

Submission by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights' Compilation Report -

Universal Periodic Review:

GRENADA

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Grenada, which consists of eight smaller islands on the southern edge of the Grenadines, is not party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, its 1967 Protocol (hereinafter referred to jointly as the 1951 Convention), the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (1954 Convention) or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness (1961 Convention). The country's lack of a national refugee law is also concerning, as Grenada's geographical location in the densely populated chain of islands in the Lesser Antilles inevitably makes the State a popular transit and destination point for regional migration and migrant trafficking. Recently, as there has been a surge in mixed migration flows throughout the Caribbean, Grenada is likely to see an increase in the number of asylum-seekers.

Currently, all matters related to asylum-seekers and refugees in Grenada are covered by UNHCR's regional office in Washington. In the absence of national asylum and refugee legislation and procedures in Grenada, UNHCR must conduct registration and refugee status determination (RSD) in the country and undertake the search for durable solutions. Voluntary repatriation and resettlement in a third country are the only durable solutions presently for refugees in Grenada.

II. ACHIEVEMENTS AND BEST PRACTICES

According to information available to UNHCR, the Government of Grenada has not knowingly violated the principle of *non-refoulement*. Additionally, while Grenada receives few asylum-seekers each year, the State, nevertheless, has an open policy towards migrants, especially those from within the Caribbean, and frequently allows them to remain in the country without a granting of refugee status.

The Government has cooperated with UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations in past requests for assistance pending resettlement. In 2010, the Government agreed not to deport a family recognized as refugees under UNHCR's mandate and who were subsequently resettled to a third country. In March 2011, UNHCR recognized another refugee family that was resettled in February 2012 to a third country under UNHCR's global resettlement program.

Additionally, UNHCR welcomed the Government's active participation in the May 2013 "Regional Conference on the Protection of Vulnerable Persons in Mixed Migration Flows – Promoting Cooperation and Identification of Good Practices" which was jointly organized by UNHCR and IOM in The Bahamas (hereinafter "Bahamas Conference"). Mr. Martin Brizane, Director of Statistics of Grenada's Ministry of Finance, and Mr. Brian Parkes, Assistant Superintendent of the Royal Grenada Police Force, attended, as well as Honorary Liaison Mr. Christopher Williams of the Red Cross. This event brought together a total of 98 representatives from the Caribbean region and provided an opportunity for dialogue and partnership on a variety of issues related to the protection of vulnerable persons in mixed-migration flows. After three days of presentations and plenary discussions, the Conference participants agreed to recommend that States enhance regional cooperation and partnership in order to respect international and regional protection standards and improve the management of mixed migration flows in the Caribbean.

Nonetheless, it is difficult for UNHCR to comment on achievements and best practices. UNHCR is not aware of any policies or practices used by Grenada to identify asylum-seekers or refugees; moreover, the Government has no formal channels for providing protection to refugees or asylum-seekers.

III. KEY PROTECTION ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Issue 1: Protection of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Grenada is only one of five States in the Caribbean region that has not acceded to the international refugee instruments. Given the regional context and protection challenges, accession to the *1951 Convention* should be a first priority. While Grenada has not intentionally or knowingly violated the principle of *non-refoulement*, more efforts to identify persons in need of international protection are needed by the State; creating a national plan to identify vulnerable persons will reduce Grenada's chances of inadvertently violating the *non-refoulement* principle. UNHCR continues to encourage the Government of Grenada to develop formal procedures for determining refugee status.

Accession greatly facilitates UNHCR's task of mobilizing international support to address refugee situations that may arise in any country. UNHCR believes that it is necessary to broaden the base of State support for these refugee instruments, ensuring that the protection provided to refugees is more universal in scope and the burdens and responsibilities of governments are equitably distributed and consistently applied. Accession to the *1951 Convention* and establishment of a national legal framework would provide a clearer basis for the Government of Grenada to provide refugees with international protection and a mechanism that enables the appropriate engagement of relevant international organizations like UNHCR.

UNHCR is prepared to provide support to the Government of Grenada to develop a national refugee policy, including the drafting of national refugee legislation. UNHCR remains ready to provide training and capacity-building services to government staff, civil society members and academics, in order to strengthen its capacity to manage mixed migration flows and assist persons in need of international protection.

