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Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**Concluding observations on the combined thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports of Uzbekistan***

1. The Committee considered the combined thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports of Uzbekistan,¹ submitted in one document, at its 3209th and 3210th meetings,² held on 21 and 22 April 2026. At its 3220th meeting, held on 29 April 2026, it adopted the present concluding observations.

A. Introduction

2. The Committee welcomes the submission of the combined thirteenth and fourteenth periodic reports of the State Party. The Committee also welcomes the constructive dialogue with the high-level delegation and wishes to thank the delegation for the information that it provided during the Committee's consideration of the reports and after the dialogue.

B. Positive aspects

3. The Committee welcomes the State Party's ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Jun 2021.

4. The Committee further welcomes the following legislative, institutional and policy measures taken by the State Party:

(a) The establishment of the Migration Agency to oversight the implementation of legislative framework related to migrant workers labour migration, in 2024;

(b) The adoption of the Law on "Official Statistics", in August 2021;

(c) The adoption of the Law on "Legal Status of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Uzbekistan", in June 2021;

(d) The adoption of the Law on "Cultural Activities and Cultural Organizations", in January 2021;

(e) The adoption of the Law on "Population Census", in March 2020;

(f) The adoption of the Law on "Citizenship of the Republic of Uzbekistan", in March 2020;

(g) The adoption of the national action plan for the implementation of the Committee's recommendations by a joint decision of the two Chambers of the Uzbek Parliament, in October 2020;

* Adopted by the Committee at its 117th session (13 April – 1 May 2026).

¹ [CERD/C/UZB/13-14](#).

² See [CERD/C/SR.3209](#) and [CERD/C/SR.3210](#).

(h) The adoption of the national human rights strategy and the road map for its implementation, in 2020.

C. Concerns and recommendations

Statistics

5. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue on the demographic composition of its population, disaggregated by ethnicity. It also takes note of the information provided by the delegation on the Population Census that was carried out between January and February 2026, which incorporated the principle of self-identification. While noting that the gathered data are being processed and the results will be published in July 2027, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of disaggregated data on non-citizens, such as migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, and stateless persons, and the lack of comprehensive information on the socioeconomic situation of the ethnic minority groups, particularly the Karakalpak ethnic group and the Luli/Roma communities, and of non-citizens. This lack of disaggregated data limits the Committee's ability to properly assess the situation of such groups, including their socioeconomic status and any progress achieved through the implementation of targeted policies and programmes (arts. 1, 2 and 5).

6. Recalling its general recommendation No. 8 (1990) concerning the interpretation and application of article 1 (1) and (4) of the Convention, and its guidelines for reporting under the Convention,³ the Committee recommends that the State Party collect and provide to the Committee comprehensive and disaggregated statistics on the demographic composition of the population and on non-citizens, such as migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons, together with statistics on the socioeconomic situation of ethnic minority groups, including of the Karakalpak ethnic group and the Luli/Roma communities, and of non-citizens, and on their access to education, employment, health care and housing with a view to creating an empirical basis for assessing the equal enjoyment of the rights enshrined in the Convention.

National human rights institution

7. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation that the Constitution recognizes the role and mandate of the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis for Human Rights (Ombudsman) pursuant to article 56 and the information on its activities. It also notes that the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions accredited Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis for Human Rights with B status in December 2020, while recommending, among others, that the institution addresses and publicly reports on all human rights concerns, including racial discrimination, and amending the legislative framework to ensure a transparent and participatory selection and appointment process of the Ombudsperson and to limit the term of office to one reappointment for the Ombudsperson (art. 2).

8. Recalling its general recommendation No. 17 (1993) on the establishment of national institutions to facilitate the implementation of the Convention, the Committee recommends that the State Party adopt legislative measures to strengthen the independence of the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis for Human Rights (Ombudsman) and enable it to carry out its mandate fully, effectively and independently, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles). To that end, it recommends that the State Party, review its legislative framework to implement the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, including to introduce a transparent, participatory and merit-based process for the selection of the Ombudsperson, to limit the term of office to one reappointment and to allocate the institution sufficient financial, human and technical resources.

³ CERD/C/2007/1.

