

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW - UPR

A mid-term report on the implementation of the recommendations by the Government of Finland

ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Ministry	Implementation measures
89.1. Advance its efforts to ratify CRPD (Namibia) / Actively consider ratifying CRPD (China) / Ratify and implement the CRPD, with active involvement of representatives of persons with disabilities (Slovenia) / Expedite the on-going internal proceedings and ratify the CRPD and its Optional Protocol enabling individual complaints (Portugal);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	<p>The working group set up to examine the possibility of ratifying the CRPD and its Optional Protocol submitted its report in January 2014. This broad-based working group consisted of representatives of the central government, the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities, and civil society, especially disability organisations. The group formulated its report as a government proposal for legislation. The proposal is being updated and finished on the basis of received comments.</p> <p>According to the Programme of Prime Minister Jyrki Katainen's Government, the Government intends to ratify the Convention during its term of office. At the same time the Government intends to ratify the Optional Protocol.</p> <p>Of all legislative projects required for the ratification, the Government is completing the revision of the legislation on restrictions of the self-determination of persons with disabilities, and Parliament is considering the overall reform of the non-discrimination legislation.</p>
89.2. Continue strengthening efforts to ratify CED (Argentina) / Ratify CED and fully recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (France);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice	The ratification of the Convention requires amendments to the Criminal Code. The Government intends to ratify the Convention during its term of office.
89.3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (Belgium);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	The Protocol took effect in respect of Finland on 1 July 2012. The first periodic report on the implementation of the Protocol will be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2014.
89.4. Proceed swiftly with the ratification of the OP- CRC-SC and OP-CAT (Estonia);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Ministry	<p>See para. 89.3.</p> <p>Parliament accepted the ratification of the Protocol (OP-CAT) on 15 April 2013.</p>

	of Justice	Some formal requirements remain to be fulfilled before completing the ratification process. The Parliamentary Ombudsman Act (197/2002) has been amended in order to take account of the Ombudsman's duties as the national preventive mechanism referred to in Article 3 of the Protocol. The amendment took effect on 1 July 2013.
89.5. Ratify OP-CRC-SC, OP-CAT, CRPD and its Optional Protocol, CED, and OP-ICESCR (Spain);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	See paras. 89.1, 89.2, 89.3 and 89.4. The Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-CESCR) took effect in respect of Finland on 30 April 2014.
89.6. Consider signing and ratifying the ICRMW (Egypt);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	In 1992, 2004 and 2011 the Government considered the possibility of ratifying the Convention but concluded, on the basis of received comments, that it was not meaningful to ratify it. Finnish law makes no distinction between migrant workers and other immigrants. Migrant workers are protected by the same constitutional rights and human rights instruments ratified by Finland as all other immigrants.
89.7. Consider ratifying ICRMW as well as ILO Convention no. 189 on decent work of domestic workers (Philippines);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	See para. 89.6. Finland supports the vital objectives of the ILO Convention no. 189 to promote the dignified treatment of domestic workers, to protect them against such phenomena as human trafficking and other exploitation, and to clarify their legal status. The Government proposes that Parliament ratify it. The Government will submit a proposal to that effect to Parliament in summer 2014.
89.8. Ratify promptly the ILO Convention 169 (Nicaragua) / Conclude as soon as possible the process towards the ratification of the ILO Convention (169) on indigenous and tribal peoples in independent countries and carry out the necessary internal normative adjustments to this end (Mexico) / Ratify ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries within the term of office of the current government administration	Ministry of Justice	According to its Programme, the Government intends to ratify the Convention during its term of office.

(Norway);		
89.9. Consider adhering to and/or ratifying all those international human rights instruments that have not been adhered to and/or ratified (Ecuador);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	See paras. 89.1.–89.8.
89.10. Take further legislative and institutional measures for the promotion and protection of human rights including those of the immigrants (Nepal);	All Ministries	<p>When drafting legislation, authorities must take into account fundamental rights and the human rights instruments binding on Finland.</p> <p>The <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, adopted by the Government in June 2013, sets the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attention must be given to ensuring that fundamental and human rights are enjoyed equally in Finnish society, and more information than at present must be provided about these, both to migrants and to the majority population. ▪ Discrimination of all kinds must be prevented and combated through more effective intervention and by drawing attention to discrimination and experiences of discrimination. ▪ Through action by the appropriate authorities, the identification of victims of human trafficking, the provision of help for them and the exercise of their rights must all be conducted more effectively. <p>The Ministry of the Interior has continued to implement the discrimination monitoring system and prepared an action plan for the monitoring of discrimination for 2014–2017.</p> <p>The Police Department of the Ministry of the Interior and the National Police Board take an active part in different cross-administrative and multi-authority working groups and cooperation with the third sector in human rights issues. The purpose is to ensure the realisation of human rights in police activities and society on the whole, for both the majority population and immigrants.</p> <p>The National Board of Education has revised the national core curriculum for basic education to include more information about human rights, including information about human rights treaties and holocaust.</p> <p>Finland has fostered the education of immigrants by introducing preparatory</p>

		<p>education for upper secondary education for immigrants and foreign language students. The education, which is voluntary for providers of education, will begin in autumn 2014.</p> <p>The Act on the Application of Residence-Based Social Security Legislation (1573/1993) has been amended regarding the rights of immigrants to social security.</p> <p>On 7 March 2014, the report on a study of the right of undocumented persons to health care services, commissioned by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and conducted by the National Institute for Health and Welfare, was submitted to the Minister of Health and Social Services.</p>
<p>89.11. Ensure that the National Human Rights Institution is fully compliant with the Paris Principles (India);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>In establishing the national Human Rights Centre in Finland, the Government took the Paris Principles fully into account.</p>
<p>89.12. Reinforce its efforts, such as the drafted National Action Plan for Reducing Crime, to eliminate the phenomenon of bullying and violence at schools (Slovakia);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Education and Culture</p>	<p>The police are implementing their Strategy for Neighbourhood Police Activities by active measures, e.g. by raising legal awareness among children and young people at schools. Many schools have appointed a school police officer of their own to support them in different matters related to peace at school. The police also participate in the activities of the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare to promote peace at school.</p> <p>Under the national information campaign against discrimination, the Ministry of the Interior has prepared related pedagogic material for teachers and arranged training sessions for teacher students.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Culture has financed the <i>KiVa</i> Anti-Bullying Programme (“kiva” means nice), which is a research-based programme aimed at reducing school bullying. The KiVa programme involves both universal and indicated actions to prevent bullying and to tackle cases of bullying coming to attention. The project has been developed in co-operation with the University of Turku and the Centre for Learning Research. About 2500 schools (about 90% of all comprehensive schools) have registered as users of the programme and started implementing the programme. The further development of the programme rests with the University of Turku since 2011 (www.kivakoulu.fi).</p> <p>The Ministry of Education and Culture finances the <i>Kaikki mukaan</i> (“All</p>

		<p>together”) programme for 2014–2018. It is carried out by the University of Turku. The programme aims to develop an action plan to foster psychosocial wellbeing and management of life skills, and to reduce school bullying, school exclusion and an overburdening of the student welfare services in upper secondary education.</p> <p>Since 2012, the Ministry of Education and Culture has given financial aid to the multicultural Association Walter’s <i>Kytke</i> project (“kytke” means connect”), which aims to promote acceptance of diversity and equality in schools by carrying out visits to schools and to parents’ meetings.</p>
<p>89.13. Brief the Human Rights Council in their UPR mid-term review report on the lessons learnt of the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights, including on the effectiveness of the established indicators (Hungary);</p>	<p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>Finland's first national action plan on fundamental and human rights was prepared for 2012–2013. A Government Network of Contact Persons for Fundamental and Human Rights, consisting of representatives of all ministries, was made responsible for monitoring the implementation of the action plan. The network was supported by a panel of fundamental and human rights actors, consisting of representatives of the Ombudsmen for different human rights, the national Human Rights Centre and civil society.</p> <p>The Government commissioned an external evaluation of the preparation, content and implementation of the action plan. The findings made during the evaluation indicate that the action plan process is useful as an instrument of the Government's human rights policy. The evaluation report commended especially the close dialogue between the group drafting the action plan and civil society during the preparation of the plan. On the other hand, the action plan was criticized for the lack of concrete measures in some areas where needs for development had been identified. Thus, the plan should have focused better on the major human rights problems.</p> <p>The action plan did not include actual indicators, but the evaluation report, too, supported the idea of linking the monitoring of fundamental and human rights with indicators or gauges agreed in advance.</p>
<p>89.14. Undertake further measures aimed at protection of women’s rights, including prevention of violence (Ukraine);</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The Government Action Plan for Gender Equality 2012–2015, adopted in June 2012, collates the most important measures by which the Government promotes equality between women and men and combats gender based discrimination. The Action Plan contains objectives and actions in several theme areas, one of which is the combating of intimate partner violence and domestic violence,</p>

		<p>violence against women and sexual violence. The implementation of the Action Plan for Gender Equality is monitored by a working group where all ministries are represented. Each ministry is responsible for measures in their respective administrative sector. An interim report on the implementation of the Action Plan was submitted to the Government in November 2013. NGOs and other interest groups were consulted during the preparation of the interim report.</p> <p>See also 89.15 (Reform of the Equality Act) and 90.20 (Equal Pay Programme).</p> <p>Several measures to prevent violence against women have been carried out in Finland in recent years. The Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women in 2010-2015 (available at http://www.stm.fi/en/publications/publication/_/julkaisu/1522973#en) is one of the most significant developments in this field.</p> <p>The aims of the Action Plan are to tackle violence proactively by seeking to influence attitudes and behaviours; to prevent repeated violence; to improve the position of victims of sexual violence and the crisis assistance and support provided for them; to develop methods for identifying and intervening in the violence experienced by vulnerable groups; to enhance the knowledge and skills of the authorities and professional service providers in preventing violence against women and in helping victims.</p> <p>In August 2012 the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health published the Action Plan for the prevention of circumcision of girls and women 2012 - 2016 (available at http://www.stm.fi/en/publications/publication/_/julkaisu/1822114).</p> <p>The purpose of the Action Plan is to create permanent national and regional structures to prevent circumcision of girls and women. Therefore, the aim is to ensure the preservation of the existing expertise and the long-term development of the preventive work. Other goals of the Action Plan include more effective collaboration, clearer division of work and better coordination between different authorities and other actors. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has, together with the National Institute for Health and Welfare, organized seminars and meetings on the implementation of the Action Plan, targeted particularly at persons working with women and girls.</p> <p>Preventive measures against domestic violence are going on also in many areas where it is possible to influence risk factors causing violence against women. These measures include the Alcohol Programme 2012–2015, the Internal Security</p>
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	<p>Programme 2012-2015 and others which take into account the targets set in the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women 2012-2015.</p> <p>At the end of June 2013 the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) published the National Quality Guidelines, which define the guiding principles for work at shelters, describe the process of work and define the objectives and criteria of the work.</p> <p>The National Institute for Health and Welfare has launched a campaign against sexual violence targeted at young girls and boys, making use of electronic media (<i>Mun kroppa. Mä päätän siitä.</i>). The website of the campaign provides information on sexual violence and what measure can be taken to combat it. The campaign highlights the sexual self-determination of young people. The campaign aims to encourage young people to set their own boundaries, identify threats and talk about violations of their rights. The campaign is targeted at young people aged 15–17. The campaign website is running until the end of 2015. The campaign has been carried out as part of the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women 2010–2015.</p> <p>Women's rights and the prevention of violence cannot be separated as specific subjects in the education and training of the police. These issues are integrated into the study modules. In the basic degree programme of the police, the courses in general police theory discuss the Internal Security Programme thoroughly from the perspective of preventive activities of the police. Particular focus is given to the opportunities of an individual policeperson to influence security challenges. The courses in preventive work and neighbourhood police activities include the subjects of intimate partner violence, early intervention, problem-orientation and e.g. local security planning. During advanced studies, the police students acquaint themselves with fundamental and human rights when addressing problems encountered during their workplace learning. The objective in building the students' legal and ethical know-how is that they should know and learn the norms regulating police activities and the ethical principles of the police so that they recognise and internalise the courses of action expected of the police.</p> <p>The degree programme emphasises the obligation of the police both to protect fundamental rights and to interfere with them within their clearly delimited competence. The instruction follows a human rights friendly interpretation of competence provisions. The regulation of fundamental and human rights and the</p>
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		<p>principles of good governance are basic elements in the instruction of administrative law during the police education.</p> <p>The objective of the courses in preventive activities is to introduce the students to the working methods applied in neighbourhood police activities. These courses focus on such themes as intimate partner violence, early intervention and child welfare. In the context of intimate partner violence and early intervention, e.g. restraining orders can be discussed as concrete measures.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the provisions concerning work safety offences, restraining orders, stalking, homicide and bodily injury, and sexual offences. The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area.</p> <p>The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. In the reformed degree programme of the police (a polytechnic-level degree), to start in autumn 2014, the significance of fundamental and human rights will be increasingly emphasised (Police Act, Chapter 1, section 2).</p> <p>Courses in criminology deal with such subjects as theories explaining crime and the specific features of crime in Finland. The draft curriculum was completed on 15 November 2013.</p> <p>In accordance with the Internal Security Programme, the police are, in some areas, carrying out the MARAK programme, based on a risk assessment model for intimate partner violence. The MARAK programme is a new action programme intended to address intimate partner and family violence in a cross-administrative working group.</p>
89.15. Continue its efforts in eliminating discrimination and preventing violence against women and children (Indonesia);	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry	<p>See para. 89.14.</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health set up a working group in 2009 to draw up a proposal for a national plan of action to prevent and reduce corporal</p>

