, attended by more than 7,000 local and national associations and more than 10 parallel regional meetings organized at the initiative of local associations, and 3 meetings with Moroccan associations operating outside Morocco. It organized more than 50 information workshops, as well as a final national forum held in Rabat on 20 and 21 March 2014, attended by more than 500 participants from civil organizations in the fields of human rights and development from various cities and villages of the Kingdom, along with representatives of the government sectors, national civil actors in Morocco and abroad, representatives of several agencies for international cooperation, and representatives of international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and national and international experts.</p> <p>This dialogue witnessed the presentation of detailed memoranda by more than 250 associations, comprising their perceptions on how to develop legislation regulating the action of civil society organizations and the pathways for an adequate effectuation of the constitutional provisions of participatory democracy.</p> <p>The National Committee supervising dialogue also organized 8 academic meetings, and other thematic and consultative meetings with international experts in collaboration with the World Bank, through which it was exposed to many comparative experiences and advanced international practices in the areas of participatory democracy and promotion of civil society, with the aim of preparing the production of an integrated legal system, comprising the draft regulatory law on legislative petitions, the draft law on public consultation, the bill of a comprehensive code of community life and the National Charter of Participatory Democracy.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 126 (Yemen): Streamline its experience of establishing Inter-ministerial public administration and delegation dealing with human rights in order to make other countries benefit from this experience</b></p>	<p>DIDH, in its capacity as an interministerial entity for the coordination of Government action in the field of human rights, shares its experience with various international partners from foreign countries as well as international associations and organizations. In this regard, with a view to consolidating dialogue and cooperation with similar entities, many delegations of human rights officers from several states conducted fact-finding visits to DIDH: a delegation from Switzerland in March 2013, a delegation from Bahrain in May 2013, a delegation from Germany in February 2014, and a delegation from Guinea in April 2014.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation # 127 (Hungary): Organize regional conferences in Morocco to exchange views and best practices on promoting forward looking initiatives and fostering cooperation between regional groups</b></p>	<p>DIDH organized many international events in Morocco, and participated in several events and activities abroad, which allowed the exchange of experiences and expertise, and upgraded the capacity of national actors in the area of human rights. In this connection, these events among others are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- of inter-</li> <li>- -up of the implementation of the recommendations issued by the mechanism of Universal Periodic Review and strategic planning</li> <li>2013;</li> <li>- Organization of an internation</li> </ul>
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**TOPIC 5: PROMOTING THE CULTURE OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

<b>Relevant Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<p><b>Recommendation # 36 (Qatar): Continue efforts to disseminate the culture of human rights</b></p>	<p>The dissemination of the culture of human rights through the national education system is an important endeavor in the country. In this regard, the sector of higher education conducted the implementation of human rights by creating training and research units in the area of human rights 1997-2000 and UNESCO Chairs in universities. The pedagogical reform also focused on the prospects of human rights education and support university education curricula.</p> <p>The sector of education created a central unit supported by regional, sub-regional and local mechanisms, which prepared a national strategy, with the participation of the relevant government departments and civil society organizations. It promoted the rights-sensitive approach in Pedagogical Specifications, by introducing clauses about education of integrity, transparency, transitional justice, sustainable development, gender, gender equality and non-violence. A set of new school textbooks have been updated at the secondary and high school and common core classes, in line with new educational developments and the provisions of the Kingdom of Morocco.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 67 and 73 (Switzerland and Greece): Continue programs of human rights training for law enforcement officials, especially security forces, in the field of torture and ill treatment, in line with the already established practice</b></p>	<p>The General Directorate of National Security has implemented a set of projects with a view to combatting torture, such as the creation of the forensic police department, establishing 3 laboratories in the period 2012-2013 in Fes, Marrakech and Laayoune, for the technological processing of evidence. It also integrated the educational methods of human rights and the related international conventions, national legislation, in the human rights training programs benefiting national security staff.</p> <p>In this regard, the course of human rights is taught every year: 30 hours for police officers and 21 hours for security officers, inspectors and police constables. Security staff also benefit from training sessions and seminars, during their continuous training, conducted by experts affiliated to the bodies and institutions concerned with human rights.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 56, 73 and 77 (Spain, Chile, Greece): Continue the efforts aimed at strengthening the fight against the cases of torture and ill treatment, in compliance with international law, by establishing a training plan in the field of human rights for the State's security forces</b></p>	<p>In the period 2012-2014, the General Directorate of National Security organized many lectures and events on human rights, within the framework of the specialized training programs organized by the collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), on 10-11 April 2012, and a study day, on 12 July 2012, on the role of security forces in supporting and protecting human rights, with the participation of national institutions, academics, civil society organizations as well the various security and government departments concerned.</p> <p>The Directorate continues adopting the policy of training, sensitization and sustained communication to prevent torture and inhumane or degrading treatment, through the punishment of the perpetrators if they have been proved to have committed such acts. The Directorate has also concluded a partnership with</p>

the National Council for Human Rights in order to upgrade the capacity of security staff in the area of human rights.

In the framework of promoting the dimension of rights at correctional facilities, with a view to humanizing the prison space and caring for the circumstances of detainees, the General Delegation for Prison Administration and Reintegration established a clear strategy for training and qualifying its workforce in such a way that the respect of human rights is promoted in prisons. Training programs contain theoretical and practical sessions targeted at introducing to the staff the international standards of human rights related to the management of prison affairs and the treatment of detainees, the UN regulations on the protection of young detainees, as well as the entire set of rights stipulated under the Law N°23/98 on the regulations of prisons in Morocco. The training program also contains information and explanation on the Moroccan Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Law, along with the amendments relating to the Penal Code and Law N° 43.04 on the fight against torture.

rights, along with the respect of security procedures related to prison issues.

In 2012 two major references were prepared and provided to all staff members, which allow the consultation of all legal regulations and material related to human rights. The

in 2012 and have benefited so far 1358 trainees within the framework of basic training. Training sessions are also organized in collaboration with Penal Reform International and Mohammed VI Foundation for Center.

Concerning the training of Royal Police staff members on the developments in laws and legislation in the area of human rights, the Royal Police conducted many training sessions for individuals of various ranks from 24/09/2012 to 28/09/2014. Such training covered many topics such as international mechanisms for the protection of human rights, terrorist crimes and human rights, Combatting violence against women and minors, and the role of addiction treatment centers in the fight of drug abuse, in cooperation with the National Council for Human Rights as well as many countries such as Switzerland and Italy.

**TOPIC 6: PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS**

<b>Relevant Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<p><b>Recommendations # 32 (Kuwait) and 155 (South Africa): Continue the implementation of the National Initiative on Human Development Program and increase the allocated human and financial resources; Continue the prioritization of initiatives to combat poverty and ensure that the programs aimed at poverty reduction are adequately funded</b></p>	<p>The programs scheduled for the first phase of the National Initiative of Human Rights (2005-2010) posted significant results in the field of the fight against poverty and the improvement of the conditions of vulnerable groups. The Kingdom of Morocco continues its support to such groups during the second phase (2011-2015) of the Initiative, where emphasis is laid on combating poverty, exclusion, vulnerability, and improving access to remote areas. To this end, the targeted base was expanded to benefit rural communities, towns and cities, and the program for the fight against vulnerability was extended. Important financial resources were mobilized to support these development programs. The total budget of the second phase amounts to 17 billion MAD, concerning the following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Program of the fight against social exclusion in urban areas:</b> The budget allocated to this program amounts to 3.4 billion MAD for the benefit of 530 residential neighborhood, and it aims at improving access to basic urban facilities, and strengthening access to public proximity services;</li> <li>✓ <b>Program of the fight against vulnerability:</b> The budget allocated to this program amounts to 1.4 billion MAD, and it aims at expanding the base and types of target groups, and supporting the operation of the centers completed;</li> <li>✓ <b>Horizontal program:</b> The budget allocated to this program amounts to 2.8 billion MAD, and it aims at supporting projects with major impact and capacity building for the association fabric, as well as supporting local Actors through training activities, capacity building and communication.</li> <li>✓ <b>Program of the fights against poverty in rural areas:</b> The budget allocated to this program amounts to 3.1 billion MAD, benefiting 701 rural communes whose poverty threshold reaches 14% and it aims at improving the living conditions of the populations in rural areas, and strengthening access to infrastructures and basic social services;</li> <li>✓ <b>Regional rehabilitation program:</b> The budget allocated to this program amounts to 5 billion MAD, benefiting 3300 villages (douars) and 500 rural communes, distributed over 22 provinces. It aims at reducing the gaps in the field of basic infrastructures and social services (health, education, drinking water, rural electrification, roads and rural pathways) .</li> </ul> <p>Within the framework of strengthening control to maintain quality standards, ensure supply, operationalize transparency norms and support needy and low-income people, the Government subsidizes basic consumer goods and public services, and ensures the control of prices of subsidized goods and services to prevent any illicit increase of prices or decreased quality. To prevent speculation, the Government focuses on securing and providing products in such a way as to hinder high prices. It ensures the respect</p>

