



THE NEW UZBEKISTAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS

INFORMATION

ON COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Information on compliance with international human rights obligations in the Republic of Uzbekistan. — Tashkent: National Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights, 2023. — 36 pages.

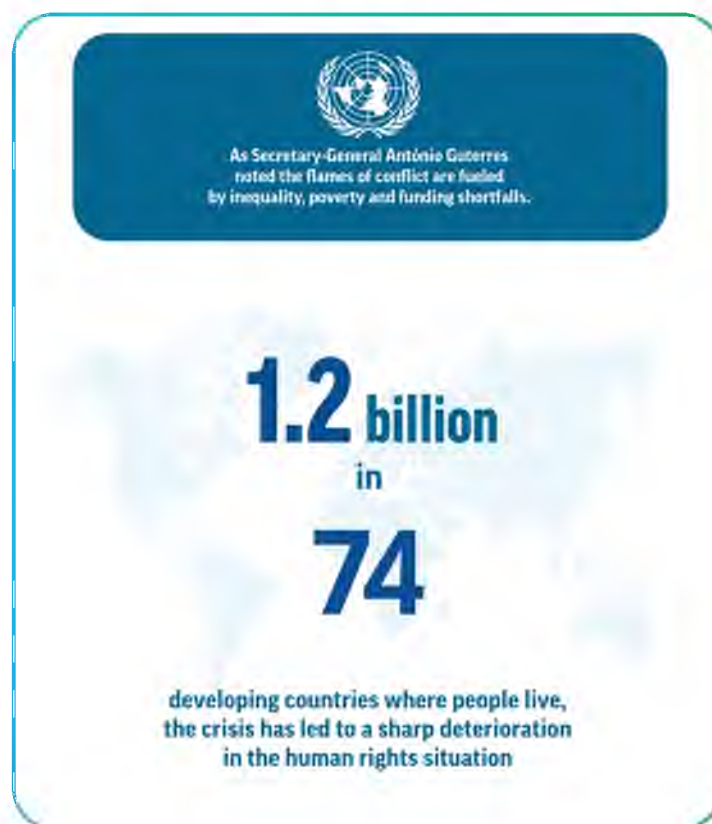
This information gives details on major human rights initiatives of Uzbekistan for 2022, as well as information on how the National Human Rights Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan is being implemented.

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INTRODUCTION

In 2022, before the consequences of the pandemic could be completely eliminated, the conflicts occurring in the regions of the world had led to the beginning of a new global crisis. Developing countries are particularly affected by the sharp increase in the prices of food, energy and fertilizers.



Despite the negative effects of the pandemic and the global crisis, in 2022, reforms aimed at comprehensively ensuring human rights and interests continued consistently in Uzbekistan.

A number of important events for Uzbekistan were carried out in 2022. Through the implementation of new mechanisms in the process of working with residents' appeals, positive results were achieved in such directions as ensuring the rule of law, solving the problems faced by the population, preventing torture, ensuring openness and transparency, and strengthening freedom of speech.

Uzbekistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva was elected the vice-chairperson of the UN Human Rights Council.

First priority was given to improving the position of our country in international ratings and indexes related to human rights and freedoms. In 2021–2022, to certain achievements have been achieved in improving the position of Uzbekistan in ratings and indexes such as: the provision of human rights and interests, the quality of rule-making, the effectiveness of government activity, freedom of speech and information, the fight against crime and corruption, the conditions for doing business. In 15 of the total 24 ratings, Uzbekistan's position improved, in 3, it was recognized for the first time. But the place of our country in some international rankings has decreased.



Uzbekistan

Democracy Index

150th

Global ranking out of 165 countries

5

rank jumped up
Compared to 2021

World Justice Project Rule of Law Index

78th

Global ranking out of 140 countries

7

rank jumped up
Compared to 2021

Open Data Inception

4th

Global ranking out of 201 countries



Uzbekistan ranks 4th after the USA, France and Spain with 124 open data sources

Corruption Perceptions Index

140th

Global ranking out of 180 countries

6

rank jumped up
Compared to 2021

Government AI Readiness Index

79th

Global ranking out of 160 countries

14

rank jumped up
Compared to 2021

Index of Economic Freedom

117th

Global ranking out of 177 countries

9

rank dropped down
Compared to 2021

Worldwide mobile data pricing

15th

Global ranking out of 233 countries

6

rank jumped up
Compared to 2021

Judicial Effectiveness index

**13,1
points**

Uzbekistan decreased from the current 50.8 points to 13.1 points

37,7

points dropped down
Compared to 2021

Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 was adapted. In this program document, the trends of our country's development in the near and medium term, as well as the priority tasks in this regard, were determined. On the basis of the principle **"From the strategy of actions to the strategy of development"**, special attention was paid to ensuring the integrity and continuity of reforms, and the principle of **"leaving no one behind"** was based on the principle of ensuring human rights.

On May 20, 2022, the Councils of the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis formulated proposals on amendments to the Constitution and implemented organizational measures in order to implement constitutional reforms, which are the will of the voters, to strengthen the constitutional foundations of the fundamental changes that have taken place in the society and state. A constitutional commission was established. The draft of the Constitutional Law "On Amendments and Additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was developed and put to public discussion. According to the essence of the draft constitutional law, the principles of **"human being – society – state"** and **"New Uzbekistan – social state"** were sealed as a constitutional rule, establishment of a people-friendly state, strengthening the protection of human rights and social security.

At the same time, despite the policy of openness and free expression of people's will carried out in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as a result of misinterpretation of the constitutional reforms, there were attempts to organize public disorder in the Republic of Karakalpakstan on July 1-2, 2022. By the joint decision of the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis, a commission was formed to study the events that happened in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and conducted an independent investigation. The commission was entrusted with the task of ensuring human rights and freedoms, comprehensively and objectively studying the events, as well as organizing its activities taking into account public opinion.

More than two years have passed since the adoption of the **National Human Rights Strategy** aimed at the effective fulfillment of the international obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of human rights, and the consistent implementation of the tasks set in it still continues.

The National Center of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights (hereinafter referred to as the Center) regularly monitors the implementation of the tasks defined in the National Strategy and provides summarized information to the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Presidential Administration and the Cabinet of Ministers.

In accordance with the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 10, 2018 No. PP-4056 and the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 22, 2020 No. PF-6012 "On approval of the National Human Rights Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan", the Centre prepared information on the status of compliance with international obligations on human rights in Uzbekistan.

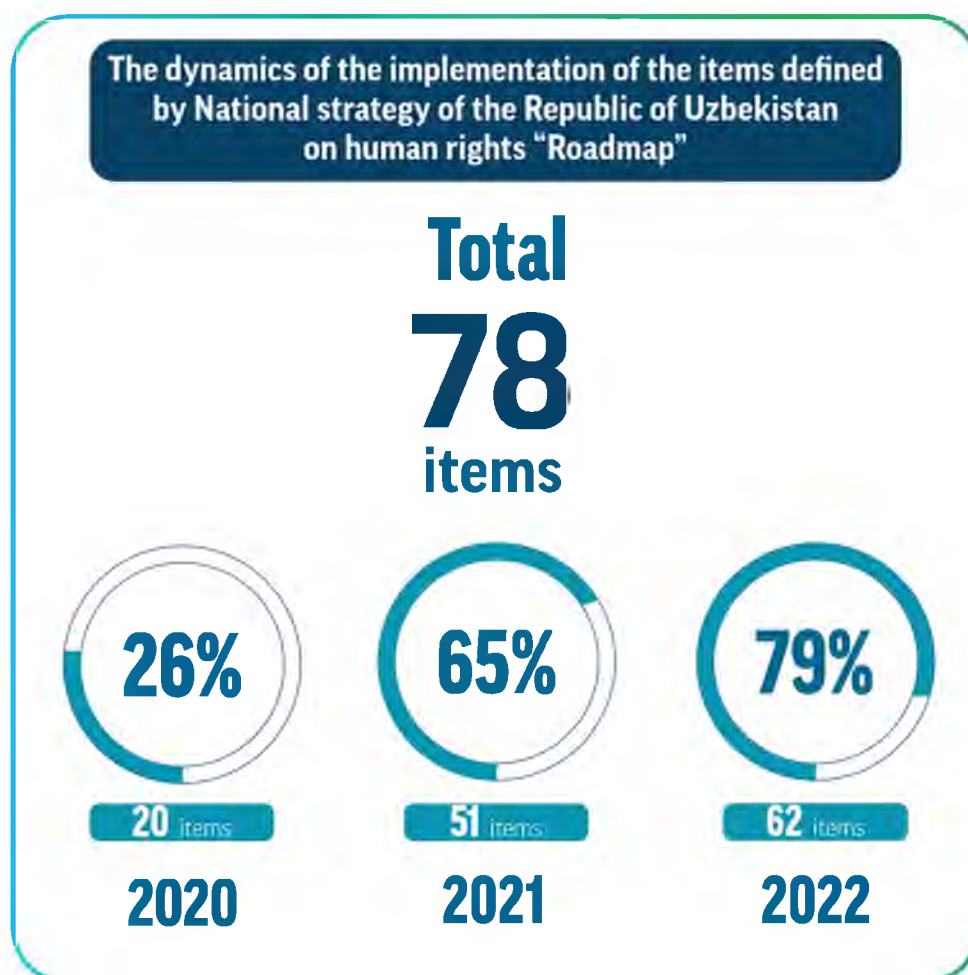
The information covers both the implementation of the National Strategy on Human Rights in 2022 and the application of Uzbekistan's international treaties in the area of human rights and freedoms. Additionally, details were provided regarding the tasks assigned by the Resolution of the Senate (November 18, 2021, Resolution No. 427-IV), "On the status of compliance with international obligations on human rights".

