Main Submitter: Republic of Ivory Coast
Co-Submitter: Poland

Signatories: Afghanistan, Cuba, South Africa, Egypt, Eritrea, Russia, Italy, Somalia, Israel, Afgainstan, Iran, China, Spain, Vietnam, Turkey, Syria, Cameroon, Haiti USA, Sudan, Bangladesh, Sweden, Slovakia, Uganda, Ukrain, France, Switzerland, Bangladesh, USA, Thailand, Ecuador, Turkministan
Topic: Strengthening Accountability for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Against Civilians in Armed Conflicts

Human Rights Committee,

Deeply concerned by the increasing use of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) as a method of warfare, intimidation, torture and forced displacement, with more than 4,600 cases verified by the United Nations in 2024 alone,

Recognising that although women and girls make up the majority of verified survivors, men, boys and children are also targeted, particularly in detention and conflict-affadeshected communities,

Recalling the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (1998) and United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010) and 2467 (2019), which establish international commitments to preventing CRSV and strengthening accountability,

Acknowledging that existing monitoring mechanisms, including the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA), face challenges such as restricted access to conflict zones, insufficient funding and limited government cooperation,

Emphasising that accountability must include not only the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators, but also medical care, psychological support, legal assistance and reparations for survivors, regardless of whether they participate in criminal proceedings,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen national investigations into CRSV by creating specialised teams of police officers, prosecutors, medical professionals and survivor support workers, responsible for:
    a. Investigating allegations involving state forces, armed groups and other perpetrators;
    b. Training investigators in:
        i. Trauma-informed interviews and confidential evidence collection;
        ii. Recognising CRSV as a potential war crime, crime against humanity or, where legally applicable, an act of genocide;
        iii. Protecting survivors and witnesses from intimidation and retaliation;

c. Establishing secure procedures for preserving evidence, including when insecurity prevents immediate prosecution;
d. Ensuring that national laws allow for the investigation of senior officials who order, facilitate or knowingly fail to prevent or punish such crimes, in accordance with international law;

2. *Requests* Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in cooperation with relevant UN bodies working on conflict-related sexual violence, to strengthen existing monitoring and documentation efforts by:
    a. Supporting Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) through:
        i. Providing technical assistance to local monitoring personnel;
        ii. Improving secure channels for reporting verified incidents;
        iii. Supporting documentation in areas that investigators cannot safely access; b. Encouraging Member States to facilitate safe access into conflict-affected areas where CRSV is suspected or has been reported, for authorised UN investigators and humanitarian personnel;
    c. Presenting an annual assessment to the Human Rights Council covering:
        i. Verified patterns of CRSV and parties repeatedly implicated;
        ii. Obstacles to investigations, including insufficient funding and government non-cooperation;
        iii. Progress made by states in implementing accountability recommendations;

3. *Encourages* Member States and relevant UN bodies to establish early-warning and civilian-protection measures in areas at high risk of CRSV by:
    a. Monitoring warning signs such as mass displacement, escalating armed activity, attacks on healthcare facilities, detention-related abuse and threats against communities;
    b. Creating communication channels between local authorities, humanitarian organisations, community representatives and UN protection personnel to share verified warnings;
    c. Establishing rapid-response procedures to:
        i. Assess threats to civilians when credible warning signs emerge;
        ii. Prioritise the protection of displaced persons, detainees and vulnerable communities;
        iii. Coordinate safe access to healthcare and humanitarian assistance; d. Training military and security personnel to prevent CRSV, protect civilians and report suspected violations;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to provide survivors with free, confidential and long-term support, independently of their participation in criminal proceedings, including: a. Medical treatment and continuing reproductive and general healthcare; b. Long-term psychological support provided by trained professionals; c. Confidential legal assistance and safe reporting procedures, without requiring survivors to report crimes or testify in order to receive support;
    d. National reparations programmes providing:
        i. Compensation for physical, psychological and economic harm;
        ii. Medical, psychological and vocational rehabilitation;
        iii. Support for safe reintegration into communities;
    e. Encouraging UN agencies and international donors to fund these services, particularly in conflict zones where existing support has been reduced;

5. *Urges* Member States and relevant UN agencies to strengthen protection for children, men and boys affected by CRSV by:
    a. Training healthcare workers, investigators and detention personnel to recognise and respond to male and child survivors without discrimination;
    b. Ensuring that children deprived of their liberty:
        i. Are detained only as a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period; ii. Are separated from adults in detention;
        iii. Have access to legal assistance, a qualified legal representitive and independent oversight;
    c. Treating children associated with armed forces or armed groups primarily as victims requiring protection and reintegration;
    d. Providing age-appropriate medical, psychological and educational support while protecting children from forced disclosure of their experiences;

6. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation to ensure perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence are held accountable by:
    a. Supporting cooperation between national judicial systems to help prosecute perpetrators who flee across borders;
    b. Providing legal and technical assistance to countries that lack the resources to address CRSV cases;
    c. Ensuring that senior commanders and officials who order, facilitate or knowingly fail to prevent or punish CRSV can be held accountable under applicable national and international law;
7. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant United Nations Security Council sanctions

committees to consider targeted sanctions against individuals responsible for conflict related sexual violence, within their legal authority, by:

a. Applying restrictions based on credible, verified evidence, including:
    i. Freezing financial assets to prevent access to funds;
    ii. Imposing travel bans to restrict international movement;
b. Including military commanders who order these crimes or fail to prevent or punish them when legally responsible;
c. Reviewing sanctions regularly and allowing affected individuals to challenge their designation;
d. Ensuring that sanctions do not block humanitarian aid, medical care or support for survivors.