	for transparency regulations as to the prices and quality of goods and services, as well as the rules of competition.
<p><b>Recommendation # 99 (Venezuela): Continue to increase and consolidate the Green Morocco and housing social programs which are essential for the eradication of poverty and social exclusion</b></p>	<p><b>Green Morocco Plan</b>  This plan hinges on two major pillars: modern agriculture and solidarity farming. The modern agriculture pillar aims at developing integrated agricultural activity which meets the requirements of the market, through the participation of the private sector as well as new and fair investments; whereas the solidarity farming pillar draws on an approach targeting the fight against poverty, through the improvement of small -2012, to increase the investment ratio for each agriculture worker by more than 18%, to raise the rate of planted area by 10% and to increase the rate of farming mechanization by 36%. The output of production chains also increased by 6% for citrus fruits and 65% for cereals. The value of exported processed products increased by 8%. Food availability per capita has been improved by about 14%, along with the relative stability posted by the price index of agricultural products, which did not exceed 13% as against 33% worldwide.</p> <p>The second pillar of the Green Plan hinges on a social dimension, via investment in social initiatives to combat poverty in rural areas, and the focus on the system of agricultural guidance targeting the enhancement of the role of the farmer and rural women, achieving food security and the stability of the rural population, with regard to the entire set of programs.</p> <p><b>Social Housing Program</b>  Morocco has laid down a varied social housing program composed of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>National Program “Cities without Slums</b>  fight against poverty and sub-standard housing for the benefit of 347.207 households, and the improvement of the living conditions of approximately 1.800.000 persons living in 85 cities. 48 cities have been improved out of 226.636 families have been improved out of 374.207 covered by the Program. The rate of beneficiaries so far has reached 61%.</li> <li>▪ <b>Program of sub-standard residential neighborhoods:</b> It aims at improving the housing conditions through the readjustment of urban planning status, and the integration of the neighborhoods concerned in the urban fabric K providing these zones with basic infrastructures and proximity facilities. The Program concerns the restructuring and urban rehabilitation of illegal and under-developed quarters for the benefit of 938.300 families, with a total budget amounting to 8.18 billion MAD.</li> <li>▪ <b>Program of housing units threatened by collapse:</b> It concerns various urban fabrics: ancient cities, palaces and forts, targeting 159.370 households, supported by a budget amounting to 2.32 billion MAD.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Low-cost housing (140.000 MAD):</b> It is destined to low-income families that were excluded from access to the banking system. The Moroccan Government established a new housing product whose price does not exceed 140.000 MAD. Important tax breaks were granted to investors who are committed, in a period of five years, to building at least 100 units in urban areas and/or 50 units in rural areas. This product also benefits from the priority of acquiring public land property at the cost price. The housing units whose works have been completed so far amount to 26.742 units.</li> <li>▪ <b>Social housing program (250.000 MAD):</b> It is destined to poor families, and enjoys the support of the Government through a set of incentive measures benefiting both developers and buyers of social housing units. This involves direct financial support granted by the Government to the buyer of the social housing unit, such as the payment of VAT, exempting developers from corporate taxes, income tax, registration and stamp fees, special cement fee, as well as municipality taxes and duties, along with property registry fees. The application of these incentive measures of this program has been extended, and the housing units whose works have been completed amount to 29.668 units.</li> </ul> <p>The Government also established social support programs to accompany the initiatives above. In this regard, the urbanization sector continues covering the various rural and urban areas with cadastral plans, which is the fundamental reference base to open new areas for urbanization, and keep up with the creation of urban poles and new cities, with a view to containing the phenomenon of fast urbanization and redressing the balance of the urban network. In this connection, 200 new cadastral plans were approved in the last two years, making it possible to increase the area open urbanization in the last ten years to 8000 hectares, hence allowing the completion of a significant number of major structuring projects.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 97 and the first part of Recommendation # 98 (Sri Lanka) and Thailand): Take further measures to remove disparities in access to health care, in particular with respect to vulnerable groups and regions that are poorly served, including rural areas</b></p>	<p>Providing health care services for all without any discrimination is a strategic object that the Government seeks to achieve as a State priority in the area of health. In this regard, Framework Law N°34-09 dated 2/7/2011 on the health system and medical care supply, emphasizing 1) equality in access to medical care services, 2) fairness in the geographical distribution of health resources, 3) adoption of a gender-sensitive approach to health services, 4) the fight against all forms of discrimination to which a person can be subjected because of illness, handicap or genetic characteristics.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 104 (Holy See): Increase programs of obstetric, prenatal and neonatal care and attendance at deliveries by medical and paramedical professionals, especially in rural areas</b></p>	<p>The Basic Health Care Coverage Code is being implemented gradually, with a view to achieving a comprehensive coverage for all citizens in due course. Law N° 65-00 on Basic Health Care Coverage Code contains 1) basic mandatory health insurance based on the principles of contribution and solidarity in assuming claims, and it covers about 34% of the working population, pensioners, independence war veterans and students, 2) Medical Assistance System, based on social assistance and national solidarity.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation # 114 (Singapore): Continue, with the assistance of the relevant international organizations such as WHO, to enhance access to health care by women and further reduce the maternal mortality rate, especially in the rural areas</b></p>	<p>It would cover 8.5 million needy citizens with low income, irregular revenues, or cannot afford to costs of medical care services; that is 28% of the population.</p> <p>The number of citizens eligible to benefit from the Medical Assistance System, as of February 2014, 6.540.155 citizens, up 97% compared with the first year of the launch of the generalization process. This performance accounts for 77% of the targeted population amounting to 8.5 million beneficiaries. The number of applications filed at the local authorities reached 2.693.847 in number, 2.390.927 of which have been accepted; that is 6.540.155 beneficiaries. The category of the poor accounts for 83%, while the category of the vulnerable accounts for 17%. 58% belong to the urban areas and 42% in the rural areas.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 133 and 135 (Monaco, (Uzbekistan): Continue cooperation with the civil society and the efforts to implement the strategy of the Ministry of Health, particularly in the area of maternal and child health so as to combat child mortality rate, in line with the Millennium Development Goal 4</b></p>	<p>In this connection much effort has been invested in bridging the gap in access to health services at all levels:</p> <p>1- <b>At the regional level:</b> In implementation of The Annual Pan for The Promotion of Health in Rural Areas, supervised by the Ministry of Health, the latter seeks to ensure justice in the health care supply between urban and rural areas, as well as access to health in rural areas. The Plan hinges on the following lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Supporting sustainable medical coverage</b>, through providing health care centers in rural areas with medical staff, as 28 general practitioners and 343 nurses were appointed there in 2013. Moreover, care was provided to emergency cases, and medical centers in rural areas were provided with 20 ambulances in 2013.</li> <li>- <b>Strengthening mobile medical coverage</b>, through the deployment of mobile medical teams and specialized medical care campaigns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Mobile medical teams:</b> they move from the health center or medical province in order to provide a set of specific and integrated services in the agglomerations located more than 6 km away from the closest medical center, in some cases services are provided to the population located less than 6 km as long as the access to health care centers is difficult, or whenever required for epidemic purposes. The population concerned with this action is estimated at 4 602 300 distributed over 73 provinces. These teams conduct regular and periodic visits to such agglomerations at least once every 3 months.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation # 107 (Mexico): Introduce policies in the health system to address the needs of people in situation of vulnerability</b></p>	
<p><b>Recommendation # 134 (Bahrain): Continue to work toward improving access to health.</b></p>	<p>In this regard, the period 2012-2013 witnessed the following: 49 mobile health care units were deployed under the budget of 2012, as well as the launch of the operation of acquiring another 79 mobile health care units under the budget of 2013, whose cost amount to 23 636 800.00 MAD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Specialized medical campaigns:</b> They are meant to contribute to upgrading access to quality and specialized medical care services for the benefit of the population located far from hospital centers. They target the provinces and prefectures whose hospitalization rate does not exceed 1.5%, as well as the provinces and prefectures that are understaffed in terms of specialized medical personnel. The number of medical checkups and campaigns in 2013 amounted to 130012.</li> </ul>

- **Support of community participation within the framework of partnerships with the civil society and international organizations.**

**2. At the level of vulnerable categories:** Morocco has managed to accomplish many achievements to reach Millennium Development Goals, especially MDG4, reduce child mortality by two-thirds, and MDG5, reduce maternal mortality by three-

p the process of achieving MDG 4 and 5, the Ministry of Health set up an action plan for the period 2012-2016 targeted to ensuring equality in providing health care services to urban and rural areas, and enabling the poorest population to have access to health care services, with a view to stepping up as much as possible the reduction of maternal and child mortality, by limiting it to 50 for every 100000 live birth, and babies to 20 for every 1000 by 2016, hence exceeding MDG 4 and 5.

These achievements could be summarized as follows:

- **Stepping up the reduction of maternal mortality:** Providing access to obstetric prenatal and postnatal checkups, through the implementation of Ministerial Circular N°1689/00 dated 26/9/2013 on the consolidation proximity responsibility of the control of pregnancy and delivery.
  - **Promoting safe maternity:** Implementation of the National Strategy for Reproductive Health, and the expansion of the scope of early diagnosis of breast and cervical cancer within initial health care services, and strengthening of the monitoring and assessment of reproductive health activities. In this regard, 3 newly constructed reference centers of reproduction health have been operated. 16 training sessions have been organized for the benefit of 370 health providers in 13 provinces affiliated to 3 regions in the field of the techniques of early detection of breast and cervical cancer. The Ministry is striving to implement a set of measures so as to improve maternal and child health by 2016.
- Concerning the conditions of the disabled, the relevant medical care supply has been reorganized, and the quality of medical care provided has been upgraded. Support has been granted to initial and on-the-job training for medical care providers. Legislative texts have been reviewed and the National Observatory on Drug Abuse and Addiction has been created. In this regard, two scheduled centers out of four have been established for the treatment of addiction, providing free services for drugs addicts, including drug addiction detoxification (replacement therapy) through methadone, in Nadore and Tetouane. The startup of the implementation of the first experiment on the integration of the replacement therapy program was conducted at the correctional institutions of Tangiers and Casablanca. Three psychiatric consultation offices are created every year, which is part of the application of the strategy of integrating psychiatric consultation in basic healthcare services. 2% of drugs budget is allocated to psychiatric and mental health medicines (100% of the target objective). These initiatives are coupled with the early detection of the diseases causing handicaps and enabling the persons with special needs to access health care services through the expansion of healthcare supply, through the completion of and equipment of the Regional Integrated Rehabilitation Center.

	<p>Prevention activities and health care for the elderly, through the creation of medical units for the elderly for short-term stay at provincial hospitals in Kénitra, Fés and Agadir, as well as the improvement of medical care for elderly patients. A study has been launched on the health condition of the elderly in Morocco, and a committee has been set up for monitoring and follow-up.</p> <p><b>With regard to women and children victims of violence:</b> The operating capacity of the units in charge of providing care for women and children victims of violence. 12 new units have been created in 2013, and health care providers benefited from capacity building training on gender-based violence. Within the setting of the Nation Plan for the provision of emergency medical care, the Ministry of Health launched this Plan in March 2013, which considered an important step in the consolidation of the right of access to medical care.</p>
<p><b>First part of Recommendation # 120 (Singapore): Continue the efforts to enhance general education</b></p>	<p>The Constitution of the Kingdom of Morocco stresses the right to easily accessible quality education (Article 31), and it stipulates the creation of the Supreme Council of Education, Training and Scientific Research (Article 168). In this regard, the Government grant special interest to primary, secondary and tertiary education, due to their crucial role in training the human capital required for development.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 116 (Azerbaijan): Continue putting forward effective measures for reducing illiteracy and boosting the quality and performance of education in the country</b></p>	<p>1- <b>Upgrading the quality and performance of basic education:</b> The sector of education and vocational training has integrated in its 2013-2016 Plan a set of important measures targeting the upgrade of education quality, such as the expansion and improvement of education supply in education institutions and community schools, improvement and supervision of social support services, development of pedagogical methods and approaches, consolidation of the mechanisms of initial and continuous education, integration of ICT, as well as strengthening the mechanisms of the fight against school dropout and consolidating the strategy for literacy.</p> <p>2- <b>Continue the implementation of non-formal education programs:</b> Non-formal education is at the center of providing the right to education, and the implementation of the law on compulsory basic education, meant to bring the school closer to targeted children, instead of the classical schooling supply. This program hinges on partnership with civil society organizations, which meet the requirement of proximity and the capacity to adapt to the specificities of targeted children. Partnership agreements were concluded with more than 415 associations last year. Non-formal education aims at providing a second chance of the right to education and training for children non-enrolled in schools, in order to reintegrate them in the training and production fabric. This program made it possible to reduce the dropout rate at the primary school last year. So far, this second-chance program has benefited 611000 children, or an annual rate of 38000 pupils. 110000 among them have integrated in the formal system of education and vocational training, and the integration rate has increased from 5% in the school year 1998-1999 to 34% in the last three years. This type of approach was so outstanding that it attracted, as a Moroccan experience in the fields of non-formal education, international recognition, as it was categorized as one of the best practices. This experience was crowned by UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, awarded to Morocco in 2006.</p>

