NHRI engagement in the 5th UPR cycle

Responses received on suggested innovations

The fifth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism of the Human Rights Council is scheduled to start in 2027 and will run until 2032. During the first to fourth cycles, national human rights institutions (NHRIs) have systematically contributed to the UPR process through submissions for the Summary of Stakeholder Information, participation in the adoption of the UPR outcomes, and through monitoring and advocating for the implementation of the recommendations by the Government. The establishment and strengthening of NHRIs and the discharge of their respective mandates in full compliance with the Paris Principles constitute regular recommendations made to States under Review.

The fifth cycle presents an opportunity to introduce innovations regarding NHRI engagement with the UPR at all stages of the cycle (short of requiring a change to resolution 5/1). These innovations could relate to their role in national consultations with the Government and other stakeholders, standardisation of NHRI submissions, mid-term reporting, follow up modalities, and knowledge sharing.

In order to solicit input from NHRIs directly, a letter was sent on 14 January 2026 to all A and B status NHRIs with a request for feedback on such innovations. The below is an overview of the responses received, in alphabetical order, followed by a table with proposals arranged thematically.

In a few cases, specific suggestions that were highly country specific or that went beyond the role of NHRIs have been omitted and/or generalized as the overview below focuses on systemic innovations regarding the role of NHRIs at all stages of the 5th cycle.

For further details, please consult the original submission.

Albania (People's Advocate)

- develop a **structured guidance or a practical toolkit on how NHRIs can link accepted UPR recommendations directly into their internal electronic Case Management Systems** (when available). This would empower NHRIs to instantly extract quantitative, real-time data and statistical trends on systemic human rights violations directly tied to the State's UPR commitments. Consequently, NHRI mid-term and stakeholder reports would be backed by highly precise, evidence-based data derived from everyday complaints.

Australia (Australian Human Rights Commission)

- UPR working group procedures to enable all A status NHRIs to **speak for ten minutes** during the UPR WG appearance at the United Nations Human Rights Council (of the 70 minutes currently allocated to the State under Review)
- better utilise the time under **item 6** when UPR reports are adopted formally in the UN Human Rights Council, by encouraging **States to identify priority actions that they will take in response to the UPR recommendations received**. This might also take the form of committing to a midterm implementation plan on key issues. States should be encouraged to identify what consultations they have done with NHRIs and NGOs in determining this list of priorities.

Bahrain (National Institution for Human Rights)

- Establishing an **ad hoc committee** within the structures of the NHRI **for monitoring** the government's implementation of the UPR recommendations, **preparing the NHRI UPR submission**, developing an **action plan** for UPR follow up, and **organizing workshops** on UPR recommendations
- Defining the **work tracks** for the ad hoc committee: (1) NHRI-actionable recommendations (including using advisory opinions and legal studies, to strengthen its oversight and advisory role), (2) recommendations that cannot be directly implemented by the NHRI (awareness-raising and capacity-building activities and monitoring their progress), and (3) recommendations aimed at establishing or activating national oversight or specialized mechanisms (conducting studies and holding seminars to advance the process)

Belgium (The Federal Institute for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights)

- Government to invite the NHRI to **participate in a dialogue**, including with civil society, **upon the publication of the mid-term report** to compare government data with independent assessments and to identify both tangible progress and remaining gaps.
- Facilitate monitoring through the establishment of a **database designed to host information on the recommendations and their implementation**, continuously accessible to the government and to the NHRI, allowing it to be permanently updated and used for other various reporting and monitoring purposes.

Benin (Commission béninoise des droits de l'homme)

- Organize workshops and discussions with **journalists and parliamentarians** on the implementation and monitoring of recommendations
- Engage **vulnerable groups** in the process and conduct **awareness-raising** and public education campaigns on the UPR mechanism
- Organize **national consultations** on the role of different actors in the UPR
- Organize a **regional consultation on sharing best practices** related to the UPR.

Bosnia and Herzegovina (Institute of Human Rights Ombudsmen)

- strengthening systematic monitoring of the implementation of recommendations through regular reporting on their status;
- improving cooperation between NHRIs and competent authorities in the process of monitoring the implementation of recommendations;
- exchange of good practices between NHRIs within international and regional networks;
- strengthening cooperation with civil society organizations in the processes of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of recommendations
- cooperating with universities and the academic community with a view to producing different types of studies and analyses
- greater promotion of good practices, implementation of recommendations through public campaigns
- greater cooperation with human rights institutions of other countries

Canada (Canadian Human Rights Commission)

- Strengthen the UPR process through an **enhanced focus during reviews on mechanisms for implementation and follow-up**.
- Develop and adopt a **new national framework for international human rights implementation** that includes:
    - clear public commitments to international human rights implementation from all federal, provincial and territorial governments;
    - adoption of federal, provincial and territorial laws enshrining the obligations, mechanisms, and public reporting requirements related to implementation;
    - improved consultation and engagement processes with Indigenous Peoples' organizations, civil society, and human rights commissions;
    - an enhanced role for Parliament and legislatures; and
    - increased resourcing, including to support civil society.

Colombia (Defensoría del Pueblo)

- develop more **standardized methodological guidelines for reporting by NHRIs**, which facilitate comparability and thematic monitoring between cycles.
- Strengthen **structured national consultations** with the active participation of NHRIs in the preparatory phase of the review.
- institutionalize **intermediate follow-up mechanisms**, including mid-term reports with technical participation of NHRIs.
- create **regular spaces for the exchange of good practices among NHRIs**, facilitated by OHCHR, on monitoring, follow-up and advocacy methodologies.
- **Strengthen training programmes for NHRIs** on the strategic use of the UPR as a tool for national advocacy.