I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Activities for the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of June 22, 2020 are being implemented. Out of a total of 78 items of the “Roadmap” on the implementation of the national strategy, the implementation period for 67 items **(85%)** has been completed, of which the implementation period has been extended for 6 items, work has been completed for 62 items **(79%)**, implementation of 16 items **(21%)**, is an ongoing work.

In 2022, 1 code, 1 law, 5 presidential decrees and resolutions, 1 resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers were adopted, and 1 international treaty was ratified as part of the National Strategy.

The dynamics of the implementation of the items defined by the National Strategy “Roadmap” allows for a positive assessment of the general state of task enforcement.



In 2022, the following important activities for the implementation of the National Strategy were carried out:

1. On October 28, 2022, the Law “On Approving the Labor Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan” was signed. In the new Labor Code, the basis of legal regulation of labor relations has been improved in accordance with international standards on human labor rights. In particular, the right of a person to dispose of his abilities to work, to exercise them in any form not prohibited by law, to freely choose the type of training, profession and specialty, workplace and working conditions has been strengthened.

Guarantees of employee rights in the Labor Code have been strengthened in accordance with international human rights standards:

first, the protection of personal information about facts, events and circumstances in the life of the employee, as well as his family members, provided to the employer due to labor relations, is guaranteed;

second, the minimum duration of the annual basic leave of employees was set for twenty-one calendar days, in accordance with Article 3 of the 1970 Convention on Paid Leave of the International Labor Organization.

third, if the day off falls on a non-working holiday, the procedure for moving it to the next working day was introduced;

fourth, the possibility of introducing remote labor relations between the employer and the employee on the condition of using information and telecommunication networks, including the Internet global information network, was strengthened (the COVID-2019 pandemic showed the need for legal regulation of remote labor);

fifth, additional guarantees for employment of socially needy categories of the population were established.

2. The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of July 25, 2022 “On approval of the strategy of social protection of the population of the Republic of Uzbekistan” indicated the directions of social protection of the population, including:

- coverage of families and individuals in need of social assistance and those who meet the criteria for social allowances for social assistance programs;
- expanding access to mandatory social guarantees, including types of social protection, due to digitization of the industry, introducing the principles of openness and transparency to this process;
- step-by-step transition to the social model of determining disability and ensuring the employment of persons with limited opportunities and disabilities;
- social protection of the population, such as the introduction of the practice of providing social services to the population directly at the neighborhood level.

Also, the Social Insurance Fund was established, from which it was established that protection against temporary incapacity to work, by accident, loss of employment and loss of income in other cases, pregnancy, maternity benefits shall be paid to women in all legal entities at the expense of the State budget.

The adoption of this Strategy allows to glorify human dignity in the country, to ensure consistency of measures aimed at raising the standard of living of the population as the highest criterion for development of human interests, and to further improve the mechanisms of support to families in need of social protection.

3. The reforms carried out in the country regarding the protection of women's rights and legal interests, social support to women in need, and ensuring gender equality were systematically continued. According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of March 7, 2022 **"On measures to further accelerate the work on the systematic support of the family and women"**, the National program on increasing the activity of women in all aspects of the country's economic, political and social life for 2022-2026 confirmed. In the National program, a number of measures aimed at ensuring the social, political and economic rights of women were determined, including:

- pregnancy and childbirth benefits were established for women in private enterprises and organizations at the expense of the State budget;
- interest-free educational loans were introduced to pay the educational contracts of women studying in higher education institutions, technical schools and colleges, the procedure for state reimbursement of contract payments of all women studying at the master's level was established;
- the procedure for covering the educational contracts of socially needy family members, orphans or female students deprived of parental care without the condition of reimbursement from additional resources of the local budget was introduced.

At the same time, reforms aimed at radically increasing the role of women in the socio-political life of the country and in the business sector were continued. A unique system was created for preparing socially active women for leadership positions, training them, and improving their qualifications. In 2016, the proportion of women in leadership positions in our country was 7%, by 2020, this figure has increased to 12%, and by 2022, the proportion of women in leadership positions will reach 27%, and 25% among entrepreneurs. A unified electronic database of promising women working in state bodies and organizations was created, and a reserve list of more than 25,000 women candidates for leadership was created.

4. On November 24, 2022, the **National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 "Women, Peace and Security"** and the 2022-2025 "Roadmap" were approved.

The following measures were defined in this document:

- increasing the number of women in representative bodies of government power;
- adoption of temporary special measures to increase the number of women in leadership positions in executive authorities;
- increasing the number of women in the armed forces and law enforcement agencies, encouraging women in leadership positions in the military and law enforcement agencies;
- prevention of cases of violence against women, expansion of their protection;
- strengthen the fight against human trafficking, including trafficking of women and children;
- increasing the readiness and responsibility of competent state bodies to prevent the risk of violence against women.

5. The legal procedure for compensating the victims of torture has been strengthened. On March 29, 2022, the **Law "On Additions to the Civil Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at improving the procedure for compensation of damages caused to victims of torture"** was adopted, and it was determined that the damage caused to a citizen as a result of the application of other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishments shall be fully compensated by the state.

Also, in accordance with the recommendations of the UN Committee on Human Rights and the Committee against Torture, the **draft law "On making additions to the Criminal-Executive Code of the**

A unified information system for registration of women victims of oppression and violence was created

In particular:

29 centers for the rehabilitation and adjustment of women, including 1 Republican center, 14 regional centers and 14 model inter-district centers, have been operating effectively in the country.

Necessary assistance was provided to 5,735 persons (including 5,325 women, 240 children, 170 men) who applied to the regional departments of the Republican Center for Rehabilitation and Adaptation of Women

24,919 women (941 of whom were previously convicted) were studied by address. 3,296 of them (239 with previous convictions) were employed, 3,446 (266 with previous convictions) received material and social assistance, 896 women (52 with previous convictions) identified as needing treatment were placed in medical dispensaries, 806 (68 with previous convictions) to restore their identity documents, 1213 persons (16 previously convicted) were given practical assistance in establishing business activities.

During 2022, 41,598 (2021: 32,154) women who were victims of violence and pressure were identified through family interviews, and a "Protection Order" was issued to all of them. Restrictions were imposed on 37,524 persons (66,117 in 2021) who had a violent attitude or harassment against them, and were monitored by preventive inspectors.

20,753 (17,012 in 2021) families were reconciled and the root causes of 17,884 (12,404 in 2021) conflicts were settled as a result of solving their problems with a "Protection Order".

In turn, 2,379 (1,099 in 2021) persons who did not follow the established restrictions, were not affected by this preventive measure and those who did not draw the correct conclusions for themselves, were imposed with administrative responsibility.

Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at improving the legal basis of the national preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture" was developed and published for public discussion. The draft law is aimed at improving the existing mechanisms for preventing torture cases and introducing new mechanisms by the Criminal Procedure Code which states that "National preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishment" shall be supplemented by Chapter 4¹. In this chapter, the participants of the national preventive mechanism, their rights and obligations, the procedure for issuing recommendations on the results of monitoring visits, and other issues are reflected.

6. In our country, the issues of protecting the rights and interests of persons with disabilities are under constant attention, and necessary conditions are being created for their integration into society, active

participation in political, social, economic and cultural life. By the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of February 17, 2022, additional measures to support persons with disabilities and sections of the population in need of social protection were established, including:

- the minimum amount of disability pensions, including the disability pension for incomplete work experience and the disability allowance for citizens who are unable to work, has been increased;
- a monthly allowance payment was defined for payment to the legal representative of the child who is engaged in the care of disabled children under 18 who need care of others.