	<p>The sector of higher education and executive training is striving to upgrade the employability of graduates to integrate the labor market, through the expansion of education supply, structuring the system of information and orientation for students, supporting and developing training at the doctorate (Ph.D.) level, developing e-learning and upgrading the quality of this sector.</p> <p>This sector witnessed significant development in the period 2011-2013 as shown below:</p> <p><b>Expansion of education supply and physical capacity:</b> Higher education schooling rate increased from 19% in 2011-2012 to 22.2% in 2012-2013. The number of higher education institutions for the same academic year reached 116. The overall higher education student population rose from 469882 in 2011-2012 to 572509 in 2012-2013. The seating capacity of higher education institutions increased from 358974 in 2011-2012 to 385135 in 2012-2013.</p> <p><b>Improvement of supply,</b> through the diversification and professionalization university training supply. Currently, such university supply contains more than 2000 study programs distributed over four levels of training: university diploma of technology, bachelor, master and doctorate.</p> <p>Aligning its training supply with the needs of socio-economic sectors, universities effectively contribute to the major projects driving the national economy, through the training of qualified and specialized human resources. This can be seen in the numerous initiatives launched: initiative of training 10000 engineers, offshoring initiative, initiative of training 3300 medical doctors, the national initiative of training 10000 professionals in social work, the national program of industrial takeoff (new world professions for Morocco), and initiatives relating to other projects (energy, transport, logistics and environment).</p> <p>The sector of waqf-endowment and Islamic affairs plays an important role in the area of literacy. It has set up a special program of literacy in mosques for education, training and the fight of illiteracy, as well as reviving the role of mosques in supervising citizens, and establishing project of life-long training and education. This program benefits all age groups throughout the country. So far 250000 persons have benefited from this initiative, supervised by 5200 supervisors,</p> <p>a view to extending the literacy program and diversifying education media, adopting a proximity policy in the field of literacy.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 118 and 119 (Djibouti and Iraq): Continue the serious efforts made by Morocco in integrating human rights education in school programs and textbooks and the mainstreaming of human rights value in education curricula</b></p>	<p>The sectors of education and higher education have continued their efforts towards integrating and consolidating human rights education in school curricula and textbooks. They focus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updating the contents of the subject of Civics to harmonize it with the Constitution of the Kingdom.</li> <li>- Organizing meetings with the various central departments of the Ministry in order to share data on the recommendation issued by the UN human rights mechanisms, following the presentation and</li> </ul>

	<p>discussion of periodic reports of the Kingdom, as well as the commitments resulting therefrom, in order to take it into account during the preparation of the policy and action plan of the Ministry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Launching the preparation of a diagnostic study of the curricula and programs of secondary education from the human rights perspective and proposing the ways that would overcome the curricula adopted in order to promoted the human rights dimension.</li> <li>- Preparing a lesson plan on civics devoted to regional teacher-training centers;</li> <li>- Training literacy workers on the integration of human rights in literacy programs and activities;</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Promoting cooperation with the National Council for Human Rights and its regional committee, by co of human rights.</li> </ul> <p>The sector of education also continues initiating programs containing human rights education, integrated in school life and education club. The pedagogical specifications now contain new conditions relating the preparation of school textbooks drawing on the standards and benchmarks of the culture of human rights. In this connection the textbook commissions benefited from awareness-raising sessions on the principles of human rights in syllabus design. More effort are being invested in the projects of curriculum development and pedagogical approaches, as well as sensitization and training for the benefit of textbook production commissions, and the upgrade of value and rights oriented audit during the approval of draft school textbooks.</p> <p>The sector of higher education continues implementing human rights education through the creation of training and research units in the area of human rights, as well as the setting up of UNESCO Chair at universities.</p>
<p><b>Part of recommendation # 98 (Thailand): Ensure better access to health care and education by women and girls, especially in rural areas</b></p>	<p>women decreased from 55% in 2004 to 41% in 2011, and the scope of literacy supply was expanded especially in rural areas. Rehabilitation of educational institution and social support (grants, transport,</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 117, 137 and 138 (Belarus, United Arab Emirates, Greece): Continue to ensure access to basic education for all, and continue providing quality education programs with a special attention to the prevention of school dropout</b></p>	<p>support for households has facilitated access to the educational system for girls and ensured their retention. The expansion of schooling supply included extending schools and building community schools, as well consolidating facilities and infrastructures. A mechanism has been adopted for individualized follow-up of pupils in all schools. Remedial support is provided to under-achieving students. Qualifying sessions are offered to finishing pupils in order to combat school dropout. The education sector organized mobilization and sensitization campaigns on the fight against school dropout, through the</p>

	<p>have been taken to monitor and follow up the implementation and assurance of school time and learning time at educational institutions and facilities.</p> <p>In order to promote schooling, especially in rural areas, a set of measures have been taken to contain the supporting rural and needy in the school year 2008-2009. The number of beneficiaries tripled as it increased from 127384 boys and girls at the startup to more than 4 million pupils in the school year 2013.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 100 and 132 (Viet Nam, Thailand); Address the issue of unemployment among young people by allocating more resources to the programs that fight unemployment</b></p>	<p>The promotion of employment is one of the priorities in the Government program, which aims at reducing unemployment rate, through aligning training with employment, supporting the establishment of companies and strengthening the legal framework of labor relations, developing social dialogue, as well as enhancing the quality of social protection services . In this context, the State has allocated for the employment sector in 2013 a budget amounting to approximately 400 million MAD. The National Agency for Promotion of Employment and Skills (ANAPEC) benefited in 2012 and 2013 , respectively, from funds amounting to nearly 250 million MAD. The budget allocated to the Agency in 2014 stands at 400 million MAD. The action program of the employment sector in 2014 revolves on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting self-employment through the creation of a special tax system subjecting natural persons who conduct their business activity individually to an income tax at the following rates:</li> <li>✓ 1% of turnover achieved which does not exceed 500,000 MAD, with regard to commercial, industrial and craft activities ;</li> <li>✓ 2% turnover achieved which does not exceed 200,000 MAD with respect to service providers.</li> <li>• Adopting the necessary mechanisms to implement the system of compensation for job loss, setting up a support system for the benefit of the persons concerned in order to facilitate their reintegration in the labor market ;</li> <li>• Keeping up the implementation and development of employment promotion programs (integration , qualification , ... ) :</li> <li>✓ Idmaj Program, which managed to place more than 376.979 job seekers between 2006 and August 2013 (45% in the framework of special contracts or indefinite and 55 % in the framework of contracts of internship for integration ) ,</li> <li>✓ August 2013. It aims to improve the employability of job seekers among graduates, through the acquisition of professional qualifications for positions or specific jobs available and meet</li> <li>✓ Mubadara Program, which aims to encourage social beneficial employment within the association fabric. 2,500 job seekers have been planned to integrate the labor market in the period 2013-2016 with a budget estimated at 73 million MAD.</li> <li>✓ -term unemployment, to upgrade their employability.</li> </ul>

	<p>In addition, the national plan for the support of companies as to qualified human resources and skills required in the industrial field, which has been elaborated to activate the National Charter for Industrial Take off, made it possible to establish several institutes of specialized training to develop expertise in a number of industrial occupations.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 109 and 110 (Pakistan, Palestine); Continue improving the business environment to stimulate job opportunities</b></p>	<p>In its 2014 Annual Report on Doing Business, the World Bank showed that Morocco has made significant progress in the international ranking by moving from the 97th to 87th position, up ten positions in world ranking, which includes 189 countries.</p> <p>The improvement of the business climate enjoys a top priority in Government action, and a national committee chaired by the Head of Government has been set up for this purpose, including both the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) and the ministerial sectors concerned and the other partners in the private sector. It has recently been supported by the creation of regional committees for the business climate. Morocco is among 29 countries in the world that have made significant progress in improving business climate. At the regional level, Morocco has achieved the second best progress in the Middle East and North Africa, while most countries in the region have posted a decline. This achievement was possible thanks to the reforms conducted by the Government in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• strengthening good governance and transparency in business, through simplifying the procedures of establishing companies (standardized definition Companies , and the establishment of companies online), facilitating tax payment and foreign trade (creating a single desk for foreign trade , and setting up a system for the payment of customs taxes), simplification of procedures for the transfer of property and reduce its timeframe;</li> <li>• promotion of investment through the ratification of the Decree on public contracts, which came into force as of January 2014, and the new Decree on construction and urbanization, which came into effect as of November 2013, and the Law on public-private partnership, which was submitted to the Parliament after its approval;</li> <li>• assessing and improving the performance of public services through the development of indicators to measure the efficiency of payment timeframe in public procurement, construction permits , and retrieving value added tax .</li> </ul> <p>The implementation pace of sectoral policies and programs in the field of social development, has witnessed a strong momentum in recent years, reflected in the gradual increase of financial allocations devoted to the social sector in the State budget, from 53.23 % in 2012 to 53.69 % in 2014. These efforts have made it possible to improve the living conditions of vulnerable groups of the population. The key social indicators have posted marked improvement particularly in the areas of education, health and employment.</p>

**Education sector**

The share of public expenditure in GDP for the education sector amounted to 6.4 % in 2012. Within this framework, a budget of the Ministry of Education reached 42.1 billion MAD in 2013. Estimated funds allocated to this sector for the year 2014 amount to 45.58 billion MAD, up 7.6% compared to 2013. These funds will be allocated to activating the action program of the sector for the year 2014, which is based on the creation of 50 new community schools and building 74 high schools and 85 secondary schools, as well as renewing 1000 school institutions and building 569 schools and link 2.200 schools to the networks of electricity, water and sewerage, and re- structuring and equipping 3,520 educational institutions , as well as the completion of preventive maintenance for 10.016 educational institutions.

**Higher education sector**

The budget for this sector for the year 2013 amounted to approximately 9.4 billion MAD, up 7 % compared with the year 2012. The support devoted to the development of social services for students accounts for approximately 59% of the Ministry operating budget excluding staff salaries, followed by expenditures on the management and development of training at universities (32%) . The total investment budget amounted to 741.83 million MAD, 69 % of which was allocated to the development of the physical capacity of university institutions and building new universities. The budget allocated for the promotion and development of social services for students amounted to approximately 23% of the total investment budget. Also, 6% of the investment budget was devoted to developing the system of scientific research and technological innovation.

As for the year 2014, a budget amounting 8.92 billion MAD for the development of the sector will be allocated for the expansion and rehabilitation of current infrastructure and the increase of the number of beneficiaries of grants to up to 230,000 and expand access to health services for the benefit of students, as a first step for the application of health coverage, and the upgrade of higher education quality through the acceleration qualification process for students to enable them to work in new professions, especially the automotive sector, call centers and aircraft industry.

**Health Sector**

The contribution of the State in financing this sector amounted to 12.37 billion MAD in 2013 (approximately 5% of the State budget), including 2 billion MAD dedicated to investment budget. The analysis of the trend of appropriations for the Ministry of Health in 2001-2013 recorded a significant increase in recent years, reflected in the strengthening of the budget allocated to the sector by 102 % during this period, and an annual growth rate estimated at 6 %. The distribution of investment budget by health programs for the year 2013 shows the importance of hospital network building program, which accounts for approximately 43% of investment budget, amounting to 868 million MAD.