In response to the recommendation made during the first cycle of the UPR on Grenada "to accede to the Conventions on refugees and stateless persons" the Government stated that "*The State will continue reviewing the possibility of ratifying the Refugee and Stateless Conventions*."¹

In this context, UNHCR also welcomes the recommendation by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to accede to the *1951 Refugee Convention* and its *1967 Protocol* in the Concluding Observations of its 51^{st} session in 2012.²

Recommendations:

UNHCR recommends that the Government of Grenada:

- Accede to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 *Protocol*;
- Adopt national refugee legislation and develop administrative regulations, policies and procedures to ensure full compliance with its obligations under the *1951 Convention*;
- Develop a national refugee status determination procedure and build the capacity of Government officials to successfully undertake refugee status determination, with UNHCR's technical support; and
- Facilitate full and open access to asylum procedures for persons who have expressed a fear of returning to their country of origin and to ensure *non-refoulement* of all persons in need of international protection.

Issue 2: Address challenges in the context of mixed migration

Like other countries in the region, Grenada is facing a complex phenomenon of mixed migratory movements across the Caribbean. It is crucial that all Caribbean countries – whether countries of destination or of transit – develop their capacity to appropriately manage these movements with a coordinated approach. There is a need for cross-country cooperation in data collection and analysis, protection-sensitive entry systems, reception arrangements, mechanisms for profiling and referral, differentiated processes and long-term solutions. When addressing all these aspects of migration movements, the Government of Grenada should take into consideration the specific situation of persons in need of international protection and persons belonging to vulnerable groups.

The trafficking of persons, particularly women and children, is of major concern for UNHCR since a coordinated approach to prevent and protect trafficking victims has not been fully developed in the region. Concerning Grenada specifically, UNHCR acknowledges the State acceded to the *Palermo Protocol* in 2004; however, UNHCR is concerned with the absence of specific policies and a comprehensive legislation on human trafficking, including in particular specific protection to the victims of trafficking. The issue has been brought to the attention to

¹ UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Grenada*, 16 June 2010, A/HRC/15/12, available at:

http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/G10/133/65/PDF/G1013365.pdf?OpenElement

² UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Concluding Comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Grenada, 21 February 2012, (CEDAW/C/GRD/1-5), available at: <u>http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/CEDAW-C-GRD-CO-</u>1-5.pdf

the Government of Grenada previously. In 2012, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended that the Government of Grenada "adopt comprehensive legislation and policies to address trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, in line with the Convention and the Palermo Protocol, to strengthen mechanisms for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of offenders and specific support programs for victims."³ Further, the Committee stated it was imperative for Grenada to, "gather and analyze sex-disaggregated data and information on trafficking and sexual exploitation, including prostitution."⁴

Recommendations:

UNHCR recommends that the Government of Grenada:

- Further engage in an enhanced dialogue with UNHCR on the mixed migratory movements that are common in the Caribbean;
- Enhance dialogue and consultation with UNHCR regarding mixed migratory flows experienced by the country, including through consultations on individuals or groups of undocumented migrants detected in Grenada; and
- Gather information on the numbers of undocumented persons known to have arrived to and/or transited the territory, the nationalities of these persons, and what steps were taken (if any) to determine whether any of these individuals had special protection needs or feared being returned to their country of origin due to violence, conflict or persecution. This information could ensure the Government of Grenada receives support from UNHCR to manage mixed migratory flows.

Issue 3: <u>Prevention of Statelessness</u>

Grenada is not a State party to the 1954 Convention, nor to the 1961 Convention. The nationality framework of Grenada, as embodied in its Constitution, incorporates jus soli and jus sanguinis provisions in the determination of who is a Grenadian citizen. Citizenship can be obtained by birth in the territory and/or by virtue of descent from a Grenadian mother or father citizen. However, some provisions of the Citizenship Act⁵ may not be in line with the international standards to prevent statelessness. For example, the provisions contained in Article 9 of the Citizenship Act, which refer to situations in which persons may be rendered stateless as a result of a deprivation decision,⁶ go well beyond the exceptions allowed for under Article 8 of the 1961 Convention. Renunciation of Grenadian citizenship may pose an additional problem in a case where the person affirms, to the best of his/her knowledge, that he/she will acquire the nationality.⁷ Finally, although Article 20 of the Registration of

³ *Id*.

⁴ *Id*.

⁵ Act No. 12 of 1976, as amended by Act No. 11 of 1977, Act No. 44 of 1980, Act No. 17 of 1984, Act No. 39 of 1991, Act No. 31 of 1996, Act No. 19 of 1997, Act No. 36 of 1998, Act No. 26 of 1999, Act No. 40 of 2000, and Act No. 31 of 2002.

⁶ This provision authorizes the Minister to deprive a citizen of Grenada by naturalization of his or her citizenship if he or she is satisfied that that citizen has, within five years after becoming naturalized, been sentenced in any country to a term of imprisonment of twelve months or more.

