

THE
CARTER CENTER

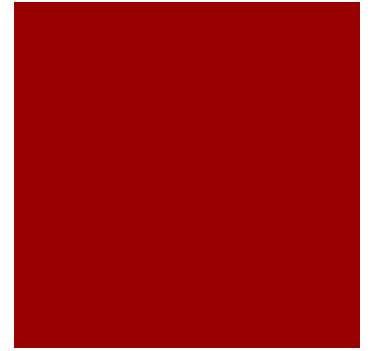


Universal Periodic Review

Overview of Reports

Reports considered during the UPR

- State report
- A compilation of information from UN agencies (prepared by OHCHR)
- Summary of Stakeholder/NGO submissions (prepared by OHCHR)



State Report

- 20 pages
- The report should detail how the state has fulfilled its human rights obligations and commitments, including:
 - Achievements
 - Best practices
 - Challenges
 - Limitations
- States are encouraged to meet with civil society to gather information for the report



Content: UN Agency Report



- This report is compiled by **OHCHR** from:
 - Treaty-bodies
 - Independent experts
 - Special rapporteurs
 - UN agencies
 - Other UN bodies
- The final report is 10 pages

Civil Society Report

- Civil society is encouraged to submit reports on specific human rights issues.
- This means that NGOs can write a report on any human rights issue covered under:
 - International covenants and conventions
 - UN charter
 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - Other human rights instruments signed by the state
 - Voluntary pledges and commitments made by the state
 - International humanitarian law



Specifications of the NGO Submission



- **All UPR reports are public.**
- NGO submissions are maximum 2,815 words (about 5 pages) for a submission from an individual NGO and **5,630 words (about 10 pages) for a joint submission.**
- NGO submissions do not have to cover all rights. **Prioritization of key human rights issues is recommended.**
- NGO submissions should respect the **technical guidelines** of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- **Extracts of NGOs' submissions may be selected** by the OHCHR and included in its summary of stakeholders' information (known as the OHCHR summary).
- NGOs have **to send their submissions before the State** submits its national report.

What to include in the report?

- Achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints
- Information on the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations since the last review.
- Main issues of concern during the last 4 ½ years (since the previous review)



What to include in the report?



- Identify 5-10 key issues (1-2 per page)
 - Supporting data and recommendations can be annexed
- Each issue should include:
 - A general statement defining the issue
 - Reference to international and national standards
 - Facts and supporting information (some can be annexed to the report)
 - Second-hand information should be included only to support primary data
 - Action-oriented, precise recommendations

How to ensure that your information is included in the summary report



- Ensure the submission is credible and reliable
- Base report on primary data (first hand data)
- Use technical language and give examples
- Follow the OHCHR report structure
- For each issue, provide:
 - A general statement
 - Supportive examples
 - Recommendations