

Cuba

Mid-term Implementation Assessment



UPR-INFO.ORG
PROMOTING AND STRENGTHENING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

Introduction

1. Purpose of the follow-up programme

The second and subsequent cycles of the review should focus on, inter alia, the implementation of the accepted recommendations and the development of the human rights situation in the State under review.

A/HRC/RES/16/21, 12 April 2011 (Annex I C § 6)

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process takes place every four years; however, some recommendations can be implemented immediately. In order to reduce this interval, we have created an update process to evaluate the human rights situation two years after the examination at the UPR.

Broadly speaking, *UPR Info* seeks to ensure the respect of commitments made in the UPR, but also more specifically to give stakeholders the opportunity to share their opinion on the commitments. To this end, about two years after the review, *UPR Info* invites States, NGOs and National Institutions for Human Rights (NHRI) to share their comments on the implementation (or lack thereof) of recommendations adopted at the Human Rights Council (HRC).

For this purpose, *UPR Info* publishes a Mid-term Implementation Assessment (MIA) including responses from each stakeholder. The MIA is meant to show how all stakeholders are willing to follow and implement their commitments: civil society should monitor the implementation of the recommendations that States should implement.

While the follow-up's importance has been highlighted by the HRC, no precise directives regarding the follow-up procedure have been set until now. Therefore, *UPR Info* is willing to share good practices as soon as possible and to strengthen the collaboration pattern between States and stakeholders. Unless the UPR's follow-up is seriously considered, the UPR mechanism as a whole could be affected.

The methodology used by UPR Info to collect data and to calculate index is described at the end of this document.

Geneva, 21.12.2011

Follow-up Outcomes

1. Sources and results

All data are available at the following address:

<http://followup.upr-info.org/index/country/cuba>

We invite the reader to consult that webpage since all recommendations, all stakeholders reports and the unedited comments as well can be found at that very internet address.

5 NGOs were contacted. Both the Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva and the State were contacted. No domestic NHRI does exist.

0 NGO responded to our enquiry. The state under review did not respond to our enquiry.

IRI: 0 recommendations are not implemented, 0 recommendations are partially implemented, and 0 recommendations are fully implemented. No answer was received for 148 out of 148 recommendations.

2. Feedbacks on recommendations

No recommendation was commented.

Methodology

A. First contact

Although the methodology has to consider the specificities of each country, we applied the same procedure for data collection about all States:

1. We contacted both the delegate who represented the State at the UPR and the Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva or New York;
2. We contacted all NGOs which took part in the process. Whenever NGOs were part of coalitions, each NGO was individually contacted;
3. The National Institution for Human Rights was contacted whenever one existed.

We posted our requests to the States and NHRI, and sent emails to NGOs.

The purpose of the UPR is to discuss issues and share concrete suggestions to improve human rights on the ground. Therefore, stakeholders whose objective is not to improve the human rights situation were not contacted, and those stakeholders' submissions were not taken into account.

However, since the UPR is meant to be a process which aims at sharing best practices among States and stakeholders, we consider positive feedbacks from the latter.

A. Processing the recommendations

The persons we contact are encouraged to use an Excel sheet we provide which includes all recommendations received by the State reviewed.

Each submission is processed, whether the stakeholder has or has not used the Excel sheet. In the latter case, communication is split up among recommendations we think it belongs to. Since such a task opens the way of misinterpretation, we strongly encourage using the Excel sheet.

If the stakeholder does not clearly mention neither the recommendation was “fully implemented” nor “not implemented”, UPR Info usually considers the recommendation as “partially implemented”, unless the implementation level is obvious.

While we do not mention recommendations which were not addressed, they can be accessed on the follow-up webpage.

B. Implementation Recommendation Index (IRI)

UPR Info developed an index showing the implementation level achieved by the State for the recommendations received at the UPR.

The **Implementation Recommendation Index** (IRI) is an individual recommendation index. Its purpose is to show both disputed and agreed recommendations.

The *IRI* is meant to take into account stakeholders disputing the implementation of a recommendation. Whenever a stakeholder claims nothing has been implemented at all, the index score is noted as 0. At the opposite, whenever a stakeholder claims a recommendation has been fully implemented, the *IRI* score is 1.

An average is calculated to fully reflect the many sources of information. If the State under Review says the recommendation has been fully implemented and a stakeholder says it has been partially implemented, score is 0.75.

Then the score is transformed into an implementation level, according to the table hereafter:

Percentage:	Implementation level:
0 – 0.32	Not implemented
0.33 – 0.65	Partially implemented
0.66 – 1	Fully implemented

Example: On one side, a stakeholder comments on a recommendation requesting the establishment of a National Human Rights Institute (NHRI). On the other side, the State under review claims having partially set up the NHRI. As a result of this, the recommendation will be given an *IRI* score of 0.25, and thus the recommendation is considered as “not implemented”.

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