⁷ Article 10 (Renunciation of citizenship) of the Citizenship Act allows renunciation when the citizen of full age and capacity is, or is about to become, a citizen of another country. The "Declaration of Renunciation of

*Births and Deaths Act*⁸ regulates the information to be provided to the authorities respecting the finding of a newborn child, there is no specific provision dealing with the issue of the nationality of foundlings.⁹

UNHCR would like to note that in 2010, the Committee on Rights of the Child recommended for Grenada to "...take the necessary measures to ensure that all children are registered at birth".¹⁰ The Committee expressed concern "...that some children are... not... registered at birth and are not given a name until their baptism, which could be [several] months after their birth.... Furthermore, the Committee is concerned at reports of the widespread practice whereby a baptism certificate must be presented before a child can be given a birth certificate. The Committee also notes with concern that the father's name is not put on the birth certificate unless he is present for the registration of the birth...¹¹

In 2012, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women also expressed concern over birth registration in Grenada. In Grenada, in the private sphere of life, the social and sexual norms do sustain the dominance of men. There is a high prevalence of visiting relationships by successive males which consequently results in a high incidence of single parenting and ultimately the feminization of poverty.¹² The social acceptance of a male dominated culture led the Committee to review "certain legal provisions and procedures in the State party [that] discriminate against women or reflect negative gender stereotypes, including in the forms for registering birth and issuing a birth certificate; the application for citizenship by Commonwealth citizens; the registration of marriage; the priority of parental consent of marriage for persons under 18 years; and the procedure to apply for a passport for a child." As a result, the Committee urged Grenada "to systematically review its laws and regulations in order to amend gender-based discriminatory provisions in its legislation and administrative regulations."¹³

Moreover, UNHCR has noted that, "there is the non-implementation of recommended constitutional reform following Grenada's combined first reporting to the CEDAW Committee

Citizenship", approved by the regulation, does not include any reassurance that the applicant indeed acquires the nationality of another country.

⁸ Chapter 280, Registration of Births and Deaths Act, as amended by Act No. 10 of 1967 and Act No. 45 of 1991.

⁹ Article 2 of the 1961 Convention sets out that a foundling found in the territory of a Contracting State shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be considered to have been born within that territory of parents possessing the nationality of that State.

¹⁰UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 2010, Concluding Observations 54th session, CRC/C/GRD/CO/2, available at:

http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC/C/GRD/CO/2/CORR.1& Lang=En.

¹¹ *Id.* at par. 30-31.

¹² A Anande Trotman-Joseph, *Shadow report to CEDAW Committee*, available at: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/IAGDO_Grenada51.pdf at 7.

¹³ UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Concluding Comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women: Grenada, 21 October 2010, (CEDAW/C/GRD/1-5), par. 13-14, available at: <u>http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/co/CEDAW-C-GRD-CO-1-5.pdf</u>

in 2012."14 As a result, UNHCR urges Grenada to implement the constitutional reforms recommended by the CEDAW Committee in 2012 in order to prevent cases of statelessness.

Birth registration is fundamental to the protection of children of concern to UNHCR and to the prevention of statelessness. Failure to document a person's legal existence can prevent the effective enjoyment of a range of human rights, including access to education and health care. In 2013, the Human Rights Council adopted a resolution on birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person before the law, calling upon "States to ensure free birth registration, including free or low-fee late birth registration, by means of universal, accessible, simple, expeditious and effective registration procedures without discrimination of any kind."¹⁵ Because birth registration legally establishes the place of birth, proof of age, and parental affiliation, it serves as important documentary proof to acquire the parents' nationality or the nationality of the State in which the child is born. It also provides children with a degree of protection against child labour, illegal adoption, early marriage, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.

Recommendations:

UNHCR recommends that the Government of Grenada:

- Review the Citizenship Act and the Registration of Births and Deaths Act and, if necessary, amend them in order to fully comply with the international standards on prevention of statelessness, which are crystalized in the 1961 Convention; and
- Register and issue birth certificates to all children born on its territory, at time of birth.

Issue 4: Accession to the International Statelessness Conventions

At the 15th UPR session in 2010, Grenada was encouraged to accede to the international instruments dedicated to preventing and reducing statelessness and ensuring the protection of stateless populations.¹⁶ Grenada stated that "The State will continue reviewing the possibility of ratifying the (...) Stateless Conventions."¹⁷

Accession to the Statelessness Conventions would establish a stronger framework to prevent and reduce statelessness and avoid the detrimental effects of statelessness on individuals and society by ensuring minimum standards of treatment for stateless persons. UNHCR has mandate responsibilities to address statelessness with regard to the identification, prevention

¹⁴ Grenada Ministry of Social Development and Housing, Grenada National Beijing+20 Review and Examination of the achievements and challenges in implementing commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. April 2014, available at:

http://www.unwomen.org/~/media/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/CSW/59/National reviews/Grenada revie w Beijing20.pdf ¹⁵ Human Rights Council, Birth registration and the right of everyone to recognition everywhere as a person

before the law, A/HRC/22/L.14/Rev.1, 9 April 2013, available at:

http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G13/128/19/PDF/G1312819.pdf?OpenElement.

