



The Universal Periodic Review and the Role of Civil Society

11 May 2021





How can you have an impact on
the UPR of your country?



Presentation

1. Technical Guidance for the submission of stakeholders' reports to the UPR
2. Good Practices



1. Other Stakeholders' Report

2.1 Rules of Submission



Who can submit?

Who can submit?

- UN entities, CSOs, NHRIs, groups of academics
- No anonymous submission** will be considered
- Individual submission or Joint submissions (2 or more CSOs)

An organisation may submit one individual submission and participate in several joint submissions.

Advantages of joint submissions:

- Adds weight to concerns expressed and recommendations suggested in the submission
- Increases likelihood of recommendations being made by States

Advantages of individual submissions:

- Less consensus-seeking
- Quicker drafting process
- Often used by well-known organisations as they are certain of being included in the summary



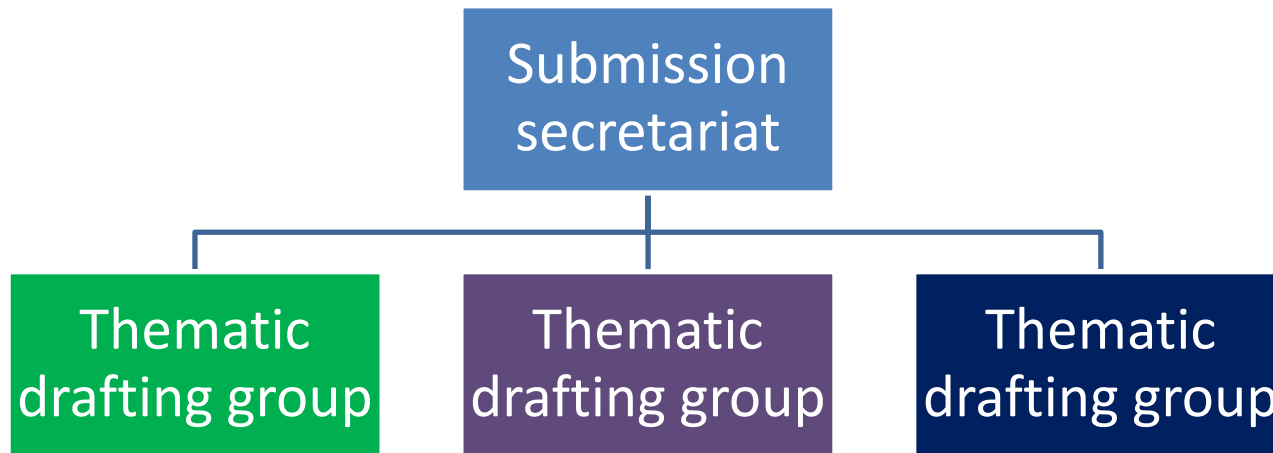
Joint submission

Joint submissions as a coalition building exercise

Good practice for:

- Exchanging expertise and boosting solidarity between organisations working on diverse issues.
- Bridging divides (rural/urban, ESCR/CPR groups, established groups/new groups)
- Introducing newcomers to the UN human rights system
- Coalitions can provide protection against reprisals
- Pooling financial and human resource: **critical for staying engaged on the UPR throughout the 4,5-year cycle**

Joint cross-sectoral submission: Drafting organisation



Secretariat: Consists of a few selected representatives from one or several organisations working on the same topic. Compiles texts from drafting groups, ensures cohesion. Adds layout. Validates final draft with thematic groups.

Thematic drafting group: Provides the substance, including suggested recommendations, for their specific theme. Selects a **Group Rapporteur**, acting as the link between the group and the secretariat.

Content: **To do**



Prioritise first-hand views, data, conclusions and findings. Use technical language and concrete examples.



Include a methodology chapter: information gathering process, consultations, desk review, field research, observation, interviews, testimonies etc.

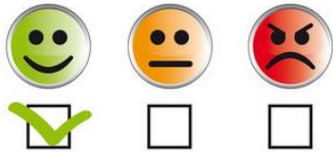


Focus on **assessments of implementation of past recommendations** and comment on their impact thereon, as well as on developments



What can we include?

