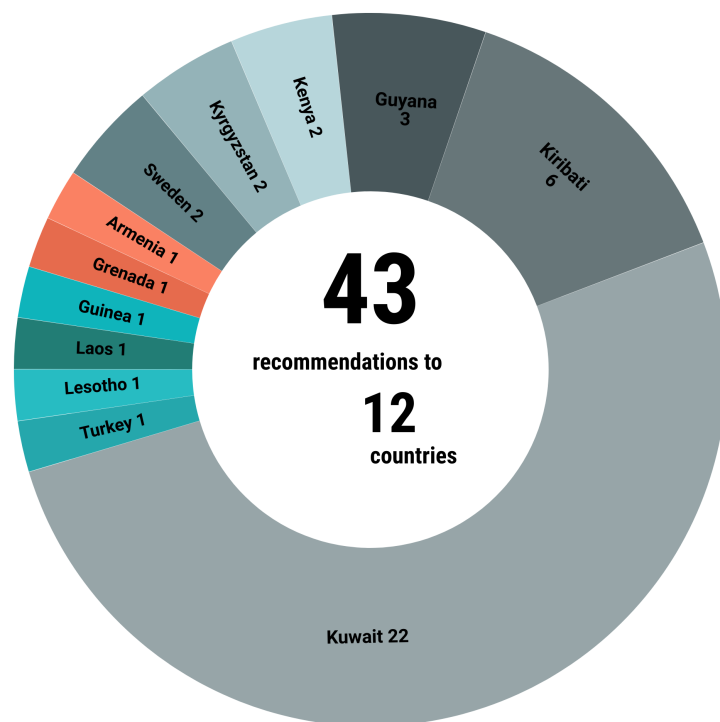


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The 35th session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR 35) took place from 20 – 31 January 2020. The following countries were under review by the Human Rights Council during this Session: Armenia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lesotho (Kingdom of), Spain, Sweden and Turkey.

The Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI) collaborated with civil society partners to prepare country submissions on nationality and statelessness issues in [Kiribati](#) (with the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights), [Kuwait](#) (with Equality Now, Kuwaiti Women without Limits, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights and Abolish 153 organization), a separate submission on [Kuwait](#) (with MENA Rights Group - [submission also available in Arabic](#)), [Kyrgyzstan](#) (with the Central Asian Network on Statelessness), [Lao People’s Democratic Republic](#) (with Statelessness Network Asia Pacific), [Lesotho](#) (with Lawyers for Human Rights and the Southern African Nationality Network), [Spain](#) (with Fundación CEPAIM and the European Network on Statelessness), and [Turkey](#) (with the European Network on Statelessness). The Institute also prepared an [all country summary](#), which provides an overview of the right to nationality and statelessness related challenges in all countries under review.



This document provides an overview and analysis of all recommendations on the right to nationality and statelessness that were made during the 35th Session of the UPR, on the basis of the draft reports adopted by the UPR Working Group, which can be accessed via UPR-Info.¹

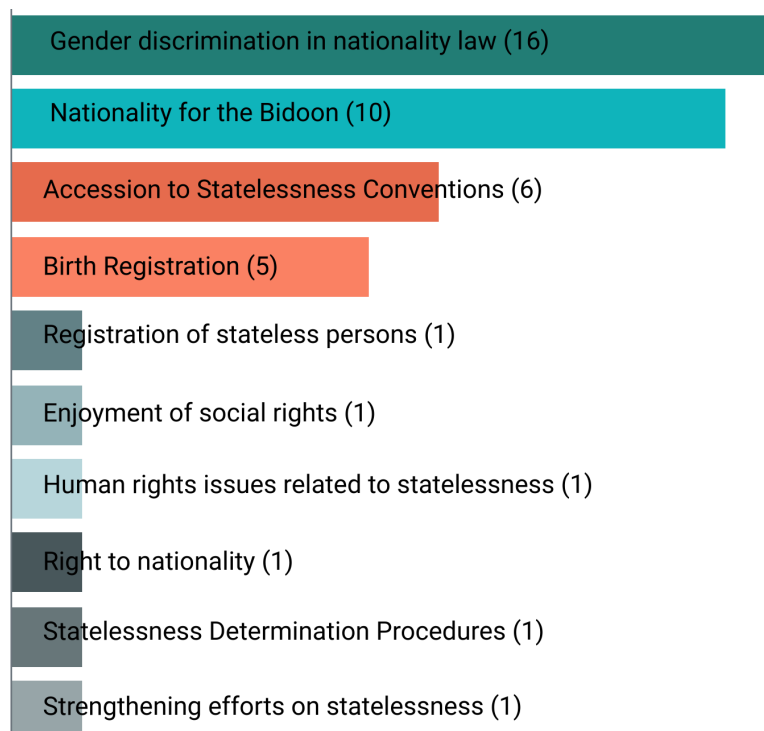
¹ <https://www.upr-info.org/en>.

