



Economic and Social Council

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Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Uruguay*

1. The Committee considered the sixth periodic report of Uruguay¹ at its fourth and fifth meetings,² held on 10 and 11 February 2026, and adopted the present concluding observations at its twenty-sixth meeting, held on 25 February 2026.

A. Introduction

2. The Committee welcomes the submission by Uruguay of its sixth periodic report and the additional information submitted in its replies to the list of issues.³ The Committee also expresses its appreciation for the constructive dialogue held with the State Party's high-level delegation, composed of representatives of the three branches of government, and thanks the delegation for its oral responses and the supplementary information provided in writing.

B. Positive aspects

3. The Committee notes with satisfaction that the State Party has adopted a comprehensive framework of laws and policies, including the National Human Rights Plan 2023–2027, to promote the effective enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. The Committee welcomes the measures taken in the areas of employment and social protection, which have led to progress in reducing poverty. The Committee also highlights, among other initiatives, the enactment of Act No. 19.529 on Mental Health, which establishes a community-based model grounded in a rights-based approach, and the adoption of the National Mental Health Plan 2020–2027 and the National Suicide Prevention Strategy 2021–2025.

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

Justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights

4. The Committee takes note of the measures taken to ensure the direct applicability of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the examples provided by the State Party during and after the dialogue. However, it notes that a significant number of judgments concern the right to health and that the justiciability and implementation of other rights enshrined in the Covenant remain limited.

* Adopted by the Committee at its seventy-ninth session (9–25 February 2026).

¹ E/C.12/URY/6.

² See E/C.12/2026/SR.4 and E/C.12/2026/SR.5.

³ E/C.12/URY/RQ/6.



5. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation⁴ and recommends that the State Party continue its efforts to ensure the direct applicability of all rights enshrined in the Covenant at all levels of the judicial system. It also recommends that the State Party take the measures necessary to ensure that all State actors systematically apply the Covenant and the jurisprudence arising from judgments incorporating its provisions, including in the drafting of legislation, budgetary planning and the formulation of public policies, with the aim of guaranteeing the enjoyment of these rights. The Committee recommends that the State Party continue its awareness-raising efforts on the provisions of the Covenant and on economic, social and cultural rights, directed at members of the judiciary and all officials responsible for their implementation, as well as at rights holders. The Committee draws the State Party's attention to its general comment No. 9 (1998) on the domestic application of the Covenant.

Business and economic, social and cultural rights

6. The Committee takes note of the information provided by the State Party according to which it is drafting a national plan on business and human rights. However, it is concerned that there is still no binding legal framework governing human rights due diligence for domestic companies and those with operations abroad.

7. **The Committee recommends that the State Party establish a legal and regulatory framework that: (a) requires companies domiciled in its territory to exercise human rights due diligence across all their operations, both domestic and abroad, including within their supply chains; (b) establishes corporate liability for violations of economic, social and cultural rights, including when such violations occur abroad; and (c) enables victims to access effective remedies in the State Party and to seek redress through judicial and non-judicial mechanisms. The Committee encourages the State Party to continue its efforts to adopt a national plan on business and human rights and draws its attention to general comment No. 24 (2017) on State obligations under the Covenant in the context of business activities.**

Climate change

8. The Committee takes note of the measures taken by the State Party to address issues relating to climate change, including the strengthening of the National System for the Response to Climate Change and Variability, the ratification of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) and the launch of the Second Energy Transition Plan, which aims to promote investment in green hydrogen production. However, it remains concerned that significant challenges persist in the effective implementation of these policies and measures. It is also concerned about the lack of adequate climate change adaptation measures that account for the impact of climate change on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by the most disadvantaged populations.

9. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Strengthen the effective implementation of measures to address climate change, including the National Climate Change Policy, the Long-Term Climate Strategy and the Escazú Agreement, ensuring the participation of civil society organizations and vulnerable groups, as well as access to public information on the matter and to effective remedies;**

(b) **Ensure that investments in green hydrogen do not compromise water security and mitigate their environmental and social impacts on local communities;**

(c) **Take appropriate adaptation measures that focus on the most significant impacts of climate change and account for its disproportionate effects on persons in vulnerable situations;**

⁴ E/C.12/URY/CO/5, para. 8.

