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Seventy-seventh session Item 118 (c) of the provisional agenda* Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of members of the Human Rights Council

Note verbale dated 24 August 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations has the honour to refer to the candidature of the Kyrgyz Republic for election to the Human Rights Council for the term 2023–2025, at the elections to be held during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, in October 2022.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/251, the Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations has the further honour to transmit herewith the voluntary pledges and commitments of the Kyrgyz Republic with regard to its contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Kyrgyz Republic to the United Nations would be grateful if the present note and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 118 (c) of the provisional agenda.



* A/77/150.



Annex to the note verbale dated 24 August 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Kyrgyzstan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Voluntary pledges and commitments of the Kyrgyz Republic pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/251

The Kyrgyz Republic is committed to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Kyrgyz Republic supports the universality of human rights and their application on an equal, non-discriminatory and non-selective basis.

The Kyrgyz Republic firmly believes that the Human Rights Council is one of the most important bodies of the United Nations and is a unique global platform for the discussion and development of recommendations in the field of human rights.

The Kyrgyz Republic has already been a member of the Human Rights Council twice, between 2009 and 2012, and between 2016 and 2018, and, drawing on its previous experience, intends to continue contributing to the work of this vital and in-demand United Nations body. In this connection, the Kyrgyz Republic has submitted its candidacy to the Council for the period 2023–2025.

Kyrgyzstan's achievements in the field of human rights

In the Kyrgyz Republic, the processes of forming a strong democratic form of government, building the rule of law, bringing national legislation into conformity with applicable norms of international law, and major reform of the judicial and law enforcement systems continue to develop dynamically.

In this connection, a large-scale inventory of the legislation of the country has been under way since 2021; systematic work has been undertaken on the humanization of criminal legislation, and implementation of the following is ongoing: the 2018–2040 National Strategy for Sustainable Development; the 2021–2024 State strategy for combating corruption and eliminating its causes; the 2019–2022 dedicated State programme for the development of the judicial system of the Kyrgyz Republic; the 2018–2023 strategy for the development of the penal correction system of the Kyrgyz Republic; the 2019–2025 Plan of Action to Improve the Quality of Life of Older Persons; the 2018–2028 Programme of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to Support the Family and Protect Children, and the National Development Programme of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period up to 2026.

In the period from 2019 to 2021, the human rights action plan was actively implemented. Currently, final preparations are in progress for the adoption of a new action plan for 2022–2024 based on the recommendations of the third cycle of the universal periodic review, of the treaty bodies and of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and the National Strategy for Achieving Gender Equality in the Kyrgyz Republic for the period up to 2030.

There have been significant achievements in the process of reforming and democratizing the electoral law and process of the Kyrgyz Republic. As part of a successful reform of the electoral system, election credibility, transparency and competitiveness have been achieved, and conditions have been created to ensure the full realization of the political rights of citizens in elections, both as candidates and as voters.

Those efforts will continue, as ensuring free democratic elections is important for the implementation of the paramount international standard of democracy and constitutional obligation – the principle of citizens' power and the expansion of civic engagement.

Further steps will be taken to make the electoral process more inclusive by improving conditions for the full exercise of active and passive suffrage of citizens, including women, youth, ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and internal and external migrants.

The Kyrgyz Republic is a party to eight of the nine major universal United Nations human rights treaties (the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination; the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; the Convention on the Rights of the Child; the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities), having submitted more than 28 national reports to United Nations treaty bodies since 1992. The Kyrgyz Republic engaged in its third universal periodic review cycle in January 2020, and in December of that year it extended a standing invitation to all thematic United Nations special procedures. A total of 12 special mandate holders visited the Kyrgyz Republic on country visits between 2001 and 2022. The Kyrgyz Republic has also officially recognized the competence of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to receive individual communications.

The Kyrgyz Republic regards partnership as an effective way of promoting human rights issues in the country, and has therefore been creating the necessary conditions for the establishment of a reliable platform for equitable dialogue and cooperation. The Kyrgyz Republic has more than 6,000 non-governmental organizations, human rights defenders, the Ombudsman Institute, the Commissioner for the Rights of the Child of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Council for Persons with Disabilities reporting to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, the National Council for Women and Gender Development reporting to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the National Centre for the Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

A Coordinating Council on Human Rights reporting to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic has been operating since 2013. It monitors the activities of State bodies to implement United Nations recommendations on human rights.

Further action by the Kyrgyz Republic to promote human rights:

Making every effort to protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law and democracy at both the national and international levels;

Actively participating in efforts to strengthen the Council's role in improving international cooperation to achieve universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

Supporting the work of the United Nations Human Rights Council's treaty bodies and special procedures and their mandates and responsibilities;

Maintaining the universal character of the universal periodic review and participating constructively in the review process;

Promoting at international level the rights of women, children, migrant workers and persons with disabilities;

Contributing to international cooperation and dialogue in the Human Rights Council by promoting the fight against discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance;

Continuing to support the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in fulfilling his or her mandate.

The Kyrgyz Republic also intends to:

Maintain a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders and engage in constructive dialogue aimed at improving the country's human rights protection system;

Continue to cooperate with United Nations treaty bodies, ensure timely submission of national periodic reports, and follow up on review recommendations;

Strengthen and enhance the capacities and capabilities of national human rights institutions to enable them to fulfil their mandates effectively and independently, with adequate financial and human resources, in accordance with the Paris Principles;

Strengthen the independence of the Office of the Ombudsman, in compliance with the Paris Principles;

Ensure the effective functioning of the Coordinating Council on Human Rights reporting to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic;

Continue to build the capacity of civil society and work in partnership with civil society organizations in the development of national policy;

Continue efforts to strengthen anti-corruption measures in line with the international campaign to strengthen good governance;

Continue to work actively and consistently to bring the national legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic on birth registration into compliance with international standards in order to ensure that every child born in the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic is registered;

In cooperation with international organizations and representatives of civil society, continue activities to raise awareness of human rights among the population through information campaigns, as well as training in this area for law enforcement and judicial officials;

Promote the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of citizens, with due regard for the rights of the most vulnerable groups;

Increase efforts to eradicate poverty, including through the implementation of the Labour and Social Protection Development Programme;

Introduce the "Accessible Country" programme, to address the issues of persons with disabilities and other low-mobility population groups in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Continue to ensure gender mainstreaming in all areas of public policy, based on the constitutionally enshrined concept of gender equality;

Continue to work to create the conditions for the realization of women's and girls' economic, political, social, and cultural rights, including the establishment of a functional education system, increasing women's access to justice, and supporting women's political leadership at all levels, as well as elections and governance;

Continue efforts to improve the well-being of children, including through family support and the protection of children from all forms of violence, and increase access to quality, multilingual and inclusive education for children, especially children with disabilities, ethnic minorities and children in difficult circumstances.