



# International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

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## Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

### List of issues prior to submission of the second periodic report of Uganda\*

#### Section I

##### A. General information

1. Please provide updated information on the domestic legal framework relating to the implementation of the Convention, including the following:

(a) Laws passed since the adoption of the previous concluding observations concerning the State Party regarding the protection of migrant workers and members of their families, and the steps taken towards harmonizing existing laws with the Convention, and the status of the Externalization of Labour Bill;

(b) The nature and scope of bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements concluded or envisaged with countries of origin, transit and destination, in particular with Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Rwanda, the Sudan and South Sudan, pertaining to the rights of migrant workers and members of their families under the Convention and the results achieved. Please specify how these agreements protect migrant workers' rights in transit and destination countries, especially with respect to social security, detention, repatriation or expulsion and family reunification procedures. Please provide information on any measures taken to strengthen the protection of Ugandan migrant workers abroad, including by reviewing and amending those bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements.

2. Please provide information on all policies, strategies, programmes and plans relating to the rights of migrant workers and members of their families adopted by the State Party for the effective implementation of the Convention, such as the National Migration Policy of 2025 and the National Implementation Plan for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration 2024–2028, as well as the Uganda Gender Policy of 2007 in the context of migration. Please also provide an update on the status of a national diaspora policy and a national immigrants policy. Please include information on the human, technical and financial resources available for their implementation, on the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and follow-up procedures in place and on the steps taken to integrate rights-based, child-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches to matters pertaining to migrant workers and members of their families.

3. Please provide information on the institutional coordination framework for migration governance, including the ministries or other agencies responsible for intergovernmental coordination at all levels of government for the effective implementation of the Convention,

\* Adopted by the Committee at its forty-first session (1–11 December 2025).



such as the National Coordination Mechanism on Migration under the Office of the Prime Minister and its subdivisions, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Coordination Office for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control and the National Citizenship and Immigration Board.<sup>1</sup> Please provide information on the mandate of those ministries or agencies relating to migration issues, the human, technical and financial resources allocated to them and the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and follow-up procedures for promoting, protecting and fulfilling the rights of migrant workers and members of their families under the Convention.

4. Please indicate what progress has been made in the establishment of a centralized, comprehensive, public and accessible system for the collection and analysis of comparable quantitative, qualitative and disaggregated migration-related data, including gender-disaggregated data, and of information covering all articles of the Convention in Uganda, including on migrant workers abroad and those in an irregular situation, in particular those working in less regulated sectors such as agriculture, fishing, mining and brick-making,<sup>2</sup> as well as in hazardous work, and the progress made to build the capacity of public officials to improve the collection and analysis of data on migration.<sup>3</sup> Please explain the measures taken to ensure effective data collection and analysis through existing systems, including the External Employment Management Information System of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and the Personal Identification Evaluation Secure and Comparable System of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, such as by improving data-sharing mechanisms.

5. Please provide information on the Uganda Human Rights Commission and whether it has the explicit mandate of independently monitoring and addressing the human rights situation within the State Party, including the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families under the Convention. In particular, please provide information on:

(a) The measures taken to facilitate and accelerate the reaccreditation of the Uganda Human Rights Commission by the Subcommittee on Accreditation of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions;

(b) The types of services that the Uganda Human Rights Commission offers to migrant workers and members of their families, such as complaint mechanisms, legal support, helplines, monitoring of and visits to all detention centres where they are deprived of their liberty, and shelters for Ugandan migrants following repatriation from countries of employment or transit, and any specific action taken in response to reported violations of the Convention;

(c) The human, technical and financial resources available to the Uganda Human Rights Commission to carry out its functions effectively, including on awareness-raising activities among civil society, the general public and migrant workers and members of their families, in particular on their rights and obligations and on the institution's role and how it can be accessed, including in languages understood by migrant communities, and to undertake monitoring and prevention programmes, including prisons and other facilities where migrant workers and members of their families are held, as well as the services offered by the institution, including the right to file a complaint directly with the commission.