(d) **Take account of the Committee's 2018 statement on climate change and the Covenant⁵ and its general comment No. 27 (2025) on economic, social and cultural rights and the environmental dimension of sustainable development.**

Maximum available resources

10. While the Committee takes note of the efforts undertaken by the State Party to increase tax revenue, it is concerned about the fact that its tax policy relies heavily on indirect taxation, in particular, consumption taxes, which limits its capacity for redistribution. The Committee is also concerned about the inadequate prevention of tax fraud, which reduces the State Party's capacity to meet its obligation to mobilize the maximum of available resources to give full effect to the economic, social and cultural rights of disadvantaged and marginalized groups and individuals (art. 2 (1)).

11. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Conduct a full evaluation, with the participation of all social stakeholders, of the effects of its fiscal policy on human rights, including an analysis of the distributional consequences and tax burden on different sectors and on marginalized and disadvantaged groups;**

(b) **Increase the resources set aside for the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights of children and adolescents;**

(c) **Ensure that its tax system is socially just and has a greater redistributive effect;**

(d) **Redouble its efforts to ensure the optimal collection of taxes, with a view to increasing the resources available for giving effect to economic, social and cultural rights;**

(e) **Take account of the Committee's 2025 statement on tax policy and the Covenant.⁶**

Good governance and corruption

12. While the Committee takes note of the measures taken by the State Party to combat corruption, it is concerned about the fact that, despite a mandate established in Act No. 19.797 of 2019, the State Party has made no progress in drafting and adopting the preliminary bill to prevent corruption in the private sector (art. 2 (1)).

13. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Accelerate the drafting and adoption of the preliminary bill provided for in Act No. 19.797 of 2019 in order to prevent and punish corruption in the private sector, ensuring that the applicable legislative framework establishes clear prevention obligations, effective oversight mechanisms and appropriate penalties;**

(b) **Adopt a comprehensive national anti-corruption strategy with clear objectives and indicators and sufficient resources, explicitly linked to the State Party's obligation to mobilize available resources for the progressive and full realization of economic, social, and cultural rights, in accordance with article 2 (1) of the Covenant, and to maximize the use of those resources.**

⁵ E/C.12/2018/1.

⁶ E/C.12/2025/1.

Non-discrimination

14. The Committee is concerned about the fact that the State Party lacks a comprehensive non-discrimination law. It is also concerned that measures taken in this area have not effectively addressed the discrimination faced by specific groups, in particular, persons of African descent, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, who continue to face barriers to access to and the effective enjoyment of their economic, social and cultural rights (art. 2).

15. **The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation⁷ and urges the State Party to:**

(a) **Adopt a comprehensive non-discrimination law that provides adequate protection against discrimination and explicitly covers all the prohibited grounds for discrimination set out in article 2 (2) of the Covenant, defines multiple, direct and indirect discrimination in accordance with the State Party's obligations under the Covenant, prohibits discrimination in both the public and the private spheres and contains provisions for obtaining reparation in cases of discrimination, including through judicial and administrative means;**

(b) **Step up efforts to ensure the effective implementation of Act No. 19.122 and other affirmative action measures to combat structural discrimination against persons of African descent;**

(c) **Strengthen the implementation of the legal framework for the protection of persons with disabilities, including Act No. 19.691;**

(d) **Ensure the effective implementation of the National Integration Plan for Migrants, Asylum-Seekers and Refugees, guaranteeing their access to social services, education, employment, housing, healthcare, social security and opportunities for income generation;**

(e) **Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 20 (2009) on non-discrimination in economic, social and cultural rights.**

Equality between men and women

16. The Committee welcomes the measures taken by the State Party to promote formal and substantive equality between men and women, including the adoption of Act No. 19.846 in 2019 and the establishment and operationalization of the National Integrated Care System. Nevertheless, it remains concerned about the persistent gender wage gap, poverty – which disproportionately affects women – and women's underrepresentation in decision-making positions in the public and private sectors. It is also concerned about reports of challenges in the effective implementation of the National Integrated Care System, which hinder access to personal assistance for severely dependent children, adolescents and older adults, as well as barriers to access to care services for children under 5 years of age. These circumstances have led to a disproportionate increase in the volume of unpaid care work, a burden which is primarily borne by women (art. 3).

17. **The Committee recommends that the State Party redouble its efforts to ensure substantive equality between men and women and, in particular, that it:**

(a) **Ensure the effective implementation of Act No. 19.846 by establishing clear goals, verifiable indicators and oversight mechanisms at all levels of government;**

(b) **Take concrete, time-bound measures to close the gender pay gap, including by promoting pay transparency and actively monitoring compliance with relevant regulations;**

⁷ E/C.12/URY/CO/5, para. 10.