	<p>of the Interior</p>	<p>punishment of children. The plan (Don't hit the child! National Action Plan to Reduce Corporal Punishment of Children 2010-2015, available at http://www.stm.fi/en/publications/publication/-/_julkaisu/1537947#en) includes targets that extend to the year 2015. One of the recommendations of the plan is that follow up studies should be repeated regularly. A Child Victim study carried out in 2008 has been repeated by the Police Academy and will be published in 2014. Moreover, a study on the attitudes towards corporal punishment of children will be published by the Central Union for Child Welfare in the spring 2014.</p> <p>The prevention of violence including corporal punishment is covered by the legislation concerning child health clinics (Decree 338/2011). In addition, guidelines for early interaction and positive child rearing and prevention of violence are included in several hand books (Laajat terveystarkastukset. Opas äitiys- ja lastenneuvolatoimintaan sekä kouluterveydenhuoltoon. THL Opas 2012: 22; STM Julkaisu 2009:20; Electronic handbook for child health clinics, THL)</p> <p>In the proposed reform of the non-discrimination legislation, the Act on Equality between Women and Men (609/1986, Equality Act) would remain independent. Prohibitions of gender-based discrimination would be expanded to cover also discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression. After the reform the Equality Act would prohibit extensively discrimination of trans- and intersex persons. Discrimination based on sexual orientation will continue to be covered in the Non-Discrimination Act.</p> <p>In 2005, educational institutions (excluding basic education institutions) were obliged to prepare annual equality plans. In the ongoing legislative reform, regulations concerning equality planning in educational institutions would be expanded to cover also basic education institutions.</p> <p>Furthermore, the provisions concerning equality planning in workplaces would be clarified. The amendments would define the contents of a pay survey in a more binding way than before. Regulations concerning equality planning in educational institutions would be expanded to cover basic education institutions. The Government Bill was on the proposed reform of the Non-Discrimination Act was submitted in spring 2014.</p> <p>Regarding the education of the police, see para. 89.14 above.</p>
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<p>89.16. Take effective legal and practical measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children, in particular women and children with disabilities, immigrant and refugee women and children, and women and children from ethnic and religious minorities, especially Muslims and Roma (Iran);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.15 above.</p> <p>The Police Department of the Ministry of the Interior and the National Police Board take an active part in different cross-administrative working groups and in cooperation with the third sector to eliminate discrimination and to prevent violence against women and children, persons with disabilities, persons of immigrant and refugee origin as well as ethnic and religious minorities.</p> <p>The National Police Board is active in arranging training and different seminars on the prevention of discrimination and racism, human rights issues and police ethics.</p> <p>The Ministry of the Interior has prepared and carries out nationwide campaigns against discrimination. The Ministry also trains authorities in equality planning and the assessment of equality impacts and implements the discrimination monitoring system.</p> <p>Regarding the targets of the <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, see para. 89.10.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Services takes account of the special needs of different applicant groups when considering their applications, deciding on them and running the reception centres.</p>

		<p>The National Action Plan to reduce Violence against Women includes measures targeted at women in vulnerable positions (e.g. migrant women, women in ethnic minorities, disabled women).</p> <p>Reform of the Equality Act, see 89.15.</p>
<p>89.17. Continue to combat racism and discrimination and adopt effective national legislation in this regard (Palestine);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, prepared by the Ministry of the Interior, includes measures to combat racism and xenophobia. Furthermore, the Ministry is carrying out the <i>Good Relations</i> project, which produces indicators of good relations and develops operating models for fostering good ethnic relations.</p> <p>Reform of the Equality Act, see 89.15.</p>
<p>89.18. Strengthen efforts to restrict the outbreaks of racism and xenophobia, especially the manifestations of racism on the Internet, as was recommended by CERD (Spain);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The prevention of racism and discrimination cannot be separated as specific subjects in the education and training of the police. These issues are integrated into the study modules dealing with aliens issues more extensively. A film on the integration of immigrants into Finland (<i>Kotoudunko Suomeen – maahanmuuttajan kivinen tie, "Will I integrate into Finland? – The rocky road for an immigrant"</i>) is used as teaching material on general police theory. The film was produced in 2013 as part of police material for preventive activities, in order to combat racism and open up perspectives towards accepting diversity.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the provisions concerning defamation, work safety offences, menace, homicide, bodily injury, and sexual offences. The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis.</p> <p>When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. In the reformed (polytechnic-level) degree programme for the police, a course dealing with the police, the individual and society will discuss the value and significance of multiculturalism in the work of the police. In addition, the programme will discuss racism, discrimination and social exclusion as</p>

		<p>phenomena and societal processes and examine internationalisation. The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14. The police have expanded and improved net police activities in order to combat hate speech and corresponding phenomena on the Internet.</p> <p>In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will launch a project (<i>YES 7</i>) to develop new means of combating racism and xenophobia in the social media and on the Internet as a whole. Moreover, the Ministry has launched a Roma portal, which provides a wide range of information on the Roma in Finland.</p>
<p>89.19. Persevere in its efforts to prevent and combat xenophobia, in particular on the Internet (Morocco);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.18 above.</p> <p>The National Bureau of Investigation is responsible for the Net Tip service, which enables citizens to report to the police any suspected offence or unlawful material discovered on the Internet. The Net Tip service can be used for reporting any other suspicion, too, on an electronic form with five subject areas: narcotics, criminal fraud, racist or hate crimes, violent activity, and other security threat. The Net Tip service is available at most public discussion sites in the social media, through an icon with a link to the electronic form for reporting suspicious observations in different subject areas. The police have expanded and improved net police activities in order to combat hate speech and corresponding phenomena on the Internet.</p> <p>In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will launch a project (<i>YES 7</i>) to develop new means of combating racism and xenophobia in the social media and on the Internet as a whole. Moreover, the Ministry has launched a Roma portal, which provides a wide range of information on the Roma in Finland.</p>
<p>89.20. Step up its efforts to combat racism and xenophobia and ensure that racially-motivated crimes are promptly detected, investigated and sanctioned (Algeria);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.18 above.</p> <p>The National Police Board takes an active part in different cross-administrative working groups and in cooperation with the third sector to eliminate discrimination and to prevent violence against women and children, persons with disabilities, persons of immigrant and refugee origin as well as ethnic and religious minorities.</p> <p>Particular attention is paid to the realisation of human rights in all police</p>

		<p>activities.</p> <p>The police have a zero tolerance towards all hate crime and hate motivated crime that comes to their knowledge. The Police University College studies annually the statistics on hate crime known to the police. The statistics are used e.g. as an analytical tool for preventing hate crime.</p> <p>In 2014–2015, under the <i>YES 7</i> project, the Ministry of the Interior will arrange a series of training sessions on discrimination and equality for the police, prosecutors, judges and occupational safety and health staff.</p> <p>Has been accepted as an objective monitored and supervised by the Office of the Prosecutor General (prosecutor offices as a part of the criminal justice process).</p> <p>The Criminal Code of Finland criminalises e.g. aggravated ethnic agitation separately, and racist motives are a general ground for increasing the punishment for an offence.</p>
<p>89.21. Increase the attention and effective measures to fight against discrimination faced by minorities, ensuring the protection of their rights (Spain);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The Government has drafted a new Non-Discrimination Act, which strengthens the protection of all grounds for discrimination and entrusts the monitoring of minority rights to a new Ombudsman for Equal Treatment.</p>
<p>89.22. Strengthen mechanisms aimed at combating discrimination, racism and xenophobia, and persevere in the adoption of measures to promote tolerance and respect of foreigners and members of national, racial and ethnic minorities (Chile);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The Ministry of the Interior has continued to implement the discrimination monitoring system and prepared an action plan for the monitoring of discrimination for 2014–2017. The Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations intends to enhance its work by means of the indicators of good relations under preparation.</p>
<p>89.23. More stringent monitoring mechanisms to address the rise in racist and racially-motivated crimes and xenophobic acts, and ensure effective detection, investigation, prosecution, and punishment (Egypt);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>Has been accepted as an objective monitored and supervised by the Office of the Prosecutor General.</p> <p>See paras. 89.18 and 89.20.</p> <p>In the work of the police, cooperation with prosecutors under the Criminal Investigations Act enables an efficient conduct of criminal proceedings.</p> <p>The Ministry of the Interior has continued to implement the discrimination monitoring system and prepared an action plan for the monitoring of discrimination for 2014–2017. Moreover, the Ministry is carrying out a joint</p>

		<p>project with the Ministry of Employment and the Economy and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health to develop a model for monitoring discrimination in working life.</p> <p>Under another project the Ministry of the Interior is developing a monitoring system for good relations at local level.</p>
<p>89.24. Continue its efforts to combat racism, intolerance and discrimination as well as to strive towards the integration of Roma and immigrants (Portugal);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>The Ministry of the Interior is carrying out the <i>Good Relations</i> project, which produces indicators of good relations and develops operating models for promoting good ethnic relations. To promote equality between the Roma and the majority population the Government is implementing the National Policy on Roma.</p> <p>In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will arrange a European seminar on the distribution of good practices in order to eliminate discrimination against Roma.</p> <p>Reform of the Equality Act, see 89.15.</p> <p>The National Policy on Roma was adopted in 2009. The working group monitoring the implementation of the Policy has adopted a monitoring report and will submit it to the Minister of Health and Social Services during spring 2014. The Policy covers the years 2010–2017.</p> <p>A cross-administrative programme to implement the national Migration Strategy and the Government's Integration Programme will be adopted during spring 2014.</p> <p>The Government's Integration Programme for 2012–2015 included the establishment of a centre of excellence on integration to strengthen the management of integration measures by information. The Government made a decision to that effect in its session on spending limits in March 2013. The Budget contains annually an appropriation of EUR 2 million for funding the centre of excellence. The sum includes the salaries of five persons. The centre operates under the Employment and Entrepreneurship Department of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy.</p> <p>The centre of excellence on integration supports local, regional and nation-wide integration work of authorities and organisations. It started operating officially on 21 March 2014.</p>