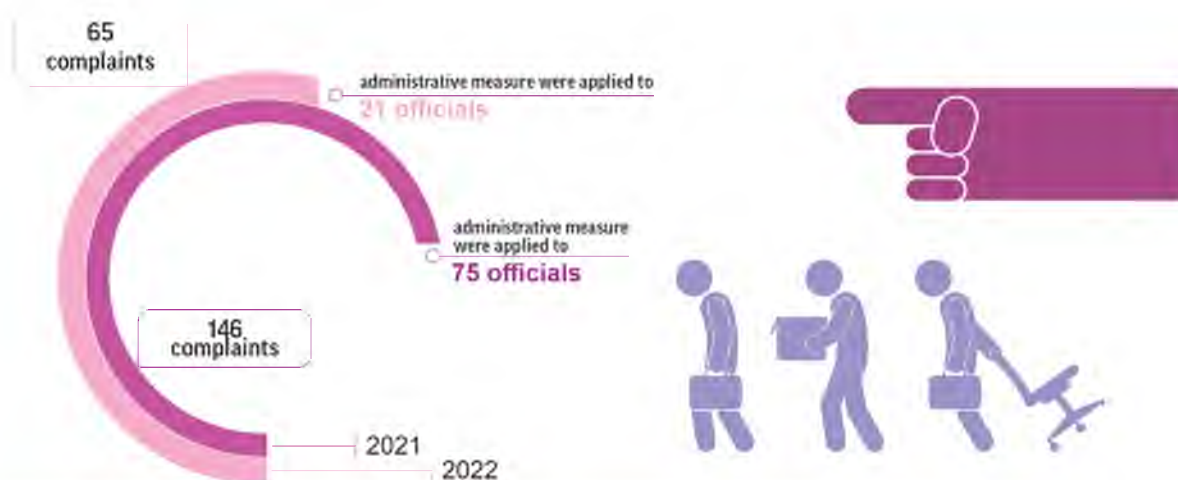
Also, by the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of April 20, 2022 **“On measures to promote the employment of persons with disabilities”**, the national program of assistance to the employment of persons with limited opportunities and disabilities was approved. According to it, in 2022, 12,146 people with limited opportunities and disabilities would be supported in employment, and employers who hire people with disabilities would be given a subsidy of 1.5 times the base calculation amount per month for each employee for 6 months.

7. The child labor was completely abolished in our country, cases of forced labor were sharply reduced, special attention was paid to the issue of allocating funds for the organization of shelters for victims of human trafficking. These results are widely recognized by the international community. On March 10, 2022, **the Cotton Campaign coalition**, which unites the world's leading companies that manufacture and trade with ready-made cotton products, canceled the boycott of Uzbekistan cotton, recognizing that forced and child labor has been completely eliminated in Uzbekistan.

On September 28, **the Annual report of the US Department of Labor “List of products produced by child labor and forced labor – 2022”** was published. According to it, the USA removed Uzbek cotton from the list of goods produced by child and forced labor.

Alignment of the legal framework in the field of combating human trafficking and forced labor with international standards has been consistently continued. In particular, in 2022, a total of 11 normative

Measures to control and monitor the prevention of cases of involvement in forced labor



In 2022, the labor rights of 115 victims of forced labor were restored.

legal documents (including 3 laws, 3 presidential decrees, 1 resolution, 4 resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers) were adopted and put into practice.

8. Measures for social and legal protection of citizens temporarily working abroad have been expanded. A system of providing assistance to labor migrants who returned to Uzbekistan and ensuring their reintegration was formed. Complex measures aimed at increasing the income and standard of living of the families of labor migrants were taken to solve social and household problems, improve housing conditions and ensure the employment of family members.

By the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan of March 1, 2022 **“On additional measures to support citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who are temporarily working abroad and their family members”** it was determined to further strengthen the protection of the rights and interests of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who are temporarily working abroad and to take to strengthen the system of socio-economic support of their family members. According to it, the procedure for providing financial support to families of migrants in need of financial support, family members with disabilities, children, and payment of various compensations to labor migrants was established.

9. Within the framework of the national strategy, the organizational and legal mechanism aimed at ensuring reliable protection of human rights and freedoms is further improved. The role of civil society institutions, including non-governmental non-profit organizations, in the expression and protection of human rights and legitimate interests is important in order to ensure the coherence of large-scale reforms in the sector. On August 24, 2022, a National Civil Forum was organized in Tashkent on the topic **“Cooperation of state bodies and non-governmental non-profit organizations in ensuring human rights and interests”**. At the National forum, the issues of improving the mechanisms of cooperation between state and non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights protection and further expanding the practice of conducting consultations between state bodies and civil society institutions in this direction were discussed and recommendations were developed.



10. Activities aimed at systematic formation of the scientific and legal framework in the field of human rights and the effective implementation of the membership of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the UN Human Rights Council in 2021-2023 were continued. By the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on March 25, 2022, the Human Rights Information and Library Center – **“Human Rights House”** was established. Also, to systematize the scientific-legal database in the field of human rights, to ensure the continuous publication of educational, scientific-methodical and popular publications and collections of international treaties in the state language, to maintain the chronology of reforms in the field of human rights, to use systematic scientific-legal resources on human rights for citizens and researchers. the tasks of creating wide opportunities for them.

Along with the achievements in the implementation of the tasks defined by the national strategy, some shortcomings were also found. In particular, there are cases of delays in implementing activities within the framework of the National Strategy.

First, “Public events”, “Judicial community bodies”, “Privatization”, “Social entrepreneurship”, “Compulsory medical insurance”, “Advocacy and advocacy activities”, “Equal treatment and although the drafting of the draft laws “On non-discrimination” and “On the procedure for serving in prosecutor's offices” have been completed, they have not yet been adopted. Also, the draft of the Information Code and the Health Code was not developed within the deadlines set by the National Strategy.

Second, the Senate of the Oliy Majlis rejected draft laws on some points of the roadmap due to insufficient quality development. In particular, the new version of the Housing Code, the Laws “On External Labor Migration” and “On the Fundamentals of Social Entrepreneurship” were returned for revision, in order to take into account the opinions of scientists and experts and the experience of advanced foreign countries.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES

It is becoming more common for deputies and senators to regularly hear the outcomes of the preparation and review of Uzbekistan's periodic reports on human rights for the UN treaty committees, and for the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis to approve national action plans for putting the treaty committees' recommendations into practice.

I. In 2022, 3 periodic reports of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the implementation of international treaties on human rights were heard in the UN treaty committees:

1. The sixth periodic report of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;
2. The third periodic report on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
3. The fifth periodic report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

For the first time, the Center provided online participation of more than 10 non-governmental non-commercial organizations in the discussion of periodic report. In order to implement the recommendations expressed in the concluding observations on the periodic report, drafts of national action plans were developed in cooperation with interested ministries, departments and organizations and submitted to the Parliamentary Commission on the observance of the international obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of human rights.

1. On February 15-16, 2022, at the 81st session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the sixth periodic report of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was considered.

The concluding observations of the committee on the periodic report of the Republic of Uzbekistan were presented. In its comments, the Committee positively evaluated the positive changes achieved in carrying out legislative reforms of Uzbekistan and emphasized its efforts aimed at promoting gender equality.

However, the Committee made the following recommendations, including:

- to adopt legislation against direct and indirect, as well as mixed forms of discrimination against women in public and private spheres;
- to adopt and implement temporary special measures as a strategy to achieve gender equality in all sectors where women's participation is lower, in the public and private sectors, with a special focus on women belonging to ethnic minority groups and with disabilities;
- to make changes and additions to legal documents defining criminal liability for domestic violence, activating the work of raising awareness of the need for victims to contact law enforcement agencies;

- to recommend to strengthen support and protection services for women victims of harassment and violence, including 24-hour hotlines, housing, medical services, psychosocial counseling and economic assistance.

The National Action Plan for 2022-2025 regarding the implementation of the concluding observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women was approved by the Council of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and the Council of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis on December 19, 2022.

2. On February 22-24, 2022, the third periodic report of Uzbekistan was considered at the 71st session of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Committee presented its concluding observations on the implementation of the norms of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In the concluding observations, the reforms implemented in Uzbekistan in the field of ensuring the rights and freedoms of citizens were positively evaluated, and recommendations were expressed to continue the implementation of the requirements of the International Covenant, including:

- taking measures to hold citizens legally responsible for violations of economic, social and cultural rights by private companies, providing victims with appropriate means of protection;
- taking measures to ensure the access of persons with disabilities to employment, health and social services, strengthen efforts to ensure inclusive education at all levels, and ensure appropriate training of teachers and pedagogues;
- strengthening the quota system and taking measures to solve the problem of the insufficient level of women occupying positions related to leadership and decision-making, especially in the regions;
- expanding access to quality medical services in rural areas and groups of the population in need of social protection.



On August 31 - September 1, 2022, within the framework of the 91st session of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Fifth Periodic Report of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child was considered

The National Action Plan for 2022-2026 regarding the implementation of the concluding observations of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was approved by the Joint Decision of the Council of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and the Council of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of December 19, 2023.

3. From August 31 to September 1, 2022, at the **91st session of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the fifth periodic report submitted by Uzbekistan** on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child was considered, and the Committee's concluding observations were presented.

In its concluding observations, the Committee made the following recommendations:

- to pay special attention to the process of providing the Internet to remote areas and economically disadvantaged families, as well as improving the digital literacy and skills of children, teachers and families;
- to mitigate the effects of environmental degradation and climate change on children's health and development, focusing on food security, water supply and sanitation issues, increasing attention to programs in this direction;
- to establish the collection of information on children without supervision, to ensure their protection, rehabilitation and assistance, to strengthen mechanisms to prevent them from becoming victims of human trafficking, economic and sexual exploitation.

Currently, work is underway to develop a draft of the National Action Plan for the implementation of the recommendations indicated in the Committee's concluding observations.

