

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW ADDENDA TO REPORTS OF THE WORKING GROUP

Legal basis

- HRC resolution 5/1 Institution-building of the UN Human Rights Council (Annex, paras. 26 – 32);
- HRC resolution 16/21 Review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council (Annex, paras. 15 – 16);
- President's statements 8/1 on modalities and practices for the universal periodic review process (paras. 10 – 11) and 9/2 on follow-up to President's statement 8/1 (Annex).

Contents

Pursuant to para. 16 of the Annex to HRC resolution 16/21, the State under review is obliged to clearly communicate to the Human Rights Council, “in a written format”, its position on all received recommendations.

In accordance with para. 32 of the Annex to HRC resolution 5/1¹, the State under review is required to provide its position on all recommendations received during the interactive dialogue through an explicit indication of whether each recommendation **enjoys the support of the State** (“supported”) or whether it is **noted** (“noted”).

Example:

Recommendation number	State position	Comments (optional)
XXX.1	Supported	
XXX.2	Supported	
XXX.3	Noted	

Where a State under review has already conveyed its position on recommendations at the Working Group, as reflected in the report of the Working Group, it is required to provide its position on all deferred recommendations in the addendum to be submitted to the Human Rights Council. In the addendum, the State under review may change its previously taken position on certain recommendations. Any further change in its position, after the submission of the addendum, should be orally indicated during the adoption of the report at the Council plenary.

When the State under review is not in a position to support or note a recommendation in its entirety, exceptionally, and only when a recommendation includes clearly distinguishable elements and themes, the State under review could provide clarification as to **which part of the recommendation**

¹ Recommendations that enjoy the support of the State concerned will be identified as such. Other recommendations, together with the comments of the State concerned thereon, will be noted. Both will be included in the outcome report to be adopted by the Council—Para. 32, Annex to HRC resolution 5/1

has been supported and which part has been noted. Each part should independently have a substantive meaning.

This will mostly apply to recommendations concerning the ratification of treaties whereby the State under review could express its support for the ratification of treaty X while noting the ratification of treaty Y.

Example:

Recommendation number	State position	Comments (required)
XXX.4	Supported/Noted	The State under review should provide clarification on which part of the recommendation is supported and which part is noted.

It should be noted that at the HRC plenary adoption, the HRC President will inform the Council about the number of recommendations received by the State under review and those enjoying its support and those noted. Exceptionally, the President will also state that “additional clarification was provided on another [number] recommendations, indicating which parts of the recommendations were supported and which parts were noted”.

Practical recommendations

- Given that all UPR Working Group reports are subject to UN-compliant editing following the *ad-referendum* period, addenda should correspond and refer to the edited version of the Working Group reports. States under review are thus recommended to use **advance edited version**² of the UPR Working Group reports available on the relevant UPR Extranet page³ at <https://uprmeetings.ohchr.org/Pages/default.aspx> ;
- If the advance edited version of the Working Group report is unavailable at the moment when the State under review is planning to submit its addendum, the State may wish to use a simple sequence recommendation number (*e.g. Recommendation 1, Recommendation 2, etc.*) corresponding to the set of outstanding recommendations included in the Working Group report. This will help avoid possible discrepancies between the addendum and the edited version of the Working Group report in reference to recommendations number;
- In order to respect the established word limit and allow sufficient space for comments on the position taken in relation to recommendations, it is advisable not to include the text of recommendations in the addenda. This will also help to avoid possible discrepancies with the edited version of the Working Group report in reference to the text of recommendations, if the State under review uses an unedited version of the Working Group report in preparation of its addendum.

² The advance edited versions of UPR Working Group reports are available in the original language(s) of the reports, i.e. English (and French, if applicable), and used as basis for translation into other UN official languages.