	<p>With regard to the program of reproductive health and child and youth health, which is a priority program, it has been allocated a 180.9 million MAD, or 9% of investment budget. Because of the importance given to the development of rural areas, the budget allocated for the National Health Plan in rural areas is estimated at 126 million MAD.</p> <p>The funds scheduled for the year 2014 for the health sector are estimated at 12.9 billion MAD, and the most important measures planned for this year hinge on promoting mainstreaming the medical assistance system and the activation of the National Program for Providing Emergency Medical Care, through the continued adoption of the necessary measures to establish proximity medical emergency units, upgrade the capacity of emergency assistance units, continue the rehabilitation of public hospitals and improve their services in the framework of Morocco Health Project III, continue building regional , sub-regional and local hospitals, open the University Hospital of Oujda, conduct studies in order to build the university hospital centers of Agadir and Tangier, redevelop Ibn Sina Hospital, activate the strategy for mental health, intensify prevention programs and the fight against cancer with a view to reducing deaths caused by this disease, ensure the rehabilitation of birthing centers in rural areas, as well as strengthen and modernize the equipment of health centers , especially for the beneficiaries of the medical assistance system, provide care for pregnant women at the primary medical care institutions and strengthen the gains related to maternal and child health, as well as the persons with special needs.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 102 (China): Step up its investment in education, healthcare and employment in order to promote sustainable economic and social development</b></p>	
<p><b>Recommendation # 108 (Monaco): Continue the campaign for the widespread access to drinking water and electricity in the rural area</b></p>	<p>Since its launch in the mid-nineties, the national program to provide rural areas with drinking water adopted a participatory approach. As for financing the projects, the beneficiaries of the program contribute by 5 %, local communities by 15% , and the State or the National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water contributes 80%.</p> <p>The proportion of drinking water supply in rural areas rose to 94 % in late 2013 and is expected to reach 94.5 % in late 2014. Investment was completed in this area 830 million MAD in 2013 is expected to reach one billion and 150 million MAD in 2014.</p> <p>Ensuring the continuity of drinking water supply services is underway in rural areas through programs designed to reach 96.5 % by 2017, and to accelerate the pace of individual connections to the main.</p>

	<p>The sewerage network connection rate in urban areas stood at 72% in 2012, while it is almost 40% in rural areas. It is expected that this rate reaches 90% at the national level by 2030 . The comprehensive rural electrification program increased the proportion of rural electrification from 22 % in 1996 to 98.51 % at the end of December 2013. During this period 37 099 villages (douars) benefited from electrification through the national grid and the installation of 51 559 solar panel in 3663 villages.</p> <p>It should be noted that the rate of rural electrification at the national level will exceed 99% after the completion of the electrification works in 2194 villages (70 302 households) programmed for completion during the period 2014-2016. The beneficiary of connection to electricity pays the amount of 2.500 MAD of the cost, while the local commune contributes by the amount of 2.085 MAD and National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water bears the rest of the funding.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 136 (South Africa): Continue the provision of social housing to the rural communities with the aim of improving their living conditions</b></p>	<p>Morocco has extended the social housing program to include villages along with cities. In addition to the continued interest in the preparation and implementation of the projects for which the Government is committed to provide funding (90 projects), the sector of urbanization and land planning, in the framework of implementing the Government program for the year 2012, started the call for projects that primarily concerned specific centers in rural communes. Out of 415 projects that were studied by the National Committee, 93 projects were recommended for implementation for 2013. The total cost of these projects amounts to 1.22 billion MAD, to which the Fund for Rural Development and Mountainous Areas contributes by 489 million MAD. The sector also approved 57 plans for the development of rural conglomerates and follow up of the completion of 308 plans in various stages of completion. 7430 applications for free architectural technical assistance in rural areas were filed, and 3580 architectural designs were submitted up to 2012 at the offices of 24 urban agencies. Also the procedures of granting authorization were simplified in rural areas, encouraging the adoption of a holistic approach to land planning in this context. The first batch of the projects benefited 80 rural communes, as they focused mostly on the restructuring and development of rural centers. The aim of these projects is to improve and guide the rural population with regard to strengthening the infrastructure and promoting proximity services such as health, education, rural roads and service structures.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 33 (Lebanon): Continue promoting policies aiming at ensuring the respect of cultural diversity in the national territory</b></p>	<p>Pursuant to the constitutional provisions on the multidimensional Moroccan identity marked by cultural diversity, the Kingdom of Morocco ratified the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, on 4 June 2013. The Ministry of Culture, as of early 2012, adopted a sector-based action program involving a new approach to the management of the cultural sector , based on five major lines, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 . Adoption of a proximity policy, through bringing cultural action close to all citizens without</li> <li>2 . Supporting creativity and creative individuals, expanding the scope of support for the innovators and creators among young people and the persons with special needs;</li> </ol>

- 3 . Rehabilitation and enhancement of tangible and intangible heritage, through granting interest to national cultural heritage in its plurality and diversity and make of it a mechanism for excellence and promoting Moroccan culture ;
- 4 . Revitalizing cultural diplomacy, through establishing connections with the Moroccans residing abroad and strengthening their relationship with their mother culture, as well as promoting the Moroccan cultural product of all kinds worldwide;
- 5 . Improving cultural governance, through the adoption of good governance and implementation of the role of civil society and its involvement in the development, execution, follow up and evaluation of the relevant.

To materialize these orientations, a legislative plan has been prepared to implement the projects associated with the lines mentioned above, and to ensure the necessary guarantees and optimal conditions for the development of cultural practice in its variety and diversity, as well as the alignment of legal texts with international legislation in force in this area. This plan includes the draft legal and regulatory texts below:

- draft framework law on the National Charter of Moroccan Culture , which focuses within the principles contained in its provisions on the necessity of respect for the natural national cultural diversity, and non-discrimination between the various components on historical, regional or ethnic grounds, or any consideration for class or category to which such heritage belongs;
- draft law on the protection of cultural heritage and its diversity, whether it is tangible or intangible, due to its importance in preserving the national identity with the entire set of its components and achieve sustainable development;
- draft law on the living human treasures system, concerned with intangible cultural heritage through various practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills handed down Moroccan generations through training in order to revive this heritage and ensure its sustainability;
- draft regulatory law on the creation of the National Council for Moroccan Languages and Culture;
- Decree No. 2.12.513 issued on 2 Rajab 1434 (13 May 2013) on supporting cultural and artistic projects, which is designed to allocate annual support for the benefit of actors in the fields of theater, music, singing and performance arts, choreography, fine arts, folk festivals, cultural and artistic events, as well as the areas of book publishing, cultural associations and bodies and artistic unions ;
- draft decree on granting prizes, awards and honors to the professionals of music, theater and Moroccan music of all kinds and its cultural, linguistic , ethnic sources and plastic arts.

As part of the terms of reference assigned to the Royal Institute of Amazigh Culture, the Institute participated in the works of the Supreme Committee for Civil Status on the subject of personal names (Amazigh names), and it conducted the translation of the Constitution of the Kingdom and the Family Code into Tamazight.

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	<p>Article 84 of Law No. 23-98 on penitentiary institutions, which requires the authorization and approval of the Commissioner of the Delegation for Prison Administration and Reintegration.</p> <p>It should also be noted that correctional institutions witness regular visits by the judicial authorities, and detainees enjoy full liberty to file complaints. The Code of Criminal Procedure entitles several parties to visit correctional institutions and inspect the conditions of detainees, such as the judicial authorities (juvenile judge) and the Regional Control Committee, in conformity with the Code of Criminal Procedure.</p> <p>During 2012, the number of visits paid by the judicial authorities amounted to 1331, of which 400 by sentencing judges, 165 by juvenile judges, 766 of visits by judicial staff reached 1156. The National Council for Human Rights, in accordance with Article 11 of the Decree regulating its action, performed 114 visits to these institutions in 2013.</p> <p>Between 2012 and 2014, the Directorate General for National Security recorded seven (07) complaints filed by citizens against staff members of the National Security due to the practice of violence during the procedure of inquiry and investigation, six (06) complaints of which are still processed before the courts of justice, while one case was decided before the Disciplinary Board. The Plan of this Directorate for the years 2013-2017 aims at improving the conditions of detention sites, on the basis of the criteria of custody.</p>
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<p><b>Recommendation # 140 (Spain): Take the necessary measures to ensure the adequate protection of human rights in “Western Sahara” in light of the reports raising enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment</b></p>	<p>Following his visit to Morocco from 15 to 22 September 2012, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in conclusion N° 80 of his Report, stated that the National Council for Human Rights has developed increasingly effective mechanisms for monitoring human rights, indicating that such mechanisms include the entire set of regions in Morocco on equal footing, including the southern provinces, which were developed after the establishment of regional councils for this national institution . The Special Rapporteur urged all stakeholders to promote the national mechanism and called for the interaction of the Government authorities with it, through respecting its findings and implementing its recommendations.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 52 (Austria): Take additional measures to reduce prisons’ overcrowding and improve access to medical treatment and food</b></p>	<p>.</p> <p>The current accommodation capacity of correctional institutions in the Kingdom ranges between 48000 and 50000. The number of inmates in these institutions amounts to about 69000. Striving to address the problem of overcrowding, the Delegation for Prison Administration and Reintegration established prepared a program aimed at building new prisons with modern specifications and standards, taking into account the requirements of security, reintegration and the required accommodation conditions in terms of space , lighting, and ventilation, in addition to the expansion of other prisons and rehabilitation of all correctional institutions, as well as replacement of the existing urban prisons with new ones outside the urban area.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 60 (Italy): Consider increasing the resources allocated to the prison system, as suggested by CAT</b></p>	

	<p>Within the framework of this program, 12 new correctional institutions started operating since the inception of the Delegation for Prison Administration and Reintegration. 04 major prisons have been expanded, and four new correctional institutions will open soon. The construction works of 11 new prisons have been launched, including 6 institutions with an accommodation capacity of up to 1300 beds, in addition to five other institutions with a capacity of up to 220 beds. However, despite these efforts, the situation is still needs investing more efforts, especially with regard to the rationalization of detention and the adoption of alternatives, both for provisional detainees and convicts, especially since the prison population in the last five years has witnessed a remarkable rise, reaching 72.005 prisoners at the end of December of 2013, up 45%, which negatively affects the efforts made by the Delegation to reduce the problem of the budget allocated to feed prisoners. It rose from 120 million MAD in 2008 to 310 million MAD in 2013, up 158 %.</p> <p>In the framework of the implementation of the right to medical care, the distribution of the medical staff affiliated to the Delegation for the year 2013 can be seen along the following lines: 83 full-time doctors; 59 full-time dentists; 382 nurses. The ratio of medical coverage for the year 2013 is one doctor per 872 prisoners, one dentist per 1228 prisoners and one nurse per 190 prisoners. With regard to medical examinations provided for the inmates of penal institutions, they amounted to 83 448 dental checkups, or an average of 1.1 medical examination per inmate a year and 421 787 medical checkup, or an average of 5.9 medical examination per inmate a year.</p> <p>In addition to the above, inmates benefit from vaccination campaigns against meningitis and tuberculosis tests as well as the provision of surgical operations.</p> <p>In the framework of the national program for the fight against breast cancer and cervical cancer, all female inmates benefited from the early diagnosis of this disease. Medical campaigns have also been organized at all correctional institutions in the area of early detection of AIDS for the benefit of inmates.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 75 and 76 (Kuwait, Republic of Moldova): Continue efforts to insure that victims of human rights violation are provided with efficient, flexible and instant compensation, including remedies</b></p>	<p>The Moroccan Constitution provides under Article 120 for the right of every person to a fair trial and for judgments to be issued in a reasonable timeframe, and it enshrines the right of defense before the courts. In accordance with the relevant international standards, Article 122 of the Constitution provides for the right to compensation for judicial error for the benefit of the victim, whose costs are borne by the State.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 78 (Sri Lanka): Continue action to increase representation of women in elected and decision-making positions</b></p>	<p>In order to effectuate the provisions of the Constitution supporting women's rights (Articles 6-11-19-30-164 ), the Government seeks to adopt measures and procedures to ensure an outstanding presence of women and facilitate their integration into political life locally and nationally, through the support of women's representation at the Parliament, enhancement of women's representation on regional and</p>

communal boards and the enactment of a financial incentive system for women representative during the legislative and municipal general elections, as well as capacity building for women representation during

**Support women's representation in the Parliament:**

In order to effectuate the provisions of the Constitution, taking the legislative measures that would promote equal opportunities between men and women and enhance women's participation in elected offices, a legislative mechanism has been introduced to improve the level of women's representation within the parliamentary institution, by ensuring the election of 60 women under the national constituency list, or 15.19% of the total number of MPs. As for the House of Councilors, the principle of rotation between genders has been adopted with regard to candidature lists of the bodies whose representatives are elected through the list ballot.