6. Please provide information about measures taken to develop gender-responsive and child-sensitive education and training programmes on the Convention, to make such programmes available to all officials and other persons working in migration-related areas, to ensure that migrant workers have access to information about their rights under the Convention and to work with civil society organizations and the media to disseminate information on the Convention and promote its implementation.<sup>4</sup>

7. Please provide information on the progress made towards:

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<sup>1</sup> [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1](#), paras. 8 and 9.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., paras. 30 and 31; and [A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/2](#), paras. 33–35.

<sup>3</sup> [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1](#), para. 23.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., para. 25.

- (a) Making the declarations provided for in article 76 of the Convention recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider State-to-State communications and the declaration under article 77 of the Convention recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual communications;
- (b) Withdrawing the reservation made by the State Party with respect to article 18 (3) (d) of the Convention;
- (c) Ratifying the following International Labour Organization instruments that are relevant to the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families:
  - (i) Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97);
  - (ii) Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189);
  - (iii) Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155);
  - (iv) Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187);
  - (v) Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129);
  - (vi) Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29);
  - (vii) Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181);
  - (viii) Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102).

## B. Information requested, by article of the Convention

### 1. General principles

8. Please indicate whether the Convention has been directly applied by public officials in the administration or invoked directly before the courts.<sup>5</sup> Please also provide information on:<sup>6</sup>

- (a) The judicial and administrative mechanisms competent to examine and decide on complaints by migrant workers and members of their families, including those in an irregular situation, and the mediation process available through the Commissioner of Employment Services (External Employment Unit), as well as the redress mechanisms available to Ugandan migrant workers abroad, including the role of foreign missions under regulation 24 (1) of the Employment (Recruitment of Ugandan Migrant Workers Abroad) Regulations and the reporting option through the External Employment Management Information System;
- (b) The human, financial and technical resources allocated to the Industrial Court;
- (c) The number and types of complaints examined by such mechanisms since the adoption of the previous concluding observations concerning the State Party and their outcome, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, migration status and field of occupation;
- (d) Whether legal aid or assistance was provided;
- (e) The measures taken to ensure equal access to judicial remedies in cases of labour exploitation and trafficking, particularly those initiated by women, and to combat discriminatory gender stereotypes;<sup>7</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., para. 11.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., para. 29; CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1 and CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1/Corr.1, paras. 1–3; and follow-up letter sent by the Committee’s Chair to the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations, p. 1, available at

[https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCMW%2FFUL%2FUGA%2F30988&Lang=en](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2FCMW%2FFUL%2FUGA%2F30988&Lang=en).

<sup>7</sup> CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, para. 15.

(f) Any redress, including compensation, provided to the victims of violations of rights enshrined in the Convention;

(g) Any measures taken to inform migrant workers and members of their families about the remedies available to them for violations of their rights.

## 2. Part II of the Convention

### Article 7

9. Please describe the measures, including legislative ones, taken, in particular regarding the Constitution of Uganda, and Employment Act No. 6 of 2006 and regional agreements, such as the Protocol on the Establishment of the East African Community Common Market, to ensure that all migrant workers and members of their families in the State Party or subject to its jurisdiction, whether or not they are in a regular situation, enjoy the rights provided for in the Convention, without distinction of any kind, and whether such legislation and international human rights instruments cover all prohibited grounds of discrimination enumerated in the Convention (arts. 1 (1) and 7), including sex, language, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status and birth or other status. Please also provide information on:

(a) All steps taken by the State Party to ensure non-discrimination, the protection of labour rights and gender equality in all matters relating to migration policy, both in law and in practice;<sup>8</sup>

(b) The services provided by the Migrant Workers Support Centre of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, particularly in relation to ensuring a non-discriminatory approach to migration issues;

(c) The measures taken to address the heightened vulnerability of migrant women to gender-based violence.<sup>9</sup>

## 3. Part III of the Convention

### Articles 8 to 15

10. Please provide information on the Government's policies that have improved the rights of migrants in an irregular situation, in accordance with the Committee's general comment No. 2 (2013) on the rights of migrant workers in an irregular situation and members of their families.

