

UPR PROCESS

Review in the Working Group

Composition of the Working Group and participants

- The Working Group is chaired by the President of the Human Rights Council and composed of the 47 States Members of the Council.
- Observer States may participate in the review, including in the interactive dialogue.
- Other relevant stakeholders may attend the review in the Working Group but do not participate in the interactive dialogue.

Interactive dialogue

- The duration of the review is three hours and thirty minutes (total of 210 minutes) for each country.
- The State under Review is given up to 70 minutes in the Working Group, to be divided at its discretion between the introduction of its national report, its responses to written questions submitted in advance, as well as its replies to questions raised from the floor during the interactive dialogue, and its concluding comments at the end of the review.
- The remaining 140 minutes will be divided among member and observer States inscribed on the list of speakers, as follows (HRC decision 17/119):
 - Where there is sufficient time, 3 minutes will be allocated for members of the Council and 2 minutes for observer States;
 - Should it not be possible to accommodate all speakers within the given time, the speaking time will be reduced to 2 minutes for all;
 - If all speakers still cannot be accommodated, the speaking time will be divided among all delegations inscribed so to enable each speaker to take the floor;
 - Speakers can withdraw from the list of speakers by notifying the Secretariat at least 30 minutes before the review in question;
 - Speakers already inscribed retain the possibility of swapping places with other speakers on the list. There is, however, no possibility to inscribe on the list of speakers after the closing of the inscription period one week before the session.

Troika

- The review of each State under review is facilitated by a group of three Member States of the Council from different regional groups (“troika”), who will act as rapporteurs. Troikas for all States to be reviewed in the three sessions of the UPR Working Group of the year will be selected by the drawing of lots at the first Organizational Meeting of the Council in the beginning of the year.

Preparation of the UPR Working Group report

- Once the review is completed, the Working Group prepares a factual report of its proceedings. The preparation of the report, which fully involves the State under review, is facilitated by the troika, with the assistance of the Secretariat. Each report is distributed by email and posted on the UPR Extranet 48 hours after the review in accordance with the session timetable. The formal adoptions take place in four clusters throughout the session.
- During the Working Group session, only the recommendations section of the Working Group report is prepared. Together with the troikas and the States under review, the Secretariat works on the remaining part of the report (“Summary of the proceedings of the review”) and distributes the full version of the report to all the Permanent Missions one week after the session. The ad-referendum period then commences, and States will have one week to verify the summaries of their own statements and request editorial changes.

Adoption of the recommendations section of the report in the Working Group

- Half an hour is allocated for the adoption of the report of each State under review.
- The troika presents the report of the Working Group.
- In the course of the process, the State under review is given the opportunity to make final remarks.
- The report is adopted ad-referendum.

Prior to the consideration of the outcome in the HRC plenary

- The State under review has the possibility to submit a written document of maximum 2675 words prior to the consideration of the outcome in the plenary. This document, presenting, *inter alia*, the views of the State under review on recommendations, according to HRC resolution 5/1 (whether they enjoy the support of the State under review or whether they are noted) would constitute an addendum to the Working Group report.
- After the Working Group session, the Secretariat will inform the State under review, through a Note Verbale, of the deadline to submit an addendum.

Consideration of the outcome in the plenary

- Additional time of up to one hour is allocated for the consideration and the adoption of the outcome by the plenary of the Council.
- The State under review has up to 20 minutes, to be organized at its convenience, in order to, as appropriate:

- ❖ Present its views on recommendations and/or conclusions;
 - ❖ Present its views on voluntary pledges and commitments;
 - ❖ Reply to questions not sufficiently addressed during the Working Group;
 - ❖ Presents its views on the outcome;
 - ❖ Make final comments.
- NHRI from the State under review and in full compliance with the Paris Principles will be given the floor immediately after the State.
 - Member and Observer States, as well as UN agencies, are given up to 20 minutes to express their views on the outcome.
 - Stakeholders have up to 20 minutes to make general comments on the outcome.
 - All the views expressed and the comments made on the outcome in the plenary are contained in the report of the Council session.