**Support for women's representation on the boards of regions and municipalities:**

Regulatory Law N° 11-59 on the election of the members of communal and regional councils states a new legislative mechanism targeting the creation of a new constituency for women in each province or county, stipulating that the number of seats allocated to this province or county should not be less than one-third of the number of seats allocated for the province or county with regard to the region board. As for municipality boards, an additional constituency has been created, including a number of seats ranging between 2 and 6, allocated for women in each urban or rural municipality or district.

**Financial incentive system for women representation in the general legislative and municipal elections:**

Regulatory Law N° 11.29 on political parties stipulates that the latter expand and mainstream the participation of women and youth in political development of the country. To this end, each political party seeks to achieve the ratio of one-third for women within its managerial bodies nationally and regionally, with a view to gradually effectuating the principle of parity between men and women. A financial incentive system for women representative has also been adopted by exploiting the mechanism offered by the State's contribution to funding election campaigns conducted by political parties during the general legislative and municipal elections. This Law stipulates that the amount allocated political parties on the basis of the number of seats would be equivalent for each seat obtained by female candidates in electoral constituencies 5 times the amount allocated for each seat obtained by male candidates .

**Capacity-building for women's representation in the general legislative and municipal elections:**

Article 288 of the

	<p>composed of representatives of political bodies and the concerned Government sectors and civil society. It proposes programs aimed at strengthening the capacity of women's representation and related activities funded in whole or in part within the framework of the Support Fund, financed by allocations granted under Finance Law financial. Moreover, Section 7 of the government for gender equality with a view to parity 2012-2016, "<i>Ikram</i>", a set of measures to ensure equal and equitable access to administrative, political and economic decision-making positions.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 79, 82, 86 87, and the first part of Recommendations # 85 and 92 (Slovakia, Sudan, USA, France, Canada, Germany, Belgium; Recommendations # 96, 79, 87, 82, 91, 86, 92, 85 and the second part of Recommendation # 85, the second part of Recommendation # 95 )Belgium, Mexico , Sweden) :Continue the action to consolidate freedom of opinion and expression, and speed up the process of adopting a new Press Code, in cooperation with the professional bodies and human rights associations, so that it would be in conformity with the international standards; Eliminate the sentences involving deprivation of liberty and revise the provisions in the area of freedom of opinion, expression, religion and beliefs, so that no journalist or human rights defender can be arrested for a simple fact of having expressed their opinion through the social media; take the necessary measures in order to allow for free , impartial and objective media; take the required steps to effectively implement the principles of freedom stipulated under the new Constitution's provision that international human</b></p>	<p>A draft Code of the Press and Publication has been prepared, which includes four fundamental draft laws: Draft Press Law, which includes provisions on electronic journalism, Draft Law on Professional Journalists, Draft Law on the National Press Council, and a draft law containing provisions on distribution , printing and advertising in the written press, and provisions on the access of journalists to information. The Draft Code includes 4 major orientations on cancelling the penalties in the form of deprivation of freedom and the legal recognition of electronic journalism, and encouraging professionals to independently organize the profession and the transfer of some of the prerogatives of the executive branch to the judiciary, as part of strengthening the role incumbent upon it.</p> <p>Concerning the indicators on the serious violence practiced against journalists, Morocco did not record during 2013, according to a report by Reporters Without Borders, issued at the beginning of 2014 , any cases of torture, kidnapping or flee because of threats, or the recourse of journalists to special measures to ensure their safety, or the suspension of professional activities because of political pressure, or prevention of journalists from practicing their profession on the grounds of gender, ethnic origin or religion. No journalist was killed or imprisoned without trial in 2013. The cases that might be considered as restrictions on journalists while performing their work have decreased sharply, since only 14 cases were recorded, compared to 20 cases in 2012. The number of attacks that have been recorded in 2013 did not exceed 9 cases. No case of banning or confiscation against any national information medium was registered. Nor was there any interference that could constrain independence or influence the editorial line of any of the newspapers, radio or TV channel through advertising. No case was recorded in Morocco during 2013 where any journalist was subjected to surveillance, especially through eavesdropping or tracking their moves.</p> <p>In 2013 no final prison judgment was issued against journalists, while there are currently two cases before the court of justice, the first of which is related to the issue of the Editor in Chief of the magazine "<i>Alaan</i>", a lawsuit for which a first instance judgment was rendered, and the affair is still in the stage of appeal . The second issue relates to the issue of site manager, "<i>Lakum. com</i>", on which no final judgment has been issued and the website manager is sued under provisional liberty . Also the number of press issues before the courts of justice recorded declined in 2013, since 98 cases concerning journalists were brought to justice in 2013.</p>

**rights are to be fully respected, including the freedom of press and expression**  
**Recommendation # 90 (Estonia): Revise the Press Code and other relevant legislation so that they would allow the enjoyment of freedom of information in line with international standards**

Morocco continues its openness to foreign media. In 2013, the Ministry of Communication approved 101 journalists from 21 nationalities, representing 61 foreign news organizations. The number of press licenses granted also recorded a significant increase, as the Moroccan Cinematographic Centre granted a total of 1301 licenses of shooting in the national territory in 2013, about 54 % of which for the benefit of foreign channels and media . No case of license withdrawal was recorded against the foreign press, nor was there any case of license withdrawal against any accredited journalists in 2013. The distribution of foreign newspapers and magazines has increased in Morocco. 1041 license applications were studied and approved to import foreign publications in 2013.

A Draft Law N° 13-91 on the right of access to information in the framework of effectuating the provisions of Article 27 of the Constitution, and to implement the international commitments of Morocco. This draft stipulates the nature of this information as well as a procedure of obtaining it, exceptions, recourse and complaint. It also provides for the establishment of a national committee to ensure the right of access to information in terms of its formation, appointment and missions. The Draft Law stipulates the proactive measures to ensure the dissemination of information.

A Decree was issued supplementing and amending the Decree on the National Press Award, to which other awards were added for best press work in Hassani and Amazigh as well as electronic works. In addition to the implementation of the requirements of the program contract to support the rehabilitation and modernization of the press enterprise, which was signed between the Ministry of Communication and the Moroccan Federation of Newspaper Publishers on 8 March 2013, in order to develop an institutional framework for the governance of granting public support to the national press, and the adoption of a support system that is diverse, effective, transparent and contract-based. It is targeted at the strengthening the economic performance of the press enterprise as well as the renovation and expansion of distribution structures, increasing reading rates, promoting the right of access to information, and achieving the quality and diversity of content, along with supporting the efforts of keep pace with technical and technological developments in the communications sector .

For the advancement of the cinema sector, the White Paper on cinema was drafted. In the area of public audio-visual media, ethics committees have been established, as well as the selection committees at the level of the two public audio-visual media companies. The effectuation of the provisions in the Specifications has been launched. The draft national plan has been prepared for the transfer from analogical to digital broadcasting (2013 2015), in implementation of Morocco's international obligations to move to digital terrestrial broadcasting system in the UHF band, starting from 2015.

<p><b>Recommendation # 80 (Sweden): Take immediate measures to implement the provisions of the new Constitution on the freedom of assembly and association</b></p>	<p>The Constitution of the Kingdom of Morocco, under Article 12 thereof, provides for the right to establish and organize civil society groups and non-governmental organizations. Article 29 guarantees freedoms of reunion, assembly, peaceful demonstration, association and syndical and political membership. National Plan for Democracy and Human Rights includes processes and procedures for the consolidation of security governance.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 83 (United States of America): Promptly approve the license applications for all civil society organizations that meet legal requirements, including the organizations advocating for minority populations</b></p>	<p><b>1 - Concerning freedom of association:</b> The public authorities protects the practices related to public freedoms, in accordance with the law in force, specifying the responsibilities in the case of recording any breaches or violations in this regard, so as to ensure the proper application of the exercise of public freedoms and respect for the rights that arise therefrom, such as freedom of opinion, freedom of expression, freedom the press and the right of assembly and demonstration, as well as the right to establish associations in full respect for the relevant international standards in force .</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 131 (Canada): Take measures to protect human rights defenders, particularly in the “Western Sahara”, against harassment, repression, arrest or detention, including by granting an official accreditation to the associations working in this field</b></p>	<p>In this context, with regard to the exercise of freedom of association, the association field in the Kingdom in recent years has witnessed the establishment of several associations and organizations in numerous vital areas that enabled it to play a key role in strengthening the fabric of civil society as a partner in the development process and the consolidation of democratic and citizenship values.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 139 and the second part of Recommendation # 140 (Ireland, Spain): Give particular attention to all measures to improve the human rights situation in “Western Sahara”, in particular develop and implement independent and credible measures to ensure full respect for human rights and guaranteeing such basic rights as freedom of association and expression</b></p>	<p>The activities of these associations are geared to the advancement of many areas and issues related to social and economic development, human rights and the enhancement of culture, sports, recreational and artistic activities. In this regard, a total of 10067 associations have been established in 2012, and increased in 2013 to stand at 10919 associations.</p> <p>As for the efforts undertaken by the public authorities for the promotion of the freedom of association, particularly with regard to simplifying and facilitating the establishment procedures, it should be noted that a circular was addressed to the Walis of Regions and Governors of Provinces throughout the Kingdom on 12 October 2012, urging local authorities to ensure the proper application of the relevant legal procedures and documentation required to establish associations, in line with the requirements of the new Constitution of the Kingdom on the establishment of associations, especially Article 12 and 29 thereof . This Circular also included instructions regarding the need for strict adherence to the provisions of Dahir N° 1.58.376 issued on 3 Jumada 1<sup>st</sup> 1378 (15 November 1958) on the organization of the right of association, which has also been amended and completed, for officers not to require documents that are not stipulated under this Article or request a number of copies exceeding the number required by law.</p> <p>The implementation of these provisions can be safely conducted, in accordance with the contents of this Circular, such as the unification of the procedure of receiving statements on the establishment of associations and accompanying documentation at the level of all provinces and prefectures of the Kingdom, hence avoiding anything that might complicate or disrupt the procedure of establishing associations.</p>