11. Please provide information, including statistical data, on:

(a) Progress made in preventing, combating and sanctioning labour exploitation, in accordance with section 5 of Employment Act No. 6 and article 25 of the Constitution, to which Ugandan migrant workers are reportedly subjected in the Middle East, in particular migrant workers providing care and domestic work, and any cases of violations of their rights by recruitment agencies, breaches of contracts, unsafe working conditions, violations of freedom of movement and physical, sexual and psychological abuse, and compensation obtained by the victims, including the number and results of complaints filed in that respect;

(b) Measures taken to strengthen consular assistance in such cases to Ugandan migrant workers, including to Ugandan migrant workers who are detained abroad in the context of such abuses;

(c) Assistance, protection and rehabilitation, including psychosocial rehabilitation, provided to victims of labour exploitation;

(d) Steps taken to bring the national legislation into compliance with the Forced and Compulsory Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105).

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<sup>8</sup> CMW/C/UGA/CO/1, paras. 26 and 27.

<sup>9</sup> CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, para. 26.

12. Please provide updated and disaggregated statistical data on the number of migrant children in the State Party and specify:<sup>10</sup>

(a) The measures taken to ensure that the rights of migrant children in the State Party, in particular unaccompanied or separated children, children in an irregular migration situation, children unlawfully subjected to labour or children who remain in Uganda while one or both parents migrate for work abroad, are respected and that they are protected from all forms of exploitation;

(b) The specific steps taken to protect migrant children reportedly exploited as children in street situations, for sexual purposes and in forced labour in agriculture, fishing, mining and brick-making in the State Party, including the mechanisms in place to ensure labour inspections and the prosecution, punishment and sanctioning of persons exploiting migrant children;

(c) The status of implementation of the National Plan of Action on Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour and of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), and the efforts made to adopt a comprehensive plan on the protection of children;<sup>11</sup>

(d) The mandate, resources and activities of government entities working on child protection, and how they coordinate, monitor and implement policies, including those on child sexual abuse and exploitation, children on the move and child labour;

(e) Whether child protection policies and social services are extended to migrant children regardless of their legal status and the measures taken to prevent migrant girls becoming victims of gender-based violence or discrimination and other gender-based risks;<sup>12</sup>

(f) The mechanisms in place to identify, refer and assist migrant children in vulnerable situations, including those begging in the streets and those subjected to forced labour, including through assistance, protection and rehabilitation programmes.

## Articles 16 to 22

13. Please clarify whether measures have been taken to decriminalize irregular entry, stay and exit and to amend the Citizenship and Immigration Control Act accordingly. Please describe:

(a) The due process safeguards that have been put in place in administrative and judicial proceedings for migrant workers and members of their families on an equal basis with nationals of the State Party, including access to a lawyer and interpreter, during investigations, arrests, detentions and expulsions, including whether the minimum guarantees enshrined in the Convention are assured and whether standard operating, oversight, review and complaint procedures exist;<sup>13</sup>

(b) The measures taken to ensure that the obligation contained in article 16 (7) of the Convention on contact with consular or diplomatic authorities of the State of origin of detained migrant workers or members of their families is fully respected in law and in practice<sup>14</sup> and whether healthcare and other services are provided to detained migrant workers and members of their families;

(c) The specific due process safeguards for unaccompanied and separated migrant children, including appointment of a guardian, the right to be heard and access to child-sensitive procedures.

<sup>10</sup> CMW/C/UGA/CO/1, paras. 30 and 31; A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/2, paras. 33–35; and CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, paras. 27 and 28.

<sup>11</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/26/UGA/2, para. 34; and E/C.12/UGA/CO/1, para. 27. See also joint general comment No. 4 of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families/No. 23 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2017) on State obligations regarding the human rights of children in the context of international migration in countries of origin, transit, destination and return.

<sup>12</sup> CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, para. 27.

<sup>13</sup> CMW/C/UGA/CO/1, paras. 32 and 33.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., para. 35.

14. Please provide information on border control measures in the State Party, particularly procedures applicable to migrant workers and asylum-seekers arriving at the international borders and reception facilities and how such facilities operate and screen or refer migrants in a vulnerable situation. Please also specify which services are being provided, how international protection claims are processed in a timely manner and with safeguards to uphold the principle of non-refoulement and the prohibition of arbitrary and collective expulsion, and whether standard operating procedures include individual assessment of protection needs at the border.

