



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
HRCtte
110th session (10 – 28 March 2014)
Geneva

NGO INFORMATION NOTE

Human Rights Committee Members

The Human Rights Committee (hereinafter ‘the HRCtte’) consists of 18 members, serving in their personal capacity. For the details about all HRCtte members, see: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/Membership.aspx>

Venue of the session

The 110th session of the HRCtte will take place in Geneva, Palais Wilson, Ground Floor Conference Room.

States parties to be examined

The HRCtte will examine the reports and country situations in the following six States parties: Fourth report of USA, Second report of Nepal, Second report of Kyrgyzstan, Second report of Chad, Initial report of Sierra Leone and Third report of Latvia.

Adoption of List of Issues

The HRC will also adopt list of issues on the following four State parties: Fifth report of Sri Lanka, Initial report of Haiti, Second report of Malta, and Initial report of Montenegro.

Adoption of List of Issues prior to reporting/Simplified Reporting Procedure

The HRCtte will also adopt list of issues prior to reporting on the following five countries: Ecuador, New Zealand, Sweden, Argentina and Romania.

These lists of issues are adopted by the HRCtte prior to the submission of a report and the responses by the States parties will be considered the next periodic report for the purposes of article 40 of the ICCPR. More information on this new Optional Reporting Procedure (LOIPR) may be found on the following link:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/SimplifiedReportingProcedure.aspx>

Documentation

The reports of the States parties, the provisional agenda (CCPR/C/110/1) and other documents pertaining to the session are posted on the OHCHR website at http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=625&Language=en

Adoption of Concluding observations and List of Issues

Following the consideration of the States parties’ reports during the 110th session, the HRCtte will, in a closed meeting, adopt concluding observations that will assist the States parties concerned in the implementation of the Covenant. These concluding observations outline positive aspects, principal subjects of concern and the Committee’s recommendations on how to address challenges faced by the States parties. Once the concluding observations have been adopted, the documents will be posted on the HRCtte Webpage under the relevant session.

The HRCtte will also adopt Lists of Issues to be transmitted to States parties. States parties are in turn expected to submit replies to the List of Issues. Both the List of Issues and Replies will be posted on the HRCtte webpage.

Follow-up report to concluding observations

The HRCtte considers a report on information received and activities undertaken in the context of follow-up to concluding observations at each session. NGOs may provide information on follow-up, in particular relating to follow-up reports received by States parties, to the Secretariat, which may be posted on the web, following each session.

NGO reports for the HRCtte at its sessions

The HRCtte welcomes written information, which should be as specific, reliable and objective as

possible, from international, regional, national and local organizations. NGO "alternative reports" which follow the same form of presentation as the reports submitted by the Government concerned, are especially welcome. The information/report must identify the submitting NGO, as anonymous information is not accepted, and be drafted in non-abusive language. The information must be relevant to the Committee's mandate and the examination of the State party's report. The information should not contain names of victims except if related to public cases or if the consent of the victims or their families is obtained.

All submissions to the HRCtte should be:

1. submitted in English, French or Spanish. As most HRCtte members use English as their working language, documents submitted in French and Spanish should, to the extent possible, be translated into English. Please note that the UN Secretariat does not translate documents submitted by NGOs.
2. transmitted to the HRCtte Secretariat in Geneva. The deadline for information with respect to States upon which **List of Issues and List of issues prior to reporting will be adopted is Friday, 20 December 2013 to be provided in electronic form. 6 hardcopies should then be provided by 14 February.**

The deadline for information on State parties **to be examined by the Committee electronically and in hardcopy is 14 February 2014 (20 hardcopies).**

These deadlines allow the Country Taskforces and other members of the HRCtte time to read the reports before the session and to include the content of them in their lists of issues (the preliminary draft of which is prepared long before the session).

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT REPORTS THAT ARRIVE OUTSIDE THE DEADLINE.

3. OHCHR does not reproduce NGO documents.

Contacts of the Secretariat:

Kate Fox Principi
Secretary of the Human Rights Committee
kfox@ohchr.org

Sindu Thodiyil
HRCtte Administrative Assistant
sthodiyil@ohchr.org

Postal address of the Secretariat Geneva:

Human Rights Committee Secretariat
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
CH 1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Attention: Kate Fox/Sindu Thodiyil

Accreditation

Representatives of non-governmental organizations wishing to attend the session **MUST** register online at CSO-Net and follow the instructions for registration and for obtaining a ground pass: **The deadline for registration is 28 February 2014**, kindly ensure you register well in advance. Link for CSO Net - <http://goo.gl/YCzcsx>

PLEASE NOTE THAT REQUESTS FOR ACCREDITATION OUTSIDE THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

OHCHR will neither send letters of invitation to NGOs to attend HRCtte sessions nor assist with visa requests, travel or accommodation costs relating to their participation.

Informal meetings and lunchtime briefings

NGO representatives are welcome to attend public meetings of the HRCtte as observers, but will not be given the opportunity to address the HRCtte during its meetings with the State delegation. Nevertheless, NGO representatives have the possibility of addressing the Committee in formal private sessions (closed meetings) with interpretation, for a half an hour per State party to be examined. These meetings are set out in the programme of work (see session webpage) and normally take place a day or two before the consideration of the State party concerned.

Informal (without interpretation) briefings may also be organized with NGOs (and NHRIs) with members of the HRCtte at 14hrs for one hour on the day prior to or day of the examination. To find out the schedule of formal and informal meetings, contact the CCPR Centre, info@ccprcentre.org (www.ccprcentre.org) - an NGO which coordinates NGO participation and collaboration with the Committee - or the Secretariat.

There will be a designated room for these briefings

Please contact the HRCtte Secretariat (kfox@ohchr.org and sthodiyil@ohchr.org) **before 24 February 2014 to confirm attendance at a formal briefing and/or informal briefing with the members.**

Further information

For more information on how NGOs can participate in the reporting process, please

consult the NGO Guidelines available on the ICCPR Centre Website: www.ccrprcentre.org