Mr. President,

In the spirit of Item 4 of the agenda, we would like to call the attention of the Council to the human rights situation of LGBTI persons around the globe.

In Yemen, two Houthi-run courts sentenced over 40 individuals to death, flogging, or prison for same-sex conduct in January this year. The Houthi de facto authorities must urgently halt planned executions and end the persecution of people based on their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.¹

In Ghana, LGBTI individuals endure cyberbullying and privacy violations, fostering stigma and harm. Discrimination in education persists, denying opportunities to LGBTI students due to societal bias and inadequate policies. This exclusion from quality education not only hampers their personal development but also limits their prospects for meaningful employment and economic stability. Furthermore, the recent parliamentary bill, passed in February 2024, imposes harsher penalties for consensual same-sex acts and criminalizes advocacy for LGBTI rights². This legislative environment exacerbates the challenges faced by LGBTI individuals, hindering their ability to attain livelihoods and income security. Despite these adversities, the President has decided not to sign the bill yet until the Supreme Court rules on its constitutionality.

The Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, in a private session held on 30 November 2023, recognised “international public LGBT movement” as “extremist”.³ The court’s reasoning includes, in particular, submitting shadow reports on the situation of LGBT community in Russia to the United Nations, particularly Human Rights Committee and the Committee on the Rights

---


² [https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/03/05/ghana-president-should-veto-anti-lgbt-bill](https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/03/05/ghana-president-should-veto-anti-lgbt-bill)

³ Communication of 4 December 2023, OL RUS 28/2023, Mandates of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and the Working Group on discrimination against women and girls.
of the Child. The decision has been deplored by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as a group of special procedures mandate holders appointed by this Council. Days after the Supreme Court’s ruling, the police raided LGBTI venues in several cities, recorded visitors’ personal data, and arrested dozens of individuals. This was followed by a wave of detentions and convictions in different regions of the country for acts such as wearing rainbow-colored earrings or posting rainbow flags on social media.

In Argentina, lesbian activist Pierina Nochetti faces charges of "aggravated damages" for painting graffiti in the district of Necochea in protest of the disappearance of a young transgender man. Her trial, set for March 6, was suspended indefinitely, which further imposes her further criminalization and makes the administration of justice impossible. The charges against her could lead to a 4-year prison sentence. The authorities should drop these charges, as they infringe on freedom of expression.

We call the attention of the Council to these human rights violations and urge its members to take further action on protecting the human rights of LGBTI people across the regions.

I thank you Mr. President.

---


