

## State participation in the UPR Working Group

### SESSION 4: 2 – 13 February 2009

**Executive Summary:** Session 4 has been the most intense session so far with 128 different States taking the floor (approximately 20 more than during previous sessions) and making 856 Statements in total (approximately 200 more than during previous sessions). The usual trend of 40 speakers per review increased during session 4 to an average of 53. Concerning Human Rights Council (HRC) membership, observers' participation in terms of statements made almost matched those of HRC members for the first time, thus showing a growing interest by observers in the process. In respect of regional blocs, all groups increased the number statements made from session 3, except the WEOG which lost its dominance that had prevailed in sessions 1 – 3. Both the African and Asian groups even doubled their participation, the Asian bloc becoming the most active. In terms of number of States, again, all groups increased their participation but the WEOG which remained still.

- **128** States took the floor during the fourth session of the Universal Periodic Review<sup>1</sup>.
- **856** statements in total were made by those 128 States<sup>2</sup>.
- The average number of statements made those 128 States was **6.7**.

### Participation by Human Rights Council Membership

	Participating States	%	Participation within State categories	Statements	%	Statements per participating States
<b>HRC Member States (47<sup>3</sup>)</b>	45	35.2 <sup>4</sup>	95.7 <sup>5</sup>	446	52.1 <sup>6</sup>	10
<b>HRC Observer States (147<sup>7</sup>)</b>	83	64.8	56.5%	410	47.9	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.7</b>

<sup>1</sup> Including United Nations (UN) observers Holy See and Palestine.

<sup>2</sup> Only statements delivered orally during the reviews are taken into account in this study.

<sup>3</sup> Total number of Human Rights Council (HRC) member States.

<sup>4</sup> 45/128 = 35.2%. 35.2% of the States participating in the fourth session were HRC member States.

<sup>5</sup> 95.7% of the HRC member States took the floor during the fourth session.

<sup>6</sup> 446/856 = 52.1%. 52.1% of the statements made during the fourth session were from HRC member States.

<sup>7</sup> 192 UN members + 2 UN observers = 194 – 47 HRC member States = 147

## Comments:

- **Cameroon and Zambia** are the only HRC member States that did not take the floor during the fourth session.
- In comparison to session 1, 2 and 3 (respectively 54, 62 and 64)<sup>8</sup>, there has been **more HRC observers participating**.
- The gap between the percentage of statements from HRC members and non members is **narrowing**: it is now almost even, whereas previously it was 60:40.

## Participation by Regional Groups

	Participating States	%	Participation within group	Statements	%	Statements per participating State
<b>Af. G (53)</b>	31	24.2 <sup>9</sup>	58.5% <sup>10</sup>	185	21.6 <sup>11</sup>	6
<b>As. G (54)</b>	34	26.6	63%	270	31.5	7.9
<b>EEG (23)</b>	19	14.8	82.6%	92	10.8	4.8
<b>GRULAC (33)</b>	20	15.6	60.6%	100	11.7	5
<b>WEOG (29)</b>	22	17.2	75.9%	189	22.1	8.6
<b>UN Obs. (2)</b>	2	1.6	100%	20	2.3	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.7</b>

## Comments:

- **All regional blocs** increased their participation in terms of number of States from session 3 with the exception of the **WEOG**.
- The Asian Group was the **most active** regional bloc during the fourth session, both in terms of participating States and number of statements made.
- It is the first time the **WEOG is not the most active group** in terms of statements made.
- The number of statements by the African and Asian Groups **doubled** since session 3.

<sup>8</sup> See previous analysis « States participation S1-2-3 »

<sup>9</sup> 31/128 = 24.2%. 24.2% of the States participating in the first session were members of the African Group.

<sup>10</sup> 31/53 = 58.5%. 58.5% of the members of the African Group took the floor during the fourth session.

<sup>11</sup> 185/856 = 21.6%. 21.6% of the statements made during the fourth session were from members the African Group.