Costa Rica (Defensoría de los Habitantes)

- provide **greater support to NHRIs during all stages** of the UPR cycle and support the representation of NHRIs in such a way that the counterpart to the State's reports is more robust and effective.
- Holding of **formal national consultations** between the Government, NHRIs and civil society during the preparation phase of the review.
- continue and deepen the practices of **knowledge exchange between NHRIs** from different countries, particularly at the regional level to share methodologies, good practices and lessons learned in the preparation of UPR reports.
- **standardize submissions guidelines** specifically aimed at NHRIs

Côte d'Ivoire (Conseil national des droits de l'Homme)

- Strengthen **knowledge sharing** between stakeholders within a country and between NHRIs, including through the establishment of a pool of trainers and stakeholder networks
- Strengthen UPR involvement of **parliaments and other public institutions**

Democratic Republic of the Congo (Commission nationale des droits de l'homme)

- Schedule **biannual consultative meetings** with the Government and other stakeholders

Egypt (National Council for Human Rights)

- Proposing the development of a **national matrix** linking UPR recommendations with relevant legislation and national strategies, identifying implementing entities, timelines, and performance indicators.
- Establishing a **permanent and structured consultation mechanism** bringing together the Government, the NHRI, and civil society, active throughout all phases of the UPR cycle.
- Promoting the exchange of legislative and institutional experiences at the regional and international levels within the framework of UPR reporting and **enhancing learning at both regional and international levels**.

El Salvador (Procuraduría para la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos)

- **Decentralize consultations beyond the capital**, led by the NHRI which thus becomes a structured platform that links local realities with the review phase and the follow-up of recommendations, guaranteeing that the UPR has a direct impact on communities outside traditional urban centers.
- Create a **real-time monitoring dashboard** (public and participatory) as a digital platform that uses a traffic light system to objectively measure compliance with recommendations.
- NHRIs to include **direct testimonies and multimedia formats** (via QR codes) in their reports, ensuring that the "voice on the ground" reaches the international system and national authorities unfiltered, allowing for an assessment of the real impact of public policies on communities.

Estonia (Chancellor of Justice)

- consider **hybrid formats** for UPR Info **pre-sessional briefings**

Ethiopia (Ethiopian Human Rights Commission)

- **sensitize and build the capacity** of state and non-state bodies on their critical role in the implementation of UPR and other human rights mechanisms recommendations.
- **Monitor the implementation** of UPR recommendations using the UPR Recommendations Implementation Roadmap and the Implementation Matrix.

The Gambia (National Human Rights Commission)

- Facilitate **linking NHRIs with partners** who can support their effective and full participation through the review process.
- Provide support to NHRIs for their engagement in the **pre-sessional briefings** organised by UPR Info
- Encourage NHRIs to **attend** the State review and **organise live streaming** sessions nationally during the State dialogue.
- Encourage and support NHRIs to **participate in the plenary adoption** of the UPR WG report by submitting statements during the adoption.
- Encourage and support NHRIs to submit **mid-term reports**.
- Encourage NHRIs to **popularise the recommendations** to the State as widely as possible and through various avenues and media.
- Support NHRIs to develop **audios and child and disability-friendly materials on the UPR** recommendations

Georgia (Public Defender's Office)

- **Unified Reporting Templates**: To facilitate peer learning and easier data extraction for the UPR Knowledge Hub, the OHCHR should introduce standardized digital templates. These should align with the technical guidance shared in UPR Info webinars regarding the drafting and dissemination of "Other Stakeholders Reports".
- **Real-time Tracking**: centralized digital dashboard for mid-term updates, moving beyond periodic activity to continuous monitoring.
- Expanding on the free webinars currently provided for stakeholder reports (available in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese), the OHCHR should facilitate regional workshops to **share advocacy strategies**.
- A common methodology for NHRIs to **measure the "improvement of rights"** rather than just the "implementation of activities." This includes utilizing tools like those from the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) to provide analytical overviews of the human rights situation.

Ghana (Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice)

- **Formal Recognition of NHRIs within National Follow-Up Mechanisms**: Institutionalising NHRI's advisory role within the NMIRF framework to enhance independence and continuity.
- **Institutionalised Mid-Term Reporting**: Establishing a formalised mid-cycle review process to assess implementation progress and recalibrate strategies.
- **Digital UPR Tracking Platform**: In collaboration with OHCHR and development partners, developing a digital recommendation-tracking dashboard to improve transparency, data accessibility, and performance monitoring.

- **Institutionalise NHRI, CSO, NGO Annual Dialogue** for UPR monitoring and shadow reporting.

Iraq (High Commission for Human Rights)

- Developing **national digital mechanisms to monitor and track** the implementation of UPR recommendations in coordination with relevant governmental entities.
- Adopting a **broader participatory approach in national consultations** prior to the review, ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable and affected groups.

Jordan (National Centre for Human Rights)

- Strengthening national consultations by **developing regular and structured participatory mechanisms** that bring together government institutions, national human rights institutions, and civil society organizations;
- **Developing follow-up mechanisms**, including the preparation of periodic reports and systematic assessment of the level of implementation of recommendations;
- **Harmonizing reporting methodologies** in order to improve the quality of inputs provided by national institutions and ensure consistency and comparability;
- Promoting the **exchange of knowledge and experiences among national human rights institutions** in support of mutual learning and the sharing of good practices, thereby enhancing the impact of the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

Kenya (Kenya National Commission on Human Rights)

- leverage on **technology to expand reach to regional grass root organizations** and engagement on the UPR process.
- **Establish Memoranda of Understanding with national statistical offices, in order to produce** reliable statistics necessary for timely interventions and implementation of UPR recommendations.
- **Increase the word limit for NHRI reports** from 2,815 words. National Human Rights Institutions have a broad mandate and the word count limit restricts quality reporting on all human rights areas monitored on by the NHRI.
- NHRIs to **improve partnerships**, knowledge-sharing and learning with Civil Society to ensure the implementation of UPR recommendations.
- NHRIs to **actively participate in mid-term reporting**.