Content: To do



Highlight challenges, but also **mention improvements and good practices** if any



Suggest **SMART** recommendations (linked to themes addressed in the submission)

Check previous recommendations received by your country, if not implemented, make them SMART if necessary



Include questions

Be precise and concise in information presented. Mention where further information on the topic can be found (references)





What can we include?

Word-limit:

- Joint submission: **5,630 words** (about 10 pages)
- Individual submission: **2,815 words** (about 5 pages)
- Cover page, endnotes and annexes do not count

Submission format

- ❑ Word document. Use paragraph and page numbers
- ❑ Cover page: presentation of the coalition (date of establishment, purpose), **contact details**
- ❑ Language: Written contributions should be submitted in one of the UN official languages and preferably in English, French or Spanish
- ❑ Maximum **10 annexes**: Matrice, midterm report, list of submitting organisations, additional documentation can be annexed for reference.
- ❑ Endnotes to reference information. Will not be considered for the summary.

1. Introduction

2. Methodology

3. National UPR Contexte

4. ISSUE 1 (repeat for all issues or sub-issues)

- Normative framework
- Information about implementation level since 2nd cycle (reference to the specific recommendations number)
- Specifically affected groups or more vulnerable groups
- Statistics, data

4.1 Recommandations —————> **SMART**

4.2 Questions in Advance

Do not:

- Include pictures or maps
- Use abusive language (report will not be considered)
- Use subjective or emotional language (risk that the report will not be considered and if published, will undermine the credibility of the information presented).



When can we submit a report?

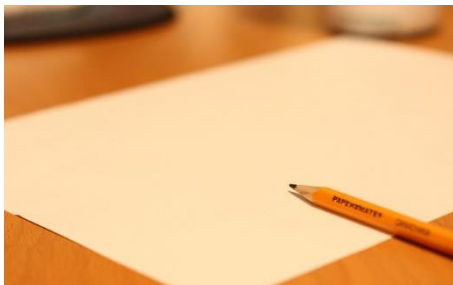
Timeline for UPR engagement in the current cycle



Before 15:00 Gva time!!



**Session 41
of the UPR**





Where to submit the Report?

- Submit well in advance to avoid technical glitches
- Register a profile at least 48 hours before the submission
<https://uprdoc.ohchr.org>
- Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered
- Uploaded submissions cannot be edited
- uprsubmissions@ohchr.org can be contacted for assistance



[Register](#) [Log in](#)
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UPR Documentation

Welcome to the OHCHR On-line UPR Submissions Registration System

Log In

If your organisation has already an account, you can access it here to submit information for the UPR documentation or to see previous submissions.

Register

If your organisation does not have an account, you can create a new organization account here. Click Register under the login section on the right to create an account.

Reset Your Password

If you forget your password, you will find a password reset link under the login section on the right hand side of this page.

Review

User name	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Remember me?	
<input type="button" value="Log in"/>	

Q & A

2.2 Good practices

- OHCHR Matrix
- SMART recommendations
- Integrated Approach
- More tips!

UPR INFO Database

State under Review AND OR

trini

Trinidad and Tobago 287

State under Review - Regional Group

GRULAC (Group of Latin American & Caribbean States) 287

Any 287

State under Review - Organisations AND OR

ACS (Association of Caribbean States) 287

Commonwealth 287

OAS (Organisation of American States) 287

Any 287

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Search

30 shown of 287 documents sorted by: **Date added (Recently)*** [Select all](#)

<p>N/A</p> <p>Cycle Cycle 2 (2012 - 2016)</p> <p>Session 25 - May 2016</p> <p>State under Review Trinidad and Tobago</p> <p>Recommendation Abolish the death penalty and declare an official moratorium on all executions as a well as repealing all provisions of national legislation that may provide for the death penalty</p> <p>Recommending State Costa Rica</p> <p>Action Category 5 - Specific action</p> <p>Response Noted</p> <p>Issue Death penalty</p> <p>Date added Sep 26, 2019</p> <p>Recommendation View</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Cycle Cycle 2 (2012 - 2016)</p> <p>Session 25 - May 2016</p> <p>State under Review Trinidad and Tobago</p> <p>Recommendation Continue with the steps already taken on the right to life, liberty and security of the person and in particular to continue the moratorium on the death penalty and work towards eliminating it</p> <p>Recommending State Spain</p> <p>Action Category 2 - Continuing action</p> <p>Response Noted</p> <p>Issue Death penalty</p> <p>Date added Sep 26, 2019</p> <p>Recommendation View</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Cycle Cycle 2 (2012 - 2016)</p> <p>Session 25 - May 2016</p> <p>State under Review Trinidad and Tobago</p> <p>Recommendation Establish a de jure moratorium on the death penalty that could ultimately lead to its suppression from legislation</p> <p>Recommending State Spain</p> <p>Action Category 5 - Specific action</p> <p>Response Noted</p> <p>Issue Death penalty</p> <p>Date added Sep 26, 2019</p> <p>Recommendation View</p>
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<https://upr-info-database.uwazi.io/en/>

