



# International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Distr.: General  
28 January 2026

Original: English  
English, French and Spanish only

---

## Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

### Information received from Kenya on follow-up to the concluding observations on its combined eighth and ninth periodic reports\*

[Date received: 15 January 2026]

---

\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



## I. Introduction

1. The Government of Kenya is pleased to submit the follow-up report to its 8th & 9th periodic report on the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) in accordance with Article 9(1) of the Convention and rule 65 of the Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination Rules of Procedure.
2. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination reviewed Kenya’s 8th and 9th periodic reports during its 114th Ordinary Session, held from 25 November to 13 December 2024, with Kenya’s review taking place on 4–5 December 2024.
3. The follow-up report addresses Kenya’s implementation of three priority recommendations relating to investigations and accountability for attacks against persons with albinism, strengthened protections and reintegration measures for victims of trafficking – particularly overseas Kenyan women workers – and the full implementation of landmark judicial and regional decisions to secure access to justice and participation rights for Indigenous communities.
4. In continuation of Kenya’s constructive engagement with the Committee, this follow-up report details the steps taken to give effect to the priority recommendations, reaffirming the Government’s commitment to the Convention.

## II. Follow-up information on the concluding observations (CERD/C/KEN/CO/8-9)

### A. Information relating to paragraph 24 (d)

5. Kenya notes with appreciation the Committee’s recommendation to conduct full and thorough investigations into all reported cases of attacks on persons with albinism and to end impunity for perpetrators. The Government underscores the progressive enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025 (Act No. 4 of 2025), which gives effect to Article 54 of the Constitution. This Act restructures the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and establishes a comprehensive institutional framework for the protection, promotion, and monitoring of the rights of persons with disabilities, including persons with albinism (PWAs).
6. The Act explicitly guarantees the right to equality and non-discrimination (Section 6), the right to legal capacity (Section 7), and provides specific protections for women, children, and youth with disabilities (Sections 10–12). Persons with albinism are expressly recognized within this framework as rights-holders entitled to equal protection, dignity, and participation. This legislative development demonstrates Kenya’s commitment to aligning national law with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa.
7. Kenya acknowledges that, to date, no convictions have been recorded specifically concerning attacks on persons with albinism. Nonetheless, all reported cases have been subject to investigation by law enforcement agencies. Where evidence has been insufficient to secure convictions, the Government has taken steps to strengthen investigative capacity, enhance cooperation with civil society organisations, and improve documentation of cases to ensure accountability.
8. In addition to legislative progress, Kenya has adopted the National Action Plan on Albinism (2023–2028), developed in collaboration with the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), and organisations of persons with albinism. This Plan provides a framework for protection, awareness, healthcare support (including sunscreen provision and cancer screening), and access to justice for PWAs.
9. The Government further notes the findings of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) Mapping Report (2022), which documented systemic gaps and

highlighted the need for stronger investigations and prosecutions. The Government has used this evidence to inform policy development and to strengthen collaboration with grassroots organisations of persons with albinism.

10. Preventive measures have been prioritised, including annual awareness campaigns marking International Albinism Awareness Day, public education to combat stigma and myths, and provision of protective health services. These initiatives aim to reduce vulnerability and ensure that persons with albinism enjoy equal participation in society.

## **B. Information relating to paragraph 26 (b)**

11. The Government of Kenya has progressively strengthened its legal and policy framework on trafficking in persons. The Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Cap. 61 Laws of Kenya criminalises trafficking and provides for victim protection. In 2023, the Government adopted the National Action Plan on Counter-Trafficking in Persons (2023–2027), which prioritises the protection of migrant workers, particularly women, and enhances coordination among agencies.

12. Regarding overseas Kenyan women workers, the Government has established bilateral labour agreements with several destination countries. These agreements include provisions on minimum labour standards, dispute resolution, and mechanisms for the protection of workers' rights. The Government has also strengthened the regulation of recruitment agencies through licensing, monitoring, and enforcement measures.

13. Awareness-raising initiatives have been undertaken through the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection including pre-departure training for migrant workers on their rights, available support services, and safe migration practices.

14. On return and reintegration, the Government has adopted specific measures through the National Referral Mechanism for Victims of Trafficking, coordinated by the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Advisory Committee. Reintegration programmes include psychosocial counselling, vocational training, and economic empowerment initiatives. Importantly, in 2024 Kenya partially opened its first government-run safe house for trafficking victims, which was fully operationalised in 2025, providing shelter, medical care, and psychosocial support.

## **C. Information relating to paragraph 26 (c)**

15. The Government has enhanced early identification procedures through training of immigration officers, police, and labour inspectors to recognise indicators of trafficking and to refer cases appropriately.

16. In addition, the Government has also introduced victim identification screening tools within its diplomatic missions abroad and adopted National Referral Mechanism Guidelines together with Standard Operating Procedures to strengthen early detection and referral of trafficking victims. These tools, developed and rolled out in 2024 in collaboration with civil society and international partners, provide standardized indicators and pathways to ensure that victims are promptly identified and connected to protection and reintegration services.

## **D. Information relating to paragraph 30 (e)**

17. The determination of the National Land Commission of 15 March 2024, directed the Ministries of Lands and Interior to undertake fresh verification and registration of unserved members of the Ogiek community. This measure was intended to expedite resettlement in accordance with the judgment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and demonstrates Kenya's commitment to implementing regional judicial decisions concerning Indigenous peoples.

18. The Government further highlights the enactment of the Community Land Act, 2016 (Cap. 11C), which requires community assemblies and land management committees to

obtain the consent of members before any dealings in community land. This statutory framework embeds the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) into Kenyan law, ensuring that communities are consulted and give their consent before land transactions or allocations are undertaken.

19. In addition, the Mining Act, 2016 (Cap. 306) and the Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016 (Cap. 385) introduce obligations for community consultation and consent in extractive and forest management activities. These provisions operationalize FPIC in sectors that directly affect Indigenous communities, thereby strengthening safeguards for their participation in decisions impacting their lands and resources.

20. With respect to the Endorois, the Government facilitated the registration of the Endorois Welfare Council, as provided in the African Commission's decision in Communication 276/2003. This measure has enabled the Endorois community to engage formally with state institutions and participate in decision-making processes concerning their ancestral lands. Furthermore, benefit-sharing arrangements have been initiated with the Baringo County Government to ensure that the Endorois community derives equitable benefits from tourism and natural resources around Lake Bogoria.

21. The Endorois Biocultural Protocol, developed in 2023, affirms the community's rights to sustainable biodiversity management and benefit-sharing, while safeguarding access to sacred sites for cultural and religious rites. These measures, together with consultations facilitated by the National Land Commission, are applied to ensure the participation and FPIC of the Endorois, Ogiek and Sengwer communities in the implementation of the decisions of the African Commission, the African Court on Human & People's Rights, and the High Court of Kenya.

### **III. Conclusion**

22. The Government of Kenya reaffirms its commitment to the progressive implementation of the recommendations of the Committee, and will continue to strengthen legal, policy and institutional measures, in consultation with stakeholders, to ensure full compliance with its international human rights obligations.

---