Liberia (Independent National Commission on Human Rights)

- National Consultations: Formalizing the NHRI Role
  - OHCHR to encourage States to formally invite their NHRIs to serve as **co-conveners** of the national consultations for the State report.
  - Develop a voluntary, non-binding **template for NHRI submissions**.
- Mid-Term Reporting:
  - establish a voluntary **mid-term reporting mechanism** specifically for NHRIs to be uploaded to the UPR Knowledge Hub
- Knowledge Sharing:
  - UPR Knowledge Hub to facilitate the creation of **thematic peer learning groups** for NHRIs to share strategies for using UPR recommendations to advance their work in specific areas.
- Follow-up Modalities:
  - develop a simple "**Recommendation Mapping Tool**" within the UPR Hub. An NHRI could input a recommendation, and the tool would automatically link it to relevant UN Treaty Body Concluding Observations, relevant SDG indicators and a database of potential technical assistance partners.

Malawi (Malawi Human Rights Commission)

- Implementation of UPR Recommendations
  - continuous **capacity-building for NHRIs** on required procedures and expected roles at each stage of the UPR process
  - clear and deliberate recommendations requiring **Government agencies to facilitate timely access to information** for NHRIs.
  - a detailed **participation framework for NHRIs**, rather than last-minute inclusion in Government reporting processes
- Advocacy and Awareness Raising at All Stages
  - NHRIs to play a **leading role in public awareness-raising**, ensuring clarity of mandates and supporting Government institutions to remain focused on implementation.
- Role in Government-Led Consultations Prior to Reviews
  - Clear **recommendations directed specifically to NHRIs** would improve collaboration with State actors and facilitate implementation.
- National UPR report
  - further strengthen the process of drafting, validation, and adoption of the national UPR report to ensure meaningful participation of NHRIs at all levels.

The Maldives (Human Rights Commission of the Maldives)

- Establish a **National UPR Implementation and Monitoring Platform** – listing all recommendations under thematic categories and indicate their status using a simple traffic-light system (implemented, in progress, or no measurable progress). Each recommendation would be linked to the responsible government institution, ensuring clarity in institutional accountability. The platform would be updated periodically. The NHRI can independently assess and publish progress updates, thereby strengthening its monitoring mandate. A structured mid-term update could be generated from the platform. It also allows for structured input from civil society organizations, particularly on issues affecting vulnerable or marginalized communities.

Mauritius (Commission nationale des droits de l'homme)

- OHCHR to develop a **standardised template (in a form or table format) for NHRI submissions** to the Summary of Stakeholder Information.
- mid-term reporting to become a systematic practice with a structured framework, where NHRIs are formally invited to **provide independent mid-term assessments** of UPR recommendation implementation.
- create a **permanent National UPR Implementation Committee** in Mauritius, with representation from the NHRC, relevant ministries, civil society, and the private sector, to track implementation progress using measurable indicators, produce annual progress reports, and coordinate national consultations ahead of UPR reviews
- NHRIs to be given **dedicated speaking time** during the WG sessions
- NHRIs to be given a **formal role in the Government's response** to recommendations, particularly in advising which recommendations to accept.
- NHRIs to explore **digital tracking tools** to monitor UPR recommendation implementation in real time. This could include:
    - Public online dashboards showing implementation status
    - Digital platforms for citizens to report on the impact of recommendations
    - AI-assisted analysis of recommendation trends across cycles
    - AI-assisted research tools regarding the interpretation of basic human rights

Morocco (Conseil national des droits de l'homme)

- Formalize the UPR pre-session as an official step in the process, while it remains an informal initiative of UPR Info

- Provide NHRIs with a more structured and substantive space for participation during the review, including through dedicated speaking time allowing them to make specific and operational recommendations to the State under review
- Strengthen the quality of recommendations by requiring them to be specific, measurable and operational rather than general. Each recommendation should formulate concrete action (such as the adoption of a law, the establishment of a public policy or the creation of a programme) and set quantified targets. For example, instead of vaguely recommending the protection of women's rights, specific legislation with measurable indicators should be required
- Avoid repetition while enhancing the quality and relevance of recommendations and ensuring balanced coverage of all human rights themes

Namibia (Office of the Ombudsman)

- Strengthen **online platforms for knowledge sharing** with other Southern African Ombudsman Offices, promoting the exchange of best practices on UPR implementation and monitoring

New Zealand (Human Rights Commission)

- Optimise the UPR for meaningful participation through greater opportunity for **hybrid participation** in the local time zone

Nigeria (National Human Rights Commission)

- **Early NHRI Integration into the UPR Roadmap** - NHRI involvement should be formally integrated at the earliest stages of the 5th UPR cycle planning, including timeline development, stakeholder mapping, and consultation design.
- Strengthened **Mid-Cycle Review and Monitoring** - Institutionalizing a mid-cycle review with NHRC participation would help assess progress, identify gaps early, and recalibrate implementation strategies before the next review.

Oman (Oman Human Rights Commission)

- **Thematic consultation clusters** – during the 4.5 cycle, organise consultations around specific themes during which the NHRI and relevant ministries co-chair sessions with CSOs and experts to review progress on related UPR recommendations.

- **Use of standard template** - encourage the use of a simple, standardized submission template for NHRIs that could include thematic headings aligned with UPR recommendation clusters, a brief description of the situation, a short progress assessment (e.g. no progress/partial progress/substantial progress) and recommended next steps and indicators.
- **Stronger linkage to SDGs and national development plans** - explicitly link each recommendation in NHRI submissions to relevant Sustainable Development Goals and national plans
- **Formal mid-term NHRI report** - encourage NHRIs to systematically prepare and publicly share a mid-term report. The report could be discussed in a national forum and shared with OHCHR.
- **Digital tracking tools** - promote the development or use of online platforms where each UPR recommendation is listed with its status, responsible entities, and key documents, and on which the government, NHRI and, where appropriate, CSOs can upload evidence of progress.
- **Capacity-building for NHRI staff** on UPR engagement: encourage targeted training, including with OHCHR support, for NHRI staff on data collection and analysis, drafting high-quality UPR submissions, and results-based monitoring of recommendation implementation.