15. Please indicate the measures taken to uphold the right to liberty of migrant workers and their families in the context of administrative procedures related to entry, residence and expulsion. Specifically, please:

(a) Report on measures taken to ensure that immigration detention is used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest time possible and the availability of alternatives to detention, and that children and families and other groups in vulnerable situations are never detained for migration purposes, in accordance with joint general comment No. 4 of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families/No. 23 of the Committee and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (2017) and general comment No. 5 (2021),<sup>15</sup> particularly in the context of new detention centres called for in the National Migration Policy of 2025;

(b) Provide data on migrant workers and members of their families detained for immigration offences, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, disability, migration status and field of occupation, along with information about the place of detention, including immigration detention facilities and prisons, the grounds for such detention, the average duration of detention and the number of persons currently held in immigration-related detention, as well as a list of all places where migrants can be deprived of their liberty.<sup>16</sup>

16. Please describe the efforts made to improve the conditions in immigration detention centres and other facilities where migrant workers and members of their families are held, and provide information on:

(a) Whether migrants detained for immigration reasons are held separately from convicted persons or persons in pretrial detention;

(b) The steps taken against overcrowding in prisons and facilities where migrant workers and members of their families are detained;

(c) Whether women detainees are supervised by female personnel;

(d) Whether adequate basic services, such as food, particularly culturally appropriate food, clean drinking water, sanitation, healthcare and hygienic conditions, are available in the facilities;

(e) Measures taken to create an independent monitoring body that regularly assesses detention facilities.

### **Article 23**

17. Please provide information on the policies and practices of the State Party's embassies, consulates and labour attachés, including those in destination countries in the Middle East, in assisting and protecting Ugandan migrant workers abroad, particularly those in an irregular situation, working in the informal sector or facing violence, abuse, arrest, detention or expulsion. Please outline:<sup>17</sup>

(a) Mechanisms for responding to complaints or emergency situations in the context of human rights violations of Ugandan migrant workers, particularly women migrant domestic workers;

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid., para. 33.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid., para. 33 (a).

<sup>17</sup> Ibid., paras. 34, 46 and 47.

(b) Access to legal, medical or psychosocial assistance for Ugandan nationals abroad;

(c) Training for officials responsible for delivering legal and consular services to Ugandan nationals abroad, with particular emphasis on the prohibition of discrimination, workplace abuse and exploitation, including gender-based discrimination, and on procedures governing arrest, pretrial detention, immigration detention, expulsion and repatriation.<sup>18</sup>

### Articles 25 to 30

18. Please provide information on the following:

(a) The legal and labour protection and enforcement mechanisms ensuring that migrant workers, including women, receive treatment equal to that of nationals in terms of remuneration and working conditions, and measures taken under the principle of equal treatment to prevent any deprivation of rights due to irregularity in their stay or informal employment;

(b) The measures that have been taken to monitor working conditions, especially in the informal sector, including in domestic and agricultural employment;

(c) The measures taken, including legislative measures, to guarantee to all migrant workers, including those in an irregular situation, the right to take part in trade union activities, to freely join trade unions and to seek aid and assistance of any trade union;<sup>19</sup>

(d) The existing policies to enhance the portability of social security and other entitlements and benefits, the steps taken to create a mechanism to extend the coverage of social security to the families of Ugandan nationals working abroad and the initiatives being developed to enable the 75 per cent of women working in the informal sector, including migrant women, who have thus far had limited access to social security, to benefit fully from it.<sup>20</sup>

19. Please provide information on measures taken to guarantee, in law and in practice, adequate access for migrant workers and members of their families, asylum-seekers and refugees, regardless of their migration status, to healthcare services, including emergency health services, education at all levels,<sup>21</sup> social services, financial services, justice and protection from, and assistance following, sexual and gender-based violence.<sup>22</sup> Please specify the process of implementing universal health coverage across the country under the Strategic Plan 2020–2025 of the Ministry of Health, which is also extended to migrants.