Prohibition of racial discrimination

9. The Committee notes the information provided on the legislative framework regarding equality and non-discrimination, particularly in accordance with article 19 of the Constitution, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of national origin and race, and that discrimination on the grounds of race and ethnic origin is criminalized pursuant to article 141 of the Criminal Code. However, the Committee remains concerned that:

(a) The national legislative framework remains fragmented on the prohibition of racial discrimination and does not contain an explicit definition of racial discrimination on all the grounds enumerated in article 1 of the Convention and that it does not expressly prohibit intersecting forms of discrimination or structural, direct and indirect racial discrimination in the public and private spheres;

(b) The draft law on Equal Treatment and Non-Discrimination is still under consideration since 2020, notwithstanding the information provided by the delegation that the draft law is undergoing final revisions before the Oliy Majlis (arts. 1, 2, and 5).

10. Reiterating its previous recommendations,⁴ the Committee urges that the State Party:

(a) Review its legal framework, including article 19 of the Constitution and article 141 of the Criminal Code, with a view to bringing it into line with the Convention, explicitly incorporating the principle of equality and the prohibition of racial discrimination on all prohibited grounds, in line with article 1 of the Convention;

(b) Expedite the adoption of the draft Law on Equal Treatment and Non-Discrimination, within a defined and short time frame. Ensure inclusive, effective, and meaningful participation at all levels by engaging civil society organizations and representatives of ethnic minority groups throughout the process. The law should include a clear and comprehensive definition of racial discrimination, covering structural, direct, indirect, and intersectional forms and apply to both the public and private sectors, in full alignment with Article 1 of the Convention.

Hate crimes and hate speech

11. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation on the legislative framework to combat hate speech and hate crimes, particularly under article 156 of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes incitement to hatred, intolerance, or division on national, ethnic, racial grounds, article 20 of the Law on Cultural Activities and Cultural Organizations, article 5 of the Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations, article 3 of the Law on Political Parties, article 25 of the Law on Non-Governmental and Non-Profit Organizations, article 6 of the Law on Mass Media, and article 12 of the Law on Information Technology. Nevertheless, the Committee remains concerned that:

(a) The legislative framework does not contain provisions that expressly criminalize or effectively address all acts of racist hate speech and hate crimes in accordance with article 4 of the Convention and on all the grounds recognized in article 1;

(b) Article 56 of the Criminal Code does not recognize racist motivation as an aggravating circumstance;

(c) There is a lack of information on the entity or institution mandated to monitor and combat the spread of hate speech in the media, on the Internet and in social media, as well as on the lack of information on measures to combat the use of racist hate speech by politicians and influential public figures (arts. 2, 4 and 6).

12. Reiterating its previous recommendations⁵ and recalling its general recommendations No. 7 (1985) relating to the implementation of article 4 of the Convention, No. 15 (1993) on article 4 of the Convention and No. 35 (2013) on combating racist hate speech, the Committee urges the State Party to:

⁴ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 7.

⁵ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 9.

(a) Review its legislative framework, particularly the Criminal Code, to explicitly criminalize all acts of racist hate speech and hate crimes in line with article 4 of the Convention, to include all grounds of discrimination recognized in article 1 of the Convention, and to recognize racist motivation as an aggravating circumstance;

(b) Adopt measures to combat hate speech in the media, on the Internet and in social media, including by establishing or designating an entity or institution to combat and monitor the spread of hate speech in the media, on the Internet and in social media, in close cooperation with media outlets, Internet service providers and social media platforms;

(c) Adopt measures to combat the use of racist hate speech by politicians and other public figures, including by developing and enforcing a code of conduct for members of the Oliy Majlis and politicians, at the central and local levels, that explicitly prohibits the use of hate speech.

Complaints of racial discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes

13. The Committee takes note of the information provided by the delegation of the State Party that, between 2024 and 2026, no indictments were submitted to the courts for prosecution under Article 141 of the Criminal Code on the prohibition of discrimination, and that, between 2023 and 2025, only 15 indictments were submitted under Article 156 of the Criminal Code for incitement to hatred, intolerance, or division on national, ethnic, racial grounds. However, the Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of detailed information on complaints of racial discrimination and incitement to hatred, intolerance, or division on national, ethnic, racial grounds pursuant to articles 141 and 156 of the Criminal Code, regarding investigations, convictions, and sanctions by courts;

(b) The fact that, between 2023 and 2025, the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis for Human Rights (Ombudsperson) received no racial discrimination complaints, while 63 complaints were submitted related to discrimination on the grounds of social origin, religion and gender;

(c) The lack of measures taken, in accordance with the Committee's previous recommendations,⁶ to address the low number of complaints about and legal action for racial discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, which may include a lack of suitable legislation, poor awareness of the legal remedies available, a lack of will on the part of the authorities to prosecute the perpetrators of such acts, a lack of trust in the criminal justice system or a fear of reprisals against victims;

(d) The lack of information on the availability and accessibility of a specific safe judicial mechanism for addressing cases of racial discrimination (arts. 2, 4, 6 and 7).