		<p>The centre of excellence is responsible especially for developing and monitoring information, statistics and research on the integration of immigrants. For instance, it conducts different studies on integration regularly, collects good practices developed during numerous projects and models and spreads them nationally.</p> <p>An important tool for the centre of excellence is its website, displaying a web guide for applying the Integration Act, a web guide on the reception of refugees, and information about the monitoring of integration processes, integration measures and ethnic relations. The centre updates the website continuously. The website also contains statistical and research information on international migration and integration from Finland and other countries. The website is designed for those working with immigrants.</p>
<p>89.25. Strengthen its measures to protect the rights of foreigners, immigrants, asylum-seekers and the Roma as well as enhance its integration programmes to enforce the principles of equality and non-discrimination, which are enshrined in its Constitution (Namibia);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>The <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, prepared by the Ministry of the Interior, includes measures to combat racism and xenophobia. Furthermore, the Ministry is carrying out the <i>Good Relations</i> project, which produces indicators of good relations and develops operating models for fostering good ethnic relations.</p> <p>Regarding the targets of the <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, see para. 89.10.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Services takes account of the special needs of different applicant groups when considering their applications, deciding on them and running the reception centres.</p> <p>On 7 March 2014, the report on a study of the right of undocumented persons to health care services, commissioned by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, was submitted to the Minister of Health and Social Services.</p> <p>A cross-administrative programme to implement the national Migration Strategy and the Government's Integration Programme will be adopted during spring 2014.</p> <p>The gender perspective and specific issues concerning particularly immigrant women in a vulnerable position are taken into account in the implementation of the Government's Integration Programme and related measures at grassroot level. This is reflected especially in work against violence, efforts to improve services and the provision of integration training.</p>

		See also para. 89.24.
<p>89.26. Pursue appropriate, efficient policies to eliminate the social exclusion of the most vulnerable groups, in particular mentally disabled children, immigrant and refugee children and children from ethnic minorities at schools (Slovakia);</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture</p>	<p>The Government has adopted an action policy to reduce social exclusion. The action policy features seven themes aiming to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) improve equality between various groups in society, 2) promote health by reducing health differences, 3) prevent exclusion from work and the labour market, 4) improve the position of people with low incomes, 5) reduce social exclusion among children and adolescents, 6) reform social and health services, and 7) improve the effectiveness of work performed by NGOs. <p>These themes include more than 30 spearhead projects defined by the Government.</p> <p>Finland has fostered the education of immigrants by introducing preparatory education for upper secondary education for immigrants and foreign-language students. The education, which is voluntary for providers of education, will begin in autumn 2014.</p> <p>The legislative amendments concerning support to learning and schooling in basic education came into force on 1 January 2011. The aim was to strengthen all pupils' right to support as early as necessary, and in a as flexible way as possible in basic education and pre-primary education, to make the support better and more planned and to strengthen the support and foster co-operation between professionals dealing with schooling support. The objective was also to change processes with regard to demand and make them more transparent.</p> <p>New legislation governing student welfare will enter into force in August 2014. It brings together existing provisions on student welfare that are currently scattered across various legislative acts. The new legislative proposal applies to pre-primary, primary, secondary and vocational education. The new proposal improves the rights of students. It will, among others, provide students in secondary education the services of psychologists and school social workers.</p>

		See para. 89.24.
89.27. Continue efforts in empowering those sections of the society that require special treatment (Nepal);	All Ministries	<p>The Ministry of the Interior guides other authorities on equality planning and the assessment of equality impacts. Both measures aim to ensure that non-governmental organisations representing minorities participate in the decision-making and measures by authorities.</p> <p>To improve the inclusion of special groups and their opportunities to influence, the Government has appointed the National Council on Disability, the Advisory Board on Romani Affairs, the Advisory Board for Minority Issues, the Advisory Board on Language Affairs and the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations. The Sámi have a self-government body of their own, the Sámi Parliament.</p> <p>On 16 July 2013 the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry set up a working group to draft a proposal for increasing the participation rights of Sámi in decision-making on the use of the Government's lands and waters in the Sámi Homeland. The group proposed in its report (working group memorandum 2014:2 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) that the Act on Metsähallitus (1378/2004), i.e. the act on the State enterprise managing the State's natural resources, be supplemented with a chapter including special provisions applicable to the Sámi Homeland. The chapter would contain provisions on planning in the Sámi Homeland and on the prohibition against letting the use of natural resources there undermine the opportunities of the Sámi to carry on and promote their traditional livelihoods and culture. Moreover, the working group proposed that the Act should include provisions on advisory boards to be set up in each municipality in the Sámi Homeland to deal with the sustainable use and management of the State's lands and waters and the natural resources belonging to them.</p> <p>To safeguard the rights of children with hearing impairments and using sign language, the National Board of Education is studying their situation in basic education. As a result, a report on the number of such children in basic education and the teaching arrangements for them will be published in spring 2014. The report is being prepared in co-operation with The Finnish Association of the Deaf.</p> <p>Since 2014, a student body is obligatory in each school providing basic education.</p>
89.28. Give special attention to the prevention of domestic	Ministry of the	Regarding the integration of the subjects of women's rights and the prevention

<p>violence against women and children (Mexico);</p>	<p>Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>of violence into police education, see para. 89.14.</p> <p>The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. In the reformed degree programme of the police (a polytechnic-level degree) the significance of fundamental and human rights will be increasingly emphasised (Police Act , Chapter 1, section 2).</p> <p>Courses in criminology deal with such subjects as theories explaining crime and the specific features of crime in Finland. The draft curriculum was completed on 15 November 2013.</p> <p>The police administration, including the Ministry of the Interior, participates in a number of cross-administrative working groups and projects between different authorities. In addition, the National Police Board takes an active part in cooperation with the third sector to contribute to the prevention of family violence against women and children. Examples of the working groups and projects include MARAK (intimate partner violence risk assessment), LASTA (children's house), Ankkuri (against the exclusion of children and adolescents) and the cross-administrative working group between authorities to prevent intimate partner and family violence.</p> <p>See paras. 89.14, 89:15 and 90:14.</p>
<p>89.29. Strengthen the relevant legislative and implementation frameworks regarding the violence against women (Egypt);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>Regarding legislative amendments, see para. 89.31.</p> <p>Stalking has been criminalised by amendments to the Criminal Code that took effect on 1 January 2014. Parliament is considering a government proposal to criminalise sexual harassment.</p> <p>The courses of the police degree programme dealing with preventive work and neighbourhood police activities include the subjects of intimate partnership violence, early intervention, problem-orientation and e.g. local security planning. During advanced studies, the police students acquaint themselves with fundamental and human rights when addressing problems encountered during their workplace learning.</p>

		<p>The objective in building the students' legal and ethical know-how is that they should know and learn the norms regulating police activities and the ethical principles of the police so that they recognise and internalise the courses of action expected of the police. The degree programme emphasises the obligation of the police both to protect fundamental rights and to interfere with them within their clearly delimited competence.</p> <p>The instruction follows a human rights friendly interpretation of competence provisions. The regulation of fundamental and human rights and the principles of good governance are basic elements in the instruction of administrative law during the police education. Furthermore, the students are introduced into the course of violence-related matters in criminal proceedings and taught how victims can protect themselves against violence and its reoccurrence. Such cases must be given urgent attention in criminal investigation. Cooperation between the criminal investigation authority and the prosecutor during criminal investigation is an important aspect.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the basic degree programme of the police and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>See paras. 89.15, 89.28 and 90.14.</p>
<p>89.30. Prevent re-victimization in cases of intimate partner violence and bring perpetrators to justice (Brazil);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>Has been accepted as an objective monitored and supervised by the Office of the Prosecutor General.</p> <p>See para. 89.35. The perpetrator's recidivism is a ground for increasing the punishment.</p> <p>The courses in preventive work and neighbourhood police activities include the subjects of intimate partner violence, early intervention, problem-orientation and e.g. local security planning. During advanced studies, the police students acquaint themselves with fundamental and human rights when addressing problems encountered during their workplace learning.</p> <p>The objective in building the students' legal and ethical know-how is that they should know and learn the norms regulating police activities and the ethical principles of the police so that they recognise and internalise the courses of action expected of them. The degree programme emphasises the obligation of the police both to protect fundamental rights and to interfere with them within</p>

		<p>their clearly delimited competence. The instruction follows a human rights friendly interpretation of competence provisions. The regulation of fundamental and human rights and the principles of good governance are basic elements in the instruction of administrative law during the police education.</p> <p>Regarding instruction in criminal law, see para. 89.14 above.</p> <p>When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis. At the same time, the importance of a smooth and rapid progress of proceedings on such types of offences is underlined. Such cases must be given urgent attention in criminal investigation. Cooperation between the criminal investigation authority and the prosecutor during criminal investigation is an important aspect.</p> <p>The prevention of re-victimization is an important aspect discussed during the education.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14. The National Police Board takes part in a number of cross-administrative and multi-authority working groups and projects. In addition, the National Police Board takes an active part in cooperation with the third sector to contribute to the prevention of family violence against women and children. Examples of the working groups and projects include MARAK (intimate partner violence risk assessment), LASTA (children's house), Ankkuri (against the exclusion of children and adolescents) and the cross-administrative working group between authorities to prevent intimate partner and family violence. Cooperation between the criminal investigation authority and the prosecutor under the Criminal Investigations Act enables the conduct of criminal proceedings in a high-quality manner.</p> <p>The ongoing National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women includes a number of measures to assist the victims and prevent their re-victimisation but also to make the perpetrators liable.</p>
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<p>89.31. Ensure that rape is categorized as a sexual violation rather than according to the degree of violence used or threatened by the perpetrator; and facilitate access to justice for victims of rape to ensure that cases of rape are reported and prosecuted in court (Slovenia);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The abuse of another person's helplessness, too, is considered to amount to rape. Parliament is considering a government proposal to the effect that all serious sexual offences, such as rape, should be made subject to public prosecution.</p> <p>In the degree programme of the police, the essential elements of sexual offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the relevant legal provisions. The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. Different types of sexual violence are discussed in detail during the courses. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the basic degree programme of the police and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p>
<p>89.32. Take effective measures to eliminate widespread sexual misuse and harassment against women and girls, including on the Internet and via mobile phones (Iran);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>The Act on Measures to Prevent the Spreading of Child Pornography (1068/2006) entered force on 1 January 2007. The purpose of the Act is to ensure that the police may give their list of Internet sites containing child pornographic material and maintained abroad to telecommunications companies, which, in turn, may take technical measures to prevent access to the listed sites.</p> <p>The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the criminalisation of stalking by communication.</p> <p>The teaching material for advanced psychology courses during the police degree programme and for the training of emergency centre staff includes a film dealing with children on the web (<i>Lapseemme verkossa</i>). The film is part of police material on preventive activities, intended to teach how to discover and identify paedophilia on the Internet and to prevent the abuse of children.</p> <p>The essential elements of sexual offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the</p>

		<p>fundamental and human rights underlying the relevant provisions.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. Different types of sexual violence are discussed in detail during the courses. The teaching increasingly includes discussion on different types of offences committed on the Internet. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>See also para. 89.15.</p>
<p>89.33. Ensure that women who are victims of trafficking are recognized as such and provided with protection and assistance (Slovenia) (UK);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>On 20 December 2013 the National Police Board issued instructions on intervention in human trafficking and similar offences and on assistance to victims of trafficking (<i>Ihmiskauppaan ja sen kaltaisiin rikoksiin puuttuminen sekä ihmiskaupan uhrien auttaminen</i>). The teaching material for the basic degree programme at the Police University College includes a film on human trafficking in Finland (<i>Minä olen olemassa - ihmiskauppa Suomessa</i>). The film is part of police material on preventive activities, intended to teach how to identify forced labour fulfilling the essential elements of human trafficking and to remind the police of the importance of thorough criminal investigation.</p> <p>The courses of the police degree programme dealing with preventive work and neighbourhood police activities include the subjects of intimate partnership violence, early intervention, problem-orientation and e.g. local security planning. During advanced studies, the police students acquaint themselves with fundamental and human rights when addressing problems encountered during their workplace learning. The objective in building the students' legal and ethical know-how is that they should know and learn the norms regulating police activities and the ethical principles of the police so that they recognise and internalise the courses of action expected of the police. The degree programme emphasises the obligation of the police both to protect fundamental rights and to interfere with them within their clearly delimited competence. The instruction</p>