20. Please describe the measures taken to ensure the right of children of migrant workers in Uganda, including children of migrant workers who are in an irregular situation, to be registered at birth and to have their nationality recognized in law and in practice,<sup>23</sup> particularly in rural areas.<sup>24</sup> Considering that the Registration of Persons Act, 2015, makes registration free and compulsory while allowing the authorities to set fees for related services, and noting that the costs associated with birth certificates remain a challenge, please also indicate whether the State has taken steps to waive those fees and remove fines for late birth registration.<sup>25</sup>

### Articles 31 to 33

21. Please inform the Committee of any training, awareness-raising or information programmes conducted by the State Party on the Convention, targeting migrant workers and members of their families, on the rights of migrant workers under the Convention, the conditions of their admission and employment and their rights and obligations under the laws

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., paras. 25 and 35.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., paras. 36 and 37.

<sup>20</sup> CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, para. 45.

<sup>21</sup> CMW/C/UGA/CO/1, paras. 38 and 39.

<sup>22</sup> E/C.12/UGA/CO/1, paras. 32 and 33.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., para. 27.

<sup>24</sup> CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/8-9, paras. 35 and 36.

<sup>25</sup> A/HRC/WG.6/40/UGA/2, paras. 57 and 58.

and practice of the States of employment, as well as targeted pre-departure and awareness-raising programmes for Ugandan migrant workers and their families.<sup>26</sup> Please specify which pre-employment and pre-departure services and training are available to Ugandan migrant workers through the Migrant Workers Support Centre and explain the measures taken to ensure that all potential Ugandan migrant workers are aware of the services available and receive training on their rights under the Convention.

#### **4. Part IV of the Convention**

##### **Article 40**

22. Please provide information on the legal and institutional measures taken to guarantee to migrant workers and members of their families the right to form, and be part of the leadership of, associations and trade unions, in accordance with article 40 of the Convention and parts I and II of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), including on progress made in amending section 76 (1) of the Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Act, which prohibits foreigners from becoming a member of the executive committee of a trade union or a youth movement.<sup>27</sup>

##### **Article 41**

23. Please provide information on the measures taken by the State Party to effectively establish and implement a legal and administrative framework facilitating the exercise of voting rights and the right to participate in public affairs and be elected to public office by Ugandan migrant workers and members of their families abroad in the context of the 2026 general elections, including access to voter registration, voting mechanisms and public awareness-raising efforts.<sup>28</sup>

##### **Articles 44 and 50**

24. Please provide information on the steps taken:

(a) To uphold the unity of the families of migrant workers and to facilitate family reunification, including with their spouses, partners whose relationship produces legal effects similar to marriage according to domestic legislation and dependent unmarried children, in conformity with the principle of the best interests of the child, including data about family members who have been reunited with migrant workers in the State Party;

(b) To grant a residence permit to family members in the case of the death of a migrant worker or the dissolution of a marriage.

##### **Articles 46 to 48**

25. Please provide information on:

(a) Legislation relating to import and export duties and taxes in respect of personal and household effects and the necessary work-related equipment of migrant workers;

(b) Measures taken to facilitate the transfer of earnings and savings of migrant workers in the State Party with preferential transfer and reception fees and to make savings more accessible to migrant workers and members of their families.

##### **Articles 49 to 52**

26. In relation to avoiding migrant workers falling into an irregular situation, please clarify whether:

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<sup>26</sup> [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1](#), paras. 40 and 41.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid., paras. 42 and 43; [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1](#) and [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1/Corr.1](#), para. 4; and follow-up letter sent to Uganda, p. 1.

<sup>28</sup> [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1](#), paras. 44 and 45; [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1](#) and [CMW/C/UGA/CO/1/Add.1/Corr.1](#), para. 5; and follow-up letter sent to Uganda, p. 2.

(a) The State Party's legislation requires separate residence and work permits and, if so, whether residence permits are automatically granted for at least the duration of the work authorization and maintained upon termination of employment, including prior to the expiration of their work permit;

(b) Migrant workers are permitted to freely choose and change their remunerated activity, and there are any restrictions placed on the categories of employment, functions, services or activities that migrant workers can undertake, particularly under sections 6 (5) and 97 (2) (c) of the Employment Act No. 6, including the reasons for such restrictions.

## 5. Part V of the Convention

### Articles 58 to 63

27. Please provide information on measures taken to ensure that frontier, seasonal and itinerant workers enjoy equal treatment to that enjoyed by workers who are nationals of the State Party, in particular with respect to remuneration and conditions of work, and to ensure systematic monitoring by the relevant authorities of employers' compliance with relevant international labour standards.