II. The thirteenth-fourteenth periodic report of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination was submitted to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on October 27, 2022. 30 state bodies and more than 10 civil society institutions participated in the preparation of the periodic report.

The periodic report was agreed with the Cabinet of Ministers in the established order and was discussed in the Parliamentary commission on compliance with the international obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of human rights on October 21, 2022. The text of the periodic report included information about the measures being implemented to ensure the rights and social support of ethnic groups in our country, to eliminate obstacles to the granting of citizenship and to prevent the loss of citizenship, and to improve the system of education and training for ethnic groups in their native language.

III. In 2022, the implementation of the laws adopted in the framework of the implementation of international human rights standards into legislation and legal practice was monitored, and shortcomings in this regard were identified.

1. In May 2022, the state of implementation of the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was monitored.** Questionnaires were sent to about 30 state bodies and non-governmental non-profit organizations for the purpose of monitoring. As a result of monitoring, problems related to ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities were identified. In particular:

- people with disabilities are still viewed as recipients of charity and rehabilitation assistance, not as potential employees of state organizations and the private sector;
- effective mechanisms of financial support for employers who employ persons with disabilities have not been established;
- the system of vocational training of persons with disabilities has not been effectively established;

- buildings of higher education institutions and schools are not convenient for persons with disabilities to move independently;
- there are not enough Braille textbooks in educational institutions;
- metro stations have a large gap between the platform and the car, which creates additional obstacles for wheelchair users to enter and exit the train car independently, including only 12 out of 43 metro stations (27.9%) have all the conditions for the access of persons with disabilities (elevator, ramp, tactile corridor) is available. Also, out of 7079 licensed buses, 690 (about 10 percent) are adapted for use by persons with disabilities;
- project documents for the construction of metro and bus stations were not examined by public organizations for disabled people to create a comfortable physical environment.

Based on the monitoring conclusions, the followings were recommended to realize the rights of persons with disabilities:

- development of the State program “Convenient physical environment”.
- organization of public councils on issues of inclusive education and comfortable physical environment in higher education institutions.
- presentation of the first periodic report of Uzbekistan on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- to increase the awareness of the population about the problems related to ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities and the work being done to solve them, and to expand the practice of holding public discussions.

The National Action Plan for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 2023-2025 was approved by the Joint Decision of the Council of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis and the Council of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis dated December 19, 2022.



2. On October 13-14, 2022 in Tashkent region and on October 20-21 in Fergana region, the implementation of the legislation adopted on the basis of the Convention **“On the elimination of discrimination against women”** was studied.

According to the results of the study, it was determined that some shortcomings were discovered in these regions, including, appropriate measures were not taken to improve the qualifications of official personnel, increase the awareness of citizens, appeals about harassment and violence against women in Tashkent region were not considered in time, measures for social rehabilitation of the victims were not taken, the effectiveness of measures is low. In 2022, a total of 5,511 protection warrants were issued in Tashkent region, which is a 46% increase compared to 2021, and the number of suicides among women increased by 2.2%. In the Fergana region, there is no rapid information exchange system between the competent bodies and organizations regarding the protection of the legal interests of women.

In order to eliminate the existing shortcomings, it is proposed to implement the following measures:

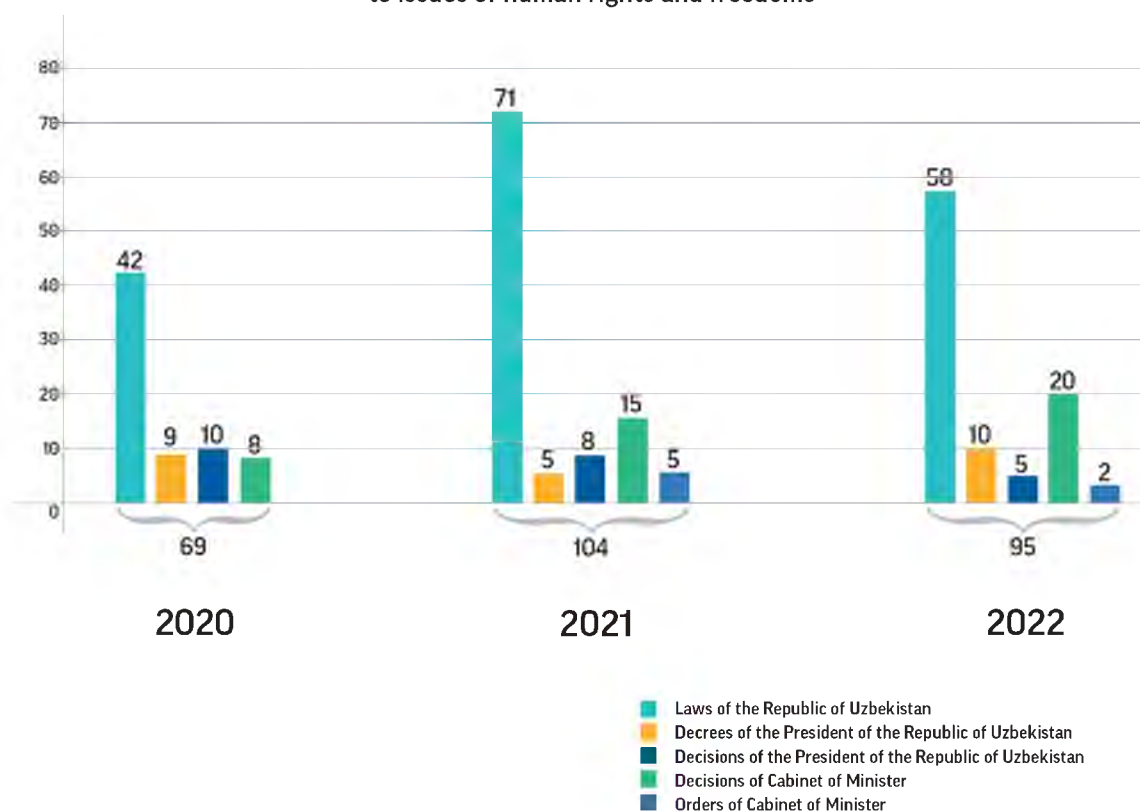
- to include concepts such as “domestic violence” and “harassment of women” in the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence” and to establish liability for domestic violence as a separate crime;
- to improve the skills of internal affairs, personnel community staff on timely detection of domestic violence;
- to organize of “Social Adaptation Counseling Centers” in all districts (cities) in order to expand psychological, legal, medical, and social assistance to victims of persecution and violence.

3. In 2022, monitoring visits were carried out in penal institutions to study the conditions created for convicts serving their sentences. For example, during the monitoring visit to prisons in Tashkent region on April 26-27 and on October 24-27 in Navoi region, the conditions created for prisoners, including, prisoners with disabilities and their incapacity for work, including their treatment, rest the following problems and shortcomings were identified when studying the issues related to the quality of food, working conditions, treatment of the employees of the institution, harassment and violence:

- some of the prisoners with disabilities of groups 1 and 2 have diseases that require permanent treatment, which prevent them from serving their sentences, and these diseases are not included in the “List of diseases that serve as grounds for releasing prisoners from serving their sentence terms due to their illness”;
- there are not enough medical and preventive care workers (mainly doctors with higher education), and the amount of salary paid to them is also low compared to the workers working in medical institutions of the Ministry of Health;
- the material and technical base of treatment points in institutions is not sufficient, for example, there are no x-ray, ultrasound machines, and they should be adapted for use by persons with disabilities;
- production buildings in institutions, machines in production workshops are physically and morally outdated, they need to be renewed;
- it is necessary to create an opportunity to provide necessary legal information to prisoners using the national database of legal information of the Republic of Uzbekistan – “lex.uz”, as well as the legal information portal “advice.uz”.

IV. As part of the implementation of international treaties in the field of human rights in the national legislation and legal practice, drafts of laws and other regulatory legal documents are being examined.

Examination of laws and other normative legal documents related to issues of human rights and freedoms



In 2021, a total of **104** normative legal documents were examined for their compliance with human rights norms, and in 2022, this indicator is **95** (**88** normative legal documents were examined through the **project.gov.uz** portal). Among them: **58** Laws, 10 Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 4 Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, **1** Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 20 Decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers, 2 Decrees of the Cabinet of Ministers were examined for compliance with human rights norms. **55** of these normative legal documents have been approved with objections, and more than 230 proposals for their improvement have been made as a whole.

Also, in 2022, **22** draft laws providing for amendments and additions to the Codes of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Criminal, Criminal Procedure, Criminal Enforcement, Civil Procedure, Economic Procedure, Family, Tax, Administrative Court Proceedings, Administrative Responsibility, and Execution of Punishment the draft code was examined for compliance with human rights norms.

III. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In order to develop proposals for enhancing the Consitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, more than 400 international conventions, declarations, and resolutions as well as the experience of 193 countries regarding constitutional development were examined. This analysis was based on the notion that New Uzbekistan needs an updated constitution that honors human dignity. **The draft of the Constitutional Law “On Amendments and Additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan”** was prepared. Amendments to more than 60 articles of the Constitution, including 34 articles related to human rights, and introduction of 6 new articles, including 5 new articles related to human rights, were envisaged.

