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WCED Pledges

National Human Rights Institutions

Morocco – National Human Rights Council (CNDH)

Ms. Amina Bouayach, President

- 1. The CNDH-Morocco is committed to organizing a multidimensional advocacy to implement the key Concluding Observations of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (the Committee), adopted following the review of Morocco's report in October 2024. This will target in particular the Parliament, government departments and agencies, as well as civil society organizations, including the youth.
 - The pledge refers to the following activities of the Plan of Action:
 - 5.10 Organize learning exchanges to share good practices in relation to the implementation of instruments and standards related to enforced disappearances, including the Convention
 - 5.11 Consult and involve civil society, including victims and their families, and the NHRI in relevant processes (including ratification and domestication of the Convention)
 - 6.1 Engage young people in the fight against enforced disappearance
 - <u>Indicators for measuring progress</u>: Number of exchanges or initiatives organized to raise awareness among the relevant actors about the Concluding Observations.
 - <u>Resource implications</u>: The CNDH-Morocco is committed to engage its human resources working on the issue of enforced disappearances and international relations, and to make available its premises, including its training institute, to organize the necessary promotional sessions and meetings with various stakeholders.
 - <u>Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized</u>: December 2025
- 2. The CNDH-Morocco is committed to continue to encourage the government to recognize the Committee's competence to receive and consider individual communications under Article 31 of the Convention and continue to advocate for the compliance of the penal code with the provisions of the Convention to ensure that the appropriate legal provisions for the prohibition and criminalization of enforced disappearances, and redress for victims is in place. The CNDH will advocate for the implementation of its recommendations included in its <u>memorandum on the draft penal code</u>, particularly those related to the definition of enforced disappearance. The CNDH leverages its memorandum of understanding with the Parliament.
 - <u>The pledge refers to the following activities of the Plan of Action:</u>
 - $\circ~$ 5.7 Advocate for States to recognize the competence of the Committee to examine communications

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- 5.11 Consult and involve civil society, including victims and their families, and the NHRI in relevant processes (including ratification and domestication of the Convention)
- 5.15 Raise awareness of Parliamentarians through dedicated training on the issue of enforced disappearance and the importance of ratifying and domesticating the Convention
- <u>Indicators for measuring progress</u> Number of advocacy activities carried out directly with the legislator and other relevant stakeholders. Extent to which the recommendations of the CNDH and Committee are incorporated into the draft penal code.
- <u>Resource implications</u>: CNDH human and financial resources related to the organization and participation in meetings and conferences
- <u>Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized</u>: by the end of the current legislature of the Moroccan Parliament (September 2026).
- 3. The CNDH-Morocco is committed to continuing the identification of graves of former victims of enforced disappearances in former irregular detention centres through DNA genetic testing, leveraging advanced technology. <u>This CNDH-led operation</u> is being carried out in consultation with the families and the National Police Department Forensic Science and Technical Laboratory. DNA tests are being carried out in line with the relevant international standards. The CNDH is committed to provide those families concerned with the results of the tests.
 - <u>The pledge refers to the following activities of the Plan of Action</u>:
 - 2.1 Ensure family members' participation in search and investigation processes
 - o 2.2 Develop domestic technical (forensic) capacities
 - <u>Indicators for measuring progress</u>: provide the families concerned with the results of the tests.
 - <u>Resource implications</u>: human and financial resources of the CNDH and its partners including the National Police Department Forensic Science and Technical Laboratory.
- 4. The CNDH-Morocco is committed to continue its efforts to preserve memory of former victims of gross human rights violations, including enforced disappearances, in collaboration with the government. The works aim to transform the former irregular detention centres, such as Tazmamart and Agdez, in consultation with NGOs, into spaces for the development of economic, social, and environmental initiatives and activities; to redevelop cemeteries; and to build the museum of Al Hoceima. To be noted that the CNDH established a <u>memory preservation unit</u> and has allocated between 2022 and 2023 an amount of USD 116 thousand to support six civil society organizations on projects related to the preservation of memory.
 - The pledge refers to the following activities of the Plan of Action:
 - 7.5 Name streets, schools, public spaces after disappeared persons and "champions" of the fight against enforced disappearance;
 - 7.6 Preserve memory: turn places of detention into museum, memory places.

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- 3.7 Provide socio-economic and psychosocial support that takes into account the specificity of human rights violations related to enforced disappearance and its disproportionate impact on women, children, and other groups in situation of vulnerability.
- <u>Resource implications</u>: Allocated budgets for the rehabilitation of former irregular detention centres, redevelopment of cemeteries and construction of Al Hoceima museum.
- Indicators for measuring progress: former irregular detention centres rehabilitated, cemeteries redeveloped and construction of Al Hoceima museum progressed. Other commitments will be met, including the construction of the road section leading to the village of Tazmamart, which connects the Tazmamart Kasbah to Regional Road No. 708, a distance of 3.7 km, development of the Tazmamart space, support for the cultivation of approximately 420 hectares of land near the village of Tazmamart, construction of a multi-sports center in the village of Tazmamart, construction of a new health facility, construction of a mosque in the village of Tazmamart and installation of mobile and internet coverage network in the area.
 - Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized: 2026
- 5. The CNDH-Morocco is committed to continue to provide support to the documentation and publication of works, especially biographies of former victims of arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance. This will be a source for historians and researchers and will ultimately contribute to facilitating the understanding of Morocco's modern history for all. The CNDH is also committed to digitalize the archives of the Equity and Reconciliation Commission (IER), to provide Archives du Maroc with the original copies of IER documents, and to establish within the CNDH a documentation and reading space for researchers to explore issues related to gross human rights violations of the past, including enforced disappearances.
 - The pledge refers to the following activities of the Plan of Action:
 - 7.1 Take concrete action to emphasize the importance of acknowledging the past and recognizing past injustices
 - 3.9 Strengthen documentation and reporting capacity of victims and organizations who support them
 - <u>Indicators for measuring progress</u>: The biographies compiled and published, archives digitalized, original copies of IER documents provided to Archives du Maroc and documentation and reading space set up.
 - <u>Resource implications</u>: Mobilization of the CNDH experts and the necessary financial resources for the publication of such works.
 - Expected deadline within which the pledge will be realized: December 2026

The Gambia – National Human Rights Commission

Mr. Emmanuel Joof, Commissioner and Chairperson

On behalf of the National Human Rights Commission of The Gambia, I reaffirm our unwavering commitment to addressing enforced disappearances, promoting reconciliation and ensuring justice in our respective countries.

The NHRC has been actively monitoring the implementation of the Truth Commission, particularly those addressing enforced disappearances. The Commission advocates for the establishment of accountability mechanisms, such as special investigative units and judicial processes, to ensure that perpetrators are held responsible, while safeguarding the rights of victims and witnesses.

Furthermore, the NHRC supports measures aimed at restoring the dignity of victims, including public acknowledgements, exhumation and identification of remains, and psychosocial support for affected families.

Through advocacy and technical assistance, the NHRC collaborates with State institutions to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks that criminalize and prevent enforced disappearances; ensuring alignment with international human rights standards.

Looking ahead, the National Human Rights Commission of The Gambia remains committed to sustaining its role of watchdog and facilitator of justice in addressing enforced disappearances. It will continue engaging with governments, civil society, and international partners to ensure that victims' rights are prioritised and that the recommendations of the Truth Commission are fully implemented; by conducting awareness campaigns, providing legal and policy advice, and monitoring compliance with human rights obligations.

The NHRC aims to foster a culture of accountability and respect.