## 6. Part VI of the Convention

### Article 64

28. Please provide information on the measures taken by the State Party, including consultations and cooperation with other States, to promote sound, equitable and humane conditions in connection with international migration of migrant workers and members of their families in Uganda and abroad, including through bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements that protect the rights of migrant workers and members of their families in Uganda and of Ugandan migrant workers in countries of employment in the Middle East and elsewhere.<sup>29</sup> Please specifically inform the Committee about the concrete measures taken to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers and members of their families through the State Party's participation in regional cooperation mechanisms, such as the African Union Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018–2030) and the Protocol on Free Movement of Persons of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and through the implementation of its bilateral agreements, including with Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Please also provide information on the financial, technical and human resources made available by the State Party, including to the joint technical committees, to implement these cooperation frameworks effectively.

29. Please provide information on the steps taken to investigate and address the situation of Ugandan migrant workers, in particular migrant domestic workers in the Middle East, who are victims of private recruitment agencies that facilitate trafficking, sexual exploitation and/or employment in abusive working conditions, and the regulation and monitoring systems in place for recruitment agencies, labour brokers and other intermediaries, and the sanctions imposed,<sup>30</sup> including through the implementation of the Employment (Recruitment of Ugandan Migrant Workers) Regulations of 2021 under the Employment Act No. 6.

30. Please clarify the nature and content of the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Uganda for Cooperation in the Examination of Protection Requests of 29 July 2025, the letter of intent signed between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the State Party, and previous similar arrangements. Please specifically explain the measures taken:

(a) To ensure compliance with international human rights law, including with the Convention, the principle of non-refoulement and access to individualized protection procedures for third-country migrants and members of their families who have or will be transferred under these arrangements;

<sup>29</sup> CMW/C/UGA/CO/1, paras. 46 and 47.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., paras. 48 and 49.

(b) To prevent such individuals from being subjected to migration-related detention, ill-treatment or other forms of human rights violations, including through the establishment of public protocols with effective human rights safeguards and independent oversight and accountability mechanisms;

(c) To provide them with access to legal and consular assistance, adequate housing and social and other services.

### **Article 67**

31. Please provide:

(a) Information on cooperation programmes and readmission agreements between Uganda and States of employment to support the voluntary return of Ugandan migrant workers and their families and the measures implemented to protect Ugandan migrant workers who are forcibly returned, particularly in cases of irregular status or following rights violations;<sup>31</sup>

(b) Information on the institutions responsible for promoting conditions that facilitate the reception and sustainable reintegration of migrant workers and members of their families upon return to the State Party and the measures taken to ensure the appropriate social, economic and other conditions necessary, particularly the services provided by the Migrant Workers Support Centre;

(c) Data on returnees, disaggregated by sex, age, disability and field of occupation upon return.

### **Article 68**

32. Please provide information on the implementation by Uganda of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons. Please elaborate on:<sup>32</sup>

(a) Measures taken, including through the implementation of the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act of 2009, the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Regulations of 2019, the National Action Plan for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons 2019–2024, the National Development Plan IV (2025–2030) and bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination to prevent, combat and sanction trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, effectively;

(b) Bilateral agreements concluded that explicitly address migrant smuggling and trafficking prevention;

(c) The steps taken to specifically protect children from the Karamoja region of Uganda from trafficking to Kenya and other destinations, particularly for labour exploitation, to address the root causes of trafficking, including by providing livelihood opportunities and education to vulnerable families in the Karamoja region, to locate and return children who have been victims of trafficking and to provide them with rehabilitation services, and to investigate cases of missing children in order to prosecute and punish perpetrators;

(d) The mandate and resources of the Coordination Office for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons, and the steps taken to improve administrative processes, inter-agency collaboration and collaboration with neighbouring States;

(e) Programmes to detect and eliminate trafficking in persons, to protect trafficking victims effectively, including safeguards to prevent retaliation against them and their stigmatization, and to ensure their access to justice and legal remedies;

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<sup>31</sup> Ibid., paras. 50 and 51.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid., paras. 52 and 53.