(c) **Ensure the effective operationalization of the National Integrated Care System, establishing it as a universal system with sufficient and sustainable financial, technical and organizational resources and ensuring inter-institutional coordination and the meaningful participation of civil society organizations at all stages of that process;**

(d) **Strengthen economic and social policies to reduce poverty, which disproportionately affects women, especially those from marginalized and disadvantaged groups;**

(e) **Take special measures to increase women's representation in decision-making positions in the public and private sectors.**

Right to work

18. The Committee is concerned about the fact that, despite the measures adopted by the State Party, unemployment and underemployment continue to disproportionately affect young persons, women, persons of African descent, persons with disabilities, migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees (art. 6).

19. **The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation⁸ and recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Redouble its efforts to reduce unemployment and underemployment, including by continuously reviewing the impact of existing policies and programmes and adopting a comprehensive employment strategy that addresses the structural causes of unemployment, is accompanied by an action plan with specific targets and prioritizes disproportionately affected groups;**

(b) **Continue to prioritize high-quality technical and vocational education and training programmes that are tailored to the needs of the labour market and take due account of the specific needs of the most disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups.**

Informal sector of the economy

20. The Committee is concerned about the high proportion of workers, particularly female workers and workers in rural areas, who lack adequate protection under labour legislation and the social security system owing to their participation in the informal economy (arts. 6 and 7).

21. **The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation⁹ and urges the State Party to step up its efforts to expand employment opportunities in the formal labour market and to take effective measures to ensure that workers in the informal economy have access to basic employment benefits and social security and enjoy the other rights enshrined in the Covenant.**

Minimum wage

22. While the Committee notes the confirmation by the delegation of the State Party that the minimum wage has been increased, it is concerned about the fact that the cumulative increase over the past five years amounts to only 0.5%, which is insufficient to ensure decent living conditions for workers and their families (art. 7).

23. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Establish a formal mechanism for the annual review of the national minimum wage, based on changes in the consumer price index and with tripartite participation within the framework of wage councils, in order to ensure that the minimum wage maintains its purchasing power;**

⁸ Ibid., para. 18.

⁹ Ibid., para. 22.

(b) **Adopt an annual inspection plan to strengthen enforcement of minimum wage legislation, with measurable goals and a focus on sectors with high levels of informality, and publish disaggregated data on violations detected and penalties imposed.**

Just and favourable conditions of work

24. The Committee is concerned about the high rates of workplace accidents in certain sectors, such as construction, manufacturing and agriculture and livestock farming; the low number of reported cases of discrimination and harassment in the workplace; and the risks of labour exploitation to which migrants, particularly female migrants, are exposed (art. 7).

25. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Adopt a national policy to prevent work-related accidents and occupational health hazards, ensuring broad participation in its formulation, implementation and evaluation;**

(b) **Strengthen the enforcement of national legislation aimed at preventing the exploitation of migrant workers;**

(c) **Strengthen the mandate and capacities of labour inspection mechanisms so that they can effectively monitor working conditions across all sectors, in particular high-risk sectors, including the informal sector and sectors in which the majority of workers are migrants;**

(d) **Establish effective mechanisms for reporting discrimination, harassment and all forms of abuse and exploitation in the workplace, taking due account of the particular vulnerability of certain types of worker, especially migrant workers;**

(e) **Conduct thorough investigations into such cases to ensure that those responsible are held accountable and that victims have access to effective reparation;**

(f) **Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 23 (2016) on the right to just and favourable conditions of work.**

Social security

26. The Committee welcomes the positive impact that family allowances and the Equity Plan have had on poverty reduction. However, it is concerned about reports of challenges facing the common social security system, established by Act No. 20.130 of 2023, regarding the adequacy of benefits, particularly for individuals with fragmented employment histories and those who have worked for extended periods in the informal economy (art. 9).

27. **The Committee recommends that the State Party take the measures necessary to ensure that benefits are sufficient and that the social security system, including both the common social security system and non-contributory social protection schemes, is accessible and provides universal coverage. In particular, it recommends that the State Party ensure that benefits are adequate and sufficient, including for individuals with fragmented employment histories and those who have worked for extended periods in the informal economy, and expand mechanisms for the inclusion and protection of the most disadvantaged groups. The Committee encourages the State Party to take account of its general comment No. 19 (2007) on the right to social security.**

Protection of children and adolescents

28. The Committee notes with concern that children and adolescents continue to be exposed to high levels of violence, exploitation and sexual abuse. It is also concerned about reports that around 39% of adolescent pregnancies are linked to sexual abuse (art. 10).

29. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Strengthen mechanisms to protect children and adolescents, including the relevant legal framework, to ensure their access to appropriate reporting mechanisms and timely interventions in cases of violence, exploitation and sexual abuse;**

(b) **Provide adequate financial and technical resources for child protection services throughout the country, particularly in rural areas and areas with the highest incidence of violence;**

(c) **Ensure that thorough investigations are conducted into all cases of violence and sexual abuse, that perpetrators are duly prosecuted and punished and that victims receive comprehensive reparation.**

Adequate standard of living

30. The Committee notes with concern that, despite the efforts undertaken by the State Party, poverty continues to disproportionately affect children and adolescents, women, persons of African descent and persons living in rural areas (art. 11).

31. **The Committee recommends that the State Party evaluate the measures taken to combat poverty with a view to developing a comprehensive strategy that includes specific targets and contributes to a substantial reduction in monetary and multidimensional poverty among the most affected groups, in particular, children and adolescents, women, persons of African descent and the rural population. To that end, it recommends ensuring that this strategy and the programmes established for its implementation are grounded in a human rights-based approach, give due consideration to the needs of the most affected groups and are provided with sufficient resources. In this respect, the Committee draws the attention of the State Party to its 2001 statement on poverty and the Covenant.¹⁰**

Right to housing

32. The Committee is concerned that, despite the efforts undertaken by the State Party, a significant housing shortage persists and a considerable number of people continue to live in precarious conditions and informal settlements. It is also concerned about the risk of forced evictions faced by persons living in informal settlements without adequate procedural safeguards. It is further concerned about the growing number of people experiencing homelessness (art. 11).

33. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Continue its efforts to increase resources set aside for addressing the housing deficit and improving housing conditions, particularly in informal settlements, public spaces without shelter and rural areas;**

(b) **Revise its legislation on forced evictions to bring it into line with international human rights law and ensure that victims have access to an effective remedy that allows them to regain their property, return to their homes or obtain a suitable alternative and appropriate compensation;**

(c) **Develop a strategy, in close consultation with those affected, to address homelessness and, in particular, to support people experiencing homelessness in finding sustainable housing solutions that enable them to exercise their other rights under the Covenant;**

(d) **Take account of the Committee's general comments No. 4 (1991) on the right to adequate housing and No. 7 (1997) on forced evictions.**

Right to water and sanitation

34. The Committee notes that progress has been made in improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation in the State Party and that safe sanitation coverage stands at 60%. However, it is concerned that problems regarding drinking water quality and water pollution persist. The Committee notes with concern the water crisis that affected the State Party in 2023, which highlighted the challenges it faces in ensuring water quality and protecting its water resources (art. 11).

¹⁰ E/C.12/2001/10.

35. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Take the measures necessary to ensure the proper management of water and water resources according to a rights-based approach, in order to guarantee the availability, quality and affordability of drinking water throughout the country;**

(b) **Strengthen its climate and environmental governance by explicitly incorporating a rights-based approach into the management of water- and climate-related risks;**

(c) **Continue its efforts to ensure access to safe sanitation services for the most disadvantaged and marginalized groups, particularly in informal settlements and rural areas;**

(d) **Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 15 (2002) on the right to water and its 2011 statement on the right to sanitation.¹¹**

Right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment

36. The Committee is concerned about the negative environmental impact of projects financed by foreign investment (art. 11).

37. **The Committee recommends that the State Party establish an effective monitoring and oversight mechanism to mitigate the potential environmental and social impacts of development projects, including those financed by foreign investment. It urges the State Party to ensure accountability through the implementation of appropriate fiscal measures and refers it to its general comment No. 27 (2025).**

Right to adequate food

38. The Committee is concerned about food insecurity in the State Party, which, according to information received, could reach a rate of approximately 13.2%. It is also concerned about obesity rates. The Committee notes with concern the absence of comprehensive and effective measures to address these issues and of legislation recognizing and upholding the right to adequate food (arts. 11 and 12).

39. **The Committee recommends that the State Party:**

(a) **Adopt a framework law on the right to food;**

(b) **Develop, in consultation with civil society and relevant stakeholders, a comprehensive national strategy for the protection and promotion of the right to adequate food, with a view to effectively combating food insecurity, malnutrition and obesity;**

(c) **Develop and implement programmes to promote healthier diets, incorporating aspects related to trade, land-use planning, education and fiscal policy, including clear objectives with specific deadlines in those programmes and establishing appropriate mechanisms for assessing their progress;**

(d) **Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food and the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.**

Right to mental health

40. Despite the measures taken by the State Party to improve mental health services, the Committee remains concerned about the persistently high suicide rates, particularly among young people and older adults (art. 12).