³ Final versions of UPR Working Group reports, translated in all the six official languages of the UN, become available after the first deadline for submission of addenda (See “Technical requirements, deadlines, submission and publication”). The final version of the reports will be posted, approximately six weeks before the relevant HRC session, on the relevant HRC session webpage, as well as UPR country webpages of the OHCHR public website: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx>

- In conformity with guidance provided for the preparation of the National Report⁴, States are also encouraged to hold consultations, in connection with the process of decision making on recommendations received during their review and in preparation of the addendum, including with parliament, the judiciary, local and regional governments. States may consider incorporating in the addendum information on such national processes so that good practices may be identified. Ideally, such consultations could take place within the coordination mechanism for implementation reporting and follow up (NMIRF), if it exists, with welcomed linkages to on-going efforts at the SDG – which would also be a good practice.

Technical requirements, deadlines, submission and publication

- **Word limit: 2,675 words maximum.** This word limit includes paragraph numbering and the standard UN report cover page. In order to meet the word limit, States are kindly requested to ensure that the body of the addendum is within 2,600 words;
- **Paragraph numbering:** paragraphs should be numbered to facilitate reference;
- **Use of endnotes:** Endnotes/footnotes could be used to provide references and relevant links to the information included in the addendum. They are not for the substantive text. They are not part of the 2,675 words word-count and would not be translated;
- **Annex:** Annexes could be used to provide additional information. Annexes do not form part of the word count and would not be translated;
- **Language:** The addendum should be submitted in one of the six official languages of the UN;
- **Editing:** Addenda are not edited by UN Editors;
- **Format:** Document should be submitted in **Word format**;
- **Deadlines:** States under review have an option to choose between two deadlines at their preference. The first deadline is set to ensure the translation of addenda in the UN official languages before the adoption of the UPR outcomes by the HRC plenary. The second deadline is for submission of addenda for processing in the original language only. For exact dates of submission, please consult the relevant official correspondence from the UPR Secretariat;
- **Submission:** by email to ohchr-uprstates@un.org ;
- **Publication:** Prior to the adoption of the UPR outcomes by the HRC plenary, addenda are published on the relevant UPR country webpages: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/documentation> and HRC regular session documentation webpage: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/regular-sessions>

⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/cycles-upr>

The availability of an addendum in all the six UN official languages before the plenary adoption by the HRC is ensured only if the document is submitted within the first deadline. If an addendum is submitted within the second deadline, an advance version of the document in the original language of submission will be published pending finalisation of its translation.

Annex

Template of an addendum to the Working Group report (Example)

1. [Country] has examined all recommendations made, in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 27 and 32 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 16 of annex to Council resolution 16/21. The recommendations that enjoy the support of [Country] are identified as such in this document. Other recommendations, together with the comments of [Country] thereon, are noted.
2. A total of [XX] recommendations were made during the interactive dialogue held on [day, month, year]. [Country] has already provided its response on XX recommendations during the Working Group session.

3. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by [Country] and enjoy the support of [Country]:

[List of recommendations (recommendation number, and any comment /clarification the State under review may wish to provide)]

Recommendation number	State position	Comments (optional)
XXX.1	Supported	
XXX.2	Supported	
XXX.3	Supported	

4. The following recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue have been examined by [Country] and have been noted by [Country]:

[List of recommendations (recommendation number, position, and any comment /clarification the State under review may wish to provide)]

Recommendation number	State position	Comments (optional)
XXX.4	Noted	
XXX.5	Noted	
XXX.6	Noted	

5. The following recommendations have been examined by [Country], and clarification is provided for each recommendation, indicating which part of the recommendation has been supported and which part has been noted:

Recommendation number	State position	Comments (required)
XXX.7	Supported/ Noted	The State under review should provide clarifications on which part of the recommendation is supported and which part is noted.
XXX.8	Supported/ Noted	
XXX.9	Supported/ Noted	

6. In total, out of [XX] recommendations received, [XX] enjoyed the support of [Country], and [XX] were noted. Additional clarification is provided on another [XX] recommendation(s), indicating which part(s) of the recommendation(s) has been supported and which part(s) has been noted.