General overview

A total of 43 recommendations related to the right to a nationality, statelessness and birth registration were made, with 12 out of 14 countries under review receiving at least one recommendation.

Kuwait and Kiribati received the most recommendations. Guinea-Bissau and Spain did not receive any recommendations related to the right to a nationality, statelessness or birth registration. Mexico and Brazil were most active in making relevant recommendations.

Topics addressed



Summary of recommendations

Armenia (1)

Recommendation made by Togo

One recommendation on registration of stateless persons

Grenada (1)

Recommendation made by Vanuatu

One recommendation on accession to Statelessness Conventions

Guinea (1)

Recommendation made by Mexico

One recommendation on birth registration

Guinea-Bissau (0)

No relevant recommendations

Guyana (3)

Recommendations made by Benin, Portugal and Senegal

One recommendation on accession to the Statelessness Conventions

One recommendation on birth registration

One recommendation on right to nationality

Kenya (2)

Recommendations made by Mexico and Côte D'Ivoire

One recommendation on birth registration

One recommendation on accession to Statelessness Conventions

Kiribati (6)

Recommendations made by Mexico, United States of America, Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and Germany

Six recommendations on gender discrimination in the nationality law

Kuwait (22)

Recommendations made by United States of America, Denmark, Austria, Mexico, Botswana, Czechia, Australia, Cyprus, Canada, France, Belgium, Uruguay, Brazil, Germany, Norway, Japan, Netherlands, Iceland and Italy

Ten recommendations regarding access to nationality for the Bidoon

Ten recommendations regarding gender discrimination in nationality laws

One recommendation regarding the enjoyment of social rights for stateless persons

One recommendation regarding human rights issues related to statelessness

Kyrgyzstan (2)

Recommendations made by Uruguay and Brazil

Two recommendations on accession to Statelessness Conventions

Lao People's Democratic Republic (1)

Recommendation made by Mexico

One recommendation on birth registration

Lesotho (Kingdom of) (1)

Recommendation made by Portugal

One recommendation on birth registration and statelessness safeguards

Spain (0)

No relevant recommendations made by countries

Sweden (2)

Recommendations made by Somalia and Brazil

One recommendation on statelessness determination procedure

One recommendation on strengthening efforts in helping stateless persons

Turkey (1)

Recommendation made by Côte D'Ivoire

One recommendation on accession to Statelessness Conventions

Recommendations – Full text

All recommendations are copied from the draft reports of the working group on the UPR which can be found by clicking on the country name or by clicking on the following link: <https://www.upr-info.org/en/session/Session-35---January-2020>.

Armenia

6.239 Design and adopt legislation with regard to stateless persons to register them and to provide them with identity documents (Togo)

Grenada

94.25 Ratify the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol of 1967, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Vanuatu)

Guinea

113.192 Promote the registration of children from birth, throughout the national territory, especially in the rural areas, and make efforts to ensure that birth certificates are issued on a free basis (Mexico)

Guinea-Bissau

No relevant recommendations were made

Guyana

100.7 Continue actions and initiatives to ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Benin)

100.175 Consider implementing a system of birth registration for vulnerable population groups and in isolated regions (Senegal)

100.199 Increase efforts to determine Guyanese nationality of returning citizens, who may lack documentation needed to prove their right to nationality (Portugal)

Kenya

142.22 Consider acceding to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Côte d'Ivoire)

142.261 Implement a comprehensive birth registration program, in order to prevent minorities from having limitations on the right to nationality (Mexico)

Kiribati

80.91 Amend legal provisions that prevent equal rights between women and men to confer nationality to children and spouses, particularly articles 21 and 22 of the Constitution and the Citizenship Act 1979 (Mexico)

80.93 Eliminate laws that discriminate against women and girls, including the paternal transfer of citizenship to the exclusion of maternal transfer, and take steps to increase women's economic empowerment by reducing economic barriers to women and enhancing protections in policies, laws, regulations and public and private practices to facilitate women's participation in the economy (United States of America)

80.94 Modify legislation to allow women to confer their nationality to their children on an equal basis as men, without any form of discrimination (Uruguay)