In particular, according to the Draftt, **a new provision is added to Article 24 of the Constitution: “The death penalty is prohibited in the Republic of Uzbekistan”**. The right to life is a natural right of every human being, and the new norm introduced into the Constitution is supposed to be the basis for recognizing this right as an inalienable right of everyone, thus our country will never go back down in this extremely serious matter.

The draft states that a person cannot be detained for more than forty-eight hours until the court's decision (“Habeas corpus” institution), that during the arrest of a person, his rights and the reason for his detention must be explained in simple language (Miranda rules), as well as to convicted persons and their close relatives the norms that “It is necessary to ensure humane treatment and dignity of all persons deprived of their liberty” were reflected.

At the same time, citizens' right to free movement within the country, free choice of place of residence, the right to leave the country and return without obstacles, to completely eliminate cases of illegal destruction or seizure of residents' homes, to provide housing to all sections of the population, especially the needy categories. it was assumed that the obligations of the state would be defined.

Also, in the draft, the legal mechanism for protecting the rights and interests of women, children, youth, persons with disabilities and intellectuals, migrants was improved. The protection of ecological rights found its expression for the first time.

In order to strengthen the status of civil society institutions at the constitutional level based on the idea of turning New Uzbekistan into a strong and fair civil society dominated by the principle of human rights priority, **the term “civil society institutions” is introduced for the first time in the project**. Neighborhoods, mass media are listed among civil society institutions. The Cabinet of Ministers is tasked with implementing measures to support civil society institutions. Institutions of civil society are empowered to exercise public control over the formation and execution of the budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The expertise conclusion of the National Human Rights Center was provided to the Constitutional Comission on the draft constitutional **law “On amendments and additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan”** based on the international obligations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international treaties regarding compliance with human rights norms.

Also, comments and suggestions on freedom of conscience, freedom of thought and speech, privacy of personal data, free movement, right to hold meetings and association were presented by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

**International forum and public consultations organized to develop proposals
for amending and supplementing the Constitution**

On May 11, 2022, Tashkent	An international conference on "Constitutional reforms: the role and status of civil society institutions" was organized in Tashkent in cooperation with international organizations. At the end of the conference, the Tashkent Declaration was adopted, which includes proposals on increasing the role of civil society institutions in the formation of human rights culture in the society.
On June 20, 2022, Urganch	An international conference on the implementation of the constitutional principle "human being - society - state: national and foreign experience" was held. At the end of the conference, the principle that a person, his life, rights, freedoms and legal interests, honor and dignity is the highest value, and the implementation of the noble ideas that "The state is for a person" and "It is not the people who must serve the state bodies, but it is the state bodies who must serve the people". The Urganch Declaration was adopted, which includes the study and discussion of national and advanced foreign experience, as well as proposals for strengthening constitutional legislation and practice.
On June 21, 2022, Tashkent	In cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) representative office in Uzbekistan, a roundtable discussion was organized on the topic "Provisions on children's rights in the constitutions of foreign countries". At the end of the event, proposals were made for the constitution to reflect the obligations for strengthening the economic and moral foundations of the family, creating all the conditions for the interests and full development of children, supporting children with disabilities, and protecting human health and the environment.
On July 4, 2022, Geneva	An international roundtable on "Constitutional reform: ensuring human dignity and rights - the main goal" was organized in Geneva, Switzerland. The United Nations headquarters in Geneva, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Labor Organization, the International Commission against the Death Penalty, UNICEF management and staff, the UN Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, and non-governmental organizations were present at the event. Activists, heads of representative offices of foreign countries, representatives of the Swiss mass media, and representatives of influential international organizations announced that they would provide the necessary expert support to the constitutional reform being implemented in our country.
On July 8, 2022, Tokyo	An international roundtable on "Constitutional reforms - the basis for ensuring human rights and developing civil society" was held at the Japanese Parliament. At the event, reports were made about the constitutional reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan, in particular, the proposed changes and additions to human rights, social state, and youth issues, and detailed information was provided. Representatives of Japanese political and expert circles spoke about the international constitutional experience and developed relevant proposals.
On July 20, 2022, Tashkent	International public consultations were held on the topic "Reflection of provisions on women's rights in World Constitutions". At the event, suggestions were made for further development of the constitutional and legal basis of ensuring the effective protection of women's dignity, rights, freedoms and legal interests.
On July 20, 2022, Tashkent	International public consultations on the topic "Reflection of the provisions on the rights of persons with disabilities in the World Constitutions" were organized in Tashkent. During the public consultations, proposals were made to study the national and international experience in the field of protection and provision of the rights of vulnerable groups of the population, to reflect the international standards and principles guaranteeing the rights of disabled persons in the Constitutions of the countries of the world.
On August 1, 2022, New York	A roundtable discussion on constitutional reforms in Uzbekistan was held in the building of the American and Canadian Bukhara Jewish Congress. The Congress of Bukhara Jews of the USA and Canada expressed a positive opinion about the plans to hold a referendum on constitutional reform in Uzbekistan. It was emphasized that this is consistent with the most advanced democratic standards and the basic principles of international law.
On August 26, 2022, Tashkent	In cooperation with the UN Refugee Agency, a seminar was organized to discuss legal studies to support the possibility of joining the 1951 Refugee Convention. At the seminar, it was recommended to harmonize the national legislation with the provisions of the 1951 Convention and other relevant international standards.
On September 29, 2022 Tashkent	An international conference on "Constitutional reforms: national and international experience" was held. Opinions were exchanged on the implementation of the principles "The people are the only source and author of laws" and "All important decisions are made on the basis of direct dialogue with the people and taking into account public opinion".

To date, more than 220,000 proposals for improving the Constitution have been received and proposals continue to arrive. On November 24, 2022, at the meeting of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, a decision was made to continue work on the improvement of the draft Constitutional Law.

More than 100 national and more than 40 international forums and public consultations devoted to various aspects of constitutional reforms in Uzbekistan were held with the participation of international organizations and experts, representatives of civil society, in order to formulate proposals for amendments and additions to the Constitution and introduce the international community to the reforms implemented in Uzbekistan.

At these events, suggestions were put forward regarding the constitutional reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan and the role of human rights protection in them, particular in:

- expanding national development programs in the field of human rights;
- strengthening the protection of the dignity and rights of persons with disabilities, expanding the conditions for the full realization of their potential;
- strengthening legal guarantees for freedom of speech and opinion in society;
- strengthening the constitutional and legal foundations of civil society institutions;
- creating of regional mechanisms of sustainable development of states and regions, holding regular consultations;
- encouraging inclusive participation of civil society institutions, international observers, and voters in the referendum.

IV. HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

For people to fully participate in all decision-making processes that affect their lives on a personal, political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental level as well as to prevent violations, violence, and conflicts, human rights education is crucial. On December 19, 2011, the **United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training** assigns responsibility to UN member states to ensure and promote education and training in the field of human rights. So far, about 60 countries, including Finland, Germany, the Republic of Korea, Turkey, Azerbaijan, have adopted programs based on the recommendations provided for in the Declaration. Within the framework of the fourth phase (2020-2024) of the **UN World Programme for Human Rights Education**, member states are recommended to include human rights education for women, children and youth, including in their curricula.

In order to further improve education in the field of human rights in Uzbekistan, as well as for the effective and timely implementation of the tasks set within the fourth stage of the World Educational Program in the field of human rights, a draft decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On approval of the National program on human rights education” was developed.

The draft decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was discussed with the participation of representatives of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as national experts.

The draft program provided for the following:

- From the 2023/2024 academic year, training and special courses on “Human rights”, “Women's rights”, “Child's rights” will be introduced in the professional and higher education system;
- pre-investigation training courses on combating torture are regularly organized for employees of investigation, inquiry, investigative bodies and penal institutions;
- training courses on human rights and gender equality will be introduced in the system of retraining and professional development of leading personnel;
- An electronic platform for education in the field of human rights will be created and through this platform it will be possible to conduct training courses and seminars-training “online”;
- “Human rights education, freedoms and innovations” annual National competition will be held;
- persons with disabilities, women's rights, children's rights and educational courses and seminar-training will be organized in organizations directly related to the rights of migrants;
- “Human rights and freedoms in Uzbekistan”, “Human rights”, “Children's rights”, “Women's rights”, “Rights of persons with disabilities” series of manuals and brochures will be prepared and published, and seminars and trainings will be held on this basis;
- “Literature in the field of human rights” will be organized in the information-library centers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and regions. Its fund is constantly provided with collections of

international treaties in the national language, educational, scientific-methodical and international publications in the field.

On December 5-6, 2022, the Global Forum “Human Rights Education” was organized in the city of Samarkand in order to implement the initiatives put forward by the President of Uzbekistan at the 76th session of the UN General Assembly and the 46th session of the Human Rights Council, to discuss the development of human rights education.

At the Global forum, the UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training and the intermediate results of the implementation of the UN World Human Rights Education Program were summarized, a presentation of best practices and innovative approaches in this field was submitted, ideas were exchanged and recommendations were made for improvement at the national level.

