**FOR SECRETARIAT USE ONLY**

**A/HRC/50/L.62**

**Item 1**

**Received from (main sponsors): France (on behalf of the European Union)**

**Date and time: 05/07/2022, 9:00**

**Initials: MR**

**Page 1 of 5**

**Situation of human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan**

*The Human Rights Council*

*PP1. Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*PP2. Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling relevant international human rights treaties,

PP2 bis Reaffirming further that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same  
emphasis,

*PP2 quater. Noting* that the ongoing oppression of women and girls in Afghanistan is grave, institutionalized, widespread and systematic,

PP2 quinquies*. Emphasizing* the critical need to make progress towards the realization of women and girls’ enjoyment of human rights in Afghanistan and to bring to an end to the many serious human rights violations and abuses to which women and girls are being subjected,

PP2 sexies. Recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

PP2 septies. *Reaffirming* its strong commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and unity of Afghanistan and that Afghan people are entitled to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development,

*PP3. Recalling* the obligations of Afghanistan under international human rights law and international humanitarian law as expressed inter alia in the treaties and conventions to which it is a party, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

*PP4. Reiterating* its unwavering commitment to the rights of all women and girls in Afghanistan in accordance with the State’s obligations under international human rights law, and to the respect and promotion of all women’s and girls’ full and effective ability to exercise their equal enjoyment of human rights in Afghanistan,

PP5. Recalling the thirty-first special session of the Human Rights Council on the serious human rights concerns and situation in Afghanistan, and Council resolution S-31/1 adopted there at on 24 August 2021, and the forty-eighth regular session of the Human Rights Council, appointing the special rapporteur to monitor the situation of human rights as it develops in Afghanistan, and Council resolution 48/1, as well as all relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council on the situation in Afghanistan and on women, peace and security,

**PP6** *Recalling* further the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Representative of the Secretary General, the Executive Director of UN WOMEN, and those by several special procedures of the Human Rights Council and treaty bodies on reports of human rights abuses against women and girls in Afghanistan committed by the Taliban, as well as the press statement on Afghanistan issued by the Security Council on 24 May 2022,

*PP7. Recognizing* that the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation, inclusion, and empowerment of all women and girls in all spheres of life is essential for sustainable peace and the full and complete economic and social development, as well as the realization and enjoyment of all human rights of all persons in Afghanistan,

*PP8. Recognizing* the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of women in planning and decision-making with regard to mediation, confidence-building and conflict prevention and resolution and of their involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, and the need to prevent and redress human rights violations and abuses, such as all forms of violence against women and girls, especially sexual and gender-based violence,

*PP8bis.* *Also recognizing* bilateral and regional efforts to promote women and girls rights in Afghanistan, in particular on the right to education.

*PP9. Deeply concerned* about the increasing erosion of respect for the human rights of women and girls in Afghanistan by the Taliban, including through imposition of restrictions that limit the enjoyment of the rights to education, enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, work, and liberty of movement, freedom of expression and opinion, freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and women’s full, equal, effective and meaningful participation in public life, and *emphasizing* that these restrictions contradict the expectations of the international community, the commitment made by the Taliban to the Afghan people,

PP9bis *Recognizing* that the full realization of the right to education for all is an essential condition for achieving sustainable development, and a multiplier right that supports the empowerment of all women and girls to claim their human rights, including the right to participate in the conduct of public affairs as well as in economic, social and cultural life, and to fully, equally and meaningfully participate in the decision-making processes that shape society, and the transformative potential of education for every girl,

PP10 *Reaffirming* the equal right of every child to education without discrimination of any kind, and concerned by the continuation of the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination faced by girls,

PP10bis - Deeply concerned that girls and women with disabilities are often subject to multiple, aggravated or intersecting forms of discrimination and disadvantage,

*PP11. Expressing deep concern* at the continued prevalence of violence and discrimination against women and girls in Afghanistan, in all its different forms and manifestations, and emphasizing that discrimination and violence against women and girls violates, abuses or impairs their enjoyment of human rights and stresses that perpetrators of crimes involving human rights violations and abuses must be brought to justice and the critical need for victims and survivors to be provided effective redress, support and remedies,

*PP12. Recognizing* that limiting women’s freedom of movement negatively impacts their lives, including the ability of women and their children to access healthcare services and humanitarian aid as well as for women to generate income for their families and contribute to the wider economy

*PP13. Deeply concerned* at the situation of women journalists and media workers in Afghanistan, and underlining the important role played by local journalists and media workers in continuing to carry out essential work, including by documenting and reporting, in challenging circumstances,

