

THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

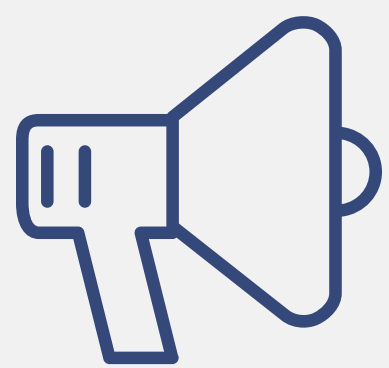
CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

The UPR process provides for the participation of all relevant stakeholders:

- ✓ Any civil society actors
- ✓ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- ✓ National human rights institutions (NHRIs)
- ✓ Human rights defenders
- ✓ Local associations
- ✓ Grass root organizations
- ✓ Trade unions
- ✓ Other groups and organizations that do not usually engage with the UN



Groups are encouraged to submit written information for the stakeholders report that is to be considered during the review.



In their submissions, CSOs are encouraged to suggest new recommendations, and reiterate previous ones where relevant.



Accredited Stakeholders can also attend and observe the UPR Working Group.

CSOs are not allowed to take the floor during the review but they can be present in the room. During the adoption of the report of the Working Group at the HRC plenary session, 20 minutes are allocated to NGOs to make statements.



After the review, CSOs can assist and cooperate with all stakeholders in the implementation of recommendations as well as monitor and report on the implementation of supported recommendations.

WHY SHOULD CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATE?

- 1 CSOs can **influence** the outcome of the review;
- 2 Their reports provide a basis for **advocacy** to Recommending states in advance of the interactive dialogue;
- 3 They give their **assessment of the human rights situation**, in comparison with the national report;
- 4 They are crucial in **monitoring** the implementation of the recommendations, thereby **increasing the impact** of the UPR and **promoting** the adoption of progressive human rights policies.



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