Peru (Defensoría del Pueblo)

- **Strengthening national pre-review consultations** – institutionalize specialized thematic consultations as part of the preparatory process for the national report, including CSOs and facilitated by the NHRI
- Strategic **standardization of NHRI submissions** – introduce a guidance template for NHRI contributions that includes regulatory advances, institutional implementation, and actual impact, information disaggregated by age, sex, territory and others, identifies groups in situations of high vulnerability, and links recommendations to verifiable indicators.
- develop **public national matrices for the follow-up** of recommendations, including the responsible entity, deadlines and compliance indicators.
- Use of **artificial intelligence in monitoring** measures

The Philippines (Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines)

- officially **recognize the UPR Info pre-sessional briefings** as a parallel process to the UPR to increase engagement by recommending States, NHRIs, CSOs, and States under review.
- Organize **pre-sessional briefings at the country-level**, in a hybrid format to invite extensive participation from the Missions in Geneva and capitals of recommending States.
- Use qualitative and quantitative **methods to systematically assess** progress in the implementation of UPR recommendations

- NHRIs to increase exposure to the UPR process through activities such as indicator-setting, live webcasts, and social media **visibility campaigns**.

Qatar (National Human Rights Committee)

- organizing **broad national consultations** with the Government, stakeholders, and civil society to identify human rights priorities and collect observations on existing challenges
- establishing a **unified framework for contributions** from national institutions to standardize report structure and content and classify thematic areas to facilitate comparison and follow-up
- issuing **interim reports and digital monitoring dashboards** to continuously track the implementation of previous recommendations and provide clear information on achievements and gaps.
- **Knowledge and experience sharing** through workshops and training programs with national and international, ensuring the adoption of best practices and the development of effective tools for evaluation and follow-up

Republic of Korea (National Human Rights Commission of Korea)

- **Formalizing cooperation with civil society** - For the fifth UPR cycle, it will be necessary not only to coordinate advocacy themes for the Pre-session but also to consider strengthening regular consultation mechanisms with civil society organizations from the drafting stage of the independent report.
- **Strengthening the role in the mid-term reporting process -** During the third UPR cycle, the Government's mid-term report was submitted shortly before the fourth UPR review, and it was therefore assessed as having failed to fulfil its intended function as an "interim review". The NHRCK had also planned to submit its independent report following the Government's mid-term report and was therefore unable to submit a separate mid-term report in a timely manner. In the future, in order to assess the implementation status of UPR recommendations in a more timely manner, the Commission should strengthen its role in the mid-term reporting process by examining the Government's implementation status and providing more objective and comprehensive information to UN human rights mechanisms.
- **Institutionalizing monitoring** of UPR recommendation implementation - Following the fourth UPR cycle, the NHRCK encouraged implementation through panel discussions and public statements; however, due to limitations in dedicated personnel and budget, a systematic monitoring mechanism to continuously track and analyse implementation has not yet been established. Regular monitoring of the implementation status, including annual tracking of recommendations and the organization of consultations, would therefore be necessary.
- **Institutional linkage with an NMIRF -** The NHRCK is currently preparing a policy recommendation urging the Government to establish an NMIRF to ensure the effective domestic implementation of international human rights recommendations. In this context, it is necessary to

emphasize the linkages between UPR recommendations and those issued by treaty bodies and special procedures and to explore ways to ensure integrated implementation within the NMIRF framework.

- Encouraging the **participation of the legislature and the judiciary** in the UPR process - Although many UPR recommendations require implementation through the legislature and the judiciary, the national response to the UPR has largely been executive-driven, resulting in limited participation by these branches. Beyond simply transmitting recommendations received by the Government to the legislature and the judiciary, it is necessary to engage in concrete discussions on how these branches can contribute to the implementation of recommendations and to develop mechanisms enabling their participation in the UPR process.
- **Monitoring recommendations made by the Republic of Korea** to other States - While it is important for the Government of the Republic of Korea to effectively implement the recommendations it receives, it is equally important to formulate high-quality recommendations during the review of other States and to monitor their implementation. In this regard, it would be useful to cooperate with the national human rights institutions of the States concerned to monitor the implementation of recommendations made by the Republic of Korea and to encourage the Government to formulate high-quality recommendations in future reviews.

<u>Slovenia (Human Rights Ombudsman)</u>

- Further developing hybrid participation modalities for UPR pre-sessions to ensure broader and more inclusive engagement of civil society and NHRIs. Meaningful remote participation options would reduce financial barriers and enable wider stakeholder representation.
- extending the speaking time for stakeholders to allow more substantive engagement.

<u>South Africa (South African Human Rights Commission)</u>

- Standardised template or guidance note to assist NHRIs in the preparation and drafting of their submission.
- The State is to demonstrate the extent to which it engaged with the NHRI in the preparation of its UPR report.
- A guidance document for NHRIs regarding the mid-term reporting and recommended action the NHRI could take, if any, if the State does not submit the voluntary mid-term report.
- Periodic check-ins with NHRIs to enable dialogue around what worked well or didn’t in a particular UPR cycle, (challenges encountered, areas for improvement etc).
- Greater visibility of the NHRIs input and coverage thereof on the UN’s social media and press releases. (This can be used as a strategic tool and reference at the domestic level).

