NATIONS UNIES
LE HAUT-COMMISSAIRE
AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME

UNITED NATIONS
THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PALAIS DES NATIONS – 1211, GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

17 June 2026

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the fourth cycle review of Libya by the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group at its 50th session in November 2025. As the final outcome report on the review of Libya was recently adopted by the Human Rights Council at its 61st session, I have taken note of the efforts of Libya to implement specific recommendations since the previous review.

A matrix of thematically clustered recommendations, starting with those supported by Libya, is available at OHCHR's website (https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/ly-index) and should be considered as part of this letter. The matrix indicates the recommending State and links each recommendation to relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In annex, I have also attached my Office's observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the UPR. In line with previous practice, I will be sending similar observations to all Member States once their fourth cycle UPR outcome is adopted by the Human Rights Council, with a view to follow-up action in close cooperation with national entities and other stakeholders.

I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the support available through the Voluntary Fund for UPR Implementation, which may be activated at the request and with the consent of a concerned State, along with tools such as the "UPR practical guidance" and the "UN good practices" repository on how the UPR process supports sustainable development, available at https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main, with a view to facilitating efforts to implement UPR recommendations in line with the SDGs.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Volker Türk

His Excellency
Mr. Abdulhamid M A Al Dabiba
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Government of National Unity of the State of Libya

Observations in light of the outcome of the fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review

The establishment in 2023 of a human rights and international humanitarian law office and a permanent humanitarian committee within the Government is commended. These bodies are tasked, inter alia, with delivering training on relevant international norms, drafting a code of conduct for military and police units, and preparing legislation to criminalize child recruitment. The development of annual plans for 2024 and 2025 to promote police training across all police education institutions on criminal justice, the use of force and firearms, and migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons is also welcomed, as is the establishment of 37 family and operational child protection units throughout the country. Libya is urged to take measures to close unofficial detention centres and to put an end to the practice of arbitrary detention and physical abuse in prisons.

Serious concerns were expressed during the UPR review regarding the treatment of refugees, asylum-seekers, migrants and internally displaced persons. Libya is urged to safeguard their rights, including by protecting them from unlawful killings, enforced disappearances, torture and other ill-treatment, rape and other forms of sexual violence, arbitrary detention and forced labour, and by aligning national legislation with international human rights standards.

Serious concerns were raised regarding the rights of women and girls. Libya is strongly encouraged to promote and protect these rights, including through measures to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and discrimination, and by amending the legislative framework to advance gender equality and to criminalize sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls, in line with international human rights law and standards.

Libya is further encouraged to ratify all core international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, including those relating to statelessness. Libya is also urged to continue its efforts to provide access to healthcare for all, and to continue developing the quality of education, while ensuring equal access for all children, including non-Libyans.

Libya is encouraged to continue the practice of developing an implementation plan in follow up to the UPR outcome, in close consultation and cooperation with all stakeholders, in particular the parliament, the judiciary, the National Council for Civil Liberties and Human Rights, local and regional governments, and civil society organizations. The matrix of thematically clustered recommendations may be of use in the development of such an implementation plan. Libya is encouraged to explicitly link each UPR recommendation to corresponding recommendations from other international and regional human rights mechanisms and to the relevant SDG and its targets. This will, in turn, facilitate the creation of synergies between UPR implementation and SDG-

related actions and reporting within the context of the Voluntary National Review (VNR).

Libya is also encouraged to further strengthen the National Council for Civil Liberties and Human Rights for implementation, reporting and follow-up, with the aim of ensuring a coordinated and effective approach to reporting to international human rights mechanisms, and to implementing the recommendations, in line with the guidance provided by OHCHR following regional consultations and the High Commissioner's report to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/50/64).

Further, an important measure that could positively contribute to follow-up action is voluntary mid-term UPR reporting. All Member States are encouraged to submit a voluntary mid-term UPR report about two years after the adoption of the UPR outcome. In this regard, Libya may wish to consider submitting a mid-term report on follow-up to the fourth cycle UPR recommendations by 2028, detailing both implementation efforts as well as challenges to implementation, including the possible need for technical or capacity-building assistance.

OHCHR
June 2026