**Regional groups sorted by States under review**

	Germany (WEOG)	Djibouti (Af. G)	Canada (WEOG)	Bangladesh (As. G)	Russian Fed. (EEG)	Azerbaijan (As. G)	Cameroon (Af. G)	Cuba (GRULAC)
<b>Af. G</b>	10	14	5	8	6	6	22	10
<b>As. G</b>	10	14	13	20	15	21	9	22
<b>EEG</b>	6	4	7	3	9	11	8	7
<b>GRULAC</b>	7	5	6	6	7	5	5	12
<b>WEOG</b>	12	6	14	9	17	13	9	8
<b>UN Obs.</b>	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>60</b>

	Saudi Arabia (As. G)	Senegal (Af. G)	China (As. G)	Nigeria (Af. G)	Mexico (GRULAC)	Mauritius (Af. G)	Jordan (As. G)	Malaysia (As. G)
<b>Af. G</b>	10	21	14	18	5	17	8	11
<b>As. G</b>	21	17	21	14	15	10	19	29
<b>EEG</b>	3	5	4	6	4	4	8	3
<b>GRULAC</b>	5	4	7	5	12	4	6	4
<b>WEOG</b>	14	11	13	16	18	7	11	11
<b>UN Obs.</b>	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>

**Comments:**

- This table shows the **key role** played by regional groups.
- On **12 reviews**, the most active regional group was the one to which the State under Review belongs.
- For example, for the review of Malaysia, **half of the statements** were made by members of its regional group.

## Details of participation by HRC membership\* and regional groups combined

### *The African Group (31/53)*

Algeria	16	Libya	7
<b>Angola</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Madagascar</b>	<b>1</b>
Benin	5	Mali	2
Botswana	4	<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>5</b>	Morocco	14
Burundi	5	Mozambique	2
Chad	10	Niger	2
Congo	2	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>7</b>
Côte d'Ivoire	7	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>10</b>
DRC	4	<b>South Africa</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Djibouti</b>	<b>8</b>	Sudan	11
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>14</b>	Tunisia	10
Equatorial Guinea	1	Uganda	1
<b>Gabon</b>	<b>3</b>	Tanzania	1
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>8</b>	Zimbabwe	6
Lesotho	1		

### *The Western European and Others Group (WEOG) (22/29)*

Australia	6	Liechtenstein	5
Austria	8	Luxembourg	2
Belgium	8	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>13</b>	New Zealand	7
Denmark	4	Norway	8
Finland	9	Portugal	4
<b>France</b>	<b>16</b>	Spain	3
<b>Germany</b>	<b>12</b>	Sweden	8
Ireland	6	<b>Switzerland</b>	<b>7</b>
Israel	4	Turkey	14
<b>Italy</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>16</b>

### *The Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) (20/33)*

<b>Argentina</b>	<b>12</b>	Haiti	2
Barbados	1	Honduras	2
<b>Bolivia</b>	<b>3</b>	Jamaica	1
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Mexico</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Chile</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Nicaragua</b>	<b>6</b>
Colombia	5	Panama	1
<b>Cuba</b>	<b>13</b>	Peru	1
Dominican Republic	1	Trinidad and Tobago	1
Ecuador	3	<b>Uruguay</b>	<b>1</b>
Guatemala	1	Venezuela	8

### *The Asian Group (34/54)*

Afghanistan	4	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Bahrain</b>	<b>11</b>	Myanmar	3
<b>Bangladesh</b>	<b>6</b>	Nepal	4
Bhutan	5	Oman	6
Brunei	1	<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>16</b>
Cambodia	2	<b>Philippines</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>China</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Qatar</b>	<b>11</b>
North Korea	5	<b>South Korea</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>India</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Indonesia</b>	<b>16</b>	Singapore	5
Iran	10	Sri Lanka	6
<b>Japan</b>	<b>8</b>	Syria	8
<b>Jordan</b>	<b>10</b>	Thailand	5
Kuwait	4	United Arab Emirates	10
Laos	3	Uzbekistan	8
Lebanon	3	Viet Nam	9
Kazakhstan	2	Yemen	8

### *The Eastern European Group (19/23)*

Albania	1	Lithuania	3
Armenia	1	Montenegro	1
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	<b>12</b>	Poland	3
Belarus	9	Romania	3
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Russian Federation</b>	<b>10</b>
Czech Republic	10	Serbia	3
Estonia	2	<b>Slovakia</b>	<b>4</b>
Georgia	1	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>10</b>
Hungary	3	<b>Ukraine</b>	<b>7</b>
Latvia	5		

\*States in bold and italic were members of the HRC during the 4<sup>th</sup> UPR Working Group Session.