

Report for Ghana: Egypt's 2019 UPR Recommendations and Proposed Actions for 2025

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1. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Implement anti-trafficking laws to ensure the protection of all trafficked persons, particularly women and children.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report outlines general efforts to combat human trafficking, including the establishment of the National Coordinating Committee for Preventing and Combating Illegal Migration and Trafficking in Persons. However, gaps remain in enforcement, especially in victim identification, protection services, and prosecution of traffickers. Women and children remain particularly vulnerable, and there is limited access to rehabilitation and reintegration programs for trafficking survivors.

Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 1: Egypt should strengthen enforcement of anti-trafficking laws, with specific provisions for victim support and rehabilitation, especially for women and children. The government should enhance training for law enforcement on victim identification and increase funding for shelters and support services for trafficked persons.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- What specific actions has Egypt taken to enforce anti-trafficking laws and support trafficking survivors, particularly women and children?
- How does Egypt ensure law enforcement and judicial officials are trained to identify and protect victims of trafficking?

2. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Take steps to prohibit and investigate acts of intimidation and reprisals against those who engage with the United Nations and regional human rights systems, and hold all perpetrators accountable.

Egypt's Response Since 2019:

Egypt's National Report claims commitment to cooperation with international human rights bodies. However, there have been reports of intimidation, travel bans, and reprisals against activists, journalists, and HRDs who engage with UN and regional human rights mechanisms. Such acts deter civil society actors from participating in international advocacy, limiting transparency and accountability.

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Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 2: Egypt should establish independent mechanisms to investigate and address acts of intimidation and reprisals against individuals engaging with UN and regional human rights bodies. The government should ensure accountability for perpetrators and provide protections for HRDs and activists involved in international advocacy.

Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- What measures has Egypt taken to prevent reprisals against individuals engaging with UN and regional human rights mechanisms?
- How does Egypt ensure that cases of intimidation or reprisals are independently investigated and perpetrators held accountable?

3. Recommendation in 2019 UPR: Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).**Egypt's Response Since 2019:**

Egypt has not yet ratified the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, which would allow individuals and groups to submit complaints on violations of women's rights to the CEDAW Committee. While Egypt's National Report highlights initiatives to support women's empowerment, ratifying the Optional Protocol would signal a stronger commitment to addressing and remedying gender discrimination.

Proposed New Recommendation for 2025:

Recommendation 3: Egypt should consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to CEDAW to strengthen its commitment to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women. This ratification would also provide a mechanism for Egyptian women to seek justice and ensure that Egypt aligns its national policies with international women's rights standards.

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Proposed Questions in Advance for 2025 UPR:

- Has Egypt taken any steps toward ratifying the Optional Protocol to CEDAW?
- How does Egypt plan to enhance protections against discrimination for women in line with international standards?

Conclusion

Ghana's 2019 recommendations for Egypt focused on strengthening protections for trafficking survivors, prohibiting reprisals against HRDs engaging with international bodies, and encouraging the ratification of CEDAW's Optional Protocol. While Egypt's National Report highlights general efforts, significant gaps remain in enforcing protections for vulnerable groups and enhancing cooperation with human rights mechanisms. The proposed recommendations for 2025 emphasize legal reforms, accountability measures, and stronger alignment with international human rights standards.

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