14. The Committee draws the State Party's attention to its general recommendation No. 31 (2005) on the prevention of racial discrimination in the administration and functioning of the criminal justice system, and recalls that an absence of complaints and legal action relating to racial discrimination may reveal a lack of suitable legislation, poor awareness of the legal remedies available, a lack of trust in the judicial system, a fear of reprisals or a lack of will on the part of the authorities to prosecute the perpetrators of such acts. Reiterating its previous recommendations⁷ and recalling its general recommendations No. 7 (1985) relating to the implementation of article 4 of the Convention, No. 15 (1993) on article 4 of the Convention and No. 35 (2013) on combating racist hate speech, the Committee urges the State Party to:

(a) Take effective measures to ensure remedies and redress mechanisms for victims of racial discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, to ensure the availability and accessibility of reporting channels to victims, including by conducting an assessment of the systems for reporting and registering complaints of racial

⁶ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 23.

⁷ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 23.

discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, and to identify and effectively address all barriers to justice faced by the victims;

(b) Undertake public education campaigns on the rights enshrined in the Convention and on how to file complaints of racial discrimination, particularly among members of the Karakalpak ethnic group, the Luli/Roma communities and non-citizens;

(c) Conduct training programmes for police officers, prosecutors and other law enforcement officials on the identification, registration, investigation and prosecution of incidents of racial discrimination;

(d) Collect statistics on quantitative and qualitative trends in complaints filed of racial discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, on investigations conducted, prosecutions brought, convictions handed down and sanctions imposed disaggregated by age, gender and ethnic or national origin of the victims, and include such data in its next report.

Racial profiling and racially motivated police violence

15. The Committee takes note of the information provided by the delegation on the adoption of a Presidential decree in February 2023 that introduces a code of conduct for law enforcement officials and on the provision of human rights training for law enforcement officials. However, the Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of information on the prohibition of racial profiling and racially motivated violence in the legislative framework on law enforcement;

(b) Reports of racial profiling and racially motivated violence targeting members of Karakalpak ethnic group in police operations;

(c) The lack of investigations, prosecutions, convictions and sanctions for acts of racial profiling and racially motivated violence by law enforcement officials against members of ethnic minority groups (arts. 4, 5 and 6).

16. Recalling its general recommendation No. 36 (2020) on preventing and combating racial profiling by law enforcement officials, the Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Adopt legislation that explicitly prohibits and proportionately punishes racial profiling and racially motivated violence during police and other law enforcement operations;

(b) Establish an independent monitoring body with the competence to receive and examine complaints of racial profiling and racially motivated violence by law enforcement agencies, with safe and accessible reporting channels for victims;

(c) Conduct prompt, thorough, and impartial investigations into all allegations of racial profiling and racially motivated violence by law enforcement officials against members of ethnic minority groups, and ensure that the alleged perpetrators are prosecuted and, if convicted, punished with appropriate sanctions and that the victims or their families are provided with adequate forms of reparation.

Legislative framework on the human rights of ethnic minority groups

17. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation that the State Party undertook a study to assess existing legislative safeguards and concluded that adopting a separate legislation on the human rights of ethnic minority groups is unnecessary. However, the Committee remains concerned about the continuing absence of a normative framework on the human rights of ethnic minorities. This concern is compounded by the rejection of the term “ethnic minority” and the reliance on general, fragmented equality provisions, which together risk obscuring and insufficiently addressing the persistent disparities faced by members of ethnic minority groups in practice (arts. 2 and 5).

18. Reiterating its previous recommendations,⁸ the Committee urges the State Party to take necessary steps to elaborate and adopt legislation on the human rights of ethnic minority groups and to guarantee the enjoyment of their rights protected under the Convention.

Ethnic minorities in political and public affairs

19. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue that 12 percent of the members of the Oliy Majlis are members of ethnic minority groups while in the judiciary, out of more than 1,500 judges, 75 are members of the Karakalpak ethnic group, 12 are members of the Tajik ethnic minority group and 23 are members of other ethnic minority groups. However, the Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of special measures introduced in the Law on Public Civil Service, adopted in August 2022, introducing competitive hiring process and establishing the Agency for Development of Public Service, to ensure the equal and fair representation of ethnic minority groups in public and political life;

(b) Reports of the low level of representation of members of ethnic minority groups, particularly women, in executive bodies, the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including at the local level.

