



United Nations OHCHR, Universal Periodic Review of Oman – Third cycle
21 January 2021

Background documentation:

- [National report](#) submitted by Oman (in English, Arabic, French, Russian, Spanish and Chinese).
- [Other reports and information](#) on the website of OHCHR related to the Universal Periodic Review of Oman, including the UN compilation report and the report submitted by civil society.

Members of Troika: Malawi, Uzbekistan, Ukraine. Last Review: 5 November 2015.

H.E. Mr. Abdullah Mohamed Said Al Saidi, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs of Oman – Presentation of the national report:

169 out of 233 recommendations received at the **Second cycle** were **accepted** fully or partially. 29 were noted, while 26 did not receive the required universal support. The report focuses on a number of **efforts to implement the recommendations** that were accepted.

Oman faced tragedy when **His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said died** on 10 January 2020. This was a serious challenge to Oman. On 11 January 2021, Omani Sultan Haitham bin Tariq issued a new constitutional decree (“**a new basic law**”) creating the position of crown prince and laying down mechanisms to ensure stable transfers of power. The Law also underscores the State’s role in sponsoring **citizens’ rights and liberties**, notably equality between men and women, child care, rights of the disabled and youth welfare.

In 2020, Oman **acceded** to three important international human rights treaties: Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (**CESCR**); Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (**CED**); Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (**CAT**). The reservation to article 15 (4) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**) was **withdrawn**, as well as the general reservation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (**CRC**), and reservations to its articles 7, 9, 21 and 30.

In July 2020 Oman submitted its first **voluntary national report** on the **2030 Sustainable Development Goals**. Oman implements all necessary policies and measures to combat the **COVID-19 pandemic** and limit its impact.

Oman is facing certain **human rights challenges**, the most significant of which are:

- The country’s heavy **dependence on oil for its income**;
- The **absence of effective and transparent cooperation mechanisms** with certain **countries of origin of migrant workers**, such as would enable an effective approach to human rights.

Recommendations from States

In total, **99 States took the floor** to issue recommendations to Oman, including on the topics such as:

Acceding to International Treaties and International Cooperation:

- ❖ **Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)** – Latvia, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Argentina, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan
- ❖ **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)** – Senegal, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Honduras
- ❖ **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)** – Latvia, Estonia, France



- ❖ **Issue a standing invitation to the mandate holders of the special procedures** – Latvia, Panama, Finland
- ❖ **Carry out strategic programs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals** – Nicaragua, Qatar, Sudan, Egypt

Women's Rights:

- ❖ **Promote gender equality and advance the equality of women in all areas of society, improve legal frameworks to empower women** – Latvia, Libya, Maldives, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ethiopia, India, Iraq
- ❖ **Create specific laws to address gender-based violence, in particular domestic violence** – Kazakhstan, Mexico, Montenegro, Panama, Portugal, United Arab Emirates, Belgium, Denmark, Fiji, France, Greece, Japan
- ❖ **Ensure same rights for women and men in passing on their nationality to their children and eliminate discrimination against women in matters of family law** – Latvia, Mexico, Netherlands, Uruguay, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Iceland, Ireland, Italy
- ❖ **Ensure women's representation in the work force and in decision-making** – Malaysia, Mauritius, Australia, Bahrain, Ghana, Iran
- ❖ **Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation** – Burkina Faso, France, Greece, Italy
- ❖ **Decriminalize abortion** – Luxembourg
- ❖ **Release women and girls sentenced for *zina* (extramarital relations)** – Luxembourg
- ❖ **Reduce persistent gender pay gaps** – Mauritius, Senegal

Workers' Rights:

- ❖ **Strengthen efforts to combat trafficking in persons** – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Qatar, State of Palestine, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Burundi, Cuba, India, Iran
- ❖ **Protect rights of domestic workers** – Kenya, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Nepal, Panama, Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States of America, Burkina Faso, Canada, Georgia, Germany, Ghana
- ❖ **Protect rights of migrant workers** – Malta, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Uganda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, Eritrea, Germany, Ghana, Honduras, India, Italy
- ❖ **Increase cooperation with countries of origin of migrant workers** – Indonesia, Uganda, Philippines
- ❖ **Amend the Kafala system to protect the rights of migrant workers** – Mexico, Philippines, United States of America, Australia, Canada, Italy
- ❖ **Ensure basic rights of expatriate workers** – Sudan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Cyprus, Czech Republic
- ❖ **Ratify and implement ILO Convention 189** – Switzerland, Germany
- ❖ **Include migrant domestic workers in labour legislation** – Philippines, Burkina Faso, Luxembourg
- ❖ **Adopt national asylum legislation** – Senegal, Afghanistan
- ❖ **Facilitate registration of citizens and put an end to statelessness** – Kuwait
- ❖ **Criminalize forced labour** – Luxembourg
- ❖ **Combat unemployment** – Somalia

Rights of other people belonging to vulnerable groups:

- ❖ **Promote the rights of person with disabilities** – Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Algeria, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan
- ❖ **Promote the rights of all children** – Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Czech Republic, Jordan



- ❖ **Promote the rights of children with disabilities** – Libya, State of Palestine, Timor-Leste, Bulgaria
- ❖ **Ensure accessibility of education for all children** – Montenegro, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Argentina, Brunei, Japan, Jordan
- ❖ **Abolish any legislation that criminalizes or limits the exercise of the rights of LGBTI people** – Chile, France, Iceland

Other recommendations:

- ❖ **Ensure the right to freedom of expression and opinion for all** – Kenya, Latvia, Libya, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy
- ❖ **Enable a safe and conducive environment for the civil society and human rights defenders** – Luxembourg, Romania, Ukraine, Cyprus
- ❖ **Establish a moratorium on executions with a view of abolition of death penalty** – Latvia, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay, Argentina, Australia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Iceland, Italy
- ❖ **Continue efforts at advancing the right to health under the national health strategy 2050** – Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Brunei, Cuba, Fiji, Iran
- ❖ **Raise human rights awareness and promote capacity-building programs in the field of human rights** – Malaysia, Algeria
- ❖ **Combat extremism, hate and discrimination** – Nigeria
- ❖ **Promote the concept of tolerance** – Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Indonesia, Jordan