	<p>With regard to the granting of formal accreditation to associations of human rights defenders, the public authorities ensure that associations comply with the legal procedures in force, especially Articles 3 and 5 of Dahir N° 1.58.376 issued on 3 Jumada 1<sup>st</sup> 1378 (November 15, 1958) on the organization of the right of association as amended and completed.</p> <p><b>2 - Concerning freedom of assembly:</b></p> <p>The legal arsenal regulating the field of public liberties in the Kingdom for several years has been enhanced by a series of important reforms and legal developments on human rights, whose common concern is harmonizing and matching the national legislative and regulatory texts with the international conventions on human rights ratified by Morocco or acceded thereto. In the same context, and in order to ensure the ideal right-oriented exercise of public freedoms in the Kingdom in general, and the promotion of freedom of assembly, in particular, the text of the new Constitution of the Kingdom in Article 29 stipulates that "the freedoms of reunion, assembly, peaceful demonstration, association and syndical and political membership are guaranteed, and the law defines the conditions for the exercise of such freedoms."</p> <p>From this perspective, the public authorities invest much effort in maintaining public order and security, immunizing public freedom practices, especially peaceful protest, reconciling the demands of the exercise of freedom and the requirement of maintaining public order, in accordance with the regulations in force. It should be noted that public security forces is tasked with performing interventions to maintain public order, in line with the laws in force, and responsibilities are specified in the event of excessive force or violations in this regard.</p> <p>So as to avoid any acts that could sometimes threaten the physical safety of protesters, directly affect the freedom of others, violate legal provisions, disrupt the normal workflow at some departments, cause obstruction of traffic, involve the occupation of public spaces and cause damage to public and private property, the intervention of security forces turns out to be a matter of necessity at the core of the tasks assigned to it. It should be emphasized that the use of force in such cases is only conducted under strict respect of the legal regulations and the procedures stipulated under the Law on public assembly.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation #94 (Holy See): Ensure the application, in line with international human rights provisions, of Articles 3 of the new Constitution that guarantees freedom of worship for all</b></p>	<p>Confirming its commitment to the provisions of Article 3 of the Constitution which stipulates that the State guarantees the right of everyone to worship, the Kingdom of Morocco signed the Human Rights Council Resolution N° A/HRC/25/L.19, at its twenty-fifth session, held from 3 to 28 March 2014, on the freedom of religion or belief.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 124 (France): Take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for human rights in the</b></p>	<p>The provisions of Article 66 of the Code of Criminal Procedure stipulates that the individuals remanded in custody have the right to contact a lawyer, starting from the first hour of custody in accordance with the terms and conditions specified under the law in all cases within the time limit of:</p>

<p><b>framework of counter-terrorism, and in particular, the rights to defense and non-use of torture</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 24 hours, unless the Public Prosecutor, when the case involves a crime requiring investigation, decides otherwise, exceptionally upon the request of the judicial police officer, to delay the contact of the lawyer to communicate with his/her client for a period not exceeding 12 hours from the end of the half the original custody period;</li> <li>- 96 hours (the original period of remand in custody in custody) starting from the first hour of the remand in custody for crimes of terrorism and crimes stipulated under Article 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code, unless the Public Prosecutor, decides otherwise, when the case requires investigation, to delay the contact for a period not exceeding 48 hours after the original custody period has elapsed, upon the request of the judicial police officer.</li> </ul> <p>This indicates that the right to contact a lawyer can be exercised with the permission of the Public Prosecution - from the first moment of remand in custody , and may not be delayed after half the duration of custody for regular crimes, except in the case where the acts committed relate to a crime, and at the end of the original period of custody for terrorist crimes and the crimes stipulated under Article 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code, except in cases where the Public Prosecution decides to postpone contact for investigation purposes, provided that period does not exceed the period provided under Article 66 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (12 hours for ordinary crimes in the form of a felony, and 48 hours for terrorist crimes and the crimes stipulated under Article 108 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Circular of the Minister of Justice and Liberties to all prosecutors of the Kingdom at the Courts of Appeal and First Instance Courts in order to coordinate with the judicial police officers to facilitate the contact of people remanded in custody with their lawyers starting from first hour of such custody).</p>
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## TOPIC VIII: PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF SPECIAL GROUPS

<b>Relevant Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<p><b>Recommendation # 41 (Zimbabwe), the second part of Recommendation # 21 and Recommendations # 39 and 57: (Germany, Thailand and Indonesia): Continue to give high priority to the promotion of women, Take the necessary measures to effectively prevent gender discrimination and promote gender equality and parity and prevent violence against women</b></p>	<p>In order to implement the principle of gender equality and non-discrimination, recognized by the</p> <p>The Labor Code enshrines the concept of equality, maternity protection and the protection of women at work by preventing discrimination in employment based on gender, and sexual harassment (Article 40) and the employment of women in hard labor (Article 172). In order to strengthen the effective integration of women in all socio-professional sectors, and support reform project already launched in this regard, such as the Family Code, the Government Plan for Equality with a View to Parity, « <i>Ikrām</i> » 2012-2016, dated 6 June 2013, hinging on a set of areas such as the institutionalization and dissemination of the principles of justice and equality, launching the establishment of the rules of parity, the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women as well as achieving equality of opportunity between genders in the labor market. The Government is currently working on the creation of the Commission for Parity and the Fight against all Forms of Discrimination.</p> <p>In order to contribute to improving the image of women in the media and the advancement of their position, the Manual of Specifications of national companies of audiovisual communication now comprises provisions on the non-promotion of violence or incitement of discrimination against people on gender grounds.</p> <p>Moreover, a bill has been drafted on the amendment of Law N° 77.03 on audiovisual communication, supplementing Articles 4 and 9 with provisions prohibiting stereotypes on women and preventing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">r Equality</p> <p>and Dignity in the Media" has been established. The aim of this award is to reward journalists for their commitment to promoting equality and combatting stereotypes, to sensitize the relevant actors for a better representation of women in the media, and to activate and ensure the follow up of the implementation of the provisions of the National Charter for the improvement the Image of Women in the Media.</p> <p>In the setting of enhancing the efficiency of female journalists, it has been emphasized that the Manual of Specifications for actors and operators in the sector should stipulate " continuous training ", and ensure training in the field of management and administration of press companies, in order to enable and prepare women journalists to access decision-making and leadership positions. The Specifications should also stipulate the activation of the role of arbitrators in the settlement of disputes between journalists and press companies, as well as the measures of positive discrimination in favor of women journalists, along with proposing measures and procedures within the press facility to protect women from harassment. The announcement of the launch of a study on the status of women journalists in the media landscape has been updated, with a view to drawing conclusions and discussing the best ways to develop the status of women journalists, allowing them access to leadership positions in the various settings of media institutions.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation # 27 (Congo): Continue the efforts to consolidate the progress achieved in promoting women's rights and protecting human rights</b></p>	<p>Morocco has adopted many legislative texts and amended others so as to harmonize its legislation with the provisions of international conventions in terms of equality, enjoyment of civil and political rights, as well as preserving domestic violence, human trafficking, pornography, child prostitution, and organized crime. A draft law is under preparation to regulate domestic work and prohibit the employment of children under the legal age of 15 years.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 40 and 45 (Turkey, Djibouti): Continue to work in a concrete manner to step up the progress made over the last decade in the field of women's rights</b></p>	<p>In order to enshrine the legal protection of women, and to support equality as well as the fight against discrimination, several measures have been laid down facilitating access to legal services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing and equipping spaces devoted to receiving women and children in the units created at 33 court houses, with a view to equipping the rest of the courts in the years to come.</li> <li>▪ Preparation of the Judicial Guide for Hearing Techniques in order to develop the capacity of the members of such units and provide support for women and children through the various stages of the judicial procedure in the courts .</li> <li>▪ Organizing training programs and continuing education for the benefit of the entire set of judicial staff, including judges and officers, involving representatives from other sectors, especially police officers, Royal Gendarmerie and educators of child protection centers, as well as representatives of associations operating in the field (these training programs benefited about 500 judges, 180 officials from the court registry and 148 social workers annually).</li> <li>▪ Creation of coordination committees at two levels: local committees at the level of the jurisdictions of first instance courts comprising representatives of the sectors concerned in addition to the members of the judicial unit within the court , whose mission is to examine the conditions of providing care for children and the problems involved as well as specifying the adequate solutions; and regional committees at the level of the jurisdiction of the courts of appeal, comprising a representative of all local committees of the lower courts affiliated to it. Local committees meet once every three months, whereas regional committees meet once every six months.</li> </ul> <p>The Criminal Code criminalizes and sanctions any exploitation of people , whether in prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, forced labor or any other forms of exploitation, with severe punishment if the crime is committed against a minor or by torture or by a criminal gang.</p> <p>The units providing care for women and children, created at the level of court houses throughout the Kingdom, on the basis of its scope of competence, contribute to the support of the rights of victims of trafficking and facilitate their access to judicial protection. They receive this category of persons, listen to them and conduct the tasks of guidance and counseling, especially referring victims to the units providing women and children with medical care to receive treatment and obtain medical certificates. They also accompany them if required, and contact the civil society institutions concerned in this regard, especially listening centers or accommodation centers where appropriate. In this regard, a draft law on combating</p>

human trafficking has been prepared, comprising the definition of this crime in line with international standards, especially Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, and criminalizes all forms of sexual exploitation, imposing severe punishment if the victim is a child is under 18 years old.

Moreover, a set of arrangements at the legal, institutional and procedural levels have been taken including the following :

- 1 - **Updating the relevant laws:** by repealing discriminatory provisions relating to women , namely :
  - Amending the Law on Nationality: Article 6 provides for the right of every father and mother, on equal footing, in granting Moroccan nationality to their children . In this context, a draft law has been prepared to modify and supplement Article 10 of the Law on Nationality, intended to establish the principle of equality in the granting Moroccan nationality by virtue of intermarriage.
  - Amending the Family Code regarding the marriage of minors (child marriage): There has been a positive interaction with the legislative initiative of the Parliament aimed at identifying the exception in the marriage of minors, limiting it to a minimum of 16 years in order to reduce child marriage. This proposal has been approved by the House of Councilors, with a view to its discussion by the House of Representatives.

2 - **Institutional measures :** In order to ensure the protection of women and safeguard their dignity , the Ministry created institutional structures supporting legislative amendments , chief of which are :

- Creation of a Court section for the affairs of family, minors and incompetent persons so as to specify difficulties as well as legal and material problems, resolve them in the framework of the law and jurisprudence.
- Establishing new headquarters of the sections of family affairs and equipping them with modern computing facilities.
- Setting up units affiliated to the Public P , composed of several judges and social workers, so as to contain the violence against women through the provision of guidance, counseling and fast intervention against practices deviating from the required conduct towards women.
- Setting up Family Solidarity Fund: It is a foundation providing care for some social groups in difficult circumstances, especially mothers and minor children with no support provider. The number of beneficiaries from this Fund reached a total of 2539 beneficiaries as of September 2013 .