		<p>follows a human rights friendly interpretation of competence provisions. The regulation of fundamental and human rights and the principles of good governance are basic elements in the instruction of administrative law during the police education.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>The <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, adopted by the Government in June 2013, sets the following objective: "Through action by the appropriate authorities, the identification of victims of human trafficking, the provision of help for them and the exercise of their rights must all be conducted more effectively."</p> <p>In 2013, a working group under the Ministry of the Interior completed a report on measures needed to develop the legislation on assistance to victims of human trafficking.</p> <p>The report discusses and assesses the current situation in assisting victims of human trafficking, the functioning of the legislation currently in force, and the alternative ways of developing the regulation. The work of the working group is based on a victim-oriented and human rights-based approach. New legislation is being drafted on the basis of the report, and a related government proposal will be submitted to Parliament in autumn 2014.</p> <p>One key question in the drafting is how to identify a victim of human trafficking. This legislative project assesses, in particular, the gender and child impacts of the proposed changes.</p>
<p>89.34. Implement existing procedures upholding internationally recognized standards in combating trafficking in persons and conduct necessary training for law enforcement to properly identify and protect victims of trafficking (USA);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>On 13 January 2014 the National Police Board reappointed the nationwide network of police officers and trainers alongside other work to combat illegal immigration, including human trafficking. The members of the network are also responsible for measures to develop, in their own police units, know-how on the specific features of investigating human trafficking offences and assisting victims of trafficking. Moreover, the members are responsible for keeping the training on human trafficking up to date. The network has also highlighted the theme of human trafficking at different seminars dealing with aliens.</p>

		<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.33 above.</p> <p>The legislative project of the Ministry of the Interior to regulate assistance to victims of human trafficking (see previous paragraph) has an important role in improving the regulation of victim identification. In Finland, it has been found a good practice to refer suspected victims of trafficking to a low-threshold assistance system, for identification as victims.</p> <p>All asylum seekers are interviewed during the asylum process before decisions on their asylum applications. The officials of the Finnish Immigration Service interviewing asylum seekers have been trained to identify victims of human trafficking, including sexually abused women as a special group. All interviewers are introduced to the phenomenon of human trafficking and given further training on the subject. Suspected victims of trafficking are referred to the assistance system for identification as victims. Thereafter, the system helps and supports them e.g. in the context of criminal proceedings, and protects them, if necessary. The Finnish Immigration Service does not train law enforcement authorities, except where necessary for residence permit and asylum procedures.</p>
<p>89.35. Watch over the full implementation of laws that forbid corporal punishment in all settings through, among other measures, awareness-raising campaigns between adults and children, as well as the promotion of positive and non-violent forms of discipline that do not affect the upbringing of these children (Uruguay);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>Even petty assault committed in a close relationship or against a person under 18 year of age is currently subject to public prosecution.</p> <p>The prevention of physical discipline cannot be separated as a specific subject in the education and training of the police. It is integrated into the study modules. In the basic degree programme of the police, the courses in general police theory discuss the Internal Security Programme thoroughly from the perspective of preventive activities of the police. Special focus is given to the opportunities of individual policepersons to meet security challenges and prevent family violence against women and children by their own action. The courses in preventive work and neighbourhood police activities include the subjects of intimate partner violence and family violence including physical discipline, early intervention in violence, problem-orientation and e.g. local security planning.</p> <p>During advanced studies, the police students acquaint themselves with fundamental and human rights when addressing problems encountered during their workplace learning. The objective in building the students' legal and ethical know-how is that they should know and learn the norms regulating police activities and the ethical principles of the police so that they recognise and</p>

	<p>internalise the courses of action expected of the police. The degree programme emphasises the obligation of the police both to protect fundamental rights and to interfere with them within their clearly delimited competence. The instruction follows a human rights friendly interpretation of competence provisions. The regulation of fundamental and human rights and the principles of good governance are basic elements in the instruction of administrative law during the police education. The essential elements of offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the provisions concerning restraining orders, stalking, sexual offences, incest, human trafficking, deprivation of liberty, and homicide and bodily injury.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. Physical discipline is discussed in the context of homicide and bodily injury. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>The Finnish Parliament has decided on legislative changes to introduce new intervention measures for disruptive behavior and to increase the powers of teachers. The purpose is to adopt a proactive and pre-emptive instead of an ex post facto punitive approach. Interactive educational discussions are the primary new means of addressing disruptive behavior and misconduct of students.</p> <p>In addition, it is possible to give written and oral tasks and exercises to pupils but this is not designed to be a working penalty. The tasks and/or exercises must be appropriate and lend support to learning, instruction and development.</p> <p>New powers are given to teachers and head teachers to confiscate substances or objects: this applies to substances and objects that effectively disrupt lessons, and to substances and objects that are dangerous (such as weapons, intoxicants etc.).</p>
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<p>89.36. Ensure that children are heard in the judicial and administrative procedures concerning them, in accordance with procedures adapted to their maturity and, when children must be placed, this be done in family-type structures rather than in institutions (Belgium);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>The Criminal Code has been amended by adding penal provisions concerning torture. They took effect on 1 January 2010. Chapter 11, section 9(a) of the Code stipulates that a public official who causes another strong physical or mental suffering shall be sentenced for torture.</p> <p>During judicial proceedings, children may be heard at a video conference without their being present in the courtroom. If necessary, the child may be heard without the presence of some parties to the proceedings. The court may order that the hearing be closed to the public. The child may be heard outside the courtroom. If necessary, a support person may be designated for the child to be heard during judicial proceedings.</p> <p>When making decisions concerning children, the Finnish Immigration Service takes due account of the best interest of the child. The Service is also drafting instructions on how to take account of the best interest of the child in decision-making. The authorities receiving asylum seeker children ensure that unaccompanied minors get the necessary care.</p> <p>According to the Child Welfare Act (417/2007) a child's substitute care, where it is necessary, should primarily be arranged in the form of family care.</p>
<p>89.37. Promptly create a national mechanism for the prevention of torture with access to all places of deprivation of liberty (France);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>Regarding OPCAT, see answer under para. 89.4.</p> <p>Torture has been criminalised by Chapter 11, section 9(a) of the Criminal Code.</p>
<p>89.38. Take steps to ensure by both legislative and non-legislative measures, including initiatives for the promotion</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry</p>	<p>The Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations, set up by the Ministry of the Interior, has continued to maintain a dialogue between different religions and to develop</p>

<p>of multiculturalism, the protection of all religions and faiths and the non-escalation of hatred among people of different religions and faiths, based on the tenets of understanding, mutual acceptance and respect (Malaysia);</p>	<p>of Education and Culture</p>	<p>a policy of good relations. The <i>Good Relations</i> project of the Ministry is preparing a model for the monitoring of good relations. In addition, the project is collecting information about measures to foster good relations at local level.</p> <p>Since 2012, the Ministry of Education and Culture has given financial aid to the multicultural Association Walter's "Kytke" project, which aims at promoting acceptance of diversity and equality in schools by carrying out visits to schools and to parents' meetings.</p>
<p>89.39. Implement strict measures, including in the area of legislation, to combat hate speech and other manifestations of racism and xenophobia, including on the internet, in line with the obligations under articles 19 and 20 of ICCPR (Egypt);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>The prevention of racism and discrimination cannot be separated as specific subjects in the education and training of the police. These issues are integrated into the study modules dealing with aliens issues more extensively. A film on the integration of immigrants into Finland (<i>Kotoudunko Suomeen – maahanmuuttajan kivinen tie, "Will I integrate into Finland? – The rocky road for an immigrant"</i>) is used as teaching material on general police theory. The film was produced in 2013 as part of the material dealing with preventive activities of the police, in order to combat racism and open up perspectives towards accepting diversity.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the provisions concerning defamation, work safety offences, menace, homicide, bodily injury, and sexual offences. The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation. The students are required to weigh and ponder different fundamental and human rights and to take interpretative positions on that basis.</p> <p>In the reformed (polytechnic-level) degree programme for the police, a course dealing with the police, the individual and society will discuss the value and significance of multiculturalism in the work of the police. In addition, the programme will discuss racism, discrimination and social exclusion as phenomena and societal processes and examine internationalisation.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes</p>

		<p>brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will launch a project (<i>YES 7</i>) to develop new means of combating racism and xenophobia in the social media and on the Internet as a whole.</p>
89.40. Take effective measures to combat racist propaganda and the xenophobic material on the Internet (Iran);	Ministry of the Interior	<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.39 above.</p> <p>Jointly with a number of Internet service operators the police have introduced the Net Tip service, available at most public discussion sites in the social media. The Net Tip service provides, through an icon, an electronic report form for reporting suspicious observations in different subject areas to the police. The police have expanded and improved their virtual activities in order to combat hate speech and corresponding phenomena on the Internet.</p> <p>In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will launch a project (<i>YES 7</i>) to develop new means of combating racism and xenophobia in the social media and on the Internet as a whole.</p>
89.41. Share its best practices acquired in fighting internet spread racism, including the results of the last measures that is the ratification of relevant instruments, modification of the Criminal Code, police monitoring of the internet (Hungary);	Ministry of the Interior	<p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.39 above.</p> <p>Regarding police activities, see para. 89.40.</p>
89.42. Ensure effective implementation of the ILO Forced Labour Convention no. 29 and the ILO Convention no. 100 concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value (Uzbekistan);	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	<p>In 2006 the Government and the labour market parties launched an equal pay programme in order to narrow the unfounded pay gaps between women and men.</p> <p>Equal pay between the sexes has traditionally been one objective of Finnish Government Programmes. According to the most recent programme, that of Prime Minister <i>Jyrki Katainen's</i> Government, dated 22 June 2011, the tripartite equal pay programme will continue, with the objective of narrowing the pay gap between women and men to a maximum of 15% by 2015. The Government has carried out a number of projects under the national Equal Pay Programme.</p> <p>A research and development project to strengthen equality in policies on collective agreements and pay dealt with equal pay in the private service sector.</p>

