



CTI Closed Discussion

Exploring ways of easing the treaty body reporting burden on Small States

Commonwealth Small States Office, Geneva

4 April 2019 | 09:30 – 13:00, followed by lunch

(Coffee from 09:30h)

PROGRAMME

4 April 2019 9:30 – 13:00h	
09:30 – 10:00	Coffee and croissants served
10:00 – 10:15	<p>Welcome and introduction to the discussion's objectives and participants / <i>tour de table</i></p> <p><i>Welcome remarks by H.E. Ambassador Omar Zniber, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN in Geneva</i></p>
10:15 – 12:00h	<p>Roundtable discussion: State experiences of reporting</p> <p><i>Moderator: Dr. Alice Edwards, Head of the CTI Secretariat</i></p> <p>This session will provide an opportunity for Small States to share their experiences of reporting to Treaty Bodies (TBs), including good practices and challenges that need to be overcome.</p> <p><i>Short 10-min presentations by Fiji, Maldives and Mauritius to start the discussion, before an open discussion, in which all participants are encouraged to share their country's experiences.</i></p> <p>The discussion will be guided by the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are some of the main challenges your country experiences regarding timely reporting, participating in Geneva-based reviews, and/or effective follow-up to concluding observations? • What practices has your country instituted or identified that have assisted in facilitating the preparation and submission of timely reports, participation in Geneva-based reviews, and/or effective follow-up to concluding observations?

Co-sponsored by:



Misión Permanente de Costa Rica
ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas
en Ginebra



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

In partnership with:



The Commonwealth



UNIVERSAL RIGHTS GROUP

<p>12:00 – 12:55h</p>	<p>Roundtable discussion: Brainstorming on recommendations for the Committee against Torture (and other TBs)</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><i>Marc Limon, Executive Director, Universal Rights Group (URG)</i></p> <p>On the basis of experiences shared, this session will provide an opportunity for participants to identify concrete recommendations to the TBs and CAT in particular on how they could streamline reporting procedures and permit easier access for Small States. It will also discuss what additional support required by Small States in easing their reporting burden.</p> <p>The discussion will be guided by the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What could the CAT and other TBs do to alleviate the reporting burden of Small States? Would this require a change of their working methods? • Possibility to discuss: the usefulness of reviews in the absence of a report and/or by videoconference; LOIPR for initial reports; how to make use UPR reports for the TBs; the interest in or scope for clustering reviews by multiple TBs, or the staggering of reports due in a single year or two; the use of (international or national) external consultants to assist with the drafting of reports; national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up or other coordinating mechanisms; the help of technology; trust fund to support costs of travel and appearance; change in the dialogue methodologies to allow better scope for dialogue and seeking advice; or the possibility of holding in-country sessions in the region.
<p>12:55-13:00h</p>	<p>Closing remarks by the Commonwealth Secretariat, URG and CTI</p>