3 - **Practical support measures :**

- Activating the joint Circular of the Ministry of Justice and liberties and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and Ministry of Interior, dated 04/06/2007, in order to monitor and guide the procedure of registration of the persons assigned Moroccan nationality by virtue of filiation to the

	<p>mother on civil status records pursuant to the Nationality Law . A total of 32958 Moroccan nationality certificates have been delivered to Moroccan nationals living in the national territory , and 2136 for the benefit of members of the Moroccan community living abroad as of the end of January 2014 .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Authentication of marriage contracts during the period extending up to the end of February 2014 . Awareness-raising campaigns have been organized for the application of such Article in order to involve everyone in the success of this operation. Mobile sessions were organized on the authentication of marriages in weekly open markets in a number of rural communities and remote areas in various regions of the Kingdom to facilitate the procedures for litigants and ensure judicial assistance to the needy.</li> <li>▪ Continue the program of development and modernization of the justice system through the training of specialized judges on the subject of women's rights and to provide all the means to motivate them.</li> <li>▪ Continuous training of judges in order to better accomplish their tasks in the field of the protection of women's rights.</li> <li>▪ Appointment of social workers in the courts to protect women victims of violence.</li> <li>▪</li> <li>the Deputy-Prosecutor or Deputy-Prosecutor of the Kingdom,</li> <li>▪ Consolidation of the computerized management of family affairs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation # 44 (Canada): Put in place the necessary arrangements to implement the new Constitution's guarantees of equality between men and women, in accordance with its international obligations, including CEDAW's Article 16 regarding marriage and family life</b></p>	<p>Moroccan social legislation recognized a set of provisions basically relating to the prevention of discrimination in employment and the protection of working women and motherhood, in line with international legislation, taking account of the special needs of women within the work place, alongside reconciling family responsibilities and professional duties . The Kingdom of Morocco is committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals , especially MDG 3, implementing the National Initiative for Human Development , adopting proportional voting using the national parliament , adopting a national strategy and action plan for justice, gender equality for the integration of a gender approach in public policy , adopting the national strategy to combat gender-based violence , in addition to the adoption of a gender-sensitive programming of the general budget .</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 47 (Slovenia): Continue with reforms and practical measures in line with international standards in order to reach gender equality and enable women in a constructive fashion</b></p>	<p>Morocco has taken every precaution to harmonize the provisions of the Labor Code ( Law 65-99 ) with the provisions of the relevant international instruments , especially the International Conventions 100 and 111 on equal pay, discrimination in employment and profession. The Code stipulates the prevention all discrimination in pay between men and women. Protective measures are granted to women working under a contract , including the right to membership in labor unions an the participation in related management, prevention of sexual harassment , employment of women in hard and dangerous labor ; special conditions for the employment of women at night ; and prevention of employing pregnant women during the seven weeks following delivery .</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 88 (Egypt): Continue enactment of legislations and strengthening of efficient public policies to ensure protection and respect of</b></p>	

<p>women rights and their role in society, including promoting women participation in public life and development process</p>	<p>As regards the protection of maternity, the Code provides for the right of pregnant women to the suspension of the employment contract and extension of maternity leave up to 22 weeks in the event of illness due to pregnancy or childbirth ; the possibility of leaving her job without notice ; and the right to paid time-off amounting to a half hour in the morning and half hour in the evening to breastfeed her child .</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 128 (Republic of Moldova):</b> Continue to expand the experience in gender sensitive budgeting, which could be considered as a good practice for all of the Middle East and North Africa region and elsewhere</p>	<p><b>Gender-sensitive budget:</b> Adopting new analytical approach based on the evaluation of public policies by gender from a human rights perspective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Continue the preparation of gender budget reports appended to financial laws with an increased number of sectors involved in gender budget.</u></b></li> </ul> <p>The 2014 Gender Report documents the development of this approach for the third year in a row and establishes its positive outcomes . It has targeted the quantitative and qualitative assessment of public policies with regard to the achievement in terms of rights and standards set forth in the United Nations mechanisms of human rights of individuals in general and women in particular .</p> <p>The Gender Budget Report provides , through the human rights perspective , the practical appropriate framework to fulfill the commitments made at the international level for the implementation of human rights, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The latter stipulates the progressive implementation of rights through the optimal use of available resources. It provides for discipline in terms of observing the laws ( alignment of national legislation with international mechanisms for human rights ) , public policies and budgets ( effective actions ) , as well as the commitment to achieving results in terms of tracing the effective enjoyment of such rights .</p> <p>Accordingly, the three principles underlying the gender budget from the perspective of rights (namely standards, procedures and results), provide a conceptual and procedural reference in order to enhance accountability mechanisms in the area of the respect for human rights , especially women's rights.</p> <p>The application of this approach, based on the human rights of public policies and programs, hinges on the translation of international standards of human rights into quantified indicators . This approach involves 3 phases, constituting three different components of the analysis and evaluation of public policies by gender from a human rights perspective :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard framework</b> : it refers to the ratification and adoption of legal means and provision of mechanisms of institutional required to facilitate the materialization of specific rights, according to the types of rights : fair access to civil and political rights, equitable access to social rights and equal benefit from the economic rights.</li> <li>• <b>Process</b> : It is reflected in the way adopted by the State to meet its obligations in the field of human rights through detailing the gender-sensitive programs and projects accomplished .</li> <li>• <b>Results:</b> They translate the degree of implementation of rights , and assess the degree of enjoyment of such rights, through the evaluation of the results obtained (compared with the</li> </ul>

expected results ) . The choice of the outcome indicators adopted the Report of the High Commission of the United Nations for Human Rights on the use of indicators in order to activate and monitor the implementation of human rights .

The analysis of public policies by gender from the perspective of human rights, through the gender budget reports and the constant feeding of reference standard that regulates rights , as well as monitoring and evaluation of various gender-sensitive programs and projects , have all made it possible to derive the various achievements in different fields and to specify the challenges that impede equal access to such rights . It should be noted in this regard that the number of ministerial sectors involved in this approach increased to almost thirty sectors in 2013.

The results obtained through the analysis based on human rights in the evaluation of public policies highlight the importance of this approach. They specified the progress made in various areas as well as the challenges that impede access to rights for women and men on equal footing. This analysis has been based on the three types of rights : access to equitable civil and political rights ; equitable access to social rights and equal benefit from economic rights.

- **Creation of the Center of Excellence for Gender Budget at the Ministry of Economy and Finance**

The gradual development of the experience of programming results-based and gender-sensitive budgets has produced a repository of the necessary knowledge and mechanisms for the assessment of public policies from a gender perspective . In practice, Morocco has managed to create the Center of Excellence for Gender Budget at the Ministry of Economy and Finance in February 2013 , in the framework of the implementation of the recommendations of the International Forum on Gender hosted by the city of Marrakech in November 2012, especially those calling for strengthening a climate conducive developing the management and sharing of knowledge , experiences and successful practices in the field of gender budget in the framework of international initiatives and South - South cooperation. The Center of Excellence is tasked with the following mission:

- Enriching the experience gained over ten years of continuous experience in the field of gender-sensitive budget, through the knowledge management system established by the Ministry of Economy and Finance in partnership with UN Women .
- Advancing conceptual innovation through the support of research and innovation in the field of gender budget at the national and international scales.
- Encouraging the adoption of gender budget by the various stakeholders, through capacity-building for the actors involved .

The Center of Excellence for Gender Budget is based on the electronic platform of knowledge management which can be accessed through the portal of the Ministry of Economy and Finance . This electronic knowledge management platform comprises the following :

- Providing a repository of electronic and paper-based documents on gender budget , allowing to achieve the goals of compiling gender budget documents of Morocco ( reports , proceedings of

events and conferences, guides and minutes of meetings ... ) and the unification of the sources of information related to the subject of gender budget at the national and international scales, as well as the management of the content that will be created in the future .

- Management of information networks and actors and assembling skills and expertise and implicit memory in order to create links between the actors and ensure the exchange of experiences and dissemination of knowledge related to the gender budget program.

To ensure the success of the work of the Center of Excellence on gender budget and guarantee the achievement of expected results , a partnership agreement was concluded between the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the United Nations for Women in Morocco , on 6 June 2013, for the implementation of programmed activities in the framework of the Plan of Action of the Center of Excellence on gender budget by establishing a practical framework for the Center and identifying the parties involved as well as the mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the activities of this center .

The application of the analysis of gender-sensitive public policies from a human rights perspective on the entire set of ministerial sectors involved in gender budget highlights the full commitment of Morocco to equality and consolidation of accountability. It should be noted that this option has been supported by the reform of the Organic Law on the Law of Finance, which was approved by the Government Council in December 2013 and was presented to the Finance Committee to discuss it in February. This new law stresses institutionalization of management based on performance in the context of programs open onto proximity management and optimal targeting of public policies in view of the various needs of different segments of the target population , through setting objectives for monitoring and efficiency.

<p><b>Recommendation # 41 (Zimbabwe):</b>  <b>Continue to give high priority to the promotion of women, children, persons with disabilities and migrants rights;</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation # 65 (Portugal):</b>  <b>Prohibit all forms of violence against children, including corporal punishment, in all settings</b></p>	<p>In 2012 a Procedural Guide for the Protection of Children was prepared, based on three lines on the implementation of disciplinary measures in child protection centers, emergency management, safety procedures and the consideration of the allegations of abuse and violence by the staff of child protection centers against children.</p> <p>In this regard, an action mechanism will be launched in 2014 , tasked with the roles of entrenching the principles of good governance in child protection centers, reducing violence against children and supporting their participation in the defense of their rights .</p> <p>In the same context, the department of Education and Vocational Training issued a ministerial Memorandum on school violence, conducted awareness-raising campaigns through educational clubs and the charter of rights and duties based on the contents of the Convention on the Rights of the Child , created regional centers to monitor violence in schools , established security and hygiene services as well as listening and orientation centers . Currently a second national research is being conducted on disability , whose findings will be presented in 2014. It targets the adoption of a new definition of disability, recommended by the Washington Group on Disability , based on the International Classification of Performance, by asking six questions on six functional key areas: sight, hearing , movement , perception, self-care and communication. The General Census of the year 2014 ill make it possible to update the national statistics regarding the status of disability in the Kingdom .</p> <p>Regarding the promotion of the rights of migrants , the year 2013 witnessed the launch of the royal initiative on the elaboration of a comprehensive national policy of migration in the light of the report submitted by the National Council for Human Rights on the situation of migrants in Morocco . In this connection , the Ministry in Charge of Moroccans residing abroad is now tasked with immigration as well. Immediately thereafter, three inter-ministerial committees started working on the effectuation of the royal directives: the first</p> <p>tasked with the settlement of the status of refugees recognized by the United Nations Office for Refugees in Morocco , and the third in charge of developing the legislative and institutional framework for asylum , immigration and the fight against trafficking in human beings . On 2 January 2014 the process of the</p> <p>February of the same year, the delivery of residence cards for irregular migrants started.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 66 (Slovakia):</b>  <b>Intensify efforts to prevent minors from being subjected to forced or hazardous domestic labor</b></p>	<p>In implementation of the national legal provisions on the criminalization of child labor, the Government created a national committee for the fight against child labor. It also allocates an annual budget under the Finance Law to combat child, granted to support associations working in this area. Focal points have been set up at the level of external affairs of the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs, entrusted with the follow up of the issue of child labor and the preparation of periodic reports in this regard. In addition labor inspectors have benefited from training on the fight against child labor, and sensitization activities have been conducted at the national and local levels for the benefit of all the actors in the fight against child labor.</p>