		<p>In addition, the project assessed needs to develop the collective agreements and pay systems of the sectors concerned and proposed a number of development measures. The project produced e.g. statistical analyses on the pay of women and men and the pay gaps between them in the sectors in question.</p> <p>A research and development project on equal pay was carried out in 2008-2011. This project developed pay systems based on assessed requirements of work and employees' performance so that they promote equal, fair and incentive pay.</p> <p>A research project on equal pay, equality and new pay systems produced information about changes in pay systems and the impacts of the new systems on the pay of women and men in the private and the public sectors.</p> <p>See paras. 90.19 and 90.20.</p>
<p>89.43. That the first National Action Plan for Fundamental and Human Rights integrate the concerns of all minorities (Nicaragua);</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>The first national action plan on fundamental and human rights for 2012–2013 contained 67 separate projects, covering extensively the promotion of rights of different groups. Some projects supported the realisation of equality in general. Examples of the minorities covered by the projects include (non-exhaustively) the Sámi, Roma, immigrants, sexual and gender minorities and persons with disabilities.</p>
<p>89.44. Consider the possibility of establishing new measures to strengthen the respect for the rights of migrants and fight against all forms of discrimination they suffer (Argentina);</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>The <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, prepared by the Ministry of the Interior, includes measures to combat racism and xenophobia. Furthermore, the Ministry is carrying out the <i>Good Relations</i> project, which produces indicators of good relations and develops operating models for fostering good ethnic relations.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Service treats its clients appropriately and without discrimination, thus contributing to respect for immigrants' rights and combating discrimination.</p> <p>See paras. 89.10, 89.16, 89.24, 89.25 and 89.26.</p>
<p>89.45. Implement training programs in the field of human rights for the police and the forces of order, especially directed at improving the treatment of asylum-seekers and immigrants in an irregular situation and consider ratifying the ICRMW of 1990 (Ecuador)1;</p>	<p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Employment</p>	<p>Regarding the national network of police officers and trainers alongside other work appointed by the National Police Board to combat illegal immigration, see para. 89.34.</p> <p>Regarding the education and training of the police, see para. 89.33.</p>

	and the Economy	The Migration Department of the Ministry of the Interior and the Finnish Immigration Service do not train policepersons and law enforcement authorities. Regarding the ICRMW, see para. 89.6.
89.46. Evaluate the internal guidelines and criteria with regards to risk assessment in the countries of origin of asylum-seekers and ensure a continuous flow of information and education on these internal guidelines (Sweden);	Ministry of the Interior	The Finnish Immigration Service is active in monitoring the security and human rights situation in asylum seekers' countries of origin as well as the country information about the treatment of returned asylum seekers. The Service monitors the consistency of the decision practice, which also benefits from the active training of officials considering asylum applications, based e.g. on training modules of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO).
89.47. Take concrete measures to reduce the resort to detention of migrants solely for immigration purposes (Brazil);	Ministry of the Interior	Under the Finnish Aliens Act, immigration alone is not an acceptable ground for detaining a person. The interim measures alternatives to detention are always to be preferred to detention. These measures include obliging the alien to report to authorities, taking possession of the alien's travel documents by the authorities, obliging the alien to inform the authorities about his or her whereabouts, and obliging the alien to give a security. An alien may be detained only if the interim measures mentioned above do not suffice for establishing whether the alien meets the requirements for entering the country or for preparing or ensuring the enforcement of a decision on removing the alien from the country or otherwise for supervising the alien's leaving the country and, in addition, if taking account of the alien's personal and other circumstances, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the alien will prevent or considerably hinder the issue of a decision concerning him or her or the enforcement of a decision on removing him or her from the country by hiding, fleeing or in some other way, or if holding the alien in detention is necessary for establishing his or her identity; or taking account of the alien's personal and other circumstances, there are reasonable grounds to believe that he or she will commit an offence in Finland. The primacy of the interim measures alternative to detention will be increasingly emphasised in the government proposal to amend the Aliens Act and the Act on the Treatment of Aliens Placed in Detention and Detention Units. The proposal will be submitted to Parliament during the current Government's term of office.
89.48. Apply alternative measures to the detention of asylum-seekers and irregular immigrants, including children	Ministry of the Interior	The Ministry of the Interior is drafting legislation to prohibit authorities from placing unaccompanied asylum seeker children in detention, to develop

and other vulnerable people, and establish a mechanism to examine this practice (Uruguay);

alternatives to detention, to transpose the content of the EU Reception Directive and to take account of the needs for change discovered in the activities of detention units. The draft Government proposal has been sent out to a wide range of actors for comment.

The proposal would prohibit authorities from placing unaccompanied children seeking international protection in detention. The duration of the detention of other unaccompanied children will be limited to a very short period. In addition, the new legislation would contain more precise and clearly delimited provisions on the preconditions for placing a child in detention. The preconditions would concern both accompanied and unaccompanied children to be detained. One precondition would be that the child must be heard before deciding on the detention.

According to the proposal, all children detained on the basis of the Aliens Act would be placed in a detention unit, irrespective of the question whether they are accompanied or unaccompanied while staying in Finland. In other words, after the legislative amendment children would never be placed in police detention facilities. The new detention unit to be established in connection with Joutseno Reception Centre makes it possible to better take account of the special needs of children and families with children. Similarly, the placement of applicants for international protection in detention facilities of the police or the Border Guard would be avoided with all possible means.

Currently, as an interim measure alternative to detention, an alien may be obligated to report to police or border control authorities at regular intervals. The government proposal aims to improve the usability of the obligation to report by permitting aliens to report at reception centres, too.

It is for the police to decide on detention, but during the detention the Finnish Immigration Service is responsible for running the client service and the system. The Finnish Immigration Service manages and supervises the services and activities of detention units. The detention of children and persons in a vulnerable position will developed by the new legislation. Furthermore, when increasing the detention capacity, authorities pay particular attention to the detention of children, families and other persons in a vulnerable position.

89.49. Adopt specified standards for accommodation of unaccompanied children and establish additional conditions for the appointment of a guardian for them (Thailand);	Ministry of the Interior	The Finnish Immigration Service plans, manages and supervises the reception of unaccompanied children by applying e.g. the Child Welfare Act. The Service also guides the reception centres regarding the representation of unaccompanied children.
89.50. Give more attention to asylum-seekers and unaccompanied minors in cases of family reunion (Iraq);	Ministry of the Interior	<p>According to the action plan for the <i>Future of Migration 2020 Strategy</i>, the Ministry of the Interior monitors and assesses the impacts of the earlier legislative amendments on family reunifications among recipients of international protection.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Service considers the family reunification applications of asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors appropriately, respecting the unity of families. To the extent possible, the Service takes measures to trace the parents or <i>de facto</i> custodians of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers.</p>
89.51. Reconsider the matter by taking the necessary steps to fulfil the objective expressed in 2008 to reach the 0.7% target for ODA in relation to the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 (Norway);	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Finland renews its commitment on development aid. However, the fulfillment of the commitment and reaching the target of 0.7% development aid on gross national income (GNI) seems unlikely. Finnish development aid measured in euros was bigger than ever in 2013, reaching an estimated GNI-share of 0.56%. Finland's objective was to reach the 0.7 % share in 2015 by channeling all the proceeds from greenhouse gas emissions rights trading from 2014 onwards to development aid. Unfortunately the relatively low prices in emissions rights trading have resulted in lower revenues than expected. Finland however is still committed to reaching the 0.7% target in the long run.
90.1. Ratification and effective implementation of CRPD, with full participation and active involvement of NGOs in the promotion, protection and monitoring of the human rights treaty framework (UK); See also comments below	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	See paras. 89.1 and 89.5.
90.3. Undertake concrete measures to ensure that the media production and coverage are non-discriminatory and promote positive images of girls and women (Malaysia); See also comments below	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	<p>In 2015, the Ministry of the Interior will commission a study on the freedom of expression and the media, in order to monitor discrimination. The study will analyse e.g. the portrayal of different minority groups in media culture.</p> <p>According to the Government Programme on Gender Equality, needs related to legislation on advertising that violates gender equality will be re-evaluated no</p>

		later than 2014, once sufficient experience has been gained from the application of the Consumer Protection Act of 2008 and the reshaping of the role of the Council of Ethics in Advertising.
90.4. Take effective legal and practical measures to prevent and combat dissemination of racist, xenophobic and Islamophobic propaganda in particular in press and on the Internet (Iran); See also comments below	Ministry of the Interior	See para. 90.3.
90.5. Carry out more efforts to integrate the Roma minority in society, especially by the allocation of funds for the implementation of the National Plan and the participation of this minority in carrying out this Plan (Spain); See also comments below	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	<p>Consultation meetings and seminars have been arranged for Roma people and local authorities to inform them about the National Policy on Roma and the related funding mechanisms. Local authorities are encouraged to apply for project subsidies under the National Development Plan for Social Welfare and Health Care and from the European Social Fund. They have also been encouraged to set up local Roma working groups to increase the participation of Roma locally.</p> <p>See also paras. 89.24 and 89.25.</p>
90.6. Continue to take tangible measures to guarantee equal treatment of Roma and other minorities to promote the right to work and to better integrate them into the society (China); See also comments below	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	<p>To promote equality between the Roma and the majority population the Government is implementing the National Policy on Roma. In 2014 the Ministry of the Interior will arrange a European seminar on the distribution of good practices in order to eliminate discrimination against Roma and carry out an empowerment programme for non-governmental organisations representing minorities.</p> <p>In accordance with the National Policy on Roma, different ministries and some local authorities have taken concrete measures to reduce discrimination against Roma, to increase employment and education among them, and to improve their inclusion.</p> <p>See also paras. 89.24 and 89.25.</p>
90.7. Establish broad public outreach programmes to discourage discrimination against ethnic minority residents	Ministry of the Interior	Under the <i>Good Relations</i> project the Ministry of the Interior has tested different local operating models for fostering good ethnic relations and reducing xenophobia. Local immigrant organisations have planned and used different

in Finland (USA); See also comments below		forms of work, e.g. awareness raising weekends and community events, to influence attitudes of the majority population.
90.8. Increase its efforts in the field of discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, inter alia, by review of national legislation and administration with a view to eliminate discrimination against LGBTI people with regard to family and parental rights and the right to security and integrity of the person (Iceland); See also comments below	Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	<p>After the proposed reform, the Act on Equality between Women and Men (609/1986, Equality Act) would prohibit extensively discrimination of trans- and intersex persons. Prohibitions of gender-based discrimination would be expanded to cover also discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression. Discrimination based on sexual orientation will continue to be covered in the Non-Discrimination Act. The Government proposal was submitted to Parliament together with the proposal for the reform of the Non-Discrimination Act in spring 2014.</p> <p>The Ministry of the Interior pays attention to the position of GLBTI people, e.g. in its instructions and training for equality planning and assessments of equality impacts, and in implementing the discrimination monitoring system.</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has set up a working group in order to examine, whether there is need to review the Act on Legal Recognition of the Gender of Transsexuals (563/2022) regarding, inter alia, the requirements that the applicant be infertile and unmarried.</p> <p>See paras. 89.15 and 89.24.</p>
90.9. Allocate sufficient funds in order to ensure an effective implementation of the National Action Plan to reduce violence against women that came into force in 2010 (The Netherlands); See also comments below	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health	<p>The National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women is implemented according to a yearly plan. The implementation is monitored annually. All measures are not implemented simultaneously. Some have already been implemented, some are going on and some are waiting for implementation or further funding. Although no budget was allocated for the Action Plan, some funding has been allocated for the programme from the ministries in charge of the measures, such as the Ministry for Social Affairs and Health. Some of the measures can be implemented without separate funding and those for which there is no funding are sought to be carried out within the framework of other programmes aimed at improving the service structure in Finland, such as the National Development Programme for Social Welfare and Health Care (Kaste).</p> <p>The implementation of the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women will still continue for two years. As part of the Action Plan the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has decided to implement the Multi-Agency Risk</p>

		<p>Assessment Conference - MARAK working model nationwide during 2014 and 2015. The Action Plan will be evaluated during the last year of the programme.</p> <p>The measures planned to fulfil the objectives of the Action Plan regarding the social welfare and health care system are awaiting decisions on how to organise the system. Social and health services are being developed alongside the ratification preparations for the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention, so as to meet the requirements of the Convention, too. When preparing the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women, the Government also took account of the needs arising from the Istanbul Convention to develop the Finnish assistance system, especially for victims of sexual violence, long-lasting violence and violence in close relationships. Although these victims may be either women, men or children, most of them are women.</p>
<p>90.10. Further step up the efforts and allocate sufficient funds to ensure the effective implementation of the National Action Plan to prevent violence against women as well as broaden the action plan to cover domestic violence (Norway); See also comments below.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>See paras. 89.28 and 90.9.</p>
<p>90.11. Continue strengthening measures aimed at addressing domestic violence, with special focus on the programmes being developed to consolidate the mechanisms to protect women and children (Chile); See also comments below.</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>Regarding the film dealing with children on the web (<i>Lapsemme verkossa</i>), used as material for advanced psychology courses during the police degree programme and for the training of emergency centre staff, see para. 89.32.</p> <p>The essential elements of offences taught during courses in criminal law are discussed from the perspective of objects of legal protection and the fundamental and human rights underlying the provisions concerning restraining orders, stalking, sexual offences, incest, human trafficking, deprivation of liberty, and homicide and bodily injury. The essential elements of offences are taught both in theory and in light of practical cases. This makes the teaching easy and concrete and permits to underline the specific features of each subject area. When analysing different cases the students are required to identify the problem independently and to contemplate how to approach it during criminal investigation.</p> <p>To provide material for their own preventive activities, the police are producing a film on social exclusion, family violence and taking children into care. This</p>