More than 120 international experts and representatives of more than 2000 national organizations participated in the Global forum. Also, more than 1,000 books and scientific journals of about 250 titles dedicated to human rights education were exhibited at the exhibition of literature on human rights education.

Master classes on human rights were organized by leading professors and lecturers from various universities around the world for more than 7,000 participants including students of higher educational institutions from all regions of the country, government officials, and representatives of non-governmental non-profit organizations.

Work was carried out to inform the population and the international community about the policy of New Uzbekistan in the field of human rights protection. More than 300 information and information-analytical materials were posted on national and international information sites. The number of views of Global Forum materials on the Internet and social networks exceeded 250 thousand.

At the Global forum, Uzbekistan's policies and initiatives to ensure human dignity, rights, freedoms, and legal interests, as well as the work done in New Uzbekistan in recent years to protect human rights, develop education in the field of human rights, and create a culture of human rights in society, were highly appreciated.



Global Forum on "Human Rights Education". Samarkand, December 5-6, 2022



GLOBAL FORUM ON HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Symbol of the Global Forum on "Human Rights Education"

The final document of the global forum – the Samarkand Action Plan for the development of education in the field of human rights was adopted.

Today, the Center is preparing to launch an electronic platform in order to introduce electronic courses in the field of human rights. Human rights education materials will be posted on the electronic platform.

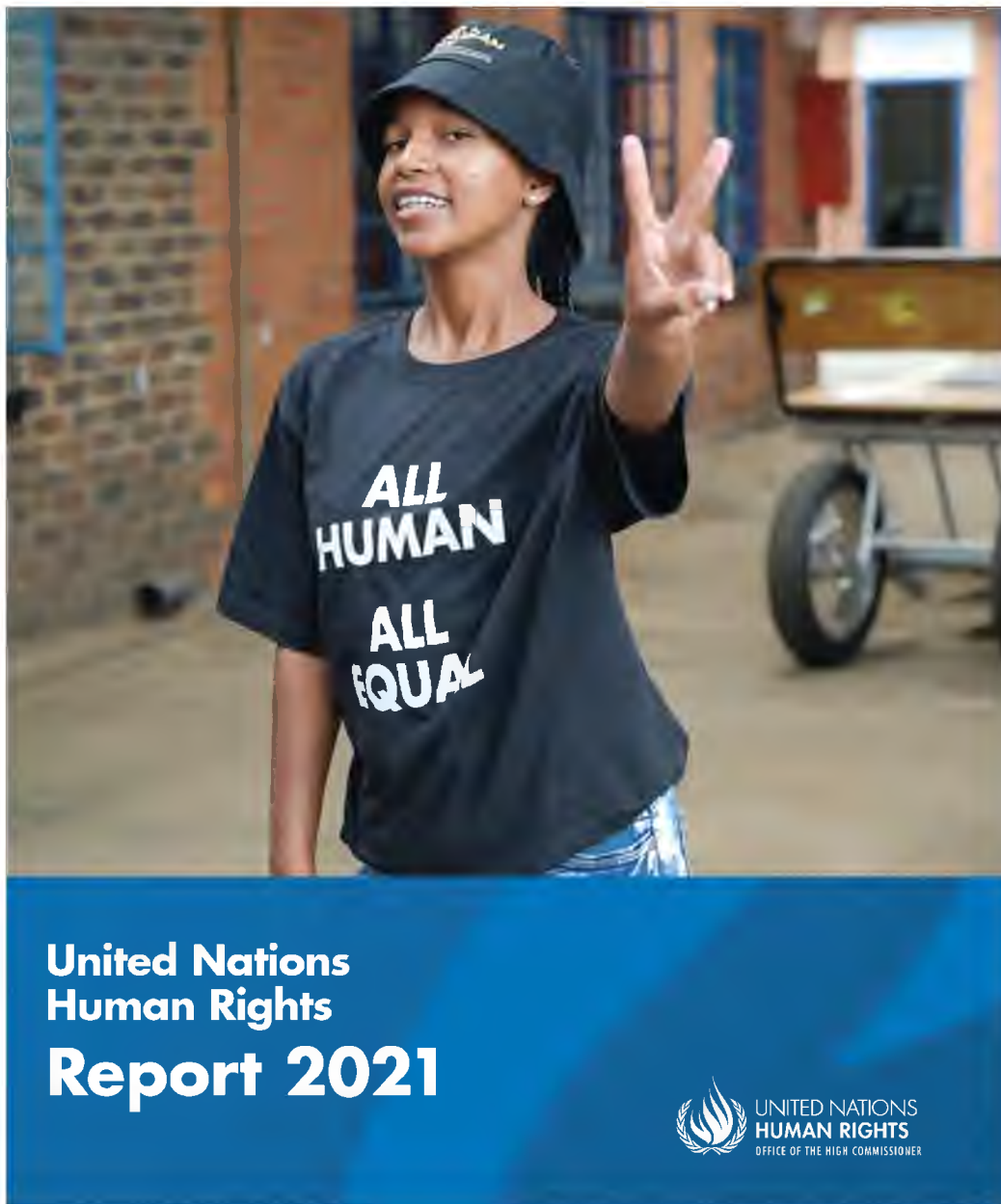
Also, during 2022, about 40 practical manuals, commentaries and methodological literature on the issues of compliance with international obligations on human rights were published and distributed to more than 80 state bodies, organizations, and non-governmental non-profit organizations.

In its **2021 Activity Report**, the Office of the **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** positively assessed cooperation with Uzbekistan on implementation of the recommendations of mechanisms for enforcing protecting international law and training of employees of state bodies and civil society institutions.

The report contains information on the activities carried out by Uzbekistan in cooperation with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights,

including:

- about **200** law enforcement officers are in online courses on the implementation of Uzbekistan's international obligations to ensure human rights and prevent torture;
- **22** representatives of national human rights institutions and representatives of civil society institutions were trained on international practices and standards of organizing monitoring and preparing reports in institutions with limited freedom of movement;
- about **50** representatives of non-governmental non-profit organizations participated in webinars and trainings dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights, women's rights, development of social partnership, and increasing knowledge on international mechanisms in the field of human rights;
- about **50** persons with disabilities participated in trainings within the framework of the joint program on the rights of persons with disabilities with the participation of representatives of organizations protecting their rights and interests, relevant state bodies and UN agencies.



In addition, the report notes that Uzbekistan has transferred funds in the amount of 100 thousand US dollars to the UN Voluntary Fund for Human Rights, including the organization and holding of the Global Forum “Education on Human Rights”.

Training courses were organized to increase the knowledge and skills of employees of state bodies in the field of human rights, gender equality and fighting against torture

On May
26-27, 2022,
Training courses on the topic "Combating torture: international practice and national experience" were held for law enforcement officers of all regions of the Republic with the participation of international experts

On July
15, 2022,
In cooperation with the UN Regional Office on Drugs and Crime in Central Asia, an online roundtable dedicated to Nelson Mandela International Day was organized



On June
1-3, 2022,
Training on the topic "Prevention of gender-based violence in places of deprivation of liberty" was held for the employees of the penal institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan

On May
19-20, 2022,
Short-term training courses were organized for 35 employees of ministries and agencies responsible for public relations and relations with international organizations on the topic "State policy in the field of human rights protection and the implementation of international obligations in this field"

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

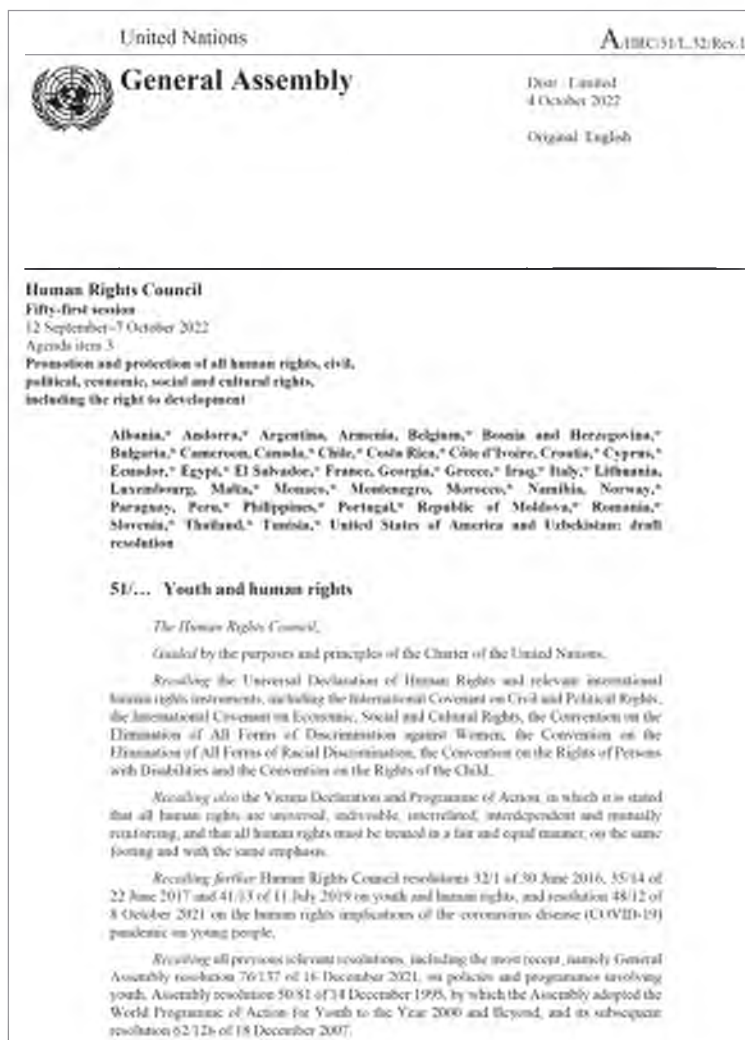
Cooperation with international and regional structures in the field of human rights protection, as well as national human rights institutes from other countries, was developed in 2022.