Thailand (National Human Rights Commission of Thailand)

- Consider **greater flexibility in word limits** for NHRI submissions - Current word limits for stakeholder submissions apply uniformly to all contributors. While this promotes consistency, it may be useful to recognize the distinct role of NHRIs, which have broad mandates covering the full range of human rights. The UPR process could consider options that provide greater flexibility in NHRI submissions or explore a dedicated format for NHRI inputs, ensuring that comprehensive and balanced information is reflected in the review.
- Strengthen **opportunities for NHRI engagement in the UPR dialogue** - Given the unique role of NHRIs established in accordance with the Paris Principles, the UPR process should consider additional opportunities to facilitate meaningful engagement by NHRIs during the review cycle. Current opportunities for NHRI contribution during the consideration of national reports are time limited. Expanding the space for NHRI interventions would help ensure that independent assessments and first-hand information are more fully reflected in the dialogue, enriching the evidence base and supporting constructive national follow-up.
- Support broader participation through **language accessibility** - Language requirements can present practical barriers for local stakeholders wishing to engage with the UPR. Participants at the NHRCT's 6 March 2026 stakeholder consultation noted that language requirements for submissions can impede local organisations and grassroots actors. The UPR process could explore mechanisms to facilitate translation or language support for submissions prepared in national languages, thereby enabling broader and more inclusive participation.
- Introduce thematic and format innovations for **emerging issues** - Consideration should be given to introducing more flexible thematic formats within the UPR to better capture emerging and cross-cutting human rights issues not yet fully addressed under specific international human rights instruments. This could include dedicated thematic sections or guidance on reporting areas such as the rights of older persons, the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (including air quality), and human rights in the digital era. Such measures would enable more forward-looking, responsive and context-sensitive assessments of human rights challenges.

Togo (Commission nationale des droits de l'homme)

- Place emphasis on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow up.

Uzbekistan (Commissioner of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan)

- During the universal periodic review, organize **joint events and training programs** with the participation of national human rights institutions of Central Asian countries, civil society, and experts through a **permanent consultative platform**.
- Strengthening **cooperation between NHRIs and parliamentary structures to enhance oversight** of the implementation of recommendations.

- Conduct, on a systematic basis, **specialized offline and online training sessions on best practices** in implementing UPR recommendations and preparing national and alternative reports for representatives of state authorities and national human rights institutions.

Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission)

- encourage States to make it **mandatory to engage with NHRIs** in developing the UPR State reports.
- increase **refresher trainings for NHRIs**, capacitating them to **track and monitor** progress of recommendations implementation by the State, including effective ways of lobbying the State towards implementation of the same.
- continuously **train NHRI** on how to develop concrete and factual **alternative reports** to the UPR process.
- facilitate **exchange sessions amongst NHRIs**, to tap into and to share best practices in both developing alternative reports and in monitoring the implementation of recommendations.

Overview table of proposals by theme		
Theme	**Proposal**	**NHRI**
UPR modalities	UPR working group procedures to enable all A status NHRIs to speak for ten minutes during the UPR WG appearance at the United Nations Human Rights Council (of the 70 minutes currently allocated to the State under Review)	Australia
	better utilise the time under item 6 when UPR reports are adopted formally in the UN Human Rights Council, by encouraging States to identify priority actions that they will take in response to the UPR recommendations received. This might also take the form of committing to a midterm implementation plan on key issues. States should be encouraged to identify what consultations they have done with NHRIs and NGOs in determining this list of priorities	Australia

	Encourage NHRIs to attend the State review and organise live streaming sessions nationally during the State dialogue.	the Gambia
	Encourage and support NHRIs to participate in the plenary adoption of the UPR WG report by submitting statements during the adoption	the Gambia
	NHRIs to be given dedicated speaking time during the WG sessions	Mauritius
	Provide NHRIs with a more structured and substantive space for participation during the review, including through dedicated speaking time allowing them to make specific and operational recommendations to the State under review	Morocco
	Optimise the UPR for meaningful participation through greater opportunity for hybrid participation in the local time zone	New Zealand
	Further developing hybrid participation modalities for UPR pre-sessions to ensure broader and more inclusive engagement of civil society and NHRIs	Slovenia
	Extending the speaking time for stakeholders to allow more substantive engagement	Slovenia
	Strengthen opportunities for NHRI engagement in the UPR dialogue - Given the unique role of NHRIs established in accordance with the Paris Principles, the UPR process should consider additional opportunities to facilitate meaningful engagement by NHRIs during the review cycle. Current opportunities for NHRI contribution during the consideration of national reports are time limited. Expanding the space for NHRI interventions would help ensure that independent assessments and first-hand information are more fully reflected in the dialogue, enriching the evidence base and supporting constructive national follow-up	Thailand
	Introduce thematic and format innovations for emerging issues - Consideration should be given to introducing more flexible thematic formats within the UPR to better capture emerging and cross-cutting human rights issues not yet fully addressed under specific international human rights instruments. This could include dedicated thematic sections or guidance on reporting areas such as the rights of older persons, the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (including air quality), and human rights in the digital era. Such measures would enable more forward-looking, responsive and context-sensitive assessments of human rights challenges	Thailand

UPR recommendations	clear and deliberate recommendations requiring Government agencies to facilitate timely access to information for NHRIs	Malawi
	Clear recommendations directed specifically to NHRIs would improve collaboration with State actors and facilitate implementation	Malawi
	Strengthen the quality of recommendations by requiring them to be specific, measurable and operational rather than general. Each recommendation should formulate concrete action (such as the adoption of a law, the establishment of a public policy or the creation of a programme) and set quantified targets. For example, instead of vaguely recommending the protection of women's rights, specific legislation with measurable indicators should be required. Avoid repetition while enhancing the quality and relevance of recommendations and ensuring balanced coverage of all human rights themes	Morocco
Pre-sessional briefings	consider hybrid formats for UPR Info pre-sessional briefings	Estonia
	Provide support to NHRIs for their engagement in the pre-sessional briefings organised by UPR Info	the Gambia
	Formalize the UPR pre-session as an official step in the process, while it remains an informal initiative of UPR Info	Morocco
	officially recognize the UPR Info pre-sessional briefings as a parallel process to the UPR to increase engagement by recommending States, NHRIs, CSOs, and States under review	The Philippines
	Organize pre-sessional briefings at the country-level, in a hybrid format to invite extensive participation from the Missions in Geneva and capitals of recommending States	The Philippines
Consultations	Strengthen structured national consultations with the active participation of NHRIs in the preparatory phase of the review	Colombia
	Holding of formal national consultations between the Government, NHRIs and civil society during the preparation phase of the review.	Costa Rica
	Schedule biannual consultative meetings with the Government and other stakeholders	Democratic Republic of the Congo