¹¹ [E/C.12/2010/1](#).

41. **The Committee recommends that the State Party take effective measures to ensure the full implementation of the Comprehensive Plan on Mental Health and Addiction and allocate sufficient technical and financial resources to that end. It further recommends that the State Party ensure timely, accessible and high-quality provision of community-based mental health services.**

Right to sexual and reproductive health

42. The Committee takes note of the progress made in reducing the adolescent pregnancy rate. However, it remains concerned about the fact that barriers to access to sexual and reproductive health information and services persist, particularly in rural areas. It is also concerned about the fact that the exercise of conscientious objection by healthcare professionals in some regions continues to negatively affect the availability and accessibility of safe abortion services. It is further concerned that residency requirements prevent migrant women from accessing voluntary termination of pregnancy services (art. 12).

43. **The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation¹² and urges the State Party to:**

(a) **Redouble its efforts to ensure that sexual and reproductive health services are accessible and available to all women and adolescent girls, especially in rural areas;**

(b) **Take the administrative and practical measures necessary to ensure that the exercise of conscientious objection by healthcare professionals does not obstruct women's access to sexual and reproductive health services, particularly voluntary termination of pregnancy;**

(c) **Eliminate residency requirements for access to sexual and reproductive health services, including voluntary termination of pregnancy, so as to ensure that migrant women have equal access to such services;**

(d) **Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 22 (2016) on the right to sexual and reproductive health.**

Drug policy

44. The Committee welcomes the progress made by the State Party towards adopting a drug use policy grounded in a right-to-health and harm-reduction approach. However, it is concerned that harm reduction programmes and services remain limited and are not distributed equitably across the country. It is also concerned about the persistent and disproportionate reliance on criminalization as a response to psychoactive substance use (art. 12).

45. **The Committee recommends that the State Party continue to strengthen its drug policy according to a rights-based approach by carrying out prevention and awareness-raising activities, particularly for adolescents and young people, regarding the serious health risks associated with drug use and ensure universal and equitable access throughout the country to treatment for substance use disorders, as well as to health services, psychological support, rehabilitation services and harm reduction programmes for persons who use substances. The Committee further recommends that the State Party reconsider its punitive approach toward persons who use drugs and prioritize treatment and rehabilitation over punitive measures in order to protect the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.**

Right to education

46. While the Committee notes the efforts undertaken by the State Party to reduce inequalities in education, it is concerned about:

(a) The decline in funding for the education sector;

¹² E/C.12/URY/CO/5, para. 51.

(b) Persistent inequalities in access to education, retention and educational achievement, which disproportionately affect children and adolescents of African descent, as well as those from the most disadvantaged socioeconomic groups or rural areas;

(c) The high dropout rates affecting these groups;

(d) Significant disparities in enrolment and educational outcomes, a widening digital divide and barriers to access to inclusive education, which children and adolescents with disabilities continue to face (arts. 13 and 14).

47. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation¹³ and urges the State Party to:

(a) Review its budget allocation for the education sector, taking due account of its obligations under the Covenant and the concerns raised in the preceding paragraph;

(b) Step up efforts to reduce inequalities in access to education and to improve retention and educational achievement, particularly among children and adolescents of African descent and children from low-income families and rural areas, with a view to, among other things, promoting their social mobility;

(c) Take effective steps, as a matter of priority, to address the factors that lead to children dropping out of school, with particular attention to marginalized and underprivileged groups;

(d) Ensure access to inclusive education for children and adolescents with disabilities at all educational levels through timely identification, appropriate educational support, reasonable accommodation and accessible infrastructure, and by bridging the digital divide;

(e) Take account of the Committee's general comment No. 13 (1999) on the right to education.

Cultural rights

48. The Committee is concerned that, despite the efforts undertaken by the State Party, the promotion and dissemination of the historical and cultural heritage of persons of African descent remain limited, particularly in education. It is also concerned about persistent disparities in access to and participation in cultural life, and in access to cultural infrastructure, between rural and urban areas and across different socioeconomic groups (art. 15).