*PP14. Reiterating* that access to justice and the enjoyment of human rights are indispensable for durable peace and stability in Afghanistan, in particular stressing that the progress achieved in the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls prior to 15 August 2021 must be safeguarded and further strengthened,

*PP15. Stressing the importance* of Afghan women as active agents over their own lives and for change and of their full, effective, equal and meaningful participation in peacebuilding, humanitarian and development processes, and expressing concern at the prevalence of threats and violence against women human rights defenders and peacebuilders

*PP15 bis Underlining* the need to preserve and build on the political, economic and social achievements of the Afghan people made over the past 20 years, and for further improvement in this regard, in particular to address poverty and the delivery of services, stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, tackle corruption, enhance transparency, increase domestic revenue and promote and implement its obligations under international law to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

PP15*ter*. *Reaffirming* the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan while fully respecting human rights, and ensuring the territory of Afghanistan should not be used to threaten or attack any other country, to plan or finance terrorist acts, or to shelter and train terrorists, and that no Afghan group or individual should support terrorists operating on the territory of any country,

*PP16. Expressing* deep concern at the dissolution of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and the shrinking space for civil society,

*PP17. Welcoming* the High Commissioner’s visit to Afghanistan in March, as well as the first mission of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, in May 2022 and noting the statement issued at the conclusion of that mission, and in particular the integration of a gender perspective and of a survivor-centered approach in the conduct of the mission, and *acknowledging* the access and cooperation provided,

PP18. Also expressing deep concern regarding the dire humanitarian and economic situation in Afghanistan, that has impacted enjoyment of full range of economic, social and cultural rights of people of Afghanistan, including women and girls,

*PP19. Stressing the crucial importance of the* Taliban respecting the independence of humanitarian operations and allow and guarantee for all humanitarian staff, including all women staff, the rapid, safe and unhindered access to the entire territory,

PP20. Expressing its deep condolences and sympathy to the people of Afghanistan for the deadly earthquake on 22 June and the aftershock on 24 June and highlighting the need for intensified humanitarian aid and other support to address the suffering of those directly affected, and appreciating humanitarian aids already provided to Afghanistan, which is of utmost importance to promoting and protecting human rights of Afghan women and girls,

1. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* all human rights violations and abuses committed against all individuals, including women and girls, in Afghanistan, including all forms of discrimination and violence, including sexual and gender-based violence;
2. *Reaffirms* its unwavering commitment to the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by all women, girls and children in Afghanistan, including their right to freedom of movement, the right to education, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including their sexual and reproductive health, the right to work and the right of access to justice on an equal basis with others;
3. *Calls for* an immediate end to all human rights violations and abuses against all individuals in Afghanistan, including all women and girls, for respect of all their human rights and for the respect of the rights of all women to actively and equally participate in all aspects of civic, economic, political and public life, and to ensure that law and policy reforms and practices are not discriminatory, in text or effect, towards women and girls and are consistent with international human rights law and standards ;
4. Calls in particular on the Taliban to reverse the policies and practices which are currently restricting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Afghan women and girls, to ensure that girls and women have opportunities and access to inclusive and quality education at all levels, equal to those afforded to men and boys, and as promised, to immediately open schools for girls of all ages,

4bis: Calls to ensure that local Women Rights Organisations and local Organisations led by women can continue carrying out their work all over Afghanistan and support women and girls;

*5. Calls also* to ensure that victims of sexual and gender-based violence have access to justice and to an effective remedy and reparations, w**ith a human rights and gender perspective,** including measures to guarantee their protection, and support including any psycho-social or medical needs,

*5bis. Reaffirms* that the right to education, enshrined in international human right law, can help to enable the realization of many other human rights, particularly for girls;

6. Reiterates its call for an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned process for the establishment of a participative, inclusive and representative government including with regard to gender and all ethnic and religious minorities, and ensuring the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of women and youth in decision-making positions and processes;

*7. Calls for*the reinstatement of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission or the establishment of a similar independent institution in compliance with the Paris Principles, and the reinstatement of the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

1. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to cooperate fully with the special procedures mandate holders and treaty bodiesand other international bodies seized with the situation in Afghanistan to grant unhindered access to the country without any delay, to provide them with all **necessary** information and support;

1. Requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to organize an enhanced Interactive dialogue during its fifty-first session, with the participation of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, other relevant human rights mechanisms, United Nations bodies and agencies including UNAMA, non-governmental organizations, including Afghan women’s rights organizations in Afghanistan and the diaspora;.
2. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.