	Establishing a permanent and structured consultation mechanism bringing together the Government, the NHRI, and civil society, active throughout all phases of the UPR cycle	Egypt
	Decentralize consultations beyond the capital, led by the NHRI which thus becomes a structured platform that links local realities with the review phase and the follow-up of recommendations, guaranteeing that the UPR has a direct impact on communities outside traditional urban centers	El Salvador
	Adopting a broader participatory approach in national consultations prior to the review, ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable and affected groups	Iraq
	Strengthening national consultations by developing regular and structured participatory mechanisms that bring together government institutions, national human rights institutions, and civil society organizations	Jordan
	OHCHR to encourage States to formally invite their NHRIs to serve as co-conveners of the national consultations for the State report	Liberia
	a detailed participation framework for NHRIs, rather than last-minute inclusion in Government reporting processes	Malawi
	further strengthen the process of drafting, validation, and adoption of the national UPR report to ensure meaningful participation of NHRIs at all levels	Malawi
	NHRIs to be given a formal role in the Government's response to recommendations, particularly in advising which recommendations to accept	Mauritius
	Strengthening national pre-review consultations – institutionalize specialized thematic consultations as part of the preparatory process for the national report, including CSOs and facilitated by the NHRI	Peru
	organizing broad national consultations with the Government, stakeholders, and civil society to identify human rights priorities and collect observations on existing challenges	Qatar
	The State is to demonstrate the extent to which it engaged with the NHRI in the preparation of its UPR report	South Africa
	encourage States to make it mandatory to engage with NHRIs in developing the UPR State reports	Zimbabwe

NHRI submissions	develop more standardized methodological guidelines for reporting by NHRIs, which facilitate comparability and thematic monitoring between cycles	Colombia
	standardize submissions guidelines specifically aimed at NHRIs	Costa Rica
	NHRIs to include direct testimonies and multimedia formats (via QR codes) in their reports, ensuring that the "voice on the ground" reaches the international system and national authorities unfiltered, allowing for an assessment of the real impact of public policies on communities	El Salvador
	Unified Reporting Templates: To facilitate peer learning and easier data extraction for the UPR Knowledge Hub, the OHCHR should introduce standardized digital templates. These should align with the technical guidance shared in UPR Info webinars regarding the drafting and dissemination of "Other Stakeholders Reports"	Georgia
	Harmonizing reporting methodologies in order to improve the quality of inputs provided by national institutions and ensure consistency and comparability	Jordan
	Increase the word limit for NHRI reports from 2,815 words. National Human Rights Institutions have a broad mandate and the word count limit restricts quality reporting on all human rights areas monitored on by the NHRI	Kenya
	Develop a voluntary, non-binding template for NHRI submissions	Liberia
	OHCHR to develop a standardised template (in a form or table format) for NHRI submissions to the Summary of Stakeholder Information	Mauritius
	Use of standard template - encourage the use of a simple, standardized submission template for NHRIs that could include thematic headings aligned with UPR recommendation clusters, a brief description of the situation, a short progress assessment (e.g. no progress/partial progress/substantial progress) and recommended next steps and indicators	Oman
	Stronger linkage to SDGs and national development plans - explicitly link each recommendation in NHRI submissions to relevant Sustainable Development Goals and national plans	Oman
	Strategic standardization of NHRI submissions – introduce a guidance template for NHRI contributions that includes regulatory advances, institutional implementation, and actual impact, information disaggregated by age, sex, territory and others,	Peru

	identifies groups in situations of high vulnerability, and links recommendations to verifiable indicators.	
	establishing a unified framework for contributions from national institutions to standardize report structure and content and classify thematic areas to facilitate comparison and follow-up	Qatar
	Standardised template or guidance note to assist NHRIs in the preparation and drafting of their submission	South Africa
	Greater visibility of the NHRIs input and coverage thereof on the UN's social media and press releases. (This can be used as a strategic tool and reference at the domestic level).	South Africa
	Consider greater flexibility in word limits for NHRI submissions - Current word limits for stakeholder submissions apply uniformly to all contributors. While this promotes consistency, it may be useful to recognize the distinct role of NHRIs, which have broad mandates covering the full range of human rights. The UPR process could consider options that provide greater flexibility in NHRI submissions or explore a dedicated format for NHRI inputs, ensuring that comprehensive and balanced information is reflected in the review	Thailand
	Support broader participation through language accessibility - Language requirements can present practical barriers for local stakeholders wishing to engage with the UPR. Participants at the NHRCT's 6 March 2026 stakeholder consultation noted that language requirements for submissions can impede local organisations and grassroots actors. The UPR process could explore mechanisms to facilitate translation or language support for submissions prepared in national languages, thereby enabling broader and more inclusive participation	Thailand
Digital platforms	structured guidance or a practical toolkit on how NHRIs can link accepted UPR recommendations directly into their internal electronic Case Management Systems	Albania
	Facilitate monitoring through the establishment of a database designed to host information on the recommendations and their implementation, continuously accessible to the government and to the NHRI, allowing it to be permanently updated and used for other various reporting and monitoring purposes	Belgium

	Create a real-time monitoring dashboard (public and participatory) as a digital platform that uses a traffic light system to objectively measure compliance with recommendations	El Salvador
	Real-time Tracking: centralized digital dashboard for mid-term updates, moving beyond periodic activity to continuous monitoring	Georgia
	Digital UPR Tracking Platform: In collaboration with OHCHR and development partners, developing a digital recommendation-tracking dashboard to improve transparency, data accessibility, and performance monitoring	Ghana
	Developing national digital mechanisms to monitor and track the implementation of UPR recommendations in coordination with relevant governmental entities	Iraq
	develop a simple "Recommendation Mapping Tool" within the UPR Hub. An NHRI could input a recommendation, and the tool would automatically link it to relevant UN Treaty Body Concluding Observations, relevant SDG indicators and a database of potential technical assistance partners	Liberia
	Establish a National UPR Implementation and Monitoring Platform – listing all recommendations under thematic categories and indicate their status using a simple traffic-light system (implemented, in progress, or no measurable progress). Each recommendation would be linked to the responsible government institution, ensuring clarity in institutional accountability. The platform would be updated periodically. The NHRI can independently assess and publish progress updates, thereby strengthening its monitoring mandate. A structured mid-term update could be generated from the platform. It also allows for structured input from civil society organizations, particularly on issues affecting vulnerable or marginalized communities	The Maldives
	NHRIs to explore digital tracking tools to monitor UPR recommendation implementation in real time. This could include: • Public online dashboards showing implementation status • Digital platforms for citizens to report on the impact of recommendations • AI-assisted analysis of recommendation trends across cycles • AI-assisted research tools regarding the interpretation of basic human rights	Mauritius