Recommending State AND OR

Search item

France 12

Spain 12

Ghana 11

Uruguay 11

Canada 9

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Suggested levels of implementation: Fully, partially or not implemented. Alternatively, in percentages.

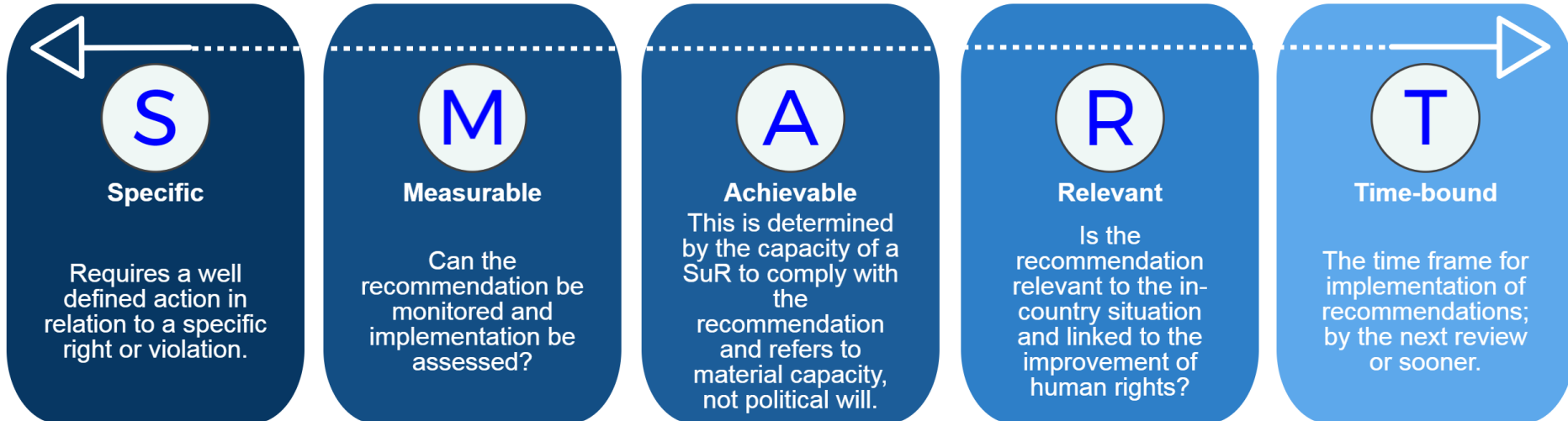
OHCHR Matrix

Saves space in the CSO submission

Gives a telling overview of the implementation level (at a glance)

Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: E23 Right to adequate housing			
109.190 Increase access to electricity, basic sanitation and running water (Maldives); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E23 Right to adequate housing E26 Human Rights & drinking water and sanitation Affected persons: - general	
Theme: E51 Right to education - General			
109.193 Provide access to education to children (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.194 Take effective steps to address the educational needs of all children, even in these difficult conditions (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.195 Step up efforts for the protection of schools with a view to ensuring that education may continue (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.191 Continue efforts to provide full access to basic medical services and education and to protect children from the worst forms of child labour (Holy See); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation Affected persons: - children	
109.192 Ensure equal access to education for all vulnerable people, including women, children and persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - women - children - persons with disabilities	
Theme: F12 Discrimination against women			
109.86 Continue and strengthen efforts in the fight for gender equality (Nicaragua); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	

SMART Recommendations



Be specific and precise!