(f) Efforts made and the resources invested to investigate, prosecute and punish all acts of trafficking in persons effectively and impartially and the number of judgments issued in connection with that crime, including information on the number of convictions, type of sentences and reparations provided to the victims;

(g) The implementation of the National Referral Guidelines for Management of Victims of Trafficking in Uganda, the status of developing protocols and monitoring mechanisms for its implementation, and the availability of gender-sensitive medical care, shelters and psychosocial and other support to assist victims in rebuilding their lives, particularly in rural areas;

(h) Training and capacity-building provided to law enforcement officials, immigration officers, front-line responders, judges, prosecutors, labour inspectors, service providers, teachers and embassy and consular personnel and other relevant professionals, including on the legal framework on trafficking in persons and on the identification and referral of victims to appropriate services, and through child-sensitive and gender-responsive procedures, and the impact in that regard of the five-year communication strategy of 2023 to complement the National Action Plan for Prevention of Trafficking in Persons 2019–2024;

(i) Steps taken to strengthen the collection and analysis of disaggregated data on trafficking in persons, including through the national trafficking in persons database.

33. Please provide information on the State Party's legislative and policy framework to address migrant smuggling, including any specific legislation adopted in accordance with the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

#### **Article 69**

34. Please provide information on the measures taken by the State Party to enable migrant workers and members of their families in an irregular situation in Uganda to regularize their status in accordance with article 69 of the Convention, and to inform migrant workers in an irregular situation about such procedures.<sup>33</sup>

## **Section II**

35. The Committee invites the State Party to provide information regarding the protection of migrant workers and members of their families since the adoption of the previous concluding observations concerning the State Party, with respect to the following:

(a) Bills or laws and their implementing respective regulations;

(b) Institutions and their mandates or institutional reforms;

(c) Policies, strategies, programmes and action plans covering migration governance and labour mobility, including their scope, implementation and financing, monitoring mechanisms and the outcomes of implementation;

(d) Ratifications of human rights instruments, and other relevant instruments, and information on how these instruments are being integrated into national law and policy;

(e) Studies, assessments or surveys on the situation of migrant workers and members of their families in the State Party or of Ugandan migrant workers and members of their families working abroad.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., paras. 54 and 55.

## Section III

### **Data, official estimates, statistics and other information**

36. Please provide available qualitative and quantitative statistical data, or if precise data are not available, studies or estimates, since the most recent concluding observations, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, disability, migration status and field of occupation where applicable, on the following:

(a) The volume and nature of migratory movements to, from and through the State Party, including regular and irregular migration, the number of Ugandan migrant workers working abroad;

(b) Migrant workers in detention in the State Party, including the legal basis and procedural safeguards applied for detention (e.g. immigration-related), and the number of Ugandan migrant workers who are detained abroad, specifying the countries concerned and whether such detention was related to immigration;

(c) Migrant workers and members of their families who have been expelled or deported from the State Party, including the legal basis and procedural safeguards applied;

(d) The number of readmitted migrants;

(e) The number of unaccompanied and migrant children separated from their parents currently residing in the State Party and children who remain in the State Party while one or both parents migrate for work abroad, including any available information on their protection status, access to basic services and care arrangements;

(f) Remittances received from Ugandan nationals working abroad, disaggregated by destination country and the purpose for which remittances are used (e.g. household income, education, investment), if available;

(g) Reported cases of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, including the number of investigations launched, prosecutions conducted, convictions secured and sentences imposed on perpetrators, disaggregated by sex, age, nationality of both the victims and the perpetrators, and purpose of trafficking;

(h) Migrant workers coerced into exploitative labour practices, including slavery, forced labour and begging, as well as the number of complaints filed in that respect;

(i) Legal aid and assistance services provided to migrant workers and members of their families residing in the State Party and to Ugandan nationals working abroad or in transit through third States, in particular those facing detention, expulsion, deportation, abuse or irregular status.

37. Please provide any additional information on any important developments and measures in implementation of the Convention relating to the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families that are considered a priority.

38. Please submit an updated common core document in line with the harmonized guidelines on reporting.<sup>34</sup> In accordance with paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 68/268, the common core document should not exceed 42,400 words.

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<sup>34</sup> HRI/GEN/2/Rev.6.