	Digital tracking tools - promote the development or use of online platforms where each UPR recommendation is listed with its status, responsible entities, and key documents, and on which the government, NHRI and, where appropriate, CSOs can upload evidence of progress	Oman
	Use of artificial intelligence in monitoring measures	Peru
	issuing interim reports and digital monitoring dashboards to continuously track the implementation of previous recommendations and provide clear information on achievements and gaps	Qatar
Mid-term reporting	Government to invite the NHRI to participate in a dialogue, including with civil society, upon the publication of the mid-term report to compare government data with independent assessments and to identify both tangible progress and remaining gaps	Belgium
	strengthening systematic monitoring of the implementation of recommendations through regular reporting on their status	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	institutionalize intermediate follow-up mechanisms, including mid-term reports with technical participation of NHRIs	Colombia
	Encourage and support NHRIs to submit mid-term reports	the Gambia
	Institutionalised Mid-Term Reporting: Establishing a formalised mid-cycle review process to assess implementation progress and recalibrate strategies	Ghana
	NHRIs to actively participate in mid-term reporting	Kenya
	establish a voluntary mid-term reporting mechanism specifically for NHRIs to be uploaded to the UPR Knowledge Hub	Liberia
	mid-term reporting to become a systematic practice with a structured framework, where NHRIs are formally invited to provide independent mid-term assessments of UPR recommendation implementation	Mauritius
	Strengthened Mid-Cycle Review and Monitoring - Institutionalizing a mid-cycle review with NHRC participation would help assess progress, identify gaps early, and recalibrate implementation strategies before the next review	Nigeria

	Formal mid-term NHRI report - encourage NHRIs to systematically prepare and publicly share a mid-term report. The report could be discussed in a national forum and shared with OHCHR	Oman
	In order to assess the implementation status of UPR recommendations in a more timely manner, the Commission should strengthen its role in the mid-term reporting process by examining the Government's implementation status and providing more objective and comprehensive information to UN human rights mechanisms	Republic of Korea
	A guidance document for NHRIs regarding the mid-term reporting and recommended action the NHRI could take, if any, if the State does not submit the voluntary mid-term report	South Africa
Institutional arrangements	Establishing an ad hoc committee within the structures of the NHRI for monitoring the government's implementation of the UPR recommendations, preparing the NHRI UPR submission, developing an action plan for UPR follow up, and organizing workshops on UPR recommendations. Defining the work tracks for the ad hoc committee: (1) NHRI-actionable recommendations (including using advisory opinions and legal studies, to strengthen its oversight and advisory role), (2) recommendations that cannot be directly implemented by the NHRI (awareness-raising and capacity-building activities and monitoring their progress), and (3) recommendations aimed at establishing or activating national oversight or specialized mechanisms (conducting studies and holding seminars to advance the process)	Bahrain
	an enhanced focus during reviews on mechanisms for implementation and follow-up	Canada
	Formal Recognition of NHRIs within National Follow-Up Mechanisms: Institutionalising NHRI's advisory role within the NMIRF framework to enhance independence and continuity	Ghana
	Developing follow-up mechanisms, including the preparation of periodic reports and systematic assessment of the level of implementation of recommendations	Jordan
	create a permanent National UPR Implementation Committee in Mauritius, with representation from the NHRC, relevant ministries, civil society, and the private sector, to track implementation progress using measurable indicators, produce annual progress reports, and coordinate national consultations ahead of UPR reviews	Mauritius

	Institutional linkage with an NMIRF - urge the Government to establish an NMIRF to ensure the effective domestic implementation of international human rights recommendations. In this context, it is necessary to emphasize the linkages between UPR recommendations and those issued by treaty bodies and special procedures and to explore ways to ensure integrated implementation within the NMIRF framework	Republic of Korea
	Place emphasis on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow up	Togo
Follow up plans and matrices	Proposing the development of a national matrix linking UPR recommendations with relevant legislation and national strategies, identifying implementing entities, timelines, and performance indicators	Egypt
	Monitor the implementation of UPR recommendations using the UPR Recommendations Implementation Roadmap and the Implementation Matrix	Ethiopia
	Early NHRI Integration into the UPR Roadmap - NHRI involvement should be formally integrated at the earliest stages of the 5th UPR cycle planning, including timeline development, stakeholder mapping, and consultation design	Nigeria
	develop public national matrices for the follow-up of recommendations, including the responsible entity, deadlines and compliance indicators	Peru
	Use qualitative and quantitative methods to systematically assess progress in the implementation of UPR recommendations	The Philippines
	Regular monitoring of the implementation status, including annual tracking of recommendations and the organization of consultations	Republic of Korea
	A common methodology for NHRIs to measure the "improvement of rights" rather than just the "implementation of activities." This includes utilizing tools like those from the Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) to provide analytical overviews of the human rights situation	Georgia
NHRI and stakeholders	Organize workshops and discussions with journalists and parliamentarians on the implementation and monitoring of recommendations	Benin
	improving cooperation between NHRIs and competent authorities in the process of monitoring the implementation of recommendations	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	strengthening cooperation with civil society organizations in the processes of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of recommendations	Bosnia and Herzegovina

