



STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Commonwealth Secretariat

IPU headquarters, Geneva
12-13 November 2012



AGENDA

MONDAY, 12 NOVEMBER

Session Overview	Time	Activity	Speakers
Registration	9:00 - 9:30	Registration of participants and distribution of documents	
Opening session 9.30 - 10:00	9:30 - 9:40	Welcome and opening	Mr. Peter Reading, Human Rights Adviser, Commonwealth Secretariat
	9:40 - 9:50	Keynote address	Mr. Owen Bonnici, MP, Malta, Representative of the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
	9:50 - 10:00	Keynote address	Ms. Margret Kiener Nellen, MP, Switzerland, Representative of the President of the IPU
Group photograph and coffee break	10:00 - 10:30		
Session 1: Introductions and workshop programme This session will present the aims, expected outcomes and modalities of the workshop. It will offer an opportunity to the organizers to explain their work to involve parliaments in the UPR. Facilitator: Mr. Rogier Huizenga Manager, Human Rights Programme, IPU	10:30 - 11:15	Participants will be asked to introduce themselves and to highlight any previous engagement with UPR and, more generally, human rights.	All delegates participate

<p>Session 2: The Universal Periodic Review as a United Nations human rights mechanism</p> <p>11:15 - 12:30</p> <p>Panel Discussion: This session aims to present the history and aims of the UPR, explain how it works and how it relates to other UN human rights mechanisms, in particular the Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures. The session will look at some lessons that can be drawn from the first cycle of the UPR, which was concluded at the end of 2011, and what should be expected from the second cycle.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Peter Reading</p>	11:15 - 11:35	Role of UPR Process	Mr. Giuliano Comba Chief, UPR Section, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
	11:35 - 11:55	Relationship between UPR and UN Treaty Bodies: the example of the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Ms. Zeina Hilal, Programme officer, Gender Partnership Programme (IPU)
	11:55 - 12:30	Q & A Discussion	All panelists
Lunch	12:30 - 14:00		
<p>Session 3: The Role of Parliament and other stakeholders in the UPR process</p> <p>14:00 - 16:00</p> <p>Panel Discussion: This session will focus on the role of key stakeholders at the national level, namely Parliaments, governments, civil society and national human rights institutions. It will look at their individual roles and their constructive engagement across sectors in realizing the implementation of UPR recommendations</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Rogier Huizenga</p>	14:00 - 14:25	Role of Parliament	Mr. Murray Hunt, Legal Adviser to the UK Joint Committee on Human Rights
	14:25 - 14:50	Role of NHRIs	Mr. Med S.K. Kaggwa, Chairperson, Ugandan Human Rights Commission
	14:50 - 15:15	Role of Civil Society	Mr. Roland Chauville, Executive Director, UPR Info
	15:15 - 16:00	Q & A Discussion	All panelists
Coffee break	16:00 - 16:15		

<p>Session 4: Country experiences in the 1st and 2nd UPR cycles</p>	<p>16:15 - 16:35</p>	<p>Role of civil society</p>	<p>Ms. Sanchita Hosali British Institute of Human Rights</p>
<p>16:15 - 17:45</p>	<p>16:35 - 16:55</p>	<p>Role of Parliament</p>	<p>Dr. Hywel Francis, MP Chair, Joint Committee on Human Rights</p>
<p>Case Study 1: United Kingdom</p> <p>This session should provide concrete insights into the UK experience of engagement with the UPR process. It will focus in particular on models of best practice, lessons learnt and challenges to effective implementation of UPR outcomes.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Peter Reading</p>	<p>16:55 - 17:15</p>	<p>Role of NHRI</p>	<p>Mr. Duncan Wilson Scottish Human Rights Commission</p>
	<p>17:15 - 17:45</p>	<p>Q & A Discussion</p>	<p>All panelists</p>
<p>Closing Session</p>	<p>17:45 - 18:00</p>	<p>Recap of day, expectation on Day 2 and closing</p>	<p>Mr. Sylvestre Zama, MP, Central African Republic</p>
<p>EVENING RECEPTION: IPU Headquarters</p>	<p>18:00 - 20:00</p>		

TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER

Session Overview	Time	Activity	Speakers
<p>Session 5: Country experiences in the 1st and 2nd cycles</p> <p>9:30 - 11:00</p> <p>Case Study 2: Costa Rica</p> <p>This session should provide concrete insights into the Costa Rica experience of engagement with the UPR process. It will focus in particular on models of best practice, lessons learnt and challenges to effective implementation of UPR outcomes.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Rogier Huizenga</p>	9:30 - 11:00	Role of Parliament	Mr. Victor Emilio Granados Calvo President, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica
	10:00 - 10:30	Role of Government	H.E. Mr. Christian Guillermet, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office at Geneva
	10:30 - 11:00	Q & A Discussion	All panelists
Coffee Break			
<p>Session 6: The particular challenges faced by Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the UPR</p> <p>11:15 - 12:10</p> <p>Case Study 3: The Maldives</p> <p>This session aims to provide concrete insights into the particular experiences of LDCs and SIDS in the UPR. It seeks to discuss the specific challenges they face, how these have been addressed in the past and what challenges remain.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Peter Reading</p>	11:15 - 11:25	Role of Government	H.E. Ms. Iruthisham Adam, Permanent Representative of the Maldives to the United Nations Office at Geneva
	11:25 - 11:35	Role of NHRIs	Ms. Maryam Azra Ahmed, President of the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives
	11:35 - 12:10	Q & A Discussion	All panelists

<p>Case Study 4: Senegal 12:10 - 13:00</p>	12:10 - 12:25	Role of Parliament	Mr. Cheick Diop Dionne, MP Senegal
<p>Facilitator: Mr. Akiyo Afouda Human Rights Project Officer, IPU</p>	12:25 - 12:40	Role of Government & NHRIs	Mr. Mamadou Lamine Fofana, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Former Chairperson of Senegalese Human Rights Committee
	12:40 - 13:00	Q & A Discussion	All panelists
Lunch	13:00 - 14:30		
<p>Session 7: Way forward – how parliamentarians can successfully engage with the UPR</p> <p>Plenary discussion led by four rapporteurs which will each facilitate discussions on how parliamentarians can engage with the UPR by using parliamentary processes, and together with key stakeholders, advance UPR recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Using and improving parliamentary processes - Working with government - Working with NHRIs - Working with civil society <p>The session will seek to produce concrete conclusions and action points that Parliamentarians can take to improve the implementation of recommendations, as well as considering what further technical assistance and support they may envisage would be required in order to constructively engage with the UPR as a mechanism.</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. Akiyo Afouda</p>	14:30 - 16:30		<p>Rapporteurs:</p> <p>Mr. Murray Hunt, Legal Adviser to the Joint Committee on Human Rights (Parliamentary processes)</p> <p>Mr. Mamadou Lamine Fofana, Legal Adviser, Ministry of Justice, Former Chairperson of Senegalese Human Rights Committee (Work with Government)</p> <p>Mr. Peter Reading, Commonwealth Secretariat (Work with Civil Society)</p> <p>Mr. Med S.K. Kaggwa, Chairperson, Ugandan Human Rights Commission (Work with NHRIs)</p>

Wrap-up by Rapporteurs	16:30 - 17:00		
Closure and vote of thanks	17:00 - 17:30	What next: thoughts from the Commonwealth Secretariat and IPU	Mr. Peter Reading Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General of the IPU