



Roundtable on National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up: what next steps?

5 September 2022

CONCEPT NOTE

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Background

With the increasing requirements for implementing human rights treaty obligations, States have established national mechanisms to ensure comprehensive, more efficient and sustainable approaches to reporting, engagement and follow-up to recommendations of human rights mechanisms.

OHCHR has developed a [Practical Guide](#) and an accompanying [Study of State Engagement with International Human Rights Mechanisms](#) in 2016 to guide States in their efforts to establish or strengthen such national mechanisms.

The Human Rights Council requested OHCHR, through [resolution 42/30](#), to organize five regional consultations to exchange experiences and take stock of the developments of the past years at the national level.

The consultations were held online in November and December 2021 and brought together more than 500 participants. Around 250 State representatives took part, including representatives with experience in engaging with international human rights mechanisms, members of national mechanisms, other representatives from ministries, members of parliament and the judiciary. In addition, experts from international human rights mechanisms as well as United Nations Resident Coordinators and officials from United Nations entities took part in the events. Additionally, some sessions saw the participation of representatives from national human rights institutions and ombudspersons, civil society organizations and academia.

As a result of the consultations, HRC report 50/64 was submitted by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights at the 50th session of the Human Rights Council. The report, which summarizes the discussions held during the regional consultations and through written submissions, including an online survey sent to Member States, can be found on the [OHCHR dedicated webpage](#). Annex 1 of the report provides with a compilation of the practices shared.

The report requests the Human Rights Council to consider:

- ✓ Supporting further peer-to-peer exchanges between national mechanisms at the global and regional levels or on specific themes;





- ✓ Facilitating the creation of a community of practice and a knowledge hub for national mechanisms in collaboration with interested partners;
- ✓ Supporting the continued development of the digital infrastructure of the human rights mechanisms, including the National Recommendations Tracking Database (NRTD) and other digital tools, to facilitate the engagement of states and other stakeholders;
- ✓ Supporting initiatives aimed at strengthening the information management capacity of national mechanisms, including through the acquisition of digital information management tools, including the NRTD;
- ✓ Further supporting OHCHR in its technical assistance and capacity-building activities in relation to the engagement of States with the human rights mechanisms and the implementation of their outcomes. That would include reinforcement of the treaty body capacity-building programme, which is funded by the regular budget, and additional contributions to the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review and to other relevant trust funds, such as the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights;
- ✓ Defining modalities and tools that enhance synergies in reporting, implementation and follow-up processes under both human rights and the 2030 Agenda.

Objectives

The roundtable organized by OHCHR in partnership with the Geneva Human Rights Platform of the Geneva Academy, the Universal Rights Group, and the Danish Institute for Human Rights, will seek to hear from Member States and other stakeholders on how they intend to give effect to the recommendations made in HRC report 50/64. After some introductory remarks by OHCHR and Paraguay, the floor will be open for participants to share on concrete initiatives and/or propose any other initiatives going beyond the recommendations of the report, also in view of further strengthening National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up.

The event will also be an opportunity to present some of the ongoing work on NMIRF-related issues such as the new publication by URG or the Danish Institute study on [National Human Rights Action Plans](#). OHCHR stands available to provide an update on the recent launch of version 2 of the National Recommendations Tracking Database.

Date, venue and format

The roundtable will be held from 12:30pm to 2:00pm at the Geneva Academy (Villa Moynier, 120B Rue de Lausanne, 1202 Geneva), in a hybrid format to allow wider participation, including by attendees from different time zones. Registration is required to attend this event **in person** ([registration link](#)) or **online** ([registration link](#)). For in person attendance, participation will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis due to limited capacity. The roundtable will take place in English and will be facilitated by Mr. Felix Kirchmeier from the Geneva Academy. Catering will be provided for participants attending in person from 12:00pm

