



United Nations
Human Rights

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

INTERACTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM

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NHRI interaction with the international human rights system at a glance: a two-way, mutually reinforcing process

- NHRIs contribute to **raise awareness on and advocate for** compliance with the international human rights system
- NHRIs contribute to the **translation** of international human rights norms into the national system
- NHRIs provide **independent local expertise** on the national human rights situation (e.g. on domestic laws and policies)
- NHRIs **disseminate recommendations** from the international system and conduct follow up action

NHRI participation in the Treaty Bodies

- ❑ **Comment publicly on the State report**
- ❑ **Submission of alternative reports**
- ❑ **Contribution to the drafting of the list of issues**
- ❑ **Participation in treaty body sessions**
- ❑ **Oral Statement**
- ❑ **Disseminate Concluding Observations**
- ❑ **Conduct Follow-up Activities**
- ❑ **Participate in days of “General Discussion”**

NHRI Participation in the work of Special Procedures

- ❑ **Encourage Government to extend standing invitations for country visits;**
- ❑ **Initiate communications or assist victims to access to;**
- ❑ **Assist in the preparation of a country visit;**
- ❑ **Meet with mandate holder during country visit;**
- ❑ **Publicize mandate holders press releases or mission reports at the national level;**
- ❑ **Actively monitor the follow-up of mandate holder's recommendations.**
- ❑ **Report on the status of implementation of recommendations.**
- ❑ **Nominate candidates**

NHRI participation in the Universal Periodic Review

- ❑ **NHRI role prior to, during, and following UPR**
- ❑ **In the UPR, NHRI participation can include:**
 - ❑ **contributing information to the stakeholders' report;**
 - ❑ **Participating and making statements at the UPR session;**
 - ❑ **disseminating the UPR outcome;**
 - ❑ **drawing up an action plan or strategy to contribute to the implementation of the UPR outcome;**
 - ❑ **following-up to the UPR outcome, as appropriate in cooperation with State entities;**
 - ❑ **monitoring implementation**
 - ❑ **Articulating UPR recommendations to NHRIs' strategic plans**

NHRI Participation in the Human Rights Council

- ❑ **Access to sessions based on practice of Commission on Human Rights – i.e. NHRIs with “A status” can:**
 - ❑ **make oral statement under all agenda items (directly or through the ICC Representative in Geneva)**
 - ❑ **submit documents – under their own symbol number**
 - ❑ **take separate seating**
 - ❑ **hold parallel events during Council sessions**

NHRI Participation in the Human Rights Council

Resolution (A/HRC/RES/16/21)on the Review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council:

For UPR:

The national human rights institution of the State under review consistent with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights annexed to General Assembly resolution 48/134 (the Paris Principles) shall be entitled to intervene immediately after the State under review during the adoption of the outcome of the review by the Council plenary.

a separate section for contributions by the national human rights institution of the State under review that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles

NHRI Participation in the Human Rights Council

Resolution (A/HRC/RES/16/21)on the Review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council:

For Special Procedures:

The national human rights institution consistent with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights annexed to General Assembly resolution 48/134 (the Paris Principles) of the country concerned shall be entitled to intervene immediately after the country concerned during the interactive dialogue, following the presentation of a country mission report by a special procedure mandate holder.

New development :

Interaction between NHRIs and the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT)

- ❑ OPCAT creates parallel system of preventive visits (SPT + NPMs)
- ❑ NPMs must comply with the Paris Principles
- ❑ An increasing number of NHRIs have been appointed as an NPM
- ❑ NHRIs have requested “Increased communication and information sharing between NHRIs and the SPT”
- ❑ OHCHR supports NHRIs in developing relationship with SPT
- ❑ Interaction with SPT should involve NHRIs, ICC and its SCA

(United Nations Secretary-General's report
(A/HRC/20/9) to the Human Rights Council
dated 1 May 2012

- ▣ **NHRIs are encouraged to continue engaging with all United Nations human rights mechanisms, in particular, the human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and the universal periodic review. NHRIs are encouraged to actively engage in the treaty body strengthening process with a view to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level. NHRIs are also encouraged to actively follow up to the implementation of recommendations of treaty bodies, special procedures and the universal periodic review at the national level, and to promote the participation of NHRIs in the States parties' reporting process.**