20. Recalling its general recommendation No. 32 (2009) on the meaning and scope of special measures, the Committee recommends that the State Party adopt measures to ensure fair and equitable representation of ethnic minority groups, particularly at the local level, in the public sector, in elected bodies, and in decision-making and high-ranking positions, including through special measures and by identifying and removing barriers that members of ethnic minority groups face in this respect, particularly ethnic minority women.

Situation of the Karakalpak ethnic group

21. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation on the status of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, inhabited mainly by the Karakalpak ethnic group, and the guarantees to protect its sovereignty pursuant to article 85 of the Constitution. It notes also that Karakalpak language is recognized as an official language in the State Party pursuant to article 4 of the Constitution and article 1 of the Law on the State Language. The Committee takes note of the information on the establishment of the Committee on the Environment Development of the Aral Sea Region, on the implementation of the State Programme for the Development of the Aral Sea Region for the period 2017–2021 and on other measures to mitigate the impact of environmental degradation and climate change. Nevertheless, the Committee is concerned about:

(a) Reports of challenges faced by members of the Karakalpak ethnic group in the participation in political and public life, which negatively affects the realization, in practice, of the sovereign and self-governing status of the Republic of Karakalpakstan with limited effective decision-making powers by local institutions, reported interference by central authorities and the significant underrepresentation of members of the Karakalpak ethnic group in local and central governance bodies;

(b) Reports of practices and policies, including renaming of streets and public places using the Uzbek language, that dismiss and ignore the Karakalpak cultural heritage and negatively affect its visibility, recognition and preservation and the lack of information on measures to preserve the livelihoods and traditional lifestyle of the Karakalpak ethnic group;

(c) Reports of the continuing decline in the use of Karakalpak language and lack of measures to promote it in the public sphere;

(d) Reports of barriers faced by members of the Karakalpak ethnic group in using their language in administrative procedure;

⁸ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 11.

(e) The lack of information on measures taken to consult with members of the Karakalpak ethnic group regarding environmental programmes to mitigate environmental degradation and climate change (arts. 2, 5 and 6).

22. Reiterating its previous recommendations,⁹ the Committee urges the State Party to:

(a) Adopt measures to guarantee the sovereign and self-governing status of the Republic of Karakalpakstan in line with the Constitution and ensure the meaningful participation in political and public life of the Karakalpak ethnic group at the central and local levels, including by strengthening the public institutions and bodies in the Republic of Karakalpakstan and allocating sufficient financial resources to enable these institutions to fulfil their mandate;

(b) Adopt measures to ensure that policies and practices relating to the use of Karakalpak and Uzbek languages are developed and implemented based on transparent criteria that fully respect the rights of the Karakalpak ethnic, including their right to decision-making, and that do not result in the marginalization, misrepresentation, or even erasure of their cultural heritage;

(c) Adopt measures to preserve the livelihoods and traditional lifestyle of the Karakalpak ethnic group and to promote the use of the Karakalpak language as an official language;

(d) Ensure the effective implementation its legislative framework on the use of Karakalpak language in administrative procedures;

(e) Adopt measures to guarantee the enjoyment of the Karakalpak ethnic group of their right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment, including by ensuring their effective and meaningful consultation and participation in the design and implementation of all programmes to mitigate environmental degradation and climate change.

State response to protests of July 2022 in Republic of Karakalpakstan

23. The Committee is gravely concerned about the reported violations and abuses against members of the Karakalpak ethnic group during and in the aftermath of the protests in July 2022 following the announcement of proposing constitutional amendments affecting the status of the sovereign Republic of Karakalpakstan. In particular, the Committee is concerned about reported human rights violations and abuses committed during the response of law enforcement agencies against Karakalpak protestors while exercising their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, which included racially motivated excessive use of force, the unlawful killing by law enforcement of at least 21 protestors and injuring hundreds of others, arbitrary detention and torture and ill-treatment. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue on the establishment of the parliamentary commission in July 2022 to investigate human rights violations and abuses perpetrated during the protests, which presented its report to the parliament in December 2024. It also notes the information on the prosecution of three law enforcement officials for violating the legislative framework on law enforcement agencies. Nevertheless, the Committee remains concerned about:

(a) Lack of transparency and accountability for human rights violations in the context of the July 2022 protests, particularly as the report of the parliamentary commission is not available to the public, despite its submission to the Parliament in December 2024, and the low prosecution rates for human rights violations perpetrated by law enforcement officials in the context of the July 2022 protests;

(b) The lack of an independent mechanism to investigate such reports of violations and abuses and to provide victims with redress and support;

(c) Targeting of human rights defenders and members of civil society organizations from the Karakalpak ethnic group, including through arbitrary detention,

⁹ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 15.

alleged violations of fair trial guarantees and the imposition of lengthy prison sentences for activities related to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. In particular, the Committee is concerned about the situation of human rights defenders and lawyers, such as Dawletmurat Tajimuratov, who has reportedly been arbitrarily detained since 4 July 2022, sentenced to 16 years imprisonment and subjected to torture and ill-treatment during his detention (arts. 2, 5 and 6).

24. The Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Conduct effective, thorough and impartial investigations into allegations of human rights violations and abuses of human rights targeting members of the Karakalpak ethnic group during and in the aftermath of the protests of July 2022 in Republic of Karakalpakstan, including allegations of unlawful killings, racially motivated excessive use of force, arbitrary detention and torture and ill-treatment, and ensure that the alleged perpetrators are prosecuted and, if convicted, are punished with appropriate sanctions and that the victims or their families are provided with adequate remedy, and publish the report of the parliamentary commission report, submitted to the Parliament in December 2024;

(b) Guarantee the rights of human rights defenders and members of civil society organizations and working to promote the rights of the Karakalpak ethnic group, including full respect to a fair trial and due process guarantees in the context of the protests and the prompt release of those who are arbitrarily detained;

(c) Implement the opinion no. 62/2024 adopted by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concerning Dauletmurat Tazhimuratov.¹⁰

Civic space

25. The Committee takes note of the information provided by the delegation on the guarantees for the enjoyment of right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, pursuant to articles 33 and 39 of the Constitution. The Committee remains concerned that the overly broad and vague interpretation of concepts and provisions, such as “extremisms”, “separatism”, “storage and dissemination of extremist materials”, and “attempts to undermine the Constitutional order”, in the Criminal Code and the Code on Administrative Responsibility, disproportionately restrict the rights to freedom of expression and of association, lead to silencing human rights defenders and civil society organizations in practice, and arbitrarily restricting the operations and activities of civil society organizations, human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists working to promote the rights of ethnic minority groups. It is also concerned about reports that human rights defenders, members of civil society organizations, activists, lawyers, and journalists are increasingly subjected to intimidation, harassment and reprisals, as well as arbitrary arrest and detention, and violations of their fair trial safeguards, in connection with their human rights work (arts. 2, 5 and 6).

26. The Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Adopt effective measures, including reviewing its legislative framework, particularly the Criminal Code and the Code on Administrative Responsibility, to ensure an enabling and safe environment for the work of human rights defenders and civil society organisations, especially those promoting and protecting the rights of ethnic minority groups, including the Karakalpak ethnic group;

(b) Ensure that laws are not subject to arbitrary interpretation or used to impose disproportionate restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association, and that they are not applied to intimidate, harass, arrest, detain, or prosecute journalists, human rights defenders, or civil society actors;

(c) Conduct prompt, effective, thorough, and impartial investigations into all allegations of intimidation, harassment, threats, and reprisals against human rights

¹⁰ See [A/HRC/WGAD/2024/62](#).

defenders, journalists, lawyers, activists, and members of civil society organizations, and ensure accountability for those responsible.

Situation of the Luli/Roma

27. The Committee notes the information provided on measures implemented to ensure the access of members of Luli/Roma to education and the issuance of identity documents. Nevertheless, the Committee remains concerned about:

- (a) The lack of detailed official information on the situation of Luli/Roma communities in the State Party, particularly on their social and economic situation;
- (b) Reports of the persistent stigmatization and social exclusion directed at members of the Luli/Roma communities, which impedes their enjoyment of the rights protected under the Convention, and the lack of information on measures to address these concerns;
- (c) Reports that members of Luli/Roma communities continue to live in extreme poverty;
- (d) Reports that member of Luli/Roma communities live in informal settlements with no proper infrastructure, basic services and security of tenure;
- (e) Reports of low attendance rates and high dropout rates at all levels of education for Luli/Roma children, particularly among girls and reports of de facto segregated education;
- (f) Reports of challenges faced by members of the Luli/Roma communities in accessing basic services due to the lack of identity documents, notwithstanding measures by the State Party to issue identity documents.

