



*Promoting and strengthening
the Universal Periodic Review*
<http://www.upr-info.org>

Universal Periodic Review and lobbying opportunities

December 2013



Modalities refresh

- ➡ UPR consists of 4 reports
 - National report (20 pages)
 - UN compilation (10 pages)
 - Summary of stakeholders (10 pages)
 - Report of the Working Group (includes recommendations)



Stakeholder Reports

➔Novelties:

- NGO submissions are maximum 2,815 words, joint submission 5,630 words (about 10 pages)

➔As usual:

- NGO submissions do not have to cover all rights
- Public information, will be made online



Calendar

- ➔ Yemen: UPR session **29 January 2014**
- ➔ Egypt: NGO stakeholder report submission: due **15 March 2014**
- ➔ Egypt in the UPR session: **Oct/Nov 2014**
- ➔ Libya: NGO stakeholder report submission: due **1 September 2014**
- ➔ Libya in the UPR session: **March 2015**



Modalities refresh

➡ The Review (UPR)

- 3.5 hours
- 70 minutes with SuR, 140 minutes for recommending states
- NGOs cannot take the floor



Modalities refresh

➡ HRC Plenary Adoption of the Working Group's report (3 months later)

- Lasts one hour
- 3 sections:
 - State under review (20 mn)
 - Recommending states (20 mn)
 - Other stakeholders (20 mn)

➡ Addendum



Modalities refresh

- ➔ In-between the review and the adoption
 - Congratulate Recommending states which have listened to your concerns
 - Encourage your State to accept the recommendations
 - Translate recommendations, report



Why lobbying is important



Engaging in the UPR

- ⇒ State-driven mechanism
- ⇒ Opportunity to work with the government
- ⇒ Opportunity to work with foreign embassies



Engaging in the UPR

➡ Define your objectives

1. Why the UPR?

2. How to lobby?

3. Who to lobby?



Engaging in the UPR

➡ States expectations

- Genuine and useful recommendation
- Consistent with foreign policy
- Many actors involved (in Capital, Embassy, Geneva)
- Need between 1 hour and 4 months to draft the statement



Lobbying: why the UPR



Why the UPR, if...

⇒ Soft mechanism (weak?)

⇒ Not binding

⇒ State-driven



Why the UPR – because...

- ➡ Open, transparent
- ➡ Official civil society role (although limited)
- ➡ Only way to address specific rights, specific countries
- ➡ Opportunities to strengthen international networks
- ➡ And because... it works!



Lobbying: how to draft your report



NGOs success in the first cycle

- ➔ 35 NGO reports, 74 NGOs
- ➔ Some main topics that made it:
 - "permanent state of emergency"
 - "Law 84/2002" on NGO funding
 - Migrants and minorities
 - freedom of belief
 - LGBT rights

Your NGO report

- ➡ Your goal: to get extracts of your submissions in OHCHR's summary of stakeholders' information
- ➡ Share improvements, challenges
- ➡ Pay attention to the recommendations
- ➡ Focus on the implementation of 1st cycle



Your NGO report

- ➔ NGO submissions are maximum
 - ➔ Individual submission: 2,815 words (about 5 pages)
 - ➔ Joint submission 5,630 words (about 10 pages)
- ➔ UN languages: preferably in English, French or Spanish (although Arabic is accepted)



Your NGO report

- ➔ Ensure the submission is credible and reliable
- ➔ Should not include second-hand information
- ➔ Original information: should not be copying and pasting a Committees' concluding observations



Your NGO report

- ➔ Avoid language that is subjective or emotional.
- ➔ Do not include pictures, maps, organizations' annual reports or reports from other organizations as annexes to the submission.
- ➔ Do not use too many footnotes.



Your NGO report

- ➔ Include a cover page which identifies all submitting stakeholders
- ➔ Include an introductory executive summary capturing the main points
- ➔ Upload your word document here: <http://uprdoc.ohchr.org>



Your NGO report – joint submission

- ➔ Increases the visibility and credibility
- ➔ Perfect for small NGOs
- ➔ Strengthen cooperation among NGOs
- ➔ Encouraged by OHCHR
- ➔ Facilitates advocacy at a later stage



Your NGO report – individual submission

- ➔ Faster to prepare (no negotiation)
- ➔ More specific and more space: 2,815 words for one topic only
- ➔ Excellent if the NGO is well-known



Your NGO report

- ➡ Do not have to choose between individual and joint: do both!
- ➡ Unlimited number of joint submissions



Your NGO report - recommendations

➔ Recommendations should be SMART

- Specific
- Measurable
- Attainable
- Relevant
- Time-bound



Your NGO report - recommendations

➡ Again:

- Check relevant first cycle recommendations
- Draft your recommendations according to your identified needs
- Mention both accepted and rejected recommendations
- Explain what has been undertaken since the last UPR



Lobbying: who to approach



Which States to lobby?

- ➔ Identify issues
- ➔ States which made recommendations during the 1st cycle
- ➔ States interested in the same issues

First UPR of Egypt - Who paid attention to Egypt?