		<p>material, to be prepared during 2014, is also intended for use in teaching.</p> <p>The overall structural reform of the police degree programme and the changes brought by the reform are described in para. 89.14.</p> <p>In accordance with the Internal Security Programme the Government has, in police activities, launched projects focusing on women, children and the prevention and identification of intimate partner violence and family violence. The National Police Board takes an active part in multi-authority cooperation and its development in order to identify and prevent violence against women and children.</p> <p>Besides women, the National Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women takes account of children and perpetrators of violence.</p> <p>See paras. 90.12 and 90.10.</p>
<p>90.12. Allocate the necessary funds to ensure effective implementation of the National Action Plan to combat violence against women (Palestine); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>See para. 90.9.</p>
<p>90.13. Take the necessary measures to prevent domestic violence, through the creation of a national action plan, in particular Finland was urged that the violence not be classified depending on the degree of violence or threat used by the author (Spain); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>The National Police Board contributes to implementing the cross-administrative action plan against family violence e.g. through the MARAK programme. Under the Criminal Code, incidents of intimate partner violence and family violence are always offences subject to public prosecution.</p> <p>See paras. 89.14 and 90.9.</p>
<p>90.14. Step up its effort to prevent violence against women, particularly victims of trafficking, by providing adequate protection and assistance, especially shelters, funding and staffs for these shelters (Thailand); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Interior</p>	<p>In November 2013, the Government made a decision on the implementation of a structural policy programme. As part of proposals for the reduction of local government tasks and obligations, the programme included the transfer of shelters to the responsibility of the central government from the beginning of 2015. The decision requires the preparation of an Act on Shelters. The proposal will be presented to Parliament in September 2014. As from the beginning of 2015, the shelter services will be organised by local authorities but funded by the Government. The Government will conclude contracts with those service providers who are considered capable of supplying shelter services. The National</p>

	<p>Institute for Health and Welfare coordinates the shelter services as the representative of the Government. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is the highest decision-making and supervisory authority.</p> <p>The Government conducted a preliminary study on the operation of a helpline for victims of intimate and domestic violence as early as in 2008. The Government will update the 2008 study and examine how the helpline would serve best round the clock. In 2014 Parliament allocated some funds for preparing the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, including the development of a telephone helpline.</p> <p>At the end of June 2013 the National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) published the National Quality Guidelines, which define the guiding principles for work at shelters, describe the process of customer work and define the objectives and criteria of the work.</p> <p>The National Police Board cooperates actively with a cross-administrative working group and actors of the third sector in order to ensure and improve the protection of victims of family violence. The National Police Board participates e.g. in the SALOS project, intended to prepare an operating model for a network of shelters located in secret places.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Service is responsible for managing the operation of the assistance system for victims of human trafficking. Legislation is being drafted (see para. 89.33 above) to develop specifically the assistance and the regulation of it, including by provisions to protect victims against possible security threats.</p> <p>The drafting is based on a report of a working group (see para. 89.33), which shows that different actors offer victims of trafficking the necessary crisis support as soon as possible after finding indications that these persons are victims. According to the victim's needs, the crisis support encompasses physical protection, accommodation, meals, support for subsistence, health care and confidential discussions with specialists. Crisis support is available e.g. from local authorities, organisations, shelters and reception centres.</p> <p>Accommodation or housing is particularly important for victims of human trafficking, because it usually includes the protection of their security. Finland lacks accommodation suitable for the specific needs of victims of trafficking, e.g. shelters intended for this target group. Such accommodation need not</p>
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		<p>necessarily have the preparedness for high security risk situations. In practice, victims of human trafficking have been accommodated in private rental dwellings, social dwellings and shelters.</p> <p>Even some of those clients of the assistance system who are not seeking international protection have been accommodated in Joutseno Reception Centre, in order to fulfil their need for accommodation and related support around the clock.</p> <p>Moreover, the continuous presence of staff and camera surveillance systems help prevent security risks of the victims.</p> <p>See para. 89.28.</p>
<p>90.16. Provide a framework for prohibiting use of child labour by the Finnish companies engaged with businesses abroad and multinational companies headquartered in Finland (The Netherlands); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>Corporate social responsibility includes measures to prevent the use of child labour. The Government committed itself to compliance with corporate social responsibility in a decision in principle made in 2012. The decision in principle, guiding the activities of the Government, is based on internationally accepted standards and instructions on corporate social responsibility, recommending that multinational corporations take effective measures to abolish the use of child labour, as defined in the 1998 ILO Declaration and in ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the worst forms of child labour.</p> <p>In accordance with the decision in principle, the Government raises awareness of the international instructions for corporate social responsibility, by providing information about them, arranging different events and granting financial support to non-governmental organisations that promote children's rights, both in Finland and abroad.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Government makes various materials dealing with children's rights available to corporations. This year, for instance General Comment No. 16 of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child will be translated into Finnish and Swedish. The Government also maintains a regular dialogue with the business sector through the Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility functioning under the Ministry of Employment and the Economy.</p> <p>Moreover, the ongoing preparations for implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights nationally are an important step to eradicate child labour in operations abroad. A working group under the Ministry of Employment</p>

		<p>and the Economy published its proposal for the national implementation on 30 April 2014. When drafting the proposal, the group consulted a wide variety of interest groups, including non-governmental organisations working on children's rights, and took their views into account. The proposal contains numerous measures to promote human rights related to business, including children's rights. One of the proposed measures is to examine further the Finnish legislation currently in force in order to find out the cross-border dimensions of the legislation applicable to human rights violations.</p> <p>Finland is active in the international dialogue on children's rights, which is regarded as one vital means to promote these rights globally. The proposal of the working group for implementing the UN Guiding Principles will next be sent out for comment and then referred for political decision.</p>
<p>90.18. Conclude the drafting of the Government bill on administrative proceedings and the preparations of the client service strategy (Sweden); See also comments below.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance</p>	<p>The legislation on compensation for excessively long proceedings has been extended to cover proceedings in administrative courts, too. The amended legislation took effect on 1 June 2013. Otherwise, the legislation on administrative judicial procedure has been reformed with focus on the development of the provisions on appeals. A related Government proposal will be submitted to Parliament in spring 2014.</p> <p>A Customer Insight Strategy for the Public was launched in June 2013. Despite the name, the content of the strategy is more of guidelines for developing customer oriented services in the public sector. It also contains policy lines to involve customers in service design. The strategy covers both the state and municipal services. With the strategy the Government aims at forming a shared understanding between the service providers on the principles of developing public services, at communicating these principles to the customers, and at enhancing their role in designing, producing and evaluating the services. The strategy includes the vision of developing customer services: "The services needed are available to the customer. The customer has an opportunity to be involved in designing the content and delivery of those services".</p> <p>The guidelines are grouped under five headlines: The customer is served according to his needs, the customer receives accessible and easy to use services, the customer can be involved in planning, developing and producing the services, service production is managed in a customer oriented manner, and services are</p>

		<p>produced cost effectively. Regarding different service channels the strategy states that public service providers have to ensure that the electronic service channel is the most attractive choice for a customer. Public service providers have to be determined to support customers in moving into the use of e-services. When needed an opportunity to face-to-face service is guaranteed.</p>
<p>90.19. Carry out independent investigations regarding the cases of violations of labour rights in the country, including in the area of forced labour and equal pay between women and men (Uzbekistan); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>See 89.15 and 90.20 (Equal Pay Programme)</p> <p>According to the Act on Equality between Women and Men (609/1986), section 8, the action of an employer shall be deemed to constitute discrimination, if the employer e.g. applies the pay or other terms of employment in such a way that one or more employees find themselves in a less favourable position than one or more other employees in the employer's service performing the same work or work of equal value. If an employer has violated this prohibition, it is liable to pay compensation to the affected person. Compensation has to be claimed by legal action in a District Court. Anyone who suspects that she/he has been discriminated against can request guidance and advice from the Ombudsman for Equality.</p> <p>Provisions in the Equality Act concerning equality planning in workplaces would be clarified in the planned legislative reform. The proposed amendments have been prepared in a tripartite working group. The amendments would define the contents of a pay survey in a more binding way than before. The provision would set out that the purpose of the pay survey is to work out possible gaps between the wages of women and men carrying out the same duties. It would include an obligation to work out the reasons behind clear pay gaps between men and women as well an obligation to correct those gaps for which there are no acceptable reasons. The amendments emphasize the real possibility for representatives of personnel to take part in and influence all stages of equality planning, including pay surveys. The proposal includes an obligation on employers to inform personnel on the equality plan and pay survey. Employers would be allowed to do the equality plan every other year instead of each year. The Government Bill is planned to be submitted together with the proposed reform of the Non-Discrimination Act in spring 2014.</p>
<p>90.20. Ensure equal pay for both sexes (Iraq); See also</p>	<p>Ministry of Social</p>	<p>See also paras. 89.15 and 90.19.</p>

<p>comments below</p>	<p>Affairs and Health, Ministry of Employment and the Economy</p>	<p>The Equality Act prohibits gender-based wage discrimination, and includes the obligation to promote equal pay. The employer's statutory duty is to promote equal pay. In brief, the principle of equal pay usually means that for the same job or job of equal value the same wages must be paid regardless of gender.</p> <p>In Finland the tripartite Equal Pay Programme has been set up for 2006–2015 aiming to reduce the gender pay gap approximately to 15 percent by the year 2015.</p> <p>The programme includes actions on equality planning and pay surveys, desegregation, the development of pay systems, measures to support women's careers, and calls for the social partners to establish agreements to reduce the pay gap.</p> <p>The Government of Prime Minister Jyrki Katainen is committed to continuing the Equal Pay Programme (2011–2015). It has reserved resources and a small allocation for the duration of the electoral period.</p> <p>One means of promoting equal pay is to increase knowledge of wages and salaries at different levels. In 2013 and in March 2014 the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health carried out a prominent public campaign <i>Let's talk about pay</i>. The campaign encouraged to act for promoting pay transparency and a work culture where talking about pay openly is desirable.</p> <p>The programme facilitates continuous evaluation and decision making for further actions as it gathers the leaders of social partners and Government representatives regularly around the same table in a purpose of addressing the issue.</p>
<p>90.21. Mental health services in schools should benefit from sufficient resources and qualified staff in order to deal with problems affecting in particular adolescents, such as suicidal thoughts and nutritional or addictive problems (Belgium); See also comments below.</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Education and Culture</p>	<p>The work of school health care staff includes the promotion of pupils' and students' mental health. The number of doctors and especially nurses in school and student health care has clearly increased. The mental health of both children and their parents is monitored actively in extensive health checks arranged in school health care since 2011.</p> <p>The new Act on Pupil and Student Welfare (1287/2013) will enter into force in August 2014. The Act consolidates the provisions on pupil and student welfare, which are currently scattered across legislation. The proposed Act on Pupil and Student Welfare applies to pre-primary, basic, general upper secondary and</p>