¹⁶15th UPR session 2010 (A/HRC/15/12): "71.2. Consider (...); accede to the Conventions on refugees and stateless persons; and accomplish the human rights goals set out in Human Rights Council resolution 9/12 (Brazil)".

¹⁷ UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Grenada, 16 June 2010. A/HRC/15/12. available at:

http://daccess-ddsny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G10/144/60/PDF/G1014460.pdf?OpenElement.

and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. The Office is willing to provide support to Grenada in the field of statelessness.

The 1954 Convention safeguards minimum standards of treatment for stateless persons in respect to a number of fundamental rights. These include, but are not limited to, the right to education, employment, housing and public relief. Importantly, the 1954 Convention also guarantees stateless persons a right to identity and travel documents and to administrative assistance.

The 1961 Convention establishes an international framework to ensure the right of every person to a nationality by establishing safeguards to prevent statelessness at birth and later in life. This treaty is therefore complementary to standards contained in other human rights treaties that address the right to a nationality. An increase in the number of State parties to the two Statelessness Conventions is essential to strengthening international efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness and ensuring full enjoyment of a number of these rights.

Recommendation:

UNHCR recommends that the Government of Grenada:

• Accede to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

Human Rights Liaison Unit Division of International Protection UNHCR June 2014

ANNEX

Excerpts of Concluding Observations and Recommendations from UN Treaty Bodies

- Universal Periodic Review:

Grenada

We would like to bring your attention to the following excerpts from UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies' Concluding Observations and Recommendations relating to issues of interest and persons of concern to UNHCR with regards to Grenada.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

CEDAW/C/GRD/CO/1-5, 51st Session 23 March 2012

13. The Committee is concerned that certain legal provisions and procedures in the State party discriminate against women or reflect negative gender stereotypes, including in the forms for registering birth and issuing a birth certificate; the application for citizenship by Commonwealth citizens; the registration of marriage; the priority of parental consent of marriage for persons under 18 years; and the procedure to apply for a passport for a child. The Committee is also concerned at the absence of relevant legislation and delays in enacting legislation against sexual harassment, legislation on trafficking in persons and the amendment of the sexual offences provisions in the Criminal Code.

14. The Committee calls on the State party:

(a) To systematically review its laws and regulations in order to amend gender-based discriminatory provisions in its legislation and administrative regulations, including those mentioned in paragraph 13 above, with the aim of ensuring full compliance with the provisions of the Convention, in accordance with article 2 thereof;

(b) Enact, without delay, legislation on sexual harassment at work and trafficking in persons, and amend the sexual offences provisions in the Criminal Code.

Trafficking

25. The Committee welcomes the ratification of the Palermo Protocol by the State party, but is concerned at the absence of specific policies and a comprehensive legislation on human trafficking, including criminalization of the offence. The Committee is also concerned at the reports of high levels of sexual abuse and exploitation, in particular of the girl child and young women, including through incest, child prostitution and transactional sex. The Committee is concerned about inadequate legislation and policy in this regard. The Committee regrets the limited data on trafficking and sexual exploitation and the limited information on efforts to address the social and economic factors and measures to support victims of such violations.

The Committee recommends that the State party: (a) Adopt comprehensive legislation and policies to address trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, in line with the Convention and the Palermo Protocol, and strengthen mechanisms for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of offenders and specific support programmes for victims; (b) Gather and analyze sex-disaggregated data and information on trafficking and sexual exploitation, including prostitution; (c) Strengthen measures aimed at addressing the conditions, for example poverty and high unemployment, that make women and girls more vulnerable to trafficking and may also drive them into prostitution; and enhance support services for the victims as well as for the reintegration into society of women and girls who wish to leave prostitution.

Refugee Women

37. While the State party currently hosts a very small number of refugees, the

Committee notes that due to escalating extra regional migratory movements and migrant trafficking in the Caribbean there is a high probability of an increase in the number of asylum-seekers. In this respect, the Committee is concerned that the State party has not acceded to the international conventions on refugees and statelessness, and that it has no national refugee legislation or national asylum procedure.

The Committee recommends that the State party consider acceding to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, and develop national refugee legislation and a national asylum procedure.