80.95 Modify national legislation to enable women to pass on Kiribati nationality on an equal basis as men (Argentina)

80.96 Make the necessary amendments in legislation in order to allow women to confer their nationalities to their children on an equal basis as men (Brazil)

80.97 Ensure gender equality, inter alia, by reforming the Citizenship Act 1979 to ensure equal rights for Kiribati women to confer nationality to children and spouses on an equal basis to men (Germany)

Kuwait

157.76 Strengthen women's rights by amending the Nationality Law to ensure Kuwaiti women have equal rights with men to transmit citizenship, and by beginning data collection on gender-based violence and ensuring access to justice for all victims, to include domestic workers (United States of America)

157.77 Reform the Kuwaiti nationality law of 1959 to grant women the right to pass their nationality on to their children (Denmark)

157.78 Review the Personal Status Laws and the Nationality Act to eliminate all discrimination against women, including granting Kuwaiti women equal rights as men in passing on their nationality to their children (Austria)

157.79 Amend the Nationality Act to enable Kuwaiti women to transfer nationality to their children and spouses on an equal basis with men (Iceland)

157.79 Amend the Nationality Act to guarantee that women can transmit their nationality, in equal basis with men, to their spouses and children (Mexico)

157.84 Take further steps to repeal and abolish discriminatory laws, and guarantee to provide rights equally to all, in particular to women and children (Botswana)

157.85 Remove all gender-discriminatory provisions from the Nationality Law (Czechia)

157.212 Carry out the necessary legal reforms so that Kuwaiti women can transmit their nationality to their descendants on an equal footing with men (Uruguay)

157.212 Amend legislation so as to allow Kuwaiti women to pass on their nationality to their children (Cyprus)

157.230 Continue efforts towards equality between women and men and the fight against violence against women, by repealing article 182 of the Criminal Code and amending the Nationality Act in order to ensure gender equality in the transmission of nationality (France)

157.290 Provide access to adequate social services and education to stateless persons, the Bidoon, and process their nationality applications in accordance with international standards (Belgium)

157.291 Provide legal documentation and basic services to all stateless persons, including the Bidoon community (United States of America)

157.292 Make every effort to solve cases of statelessness, recognizing when is necessary the right to acquire Kuwaiti's nationality, in particular for the Bidoon population (Uruguay)

157.293 Intensify efforts to eradicate statelessness, through measures to accelerate regularization of Bidoon individuals and to provide them with full access to documentation and social services (Brazil)

157.294 Ensure equal access to education, healthcare and employment for the Bidoon population is enshrined in legislation (Canada)

157.295 Finalise development of, and implement, a comprehensive solution to the legal status of the Bidoon that conforms to international law (Australia)

157.296 Continue efforts to improve conditions to obtain nationality for Bidoons (France)

157.297 Accelerate the legislative process to resolve the Bidoon issue, by granting Kuwaiti citizenship to Bidoon people, ensuring non-discriminatory access to social services, and guaranteeing that Bidoons can exercise their rights to freedom of movement, peaceful assembly, opinion and expression (Germany)

157.298 Enhance efforts to regularize legal status of persons belonging to Bidoon minority, ensuring that their human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected and preventing discrimination against them (Italy)

157.299 Address human rights issues deriving from statelessness (Japan)

157.300 Take actions to ensure that the rights of stateless individuals including Bidoon, as well as domestic migrant and foreign female workers are protected and stateless children have access to education and health care (Netherlands)

157.301 Provide full citizenship and rights for the Bidoon population (Norway)

Kyrgyzstan

140.1 Consider the ratification of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Brazil)

140.1 Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Uruguay)

Lao People's Democratic Republic

115.221 Adopt legal and administrative provisions for the issuance of birth certificates free of charge, as well as the establishment of civil registration offices in all districts, with a particular focus on rural areas (Mexico)

Lesotho (Kingdom of)

110.168 Amends legislation to ensure universal, free and accessible birth registration, and to ensure adequate safeguards against statelessness for children born in the territory, as well as safeguards in the process of renunciation and change of citizenship (Portugal)

Spain

No relevant recommendations

Sweden

156.297 Further strengthen efforts in helping refugees, asylum seekers and the most importantly the stateless persons, especially children (Somalia)

156.298 Establish a dedicated statelessness determination procedure to identify stateless persons within the territory and facilitate their protection, particularly regarding stateless children (Brazil)

Turkey

49.12 Consider acceding the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (Côte d'Ivoire)