		<p>vocational education. The new Act brings psychologists' and social workers' services to students in upper secondary education, too. A discussion with a psychologist or a social worker must be arranged within the statutory time limit of seven days. In urgent cases the discussion must be arranged on the same or the following day. The working hours of school nurses must be arranged so that they are available also without appointment.</p> <p>The working group on student health care works to improve mental health services for students in upper secondary education. A recent school health inquiry shows that particular attention must be paid to the availability of mental health services at an earlier stage, too.</p>
<p>90.23. Establish a holistic legal and policy framework to guarantee the equal right of children with disabilities to access good-quality health-care services, public buildings and transportation (Iran); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of the Environment</p>	<p>The services under the Health Care Act are equally available to persons with disabilities, too. A working group under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is drafting new legislation on services for persons with disabilities. The mandate of the working group will expire on 31 December 2014.</p> <p>On 1 January 2013 the Land Use and Building Act (132/1999) was supplemented with a new section 117e, obligating a party engaging in a building project to ensure that accessibility and usability, especially for children, elderly persons and persons with disabilities, be taken into account in the planning and construction of the building and its courtyard and areas for the enjoyment of residents. The accessibility provisions of the Finnish Building Code are being revised, taking account especially of the principle of design for all / universal design in all buildings. Moreover, the Government is implementing Finland's Disability Policy Programme 2010–2015, which contains measures related to e.g. health care and rehabilitation, built environment and transport services.</p> <p>For a long time, one of the objectives of Finnish transport policy has been to mainstream accessibility into different forms of transport and projects on passenger traffic. The Government's Transport Policy Report (VNS 2/2012) proposes measures to take account of accessibility in transport policy, the procurement of transport services and the development of transport conditions.</p> <p>Taxi services are regulated by legislation that obligates drivers to assist clients with disabilities, to ensure good service. The Taxi Act (217/2007) obligates licensing authorities to ensure a sufficient number of accessible taxis when granting taxi licences. The Act also lays down quality requirements that obligate</p>

		<p>drivers to take account of the special needs of clients.</p> <p>The regulation of bus and railway transport is mainly based on directly applicable EU Regulations, and the regulation of air and water transport mainly on international treaties and EU legislation.</p> <p>The Public Transport Act (869/2009) obligates the competent authorities to set target standards for public transport services, and bus operators to define the promised quality of their services. The latter obligation means that bus operators must announce how accessible services they can provide. Thus, they are not obligated to provide accessible services as such.</p> <p>Moreover, the Ministry of Transport and Communications has given a wide variety of instructions on e.g. comprehensive accessibility planning by local authorities, accessibility of travel centres, service know-how of public transport staff, and usability of different information services related to public transport. In this context, the Ministry has paid attention to the needs of persons with disabilities in different ways.</p>
90.24. Address overcrowding in the immigration detention facility by increasing the capacity of the existing facility or by making additional facilities available to ensure proper treatment of those detained (Norway); See also comments below.	Ministry of the Interior	The Finnish Immigration Service is responsible for managing and supervising the operation of the detention units. During 2014 the overall detention capacity will be increased by introducing a new 30-place detention unit at Joutseno Reception Centre. In the new unit it will be possible to place families and persons in a vulnerable situation in a separate department.
PARTLY ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendation	Ministry	Implementation measures
90.2. Develop and introduce specific measures directed at improving professional training of the staff of the children institutions, improving the legislation and practice in the provision of psychiatric treatment, as well as eradicating discrimination against ethnic minorities (Russian Federation); See also comments below	Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Education and Culture	<p>An overall reform of the Mental Health Act will start in autumn 2014.</p> <p>The Ministry of the Interior has published a guide for equality planning for educational institutions, in order to improve the skills of the institution staff to promote equal opportunities for children and young persons at different levels of education.</p> <p>The Finnish Immigration Service manages and develops the operation of the reception centres e.g. by providing the staff with appropriate further training.</p>

		<p>The Service makes active efforts to eliminate any barriers to equality between different ethnic groups in the reception system.</p> <p>The new Act on Pupil and Student Welfare (1287/2013) will enter into force in August 2014. For further information see para. 90.21</p>
<p>90.15. Train educators and health workers in identifying signs of sexual abuse in children (Slovenia); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health</p>	<p>In 2013 and 2014, the teaching of safety skills for children is one of the priorities included in staff training in education services funded by the Government.</p> <p>The National Action Plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health for 2013–2020 sets as objectives to improve, in social welfare and health care services, the identification of symptoms caused by sexual violence and to improve the know-how of school staff and social welfare staff to identify sexual violence. Another objective of the action plan is to include information about sexual violence in compulsory studies in the basic education of different vocational groups e.g. in social welfare, health care, pedagogy and education.</p>
<p>90.17. Allocate additional resources to the judicial system as necessary to ensure timely due process (USA); See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>The public financial situation in Finland compels all branches of government to cut down on their expenses. The branch of the Ministry of Justice and the judiciary, too, are affected by these cuts. In spring 2013, aware of the situation, the Ministry published a programme to reform the administration of justice in 2013-2025. The programme was prepared by a high-level working group, consisting of representatives of e.g. the judiciary, the prosecution service, the Finnish Bar and public officials.</p> <p>The programme aims to ensure an operational setting where the judiciary can continue to function efficiently. At the same time, the programme aims to secure a high standard of the administration of justice and to ensure a reasonable length of proceedings in the future, too. The programme contains approx. 60 horizontal or sectoral proposals. Most of them have either a direct or an indirect effect on the efficiency of the administration of justice and thus also on the length of proceedings. The purpose is to increase the use of information and communication technologies, electronic services and electronic processes. In this context, the Ministry of Justice is e.g. carrying out a project to develop the steering of operations and document administration in the prosecution service and general courts. The police, too, will join this project. Moreover, processing chains and procedures are being developed both in courts and elsewhere in the</p>

		<p>administration of justice, to make them determined by the nature and requirements of each case. The programme also proposes structural and procedural reforms. A structural reform of courts of appeal and administrative courts took effect on 1 April 2014, with the purpose of making these courts equal in strength when it comes to heard cases, staff and resources.</p> <p>The Finnish Act on Compensation for the Excessive Length of Judicial Proceedings (362/2009) entered force on 1 January 2010. Originally, the Act applied to civil and criminal matters considered in general courts of law. With an amendment effective on 1 June 2013, the scope of the Act was expanded to cover administrative and special courts as well as appellate boards, which are subject to the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act (586/1996).</p> <p>By all the development measures taken, the Government aims to ensure that because additional resources will hardly become available, the available resources are directed efficiently, taking account of the legal protection required by fundamental and human rights. Furthermore, the Government has taken legislative measures to ensure that parties injured by unreasonably long proceedings may get financial compensation irrespective of the level of the court that adjudicated their matter.</p>
<p>90.26. Investigate the cases of rendition flights where Finland's participation is suspected and bring to justice those involved, considering additionally the possibility of compensation for victims of torture in conformity with internal legislation and international legislation (Ecuador). See also comments below</p>	<p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs</p>	<p>As indicated in our previous reply, Finland has investigated the expressed allegations that the Finnish air space or airports might have been used for illegal transports of persons since 2005, including a thorough investigation in 2011-2012. Those investigations were conducted by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, with involvement of the relevant authorities. The material available to the Ministry did not, in any manner, support the allegations that Finnish authorities might have been party to illegal rendition flights in any way. With the means available to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs no evidence was found, either, to support claims that any aircraft transporting persons illegally had landed at Finnish airports. However, limited information available did not permit overall definitive conclusions concerning all flights.</p> <p>In 2012, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs forwarded the material collected during the investigations to the Parliamentary Ombudsman. The Parliamentary Ombudsman is an independent body exercising oversight to ensure that public authorities and officials observe the law and fulfil their duties in the discharge of</p>

	<p>their functions. The aim is to ensure good administration and the observance of constitutional and human rights. The Parliamentary Ombudsman initiated an investigation into the issue, and published his decision on the matter on 29 April 2014.</p> <p>According to the decision of the Parliamentary Ombudsman, the Finnish authorities were not involved in the US secret prisoner flight programme. Nor was there any reason to suspect that Finnish territory had been used for prisoner flights knowingly to the Finnish authorities.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Ombudsman had no grounds for criticizing the Finnish authorities for not having tried to investigate the existence of prisoner flights adequately on the basis of the information available to them at the time.</p> <p>The investigation could not, however, give guarantees that none of the flights investigated had been a prisoner flight. It could not be ruled out that Finnish airspace or airports could have been used for rendition flights without the knowledge of the Finnish authorities.</p> <p>The Ombudsman stated that a substantial part of the specific information concerning the individual flights was no longer available because of lapse of time and changes in data systems. Thus, the details of the flights could not be investigated in greater depth. It is also possible that even though the flight plans for aircraft used for rendition flights may have indicated Finland as a stopover place, the flights never landed in Finland in reality.</p> <p>The Ombudsman proposes that the authorities heard in the matter should consider how they, by means available in their respective branches of administration, including international cooperation, could improve the capacity to identify possible rendition flights and to intervene in them.</p> <p>A summary of the Ombudsman's findings is included in a press release of 29 April 2014 entitled "Ombudsman finds nothing reprehensible about the actions of the authorities as regards rendition flights" that is found at the following address: http://www.oikeusasiamies.fi/Resource.phx/pubman/templates/5.htx?id=1046</p> <p>The findings were based on a comprehensive survey conducted by the Ombudsman, who had requested information from all the Finnish authorities that could have had knowledge of the issue.</p>
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REJECTED RECOMMENDATIONS		
Recommendation	Ministry	Possible measures considered
91.1. Adhere to ICRMW (Uruguay 3) /Expedite means and ways towards the ratification of the ICRMW as part of its international obligation in promoting and protecting the rights of migrant workers (Indonesia 2) / In conformity with article 77 of ICRMW, declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and examine the communications that allege that the rights of individuals protected by this Convention have been violated (Uruguay).	Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Employment and the Economy	None.
90.22. Introduce human rights education as a mandatory part of teachers' training (Slovenia); See also comments below	Ministry of Education and Culture	None. See comments below provided during adoption.
90.25. That development aid must not be tied to conditionalities that do not take into account the traditional values of recipient countries (Namibia); See also comments below	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	None. See comments below provided during adoption.
VOLUNTARY COMMITMENTS		
Commitment	Ministry	Implementation measures
(a) Finland renewed its commitment, presented during the first universal periodic review of Finland, regarding the development assistance objective, as further elaborated in the national report for the second universal periodic review;	Ministry for Foreign Affairs	Finland renews its commitment on development aid. However, the fulfillment of the commitment and reaching the target of 0.7% development aid on gross national income (GNI) seems unlikely. Finnish development aid measured in euros was bigger than ever in 2013, reaching an estimated GNI-share of 0.56%. Finland's objective was to reach the 0.7 % share in 2015 by channeling all the proceeds from greenhouse gas emissions rights trading from 2014 onwards to development aid. Unfortunately the relatively low prices in emissions rights trading have resulted in lower revenues than

		expected. Finland however is still committed to reaching the 0.7% target in the long run.
<p>(b) Finland is committed to more effective and systematic monitoring of the implementation of human rights. As part of this commitment, the newly established Network of Contact Persons for Fundamental and Human Rights, composed of contact persons representing all Ministries, will monitor the implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan and prepare the Government Report on Human Rights Policy. The network will analyse the situation of fundamental and human rights in Finland, including the implementation of Finland's human rights obligations and commitments, and the associated periodic reporting. The network will also review UPR recommendations; Finland has several good practices in the sphere of cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders on human rights. The network will provide an opportunity for further development of these partnership models;</p>	<p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>In June 2012 the Government set up the Network of Contact Persons for Fundamental and Human Rights, consisting of representatives from each ministry, the Office of the Government's Chancellor of Justice and the Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman. The Network has convened seventeen times (by 18 June 2014) and discussed at the meetings e.g. the implementation of the national action plan on fundamental and human rights, the preparation of the Government's human rights report, the periodic reporting connected with Finland's international human rights obligations, the recommendations given to Finland, incl. the UPR recommendations, and other topical human rights themes.</p> <p>Moreover, the network has arranged a number of open seminars on fundamental and human rights and organised joint meetings with the panel of fundamental and human rights actors, consisting of representatives of non-governmental organisations, the Ombudsmen for different human rights and the national Human Rights Centre. The panel has contributed to monitoring the implementation of the action plan.</p>
<p>(c) Finland is committed to present a voluntary interim report on the progress made in implementing the UPR recommendations to the Human Rights Council in 2014.</p>	<p>Ministry for Foreign Affairs</p>	<p>A voluntary mid-term report will be submitted to the 26th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2014.</p>

COMMENTS PROVIDED DURING THE ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN 2012

90.1. - ACCEPTED

With regard to the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, a cross-sectoral working group, including disability representative organisations, is preparing the supporting documentation for proposing the ratification, with special attention to the need to create a well-functioning and efficient national monitoring system.