28. Reiterating its previous recommendations¹¹ and recalling its general recommendation No. 27 (2000) on discrimination against Roma, the Committee urges the State Party to:

- (a) Take effective measures, including special measures, to address the extreme poverty, marginalization and social exclusion faced by members of the Luli/Roma communities;**
- (b) Adopt measures to ensure the enjoyment of Luli/Roma communities of their right to adequate housing and provide solutions for the housing problems, including by providing security of tenure to Luli/Roma communities and regulating the informal settlements;**
- (c) End the de facto segregation in schools and strengthen efforts to ensure that Luli/Roma children, particularly girls, have access to quality and inclusive education, increase school enrolment rates and decrease school dropout rates, including by conducting awareness-raising campaigns on inclusive education;**
- (d) Issue identity documents to members of the Luli/Roma communities to ensure their access to basic services;**
- (e) Include, in its next periodic report, information about the Luli/Roma communities, particularly concerning their economic, social and cultural situation as well as measures taken by the State Party to address the associated problems.**

Right to adequate housing

29. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation on the human rights safeguards in relation to compensation and resettlement while implementing development projects and on the development of a policy on housing. Nevertheless, the Committee is concerned about:

- (a) Persistent reports that, in light of the implementation of development projects, members of ethnic minority groups, particularly Luli/Roma communities, are subjected to

¹¹ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 13.

forced evictions carried out without meaningful consultation, that compensation is inadequate or not provided, and that access to effective judicial and administrative remedies remains limited;

(b) The forced eviction of at least 1,200 members of the Multoni/Roma community and the house demolitions in Samarkand, in May 2025, in the context of constructing a development project without meaningful and prior consultation process, notwithstanding the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue on compensation provided to affected individuals (arts. 2 and 5).

30. Recalling the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in his report following the visit to the State Party in August 2024,¹² the Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Expedite the adoption of the policy on the right to adequate housing, ensure that it is fully aligned with the Convention and relevant international human rights law and standards, to address the barriers faced by members of ethnic minority groups and to guarantee their access to adequate housing and basic facilities and amenities without discrimination, and allocate sufficient resources for the effective implementation of such a policy;

(b) Halt forced eviction of members of ethnic minority groups, particularly the Luli/Roma communities, and demolition of their houses, and ensure that when forced eviction or house demolition cannot be avoided, the families and individuals affected are provided with alternative adequate housing and compensation and that effective remedies are in all cases available to those affected in cases of eviction or demolition and ensure meaningful and effective consultations with affected ethnic minority groups.

Right to health

31. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue on the legislative framework on the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and measures taken to ensure the access of members of the Luli/Roma to healthcare services. Nevertheless, the Committee is concerned about reports of discriminatory treatment by medical personnel against women members of the Luli/Roma communities and Karakalpak ethnic group and reports of high rates of infant mortality in Luli/Roma communities. The Committee regrets the lack of information regarding investigations and reparations with regard to the forced sterilization of Luli/Roma women. The Committee is further concerned about reports of forced or non-consensual medical procedures on Karakalpak women (arts. 2 and 5).

32. Recalling its general recommendations No. 37 (2024) on equality and freedom from racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to health and No. 25 (2000) on gender-related dimensions of racial discrimination, the Committee recommends that the State Party:

(a) Design, adopt and implement public health policies to address health risks and negative outcomes affecting ethnic minority women and to ensure that they have access to gender responsive and culturally sensitive adequate health care and vaccination, including by conducting targeted awareness-raising campaigns and providing information about available health services;

(b) Adopt clear protocols to prevent discriminatory treatment and negative stereotyping of members of ethnic minority groups, particularly women;

(c) Repeal discriminatory practices in obstetric and maternal care and conduct awareness-raising campaigns and trainings targeting healthcare professionals on racial discrimination and human rights standards;

¹² [A/HRC/58/50/Add.1](#)

(d) Conduct effective, thorough and impartial investigations into allegations of forced sterilization of Luli/Roma women and of forced or non-consensual medical procedures on Karakalpak women and provide information in the next periodic report.

Right to education

33. The Committee notes the information on the provision of education in seven ethnic minority languages, the provision of school textbooks in the seven languages and implementation of teaching programmes in ethnic minority languages. However, the Committee is concerned about reports that schools providing education in ethnic minority languages are facing challenges due to inadequate resources allocated. (arts. 2 and 5).