	<p>This period was marked by preparation by the Government of a Draft Law No. 12-19 specifying the conditions of labor and employment of domestic workers, in conformity with the provisions of the International Labor Conventions No. 138 and 182 on minimum age and the worst forms of child labor, which has been submitted to Parliament for approval.</p> <p>Regarding the Draft Law on labor relations in pure handicraft activities, it has been reviewed in the light of observations and suggestions of the handicraft sector. In the same vein, the list of hazardous jobs prohibited to children under 18 years in the light of the technological development and in accordance with the provisions of the international conventions mentioned above. At the procedural level, the period witnessed the development of bilateral and multilateral international cooperation.</p> <p>As part of enshrining children's rights in accordance with the relevant international obligations, the Government is currently preparing an integrated public policy of child protection, with the support of UNICEF, according to a participatory approach involving different actors, such as public authorities and associations at the central and regional levels, taking account of the lessons learned from the first phase of the activation of the 2006 - 2015 National Action Plan for Children "Morocco Worthy of its Children" .</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 130 (Sudan)</b>  <b>Continue its efforts to strengthening the rights of children, especially those concerning juvenile justice and courts competent for minors</b></p>	<p>To achieve legal protection for juveniles, under the last paragraph of Article 473 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the legislature urges juvenile judges to pay periodic visits, at least once a month, to the institutions in charge of juvenile offenders, those who are in difficult situations or victims of a criminal act.</p> <p>A draft law is currently under preparation on the general regulations applicable to child protection and reintegration centers, which provides for placing every juvenile in conflict with the law or the child victim of a felony or misdemeanor, or in a difficult situation, who has been subjected to a measure or decision by the competent authorities, in a child protection and reintegration center . In accordance with Article 4 of the draft law, such centers are divided into two types a closed system, one for boys and the other for girls. They serve an educational function aimed at educating and rehabilitating the child as well as discovering their skills , in addition to vocational, learning and social development. In 2013, juvenile judges paid 148 visits to correctional institutions .</p> <p>It should be noted that the juveniles are not subjected to custody , but are kept where necessary until they appear before juvenile judges and they are treated in an educational rather than punitive framework, always taking account of their best interests.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 61 and the first part of Recommendation # 53 (Belarus, Malaysia): Step up effort to prevent and combat sexual exploitation and trafficking in women and children, including by ensuring that all allegations of trafficking and sexual abuses are</b></p>	<p>As of 2007, Morocco developed national strategy in the area of human trafficking based on the three fundamental pillars : 1) prevention, 2) combatting rings, and 3) protection. In the framework of the fight against criminal networks linked to trafficking in human beings, residence in Morocco is monitored under Law 03-02 , whose provisions are applied in accordance with the observance of the international treaties ratified by Morocco. It should be noted that protection in this regard is conducted in conformity with the national strategy for the fight against trafficking in human beings, and in accordance with a legal and social plan including measures of emergency medical and psychological care, since every person has</p>

<p><b>investigated and the perpetrators are brought to justice and punished</b></p>	<p>the right to benefit from treatment without discrimination regardless of nationality at health care institutions provided for this purpose, along with marine ambulance services, as Morocco provides search and rescue units at the level of the countries of Arab Maghreb Union.</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 41 and 122 (Zimbabwe, Indonesia): Continue the progress achieved in the implementation of the policies that promote and safeguard the rights of migrants</b></p>	<p>The protection of migrants is also ensured in accordance with the following procedures : 1) taking measures to prevent acts of violence in which immigrants and asylum seekers are involved; 2) respect for the basic rights of migrants ensuring their right to benefit from health care services; 3) with respect to the right to schooling for minors at national public institutions, regardless of their legal status, it has been ensured to the regional delegations of the Ministry of Education, under the same conditions required for the enrolment of Moroccan children.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation # 121 (Swaziland): Develop strategies to better manage the migratory flows of political and economic refugees who unfortunately overwhelm Morocco's capacity and resources</b></p>	<p>The procedures for the protection of migrants also comprise enabling them to communicate with the diplomatic representations, facilitating the procedures of voluntary return with the possibility of benefiting from a temporary residence card. In the same vein, the national legislation protects foreign nationals from all forms of racism as provided under Article 431 of the Criminal Code under the penalty of imprisonment from one month to two years and a fine ranging between 2000 and 5000 MAD.</p> <p>One the most important developments our country has witnessed in this area is the launch the Royal Initiative to establish a new policy on immigration and asylum. The Ministry in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad has been entrusted with the preparation of Government policy of the migration as well as the integration of immigrants and refugees, in conformity with Morocco's international commitments .</p> <p>In the framework of the Royal Initiative mentioned above Morocco has adopted a comprehensive treatment of the problem of immigration according to a humanitarian approach in line with its international obligations. Morocco places immigrants at the heart of its concerns by devising ways of incorporating and maintaining their identity and integration in the economic and social fabric, for them to play an active role in the development of productive relations and achieve the rapprochement between peoples , cultures and civilizations (See Recommendation No. - 41 - Zimbabwe ).</p> <p><b>The fundamental basis of the reform and development of the legislative and institutional framework of asylum and immigration and the fight against trafficking in human beings :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2013 was marked by opening the office of refugees and stateless persons at the level of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the study the files with the support of the High Commission for Refugees and the settlement of the status of more than 530 asylum seekers and the launch a process of exceptional</li> <li style="text-align: center;">- 31 December 2014 :</li> <li>- A Circular has been issued regulating the measures and procedures on the settlement of the status of opening 83 offices i all the provinces and regions of the Kingdom, as well as providing the required logistical and human resources, training 3000 staff members to support the process throughout the Kingdom and providing an information system ;</li> <li>- Three different legislative systems are currently being adopted ( the law on asylum, the law on the fight against trafficking in persons, updating relevant sectoral laws, and the law on the entry and residence of</li> </ul>

	<p>foreigners in Morocco). The institutional framework governing migration has been prepared ( Moroccan Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons , creating a unit for national coordination in the field of combating trafficking in human beings ) ;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In February 2014 , the delivery of residence cards to irregular immigrants was launched;</li> <li>- A study as launched to develop a national strategy based on an integrated approach to facilitate the success of the integration of immigrants and refugees residing in Morocco .</li> </ul> <p>Special importance has been granted to the training and support of human resources in charge of this</p> <p>European Union , Spain, Germany and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Institute for Humanitarian Law, human resources benefited from training courses and study visits to be aware of the various international experiences in this field .</p>
<p><b>Recommendations # 41 and 42 (Zimbabwe, Argentina): Continue to give high priority to the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities</b></p>	<p>The Constitution of the Kingdom of Morocco stipulates non-discrimination on the basis of disability, and enshrines the political rights, social and cultural rights of disabled people. The year 2013 witnessed the launch of the series of public policy actions for the advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities, to ensure access to the rights and achieve social participation for them.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Government Program grants special attention to disability. It has laid down a new strategic plan based on updating national research on disability , and a comprehensive and integrated legislative framework, targeted at promoting the social integration of people with special needs , creating a special fund to support people with disabilities, ensuring the right to education, the right to employment , and strengthening the role of civil society in the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>With regard to the right to education, the number of integrated classes created for the benefit of children with disability 555 in 383 educational institutions in 2013 throughout the Kingdom. This schooling supply benefits nearly 5998 schoolboys and 2226 schoolgirls. With regard to the field of health care, it is worth recalling the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Creation of the integrated sections and hospitals specializing in psychiatry and mental health, with a capacity of 248 beds (720 beds by 2016 ) ;</li> <li>2 ) Establishment of three psychiatric hospitals , with a capacity of 120 beds in the cities of Agadir , Kénitra, Kalaat Sraghna , and the preparation of a guide on the criteria for psychiatric and mental health care;</li> <li>3) Five-fold increase of the budget for the purchase of essential medicines , which currently accounts for 2 % of the budget allocated to drugs ;</li> <li>4) Development of legislation in the field of mental health, by proposing a new draft law in this area.</li> </ol>

**Recommendation # 101 (Azerbaijan):**  
**Keep carrying out the relevant measures, including better social services for dealing with the problems of Moroccans living abroad**

The social services provided to Moroccans Residing Abroad involve several axes, chief of which are:

- ✓ **Providing support and social assistance to the Moroccans in difficult social situations abroad**, through the development of a program to socially support vulnerable groups, including abandoned women, unaccompanied minors, retirees, the elderly, veterans and prisoners. Support is also provided to the associations of Moroccan community diaspora working in the social area, allocating to them a budget amounting to 20 million MAD a year. Summer camps are organized in Morocco for the benefit of children from needy families residing abroad, benefiting 250 children every year. The services also include the transfer of the bodies of needy Moroccans living abroad to the homeland, in the event they pass away, through the allocation of a budget estimated at 12 million MAD. 359 bodies were deported in 2013. A quota of social housing programs in Morocco is devoted, within the limits of available resources, to destitute Moroccans and low-income people living abroad who wish to acquire a housing unit.
- ✓ **Strengthening the defense of the social rights and interests of the Moroccans living abroad locally and externally**, through the reception and guidance provided by the departments of the Ministry in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Immigration Affairs to the Moroccans living abroad who wish to benefit from the various social, administrative and health services, as well as the processing of their complaints.
- ✓ **Strengthening social support for young Moroccans residing abroad** through the completion of an annual program in the field of vocational and handcraft training in Morocco especially designed for young Moroccans residing in Arab and African countries, descending from needy families. This enables them to acquire skills to help them access the labor market in the local country of residence. This program benefited 100 young Moroccans residing in Algeria , Libya, Tunisia , Senegal and Gabon, averaging 50 youngsters annually ;
- ✓ **Supporting school enrollment of pupils and students from needy Moroccan families residing abroad**, through the allocation of annual financial support to encourage Moroccan destitute families residing in Algeria to encourage their children to attend school (1000 children), and the allocation of an annual budget to cover the tuition fees for the annual registration at private schools for pupils descending from Moroccan needy families (150 in Côte d'Ivoire). 1000 scholarships are offered annually for students living abroad descending from Moroccan needy families, pursuing their studies of the bachelor, master and doctoral degrees.
- ✓ **Crisis management**: in 2013 Morocco bore the costs of repatriation for more than 200 Moroccan women and children affected by the earthquake that hit Emilia in Romania, and followed up the situation of the Moroccans living in Syria, ensuring and covering repatriation expenses for those wishing to return to their home country .

**TOPIC 9 : GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Implementation Status</b>
<p>Recommendation # 35, the first part of Recommendation # 46, 105, 112 and 113 (Russian Federation, Nicaragua, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal): Continue taking concrete measures to promote civil, political, economic, social, environmental and cultural rights</p>	
<p>Recommendation # 103 (Egypt): Intensify efforts made to achieve further progress in enhancing economic, social and cultural rights, especially the rights of women, children, and the disabled</p>	
<p>Recommendation # 106 (Malaysia): <del>Allocate 15% of GDP to</del></p>	<p align="center"><b>(Response to these recommendations is included in the answers above)</b></p>