90.2. - PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

Human rights constitute a key element of the value basis for education in the core curricula that provide a national framework for formulating local curricula. Higher education institutions and providers of vocational education are responsible for educating personnel (including teachers) for institutions related to children. Higher education institutions are autonomous and decide by themselves on the content and nature of their education. The general objectives of vocational education are defined in the national curriculum, which offers a channel for developing the content of education. Employers have primary responsibility for arranging further education for teachers.

The Government is committed to preventing discrimination against ethnic minorities and has established structures for planning related measures and monitoring them regionally (e.g. the Advisory Board for Ethnic Relations (ETNO) and its seven regional Advisory Boards). A plan exists for promoting good ethnic relations at local level, and the National Action Plan on Fundamental and Human Rights 2012–2013 includes a related project.

The first National Policy on Roma is intended to improve the inclusion and equality of Roma in different spheres of life. The first Integration Programme 2012–2015 promotes the integration of immigrants into Finnish society and underlines the need to facilitate their employment. An immigration policy strategy is under preparation.

Regarding mental health services, see response under 90.15.

90.3. – ACCEPTED

The current Finnish non-discrimination legislation requires that the production and contents of radio, television and other media be non-discriminatory. As to the social media and the Internet, measures are being developed continuously to prevent and combat inappropriate and discriminatory contents.

The Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women 2012–2015 contains numerous measures, e.g. to produce training materials and to conduct research. The results of the research will be used for highlighting the violence phenomenon and influencing attitudes. One objective of the Government's gender equality programme is to reassess, by the end of 2014, the need for regulation of advertising that violates gender equality.

90.4. - ACCEPTED

The Government lays great importance on eradicating racism, xenophobia and inequality, while underlining in mass communication contexts freedom of expression, protected by the Constitution, and the importance of active and courageous public debate conducted through mass media. Tolerance and equality are best promoted by multi-faceted and multi-voiced mass communication.

Finnish legislation determines only the external framework for freedom of expression. The mass media themselves are responsible for supervising the contents. The Council for Mass Media in Finland, as a self-regulatory body, interprets and promotes good journalistic practice. Criminal liability for an offence arising from the contents of a message provided to the public lies with the perpetrator or accomplice, as defined in the Criminal Code. The punishment for an offence may be increased if the offence was motivated by e.g. race, colour, birth, national or ethnic origin or religion.

No systematic acts to distribute racist, xenophobic or islamophobic material have been identified in the Finnish press. Such acts are mainly attributable to individuals expressing their views in the social media or at other Internet sites (blogs).

90.5. - ACCEPTED

See response under 90.2. Roma representatives participate actively in the working group steering and monitoring the implementation of the National Policy on Roma. Each ministry implements the measures planned for its sector within the limits of its budget.

90.6. - ACCEPTED

See comments under 90.2. The National Policy on Roma aims at promoting the employment of Roma by different supportive measures providing more individual employment services and increasing adult education. Employers' attitudes will be improved e.g. by means of a media campaign in autumn 2012.

90.7. - ACCEPTED

See para. 2 and comments under 90.2. The State supports municipalities by steering of and counselling in equality planning, other training and information, and development projects.

90.8. - ACCEPTED

Non-discrimination legislation protects e.g. members of sexual and gender minorities against discrimination. This legislation is being developed to improve protection against discrimination on different grounds. The National Police College studies annually suspected hate crime directed against sexual and gender minorities and known to the police.

Under the Government's new gender equality programme 2012–2015, the Act on Equality between Women and Men is being supplemented with provisions promoting equality and protecting members of gender minorities against discrimination. In developing equality policies, the position of gender minorities is taken into account. A working group will be appointed to examine the need to amend the Act on Legal Recognition of the Gender of Transsexuals. The possible need to amend family legislation will be discussed.

90.9. - ACCEPTED

As regards the Action Plan to Reduce Violence against Women, a cross-sectoral civil servant working group coordinates and promotes the prevention of violence in close relationships and family comprehensively. Each ministry implements the measures planned for its sector within the limits of its budget. Monitoring data from 2010 and 2011 show that in these years the measures were implemented as planned.

90.10. - ACCEPTED

See response under 90.9.

90.11. - ACCEPTED

See responses under 90.9 and 90.10. The tasks of the working group include e.g. highlighting the needs of families, children and youth and different vulnerable groups in work to prevent violence in close relationships and family.

A project (MARAK) is being carried out to reduce the risk of revictimisation among victims of partnership violence. The project influences indirectly the position of the family's children, too. Since Finland also has a national action plan to reduce corporal punishment of children, no specific national action plan is needed against domestic violence.

90.12. - ACCEPTED

See response under 90.9.

90.13. - ACCEPTED

See response under 90.9. The Criminal Code contains provisions on assault, petty assault and aggravated assault, punishable according to the seriousness of the offence. After an amendment of the Criminal Code made to reveal hidden domestic violence, in effect as from 2011, petty assault against children and in close relationships is always subject to public prosecution. The amendment has increased the number of assaults known to authorities and led to prosecution in cases that would earlier have gone unprosecuted.

90.14. - ACCEPTED

The Government considers it important to protect and assist appropriately victims of violence against women and human trafficking. The third Internal Security Programme 2011–2015 envisages e.g. increasing the number and regional coverage of services for victims of crime.

Legislative projects are going on regarding the criminalisation of human trafficking, an assistance system for victims of human trafficking, and special personal security. The Government's intention is that the Welfare Act under preparation will contain a provision on which the need for support because of violence in close relationship and family can be based.

Training is provided to authorities for strengthening their capacities to identify victims of human trafficking, to assist them and to refer them to the assistance system, in accordance with the revised National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and its recommendations. In practice e.g. the Border Guard refers persons to the assistance system, when necessary.

90.15. – PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

The legislation in force constitutes an excellent framework for identifying children's need for special support early and providing support. The Action Programme for Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health pays particular attention to the prevention and early identification of sexual violence.

The National Development Programme for Social Welfare and Health Care includes a sub-programme to reform services for children, youth and families, with particular attention to developing pupil and student welfare and mental health services. The Government is drafting a coherent act of Parliament on pupil welfare services, which takes account of the services provided by educational institutions and their municipalities. The Government's intention is that the availability of and cooperation between the pupil welfare services (including psychologists' services) be improved. The funding for ensuring pupil welfare services is planned in the Government's Basic Public Services Programme. The act is scheduled to take effect in the beginning of 2014.

Employers are primarily responsible for arranging further education for educational and health care staff. However, educational staff may attend further education funded by the Government. In this context the staff may be trained to recognise signs of sexual abuse in children, in support of the overall pupil welfare services. See also comments under 90.2.

90.16. - ACCEPTED

The Government's decision-in-principle on developing corporate social responsibility comprehensively in different sectors sets objectives for 11 subject groups. One group concerns strengthening the implementation of human rights treaties. Businesses are encouraged to observe the issued instructions and to respect human rights and rights in working life. In this context it is important to ensure that Finnish businesses operating abroad or cooperation partners of Finnish businesses do not use child labour in their production.

90.17. – PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

Fair trial requires completing the entire criminal proceedings within a reasonable time. Therefore, the resource needs of all procedural actors must be taken into account. The length of proceedings has been reduced e.g. by redirecting resources, amending legislation and preparing a comprehensive legal protection programme. Indicators for measuring the workload of courts are being developed jointly with the courts. However, only scarce additional resources are available in the current economic situation. Compensation is payable to parties to excessively long judicial proceedings.

90.18. - ACCEPTED

The Government proposal on reforming the Administrative Judicial Procedure Act is under preparation and will be submitted to Parliament during the electoral period. The scope of the Act on Compensation for the Excessive Length of Judicial Proceedings will be expanded to cover the administrative judicial procedure, too.

A client strategy for the public sector, as an instrument of dialogue between authorities and clients on the principles of service production and the inclusion of clients in the planning, performance and assessment of services, will be completed in spring 2013.

90.19. - ACCEPTED

The Act on Equality between Women and Men prohibits pay discrimination on grounds of gender. The Ombudsman for Equality and the Equality Board supervise compliance with the Act as independent bodies. Violations of labour rights are investigated by impartial occupational safety and health authorities and ultimately courts.

90.20. - ACCEPTED

The Government, jointly with employee and employer organisations, continues the equal pay programme to narrow the average pay gap between the sexes to at most 15% by 2015. Employers are obligated by law to promote equality and to give their employees equal pay and increments for the same work or work of equal value.

90.21. - ACCEPTED

See comments under 90.15.

90.22. – NOT ACCEPTED

Public authorities must, through different types of support measures, ensure access to human rights education for all sectors of society, including professional groups. However, in Finland the higher education institutions providing teacher education are autonomous, deciding by themselves on the content and nature of the education they offer. Therefore any requirement of a mandatory element, imposed to all higher education institutions, is impossible. See also comments under 90.2 and 90.15.

90.23. – ACCEPTED

The measures under Finland's Disability Policy Programme 2010–2015 concern, inter alia, health care and rehabilitation, built environment and transport services. The Government pays special attention to design for all (universal design) when developing building legislation and other legislative regulation, and in information steering and cooperation with different actors.

The Finnish Public Transport Act provides that the needs of different population groups, including persons with disabilities, must be taken into account in transport planning. Traffic contractors must e.g. define the services available to physically challenged passengers and the information provided on it. Future transport projects must support the equal opportunity of physically challenged and elderly persons to live and cope independently.

90.24. – ACCEPTED

The detention unit for persons detained on the basis of the Aliens Act, located in the Metsälä reception centre in Helsinki, has accommodation capacity for 40 persons, which is insufficient. Detained aliens are increasingly being kept in facilities of the police and the Border Guard, although this arrangement should be exceptional. The need to set up a new detention unit and/or to expand the capacity of the Metsälä unit has been recognized but it has not yet been realized due to a lack of finances.

90.25. – NOT ACCEPTED

Development policy is a central part of Finland's foreign and security policy, which aims at strengthening international stability, security, peace, justice and sustainable development, and promoting the rule of law, democracy and respect for human rights. The Finnish approach to development issues is based on human rights in line with the idea of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. This value-based development policy promotes the universality of human rights, everyone's right to make their choices in life independently, non-discrimination and equality. Finland emphasises the rights of women, children, ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities and indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, and sexual and gender minorities.

90.26. – PARTIALLY ACCEPTED

Finland does not permit the use of its air space or airports for flights transporting persons in violation of human rights treaties or international humanitarian law. The Government of Finland has wanted to investigate, as thoroughly as possible and with all the available means, the expressed allegations that the Finnish air space or airports might have been used for illegal transports of persons.

Finland has investigated the allegations since 2005, and conducted the latest investigation in 2011-2012. Information was requested extensively from relevant authorities and the Embassy of the United States in Finland. All relevant flight data was made public on 3 November 2011 by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Since then the Ministry has also responded to new allegations expressed to it by non-governmental organizations.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has collected and published all available information on the alleged rendition flights. The material available to the Ministry has not in any manner supported the allegations that Finnish authorities would have been in any way party to illegal rendition flights. With the means available to us we have found no evidence either to

support claims that any aircraft illegally transporting persons have without the knowledge of Finnish authorities landed at Finnish airports. At the same time, it is to be recognized that the allegations concern flights conducted several years ago and the limited information available does not permit overall definitive conclusions concerning all flights.

After exhausting all avenues of investigation available to it, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has concluded its inquiries in to the matter. Since these investigations have not disclosed anything to indicate illegal activity, Finland has no legal grounds for prosecution in the matter and therefore cannot accept the recommendation "to bring to justice those involved".

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has also forwarded the material collected during the investigations to the Parliamentary Ombudsman. The Ombudsman is now examining the matter. The Ombudsman is an independent supervisory body, and the Government of Finland cannot anticipate the outcome of the examination. The Government will await the conclusion of the review by the Ombudsman.

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