Committee on the Rights of the Child

CRC/C/GRD/CO/2/CORR.1, 54th Session 12 August 2010

Detention

59. Recalling its previous concluding observations (CRC/C/15/Add.121, para. 12), the

Committee is deeply concerned that the current minimum age of criminal responsibility is extremely low (7 years old). The Committee notes with concern that the number of juveniles committing offences has increased rapidly since 2007. The Committee notes that most of the sentencing of juvenile offenders is community service orders. The Committee also notes the current practice to designate two days a week as family court days in the Magistrate Court and the High Court but regrets the absence of a full-time family court and of judges and lawyers specialized in child rights. The Committee further notes that the "current judicial practice" is to not send children under the age of 16 to prison but rather to practice mediation and alternative sentencing options. However, it remains concerned that children between the ages of 16 and 18 are incarcerated and that these children are not detained in separate facilities from adults. The Committee is also concerned that corporal punishment remains a part of the Criminal Code and is not explicitly prohibited in the Juvenile Justice Bill that the State party intends to adopt in 2010. The Committee notes with regret that no formal training has been made available for professionals involved with children in conflict with the law.

The Committee urges the State party to ensure that juvenile justice standards are fully implemented, in particular articles 37 (b), 39 and 40 of the Convention, as well as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines) and the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (the Havana Rules). In particular the Committee recommends that the State party, while taking into account the Committee's general comment No. 10

(2007) on the administration of juvenile justice : (a) Raise the minimum age for criminal responsibility to a more internationally acceptable age; (b) Take all necessary measures, including strengthening different forms of mediation, and extending it to all children, including those between the ages of 16 and 18, and strengthening the policy of alternative sanctions for juvenile offenders, to ensure that children, including those aged between 16 and 18 years, are held in detention only as a last resort and for as short a time as possible; (c) Take all necessary measures to ensure that when detention is carried out, it is done so in compliance with the law and respects the rights of the child as set out under the Convention, and that children are held separately from adults in both pretrial detention and after being sentenced; (d) Take all necessary measures to ensure that conditions in detention facilities are not contrary to the child's development and meet international minimum standards; (e) Enact legislation to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment as a sentencing option in the judicial system; (f) Take steps to improve the system of juvenile justice, including through the establishment of juvenile or family courts, and ensure that the system has adequate human and financial resources to allow it to function properly; (g) Take the necessary steps to ensure that persons working with children in the justice system, juvenile judges, etc. receive appropriate training; (h) Seek technical assistance and other cooperation from the United Nations Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, which includes UNODC, UNICEF, OHCHR and NGOs.

Birth Registration

30. The Committee reiterates its previous concern (CRC/C/15/Add.121, para. 16) that some children are still not being registered at birth and are not given a name until their baptism, which could be three or four months after their birth and regrets that no initiatives have been put in place to address this. Furthermore, the Committee is concerned at reports of the widespread practice whereby a baptism certificate must be presented before a child can be given a birth certificate. The Committee also notes with concern that the father's name is not put on the birth certificate unless he is present for the registration of the birth.

31. The Committee recommends that the State party take the necessary measures to ensure that all children are registered at birth. The Committee also urges the State party to ensure that a baptism certificate is not a prerequisite for a birth certificate and that the name of the father is included on the child's birth certificate.

Human Rights Committee CCPR 90th session July 2007

13. The Committee is concerned about the lack of policy and legislation in the State party regarding trafficking in human beings. It notes in particular that, although the State party has acceded to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, it has not yet incorporated the crime of trafficking in persons into its Criminal Code (art. and 8).

The State party should take concrete measures in order to assess the existence of trafficking of human beings on its territory, and adopt appropriate policy and legislation to

tackle this issue. It should consider incorporating the crime of trafficking in persons into its Criminal Code.

Human Rights Council

Universal Periodic Review, 8th Session A/HRC/15/12, May 2010

38. Brazil inquired about the concrete steps taken by Grenada in guaranteeing the rights of children and women and in combating all forms of discrimination, with special attention to the sexual exploitation of children, violence against women and non-discrimination on the basis of sexual diversity. It also required information about the major steps and shortcomings identified regarding economic, social and cultural rights, with special attention to the gap between rich and poor, policies for migrant workers and refugees, and counter-terrorism measures. It asked about the main urgent needs in the area of human rights cooperation. Brazil made recommendations.

71.2. Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the Optional Protocols thereto; the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance; the First and Second Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the Protocols to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and the Rome Statute; accede to the Conventions on refugees and stateless persons; and accomplish the human rights goals set out in Human Rights Council resolution 9/12 (Brazil).