International cooperation took many forms, including joining and ratifying international human rights treaties, organizing bilateral events in collaboration with international organizations and foreign countries, signing memoranda, and monitoring issues of human rights observance.

In accordance with the proposal made by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in 2020, on December 14, 2022, the UN General Assembly unanimously approved the **resolution “Enhancing the role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals”**. The resolution notes the important role of parliaments in ensuring that no one is left behind in the post-COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, it focused on accelerating the achievement of the SDG by promoting the full, equal and effective participation of women in the work of legislative bodies and parliamentary processes.

A number of international, regional and national events and consultations were organized in order to implement the international legal initiatives of Uzbekistan on youth rights. On October 4, 2022, the **resolution “Youth and human rights”** was adopted at the 51st session of the UN Human Rights Council. This resolution was initiated by 41 countries, including Uzbekistan, in which it aims to expand the participation of young people in the development of their countries, create equal opportunities for them, protect young people from digital threats, promote initiatives in the field of human rights education for young people.

United Nations		A/C.2/77/L.18/Rev.1
	General Assembly	Distr.: Limited 10 November 2022 Original: English
Seventy-seventh session Second Committee Agenda item 18 Sustainable development		
Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Malaysia, Nepal, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, South Sudan, Spain, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam: revised draft resolution		
Enhancing the role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals		
<i>The General Assembly,</i> <i>Reaffirming</i> its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business, <i>Guided</i> by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and grounded in international law and the principle of leaving no one behind, <i>Recognizing</i> the essential role of national parliaments and parliaments at other levels, where they exist, through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of their commitments, <i>Recalling</i> its resolution 76/270 of 21 June 2022 on interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in which it recognized the actions and contributions of parliaments at the national, regional and global levels, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in support of the accelerated achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,		



To influence the way of life of young people, issues such as participation in decision-making were expressed.

On February 7, 2022, Uzbekistan ratified International Labor Organization's **the Safety and Health in Construction Convention**. The ratification of this convention serves to effectively introduce international standards on occupational safety and hygiene.

Proposals were developed on the expediency of the Republic of Uzbekistan's accession to the Hague Convention "On the International Order of Child Maintenance and Other Forms of Family Support". Currently, the draft Law on accession to this international document has been developed and the processes of agreement are being carried out in accordance with the established procedure.

Memorandums of cooperation aimed at strengthening and developing the legal basis of

cooperation with national institutions of foreign countries and international organizations in the field of human rights were drawn up. Joint support of human rights protection and promotion activities in cooperation memorandums, regular consultations, exchange of experience in the field of human rights protection, implementation of joint projects, joint trainings and seminars, scientific research, protection and promotion of human rights cooperation in international and regional mechanisms is envisaged.

Monitoring visits were carried out in order to study the state of the citizen's rights protection of Uzbekistan, including labor migrants, in foreign countries, **including:**

1. On May 14, 2022, the staff of the Center and the Institute of the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis for Human Rights (Ombudsman) organized a meeting with the citizens of Uzbekistan living and working in **Turkey** with the participation of the Consul General of Uzbekistan in Istanbul. At the meeting, appeals were received from Uzbek migrants on issues such as education, health care, employment, material assistance, and citizenship legalization. Some problems of Uzbek migrants were quickly solved on the spot.

2. From October 31 to November 2, 2022, the delegation of Uzbekistan visited the Republic of **Kazakhstan** to monitor the implementation of the Intergovernmental agreement between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan in the field of labor migration. During the monitoring visit, the activities of state bodies responsible for ensuring the rights of migrants, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations were studied in the cities of Astana, Almaty and Ust-Kamenogorsk, interviews were held with labor migrants from Uzbekistan and employers from Kazakhstan.

During the visit, the following difficulties related to ensuring the rights of labor migrants from Uzbekistan were identified:

First, the quota system for overseas migrants usually requires high qualifications, work experience in a specific field or higher education, and employers prefer to hire informal workers, estimating the amount of taxes paid for hiring migrant workers as high. As a result, the burden of illegal migration remains high.

Second, wars and crises in the world have a negative impact on the social and economic situation of labor migrants. Also, in some foreign countries, the legislation regulating relations related to the legal status of labor migrants and their social protection requires improvement.

The following measures are proposed to strengthen the mechanism for the protection of the rights of labor migrants:

firstly, it is desirable to improve the mechanism of international, regional and interstate constant consultations aimed at strengthening the guarantees of protection of the rights of labor migrants;

second, it is necessary to expand the unified database of reliable foreign employers, to constantly update it, to form unified qualification standards of specialists who are in demand in the labor market of foreign countries, and to further improve the mechanism of communication between employers and labor migrants.

Events organized in 2022 in the sphere of human rights in collaboration with international organizations

On February 16, 2022

Uzbek-British Youth Forum on the topic "Opportunities and rights for young people: consequences after the pandemic" was held in Tashkent.

The forum was organized in cooperation with the Parliamentary Commission on Observance of Uzbekistan's International Obligations in the Field of Human Rights, the National Center for Human Rights and the British NGO "Global Partnership Management Fund"

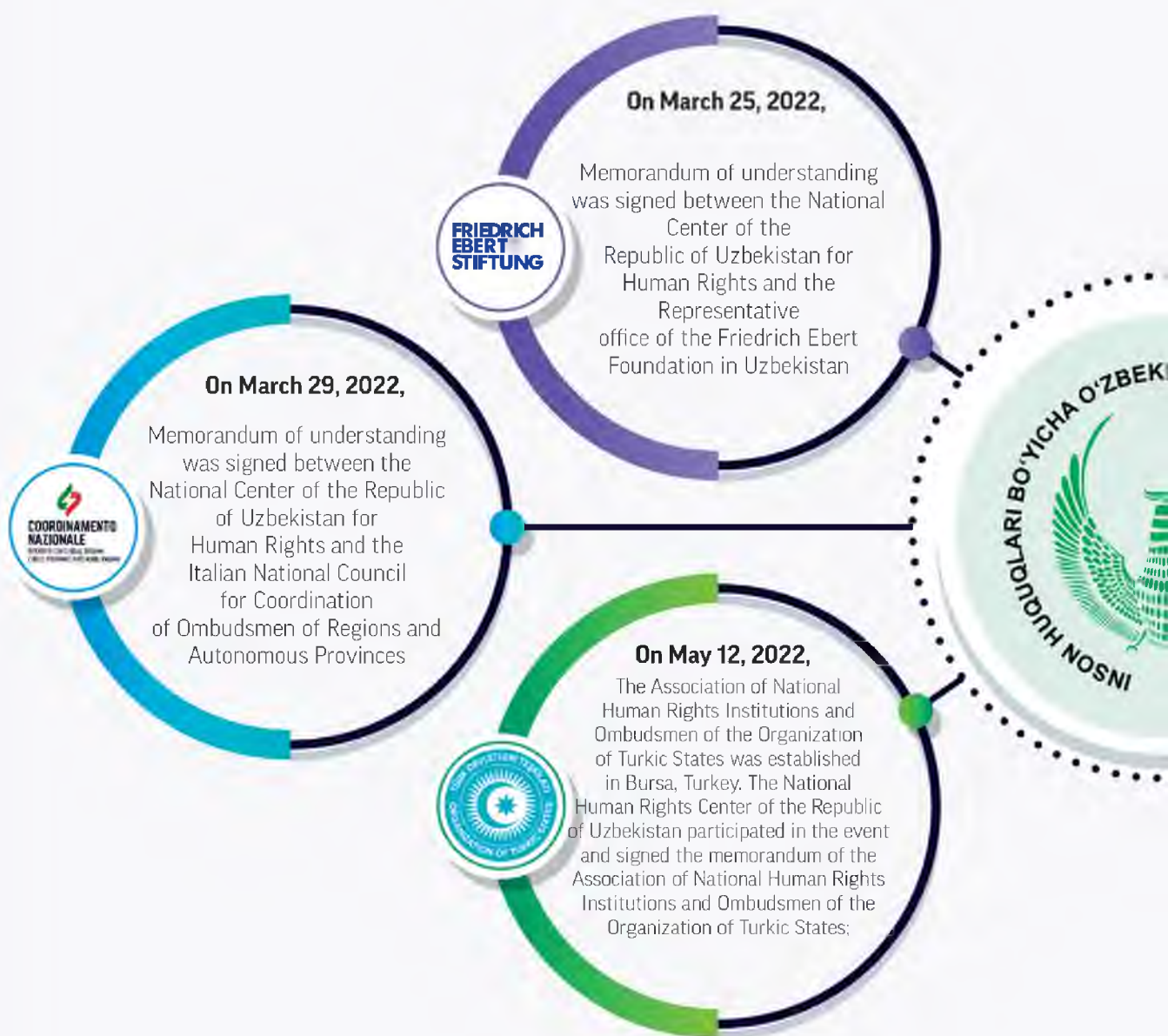
On April 12-13, 2022

In cooperation with the Regional Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Central Asia, a seminar-training was held in Tashkent on the topic "Increasing the capacity of non-governmental non-commercial organizations in preparing an alternative report on the observance of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities"