34. The Committee recommends that the State Party strengthen its efforts to ensure access to mother tongue education in schools for all ethnic minority children, including by allocating adequate human, financial and technical resources for schools providing education in ethnic minority languages.

Migrants and asylum-seekers

35. The Committee notes the information on the adoption of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Uzbekistan, in June 2021, as a legislative framework to regulate the rights, obligations, entry, residency of non-citizens, and provides for political asylum. It also notes the information provided by the delegation that expulsion orders can be appealed before courts. Nevertheless, the Committee is concerned about:

(a) The lack of comprehensive legislative and institutional frameworks for asylum and the lack of an asylum procedure in line with the Convention and relevant international human rights law and international refugee law and standards;

(b) The lack of transparency and accessibility for the political asylum procedure and the lack of statistics on cases of asylum or recognized refugee under the political asylum procedure;

(c) Reports of the deportation and forcible return of migrants and asylum-seekers in need of international protection, in violation of the principle of non-refoulement;

(d) The fact that asylum-seekers in need of international protection may enter the State Party only through study, business or work visas and then face complex and costly administrative procedures to renew their legal stay;

(e) The fact that the migrant workers are subjected to mandatory HIV/AIDS testing and, if found to be living with HIV/AIDS, revoke their working permit (arts. 1, 2 and 5).

36. Reiterating its previous recommendations,¹³ and recalling its general recommendations no. 37 (2024) on equality and freedom from racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to health, no. 39 (2025) on thematic guidelines for eradicating xenophobia towards migrants and others perceived as such and no. 38 (2025) on general guidelines for eradicating xenophobia towards migrants and others perceived as such, and No. 30 (2004) on discrimination against non-citizens, the Committee urges the State Party to:

(a) **Review its legislative framework, namely the Law on On the Legal Status of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Uzbekistan, to align it with the Convention and relevant international human rights law and international refugee law and standards to provide adequate protection of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees and establishes an asylum procedure, in accordance with internationally recognized standards, including the principle of non-refoulement;**

(b) **Ensure that all removal procedures are conducted in full compliance with international law obligations, including respect for the principle of non-refoulement,**

¹³ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 21.

due process guarantees and comprehensive individualized assessments of protection needs under international human rights law and international refugee law, in all cases of deportation, removal and expulsion;

(c) Abolish mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for migrant workers;

(d) Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol.

Stateless persons

37. The Committee notes the information provided by the delegation during the dialogue regarding the establishment of the citizenship admission process, pursuant to article 6 of the Law on Citizenship, which was adopted in March 2020. It further notes that, in the first implementation phase, the process addressed the situation of stateless persons who arrived in the State Party prior to January 1995. The Committee notes information by the delegation that the next phase will be expanded to include stateless persons who arrived in the State Party before January 2000. However, the Committee is concerned:

(a) About the lack of a data collection system and statistics on stateless persons and their socioeconomic situation;

(b) That the legislative framework, namely the Law on Citizenship, is not aligned with international standards on the prevention and reduction of statelessness due to its restrictive approach, particularly the prohibition of dual citizenship, the requirement for non-citizens to renounce their original nationality without guarantees of acquiring the State Party's citizenship, the loss of citizenship for nationals residing abroad who fail to register with consular authorities within a specific timeframe and the possibility of renunciation without proof of another nationality;

(c) About shortcomings in the legislative framework, namely the Law on Citizenship, that lead to de facto statelessness of children born on its territory and where parents are unable to transmit their nationality, particularly in the case of stateless, migrant and asylum-seekers parents;

(d) About the lack of a dedicated determination procedure in relation to statelessness;

(e) About the information that the State Party undertook a study to assess existing legislative safeguards on the prevention of statelessness and concluded that the accession of the State Party to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness is premature.

38. Reiterating its previous recommendations,¹⁴ the Committee urges the State Party to:

(a) Review its legislative framework, namely the Law on Citizenship, to align it with the Convention and relevant international relevant human rights law and standards, to reduce and prevent statelessness, particularly by removing obstacles to granting citizenship and prevent persons and children from becoming stateless, and to establish a dedicated and effective determination procedure in relation to statelessness;

(b) Ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Training, education and other measures to combat prejudice and intolerance

39. The Committee notes the information on the various discussions on human rights education at the university level and activities carried out the Committee for Inter-Ethnic Relations and Friendly Ties with Foreign Countries to promote tolerance and raise awareness on human rights. It also notes the information on training targeting law enforcement officials. However, the Committee is concerned about the lack of mandatory human rights education, including regarding racial discrimination, in all education levels. The Committee is also

¹⁴ [CERD/C/UZB/CO/10-12](#), para 21.

concerned about the lack of information on awareness-raising campaigns targeting the public, members of law enforcement officials, judiciary and public administration on the importance of non-discrimination, cultural diversity and tolerance (art. 7).