49. The Committee reiterates its previous recommendation¹⁴ and recommends that the State Party strengthen measures to ensure comprehensive protection of cultural rights and respect for cultural diversity. In particular, it urges the State Party to create conditions that enable persons of African descent to preserve, develop and promote their identity, history, culture, traditions and knowledge, and to integrate their historical and cultural contributions more effectively into the education system. It also recommends that the State Party take concrete measures to reduce inequalities in access to and participation in cultural life, and in access to cultural infrastructure, both between rural and urban areas and across different socioeconomic groups.

Recognition of Indigenous Peoples

50. The Committee reiterates its previous concerns¹⁵ and echoes the concern expressed by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination¹⁶ regarding the invisibility of Indigenous Peoples in the State Party. The Committee is also concerned about the fact that, despite the growing proportion of the population seeking the recognition, recovery and reconstitution of Indigenous identity in Uruguay – which rose from 5.1% in 2011 to 6.4% in 2023 according to the 2023 national census – adequate measures to ensure the effective

¹³ Ibid., para. 58.

¹⁴ Ibid., para. 60.

¹⁵ Ibid., para. 59.

¹⁶ CERD/C/URY/CO/24-26, para. 29.

recognition of their rights and to promote and value their culture, history, language and identity remain lacking (arts. 1 and 15).

51. **The Committee recommends that the State Party promote scientific research and the data collection on the presence, history, identity and culture of Indigenous Peoples, with a view to developing policies that ensure their recognition, recovery and reconstitution and promote their rights. The Committee also recommends that the State Party continue its efforts to expand the teaching of Indigenous languages, such as Guarani, and incorporate an intercultural approach into the education system. The Committee further encourages the State Party to reconsider ratifying the International Labour Organization Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), and to implement the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.**¹⁷

Access to scientific information

52. The Committee is concerned about the spread of disinformation and false content, particularly regarding vaccination in the wake of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic (art. 15).

53. **The Committee recommends that the State Party implement comprehensive strategies to combat the spread of disinformation and false content, particularly regarding vaccination, and promote access to rigorous, evidence-based scientific information, so as to uphold the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress.**

D. Other recommendations

54. **The Committee recommends that the State Party take fully into account its obligations under the Covenant and ensure the full enjoyment of the rights enshrined therein in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national level, with international assistance and cooperation when needed. The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals would be considerably facilitated by the State Party's establishment of independent mechanisms for monitoring progress and treating the beneficiaries of public programmes as rights holders who are entitled to avail themselves of their rights. Moreover, the Committee recommends that the State Party support the global commitment of the decade of action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Implementing the Goals on the basis of the principles of participation, accountability and non-discrimination would ensure that no one is left behind. In this regard, the Committee draws the State Party's attention to its statement on the pledge to leave no one behind.**¹⁸

55. **The Committee recommends that the State Party take steps to progressively develop and apply appropriate indicators on the exercise of economic, social and cultural rights in order to facilitate the assessment of the progress achieved by the State Party in fulfilling its obligations under the Covenant in respect of various segments of the population. In that context, the Committee refers the State Party to, inter alia, the conceptual and methodological framework on human rights indicators developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.**¹⁹

56. **The Committee requests that the State Party disseminate the present concluding observations widely at all levels of society, including at the national, departmental and municipal levels, in particular among parliamentarians, public officials and judicial authorities, and that it inform the Committee in its next periodic report about the steps taken to implement them. The Committee emphasizes the crucial role that parliament plays in implementing the present concluding observations and encourages the State Party to continue to ensure its involvement in future reporting and follow-up procedures. The Committee encourages the State Party to continue engaging with the**

¹⁷ Ibid., para. 30.

¹⁸ E/C.12/2019/1.

¹⁹ See HRI/MC/2008/3.

National Institute of Human Rights, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society in the follow-up to the present concluding observations and in the process of consultation at the national level prior to the submission of its next periodic report.

57. In accordance with the procedure on follow-up to concluding observations adopted by the Committee, the State Party is requested to provide, within 24 months of the adoption of the present concluding observations (by 28 February 2028), information on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 23 (a) (minimum wage), 37 (right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment) and 47 (a) (right to education).

58. The Committee requests the State Party to submit its seventh periodic report in accordance with article 16 of the Covenant by 28 February 2031, unless otherwise notified as a result of a change in the review cycle. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/268, the word limit for the report is 21,200 words. In addition, it invites the State Party to update its common core document, as necessary, in accordance with the harmonized guidelines on reporting under the international human rights treaties.²⁰

²⁰ [HRI/GEN/2/Rev.6](#), chap. I.