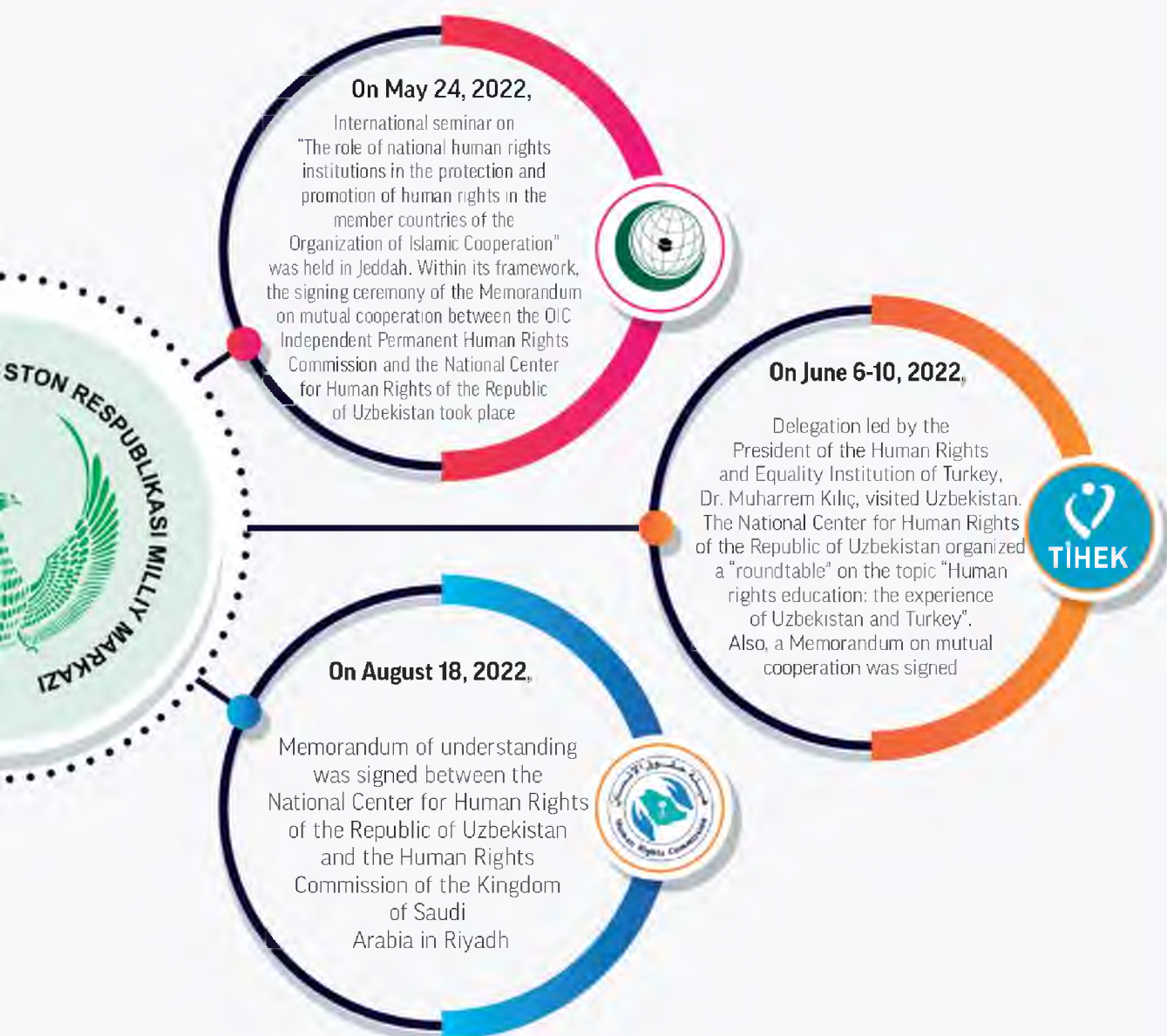
On June 6, 2022

In cooperation with the Regional office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Central Asia, a "roundtable" was held on the topic "Issues on establishing the practice of arranging and directing temporary measures for persons who may be in need of international protection in the Republic of Uzbekistan"

INTERNATIONAL



MEMORANDUMS



VI. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Despite global economic and political crises, the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change, threats to peace and security in 2022, significant steps were taken to improve Uzbekistan's mechanism for protecting human rights and interests, as well as ensuring the fulfillment of international human rights obligations.

Within the framework of the National Strategy for Human Rights, goals and measures to improve the human rights protection system are being implemented.

Furthermore, there are issues that have a negative impact on the effective application of international human rights standards, ensuring the consistent protection of civil rights and freedoms which require such task as:

first, to improve the field of social protection on the basis of international standards and leading foreign experience, to develop a system of comprehensive state services for the vulnerable segments of the population, to optimize the social service functions of state bodies and organizations, to establish a single database and statistical data on the segments of the population in need of social protection necessary;

second, to take measures to expand the opportunities for disabled people to use state services and facilities, to ensure inclusive education at all levels, to equip educational institutions with educational materials adapted to persons with disabilities, and to provide appropriate training for pedagogues;

third, to develop additional mechanisms of social protection for orphans and children deprived of parental care, which requires the activation of work to strengthen family support in alternative care of children, especially children with disabilities;

fourth, despite measures aimed at ensuring gender equality, including ensuring women's rights, increasing the position of women in public life and management, and protecting them from oppression and violence, the level of gender violence, especially domestic violence, remains high (in 2022, it was recorded against women 82.2 percent of 41,598 cases of harassment and violence were committed in families);

fifth, to regulate the activity of the national preventive mechanism with a separate law aimed at early prevention of crimes related to torture, identification and elimination of the factors that allowed torture cases to be committed;

sixth, to take measures to hold private companies legally responsible for violating the economic, social and cultural rights of citizens as a result of their activities, and to provide victims with appropriate means of protection;

seventh, the legal norms regulating educational relations are scattered, and about 100 regulatory legal documents have been adopted. Such a situation causes certain inconsistencies and normative conflicts in ensuring the rights of teachers and students in the field of education. Systematization of education legislation is required to prevent this;

eighth, the failure to implement the norms of international treaties on human rights by courts and law enforcement agencies leads to objections by the UN's statutory bodies and treaty committees.

In 2023, the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action will be widely celebrated

by the international community. It is important to hold international, regional and national events, improve informational and educational work on human rights, as well as prepare textbooks, manuals and other literature for the population, youth and children.

In order to effectively fulfill obligations arising from international human rights treaties, as well as recommendations of international and regional organizations, the followings are proposed:

1. Adoption of the Program of Action for the **75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

2. Development of the **draft Social Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan**.

3. Accelerating the development of the **drafts of the Information Code and Health Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan**.

4. Adoption of the **law “On making additions to the Criminal-Executive Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at improving the legal basis of the national preventive mechanism for the prevention of torture.”**

5. Development of the **draft Education Code** by systematizing the legal documents related to education.

6. State program **“Convenient physical environment”**, which provides for the creation of appropriate conditions for the use of social facilities, cultural and entertainment organizations and sports facilities by disabled people, and measures to regulate the installation of sound and lighting devices on sidewalks, passenger stations and pedestrian crossings.

7. Development of the National strategy for deinstitutionalization of placement of orphans and children deprived of parental care and development of the **draft law “On social protection of orphans and children left without parental care”**.

8. Based on the recommendation of the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, improvement of the Law “On the Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence” and other relevant legal documents, including the concept of “domestic violence” in the law and responsibility for domestic violence as a separate crime designation.

9. Consideration of the ratification of the 1981 Convention on Workers with Family Responsibilities (No. 156) of the International Labor Organization.

10. Organization of an information campaign and relevant training courses for entrepreneurs to raise awareness of the principles of human rights protection and observance in the activities of private companies. Adoption of the National Action Plan for the implementation of the **UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights**.

11. Development of a program of measures to establish the practice of applying international human rights norms by courts and law enforcement agencies.

THE NEW UZBEKISTAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS

INFORMATION
ON COMPLIANCE WITH
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS
IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Published

National Centre of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights.
100029, Tashkent, Islam Karimov street, 15.