40. The Committee recommends that the State Party introduce and ensure the provision of human rights education, including on combating racial discrimination and prejudice, as obligatory topics at all levels of education. It also recommends that the State Party increase its efforts to raise public awareness of the importance of ethnic and cultural diversity and of combating racial discrimination, in particular for law enforcement officials and judicial authorities, and integrate these concepts into all levels of education in order to promote cultural diversity and tolerance.

D. Other recommendations

Ratification of other treaties

41. Bearing in mind the indivisibility of all human rights, the Committee encourages the State Party to consider ratifying those international human rights treaties that it has not yet ratified, in particular treaties with provisions that have direct relevance to communities that may be subjected to racial discrimination, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

Amendment to article 8 of the Convention

42. The Committee recommends that the State Party ratify the amendment to article 8 (6) of the Convention adopted on 15 January 1992 at the fourteenth meeting of States parties to the Convention and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111.

Declaration under article 14 of the Convention

43. The Committee encourages the State Party to make the optional declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual complaints.

Follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

44. In light of its general recommendation No. 33 (2009) on follow-up to the Durban Review Conference, the Committee recommends that, when implementing the Convention in its domestic legal order, the State Party give effect to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted in September 2001 by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, taking into account the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva in April 2009. The Committee requests that the State Party include in its next periodic report specific information on action plans and other measures taken to implement the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at the national level.

International Decade for People of African Descent

45. In its resolution 79/193, the General Assembly proclaimed 2025–2034 the Second International Decade for People of African Descent. Also in that resolution, the Assembly decided to extend the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent adopted in its resolution 69/16, with a view to ensuring continuing efforts in promoting the respect, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of people of African descent. In light of this development, the Committee recommends that the State Party implement the programme of activities in collaboration with people of African descent and include in its next periodic report information on the measures adopted in that framework, taking

into account the Committee's general recommendation No. 34 (2011) on racial discrimination against people of African descent.

Consultations with civil society

46. The Committee recommends that the State Party continue consulting and increasing its dialogue with civil society organizations working in the area of human rights protection, in particular those working to combat racial discrimination, in connection with the preparation of the next periodic report and in follow-up to the present concluding observations.

Dissemination of information

47. The Committee recommends that the State Party's reports be made readily available and accessible to the public at the time of their submission and that the concluding observations of the Committee with respect to those reports be similarly made available in the official language of the State Party and in the languages of national minorities, as appropriate.

Common core document

48. The Committee encourages the State Party to update its common core document, which dates to June 2023, in accordance with the harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties, in particular those on the common core document, as adopted at the fifth inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies held in June 2006.¹⁵ In the light of General Assembly resolution 68/268, the Committee urges the State Party to observe the limit of 42,400 words for such documents.

Paragraphs of particular importance

49. The Committee wishes to draw the attention of the State Party to the particular importance of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 16 (racial profiling and racially motivated police violence), 22 (situation of the Karakalpak ethnic group), 28 (situation of the Luli/Roma), and 32 (right to health) above and requests the State Party to provide detailed information in its next periodic report on the concrete measures taken to implement those recommendations.

Follow-up to the present concluding observations

50. In accordance with article 9 (1) of the Convention and rule 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee requests the State Party to provide, within one year of the adoption of the present concluding observations, information on its implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 24 (a) and (c) (State response to protests of July 2022 in Republic of Karakalpakstan), 30 (b) (right to adequate housing), 36 (c) (Migrants and asylum-seekers) above.

Preparation of the next periodic report

51. The Committee recommends that the State Party submit its combined fifteenth to eighteenth periodic reports, as a single document, by 28 October 2030, taking into account the reporting guidelines adopted by the Committee during its seventy-first session¹⁶ and addressing all the points raised in the present concluding observations. In the light of General Assembly resolution 68/268, the Committee urges the State Party to observe the limit of 21,200 words for periodic reports and 42,400 words for the common core document.

¹⁵ HRI/GEN/2/Rev.6, chap. I.

¹⁶ CERD/C/2007/1.