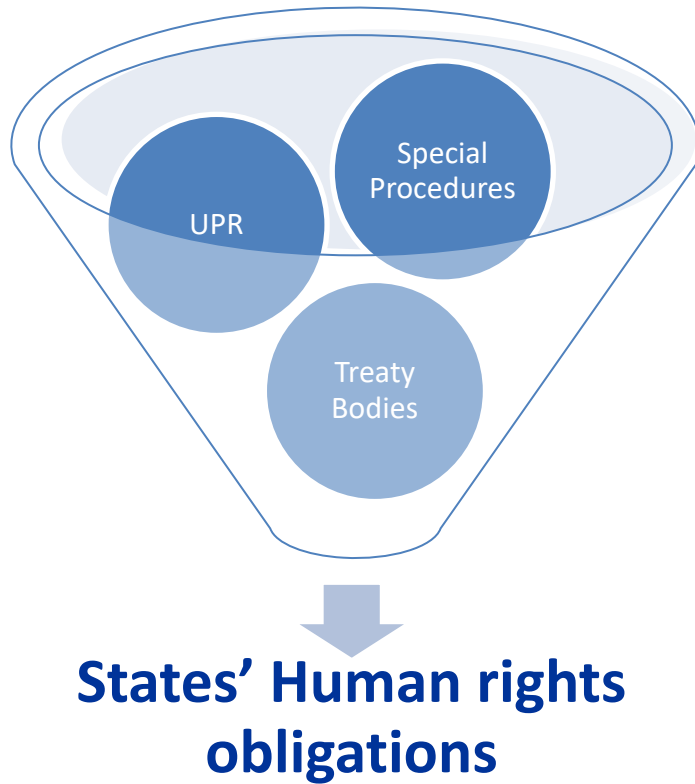
The *specific* dimension requires a clear and well-defined **action**

- ❑ What action/s do you expect the Government to undertake to implement the recommendation?
- ❑ 1 recommendation = 1 theme, and 1 action

establish
 undertake
 ratify conduct
 implement
 amend investigate
 develop adopt
 enforce
 abolish
 eliminate

Use Action Verbs for Smart Recommendations!

Adopt an integrated Approach

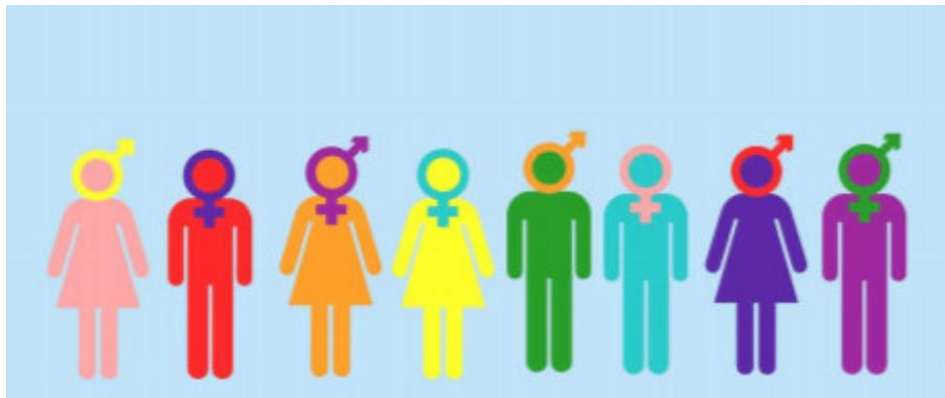


Apply a gender analysis in your reports:

- to assess if measures/actions taken by the government took into account the implications for women and men.
- To suggest inclusive recommendations

Example: UPR rec on access to education in rural areas

In measures/actions taken to ensure access to education in rural areas, do we take into account implications for girls and boys? Will it be sufficient to ensure access for girls living in rural areas or do they face specific challenges?





The impact of Covid 19

COVID-19 has affected every aspect of our lives.



**COVID-19
RESPONSE**

Address the challenges in your report to the UPR

As the Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, said: “With common cause for common sense and facts, we can defeat COVID-19 -- and build a healthier, more equitable, just and resilient world”.

Q & A



Keep in touch!

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<https://www.upr-info.org/en/review>



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