	cooperating with universities and the academic community with a view to producing different types of studies and analyses	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Develop and adopt a new national framework for international human rights implementation that includes: • clear public commitments to international human rights implementation from all federal, provincial and territorial governments • adoption of federal, provincial and territorial laws enshrining the obligations, mechanisms, and public reporting requirements related to implementation • improved consultation and engagement processes with Indigenous Peoples' organizations, civil society, and human rights commissions • an enhanced role for Parliament and legislatures; and • increased resourcing, including to support civil society	Canada
	Strengthen UPR involvement of parliaments and other public institutions	Côte d'Ivoire
	Facilitate linking NHRIs with partners who can support their effective and full participation through the review process	the Gambia
	Institutionalise NHRI, CSO, NGO Annual Dialogue for UPR monitoring and shadow reporting.	Ghana
	leverage on technology to expand reach to regional grass root organizations and engagement on the UPR process	Kenya
	Establish Memoranda of Understanding with national statistical offices, in order to produce reliable statistics necessary for timely interventions and implementation of UPR recommendations	Kenya
	NHRIs to improve partnerships, knowledge-sharing and learning with Civil Society to ensure the implementation of UPR recommendations	Kenya
	Thematic consultation clusters – during the 4.5 cycle, organise consultations around specific themes during which the NHRI and relevant ministries co-chair sessions with CSOs and experts to review progress on related UPR recommendations	Oman
	Strengthening regular consultation mechanisms with civil society organizations from the drafting stage of the independent report	Republic of Korea

	Beyond simply transmitting recommendations received by the Government to the legislature and the judiciary, it is necessary to engage in concrete discussions on how these branches can contribute to the implementation of recommendations and to develop mechanisms enabling their participation in the UPR process	Republic of Korea
	Strengthening cooperation between NHRIs and parliamentary structures to enhance oversight of the implementation of recommendations	Uzbekistan
Awareness raising	Engage vulnerable groups in the process and conduct awareness-raising and public education campaigns on the UPR mechanism	Benin
	Organize national consultations on the role of different actors in the UPR	Benin
	sensitize and build the capacity of state and non-state bodies on their critical role in the implementation of UPR and other human rights mechanisms recommendations	Ethiopia
	Support NHRIs to develop audios and child and disability-friendly materials on the UPR recommendations	the Gambia
	Encourage NHRIs to popularise the recommendations to the State as widely as possible and through various avenues and media	the Gambia
	NHRIs to play a leading role in public awareness-raising, ensuring clarity of mandates and supporting Government institutions to remain focused on implementation	Malawi
	NHRIs to increase exposure to the UPR process through activities such as indicator-setting, live webcasts, and social media visibility campaigns	The Philippines
Capacity building	Strengthen training programmes for NHRIs on the strategic use of the UPR as a tool for national advocacy	Colombia
	continuous capacity-building for NHRIs on required procedures and expected roles at each stage of the UPR process	Malawi
	Capacity-building for NHRI staff on UPR engagement: encourage targeted training, including with OHCHR support, for NHRI staff on data collection and analysis, drafting high-quality UPR submissions, and results-based monitoring of recommendation implementation	Oman
	increase refresher trainings for NHRIs, capacitating them to track and monitor progress of recommendations implementation by the State, including effective ways of lobbying the State towards implementation of the same	Zimbabwe

	continuously train NHRI on how to develop concrete and factual alternative reports to the UPR process	Zimbabwe
NHRI network	greater cooperation with human rights institutions of other countries	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Strengthen knowledge sharing between stakeholders within a country and between NHRIs, including through the establishment of a pool of trainers and stakeholder networks	Côte d'Ivoire
	During the universal periodic review, organize joint events and training programs with the participation of national human rights institutions of Central Asian countries, civil society, and experts through a permanent consultative platform	Uzbekistan
	Cooperate with the NHRIs of other States to monitor the implementation of recommendations made by the NHRI's State to those States and to encourage the Government to formulate high-quality recommendations in future reviews	Republic of Korea
Sharing good practices	Organize a regional consultation on sharing best practices related to the UPR	Benin
	Exchange of good practices between NHRIs within international and regional networks	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	greater promotion of good practices, implementation of recommendations through public campaigns	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	create regular spaces for the exchange of good practices among NHRIs, facilitated by OHCHR, on monitoring, follow-up and advocacy methodologies	Colombia
	continue and deepen the practices of knowledge exchange between NHRIs from different countries, particularly at the regional level to share methodologies, good practices and lessons learned in the preparation of UPR reports	Costa Rica
	Promoting the exchange of legislative and institutional experiences at the regional and international levels within the framework of UPR reporting and enhancing learning at both regional and international levels	Egypt
	Expanding on the free webinars currently provided for stakeholder reports (available in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese), the OHCHR should facilitate regional workshops to share advocacy strategies	Georgia

	Promoting the exchange of knowledge and experiences among national human rights institutions in support of mutual learning and the sharing of good practices, thereby enhancing the impact of the Universal Periodic Review mechanism	Jordan
	UPR Knowledge Hub to facilitate the creation of thematic peer learning groups for NHRIs to share strategies for using UPR recommendations to advance their work in specific areas	Liberia
	Strengthen online platforms for knowledge sharing with other Southern African Ombudsman Offices, promoting the exchange of best practices on UPR implementation and monitoring	Namibia
	Knowledge and experience sharing through workshops and training programs with national and international, ensuring the adoption of best practices and the development of effective tools for evaluation and follow-up	Qatar
	Periodic check-ins with NHRIs to enable dialogue around what worked well or didn't in a particular UPR cycle, (challenges encountered, areas for improvement etc)	South Africa
	Conduct, on a systematic basis, specialized offline and online training sessions on best practices in implementing UPR recommendations and preparing national and alternative reports for representatives of state authorities and national human rights institutions	Uzbekistan
	facilitate exchange sessions amongst NHRIs, to tap into and to share best practices in both developing alternative reports and in monitoring the implementation of recommendations	Zimbabwe

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