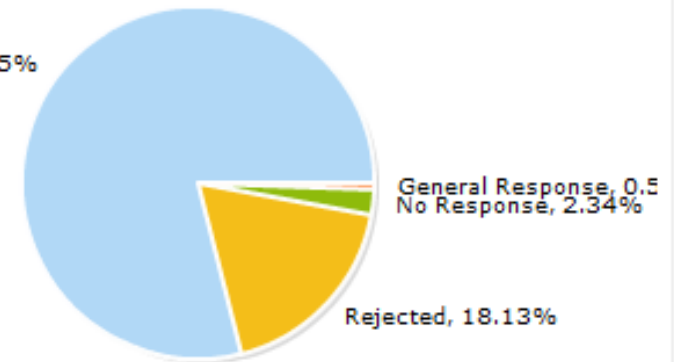
➔ 1.	United States	11 recommendations	6.43 %
➔ 2.	Norway	9 recommendations	5.26 %
➔ 3.	Switzerland	8 recommendations	4.68%
➔ 4.	Ireland	7 recommendations	4.09 %
➔ 5.	Czech Rep.	7 recommendations	4.09 %
➔ 6.	Austria	7 recommendations	4.09 %
➔ 7.	Spain	6 recommendations	3.51 %
➔ 8.	Canada	6 recommendations	3.51 %
➔ 9.	France	6 recommendations	3.51 %
➔ 10.	Chile	6 recommendations	3.51 %
➔ 11.	Germany	6 recommendations	3.51 %



First UPR of Egypt - What acceptance rate?

Rank	Response	Total Reco.	% of 171 Reco.	Show in Database
1.	Accepted	135	78.95	Link
2.	Rejected	31	18.13	Link
3.	No Response	4	2.34	Link
4.	General Response	1	0.58	Link

Accepted, 78.95%



First UPR of Egypt - What issues?

1.	Women's rights	25
2.	International instruments	24
3.	Torture and other CID treatment	19
4.	Freedom of religion and belief	12
5.	Civil society	12
6.	Human rights education and training	12
7.	Special procedures	11
8.	Detention conditions	10
9.	Counter-terrorism	9
10.	Rights of the Child	9
11.	Justice	9
12.	Death penalty	8
13.	Right to education	7
14.	Other	6
15.	Freedom of opinion and expression	6
16.	Elections	5
17.	General	5
18.	Freedom of the press	5
19.	Minorities	4



Lobbying

Other opportunities



Before the review

- ➡ Attend UPR-Info Pre-session Meeting
- ➡ Lobby for questions in advance via embassies in your capital
- ➡ Organise a side-event



During the review

- ➡ Attend the UPR in Geneva
- ➡ Broadcast the webcast in the country
- ➡ Make a press release / public statement



Between the review and the adoption

- ➔ Lobby the State under Review to accept recommendations key for your organisation
- ➔ Rejected recommendations: raise awareness about it -> Question the Government about the decision and try to make them change their position
- ➔ Congratulate recommending states



Plenary Adoption of the Report

⇒ Make an oral statement

- Video statement

⇒ Submit a written statement



The UPR in figures



Recommending states

Rank	Recommending State	Total Recommendations	% of 27505 Recommendation
1.	Canada 	1012	3.68
2.	Spain 	914	3.32
3.	Norway 	889	3.23
4.	France 	882	3.21
5.	Mexico 	773	2.81
6.	Brazil 	765	2.78
7.	United Kingdom 	724	2.63
8.	Algeria 	690	2.51
9.	Slovenia 	682	2.48
10.	Argentina 	602	2.19
11.	Netherlands 	600	2.18
12.	United States 	586	2.13
13.	Austria 	582	2.12
14.	Slovakia 	546	1.99
15.	Czech Republic 	536	1.95
16.	Switzerland 	532	1.93
17.	Chile 	496	1.8
18.	Germany 	470	1.71
19.	Italy 	454	1.65



Issues raised at the UPR

Rank	Issue	Total Recommendations	% of 27505 Recommendations
1.	International instruments	5488	19.95
2.	Women's rights	4801	17.46
3.	Rights of the Child	4550	16.54
4.	Torture and other CID treatment	2204	8.01
5.	Justice	2062	7.5
6.	Detention conditions	1530	5.56
7.	Death penalty	1202	4.37
8.	Migrants	1172	4.26
9.	Right to education	1163	4.23
10.	Labour	1158	4.21
11.	Human rights education and training	1150	4.18
12.	Minorities	1148	4.17
13.	Special procedures	1072	3.9
14.	Racial discrimination	1004	3.65
15.	NHRI	987	3.59
16.	Disabilities	971	3.53
17.	Treaty bodies	948	3.45
18.	Trafficking	913	3.32
19.	Technical assistance	810	2.94
20.	Freedom of opinion and expression	759	2.76
21.	ESC rights - general	755	2.74



Challenges for the second cycle



Challenges for the second UPR cycle (1)

- ➡ As SuR, how to handle 280 recommendations?
- ➡ As recom. state, how to follow up 27'500 recommendations, 169 rec. per rec. state?
- ➡ How to report on so many recommendations, when it comes to the second National Report?



Challenges for the second UPR cycle (2)

- ➡ How to address rejected recommendations and « cases of persistent non-cooperation » (art. 38)?
- ➡ How to improve the quality of recommendations (only 35 % specific) ?

A solution is to encourage mid-term reporting, and... **Follow-up.**



Choukran!

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