

State participation in the UPR Working Group

SESSION 6: 30 November – 11 December 2009

Executive Summary: In terms of statements made, Session 6, with 750 statements, is just between session 5 and session 4, respectively 671 and 856. An average of 119 States took the floor, which ranks among the average participation of previous UPR sessions. This resulted to an average number of 6.3 statements per States, a figure again between session 5 (5.6) and session 4 (6.7).

Human Rights Council (HRC) members, as always, accounted for slightly more than half of the statements made (51.3%) during the session despite representing only a third of States taking the floor (37.8%). Among HRC members, only Madagascar and Zambia did not take the floor.

With regards to regional groups, the WEOG was again the most active in terms of statements made (as it was during sessions 1 to 3 and 5) and the Asian group in terms of States taking the floor (as it was during sessions 2 to 5).

- **119** States took the floor during the sixth session of the Universal Periodic Review¹.
- **750** statements in total were made by those 119 States².
- The average number of statements made those 119 States was **6.3**.

Participation by Human Rights Council Membership

	Participating States	%	Participation within State categories	Statements	%	Statements per participating States
HRC Member States (47³)	45	37.8 ⁴	95.7% ⁵	385	51.3 ⁶	8.6
HRC Observer States (147⁷)	74	62.2	50.3%	365	48.6	4.9
Total	119	100	N/A	750	100	6.3

¹ Including United Nations (UN) observers Holy See and Palestine.

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

³ Total number of Human Rights Council (HRC) member States.

⁴ 45/119 = 37.8%. 37.8% of the States participating in the sixth session were HRC member States.

⁵ 45/47 = 95.7%. 95.7% of the HRC member States took the floor during the sixth session.

⁶ 385/750 = 51.3%. 51.3% of the statements made during the sixth session were from HRC member States.

⁷ 192 UN members + 2 UN observers = 194 – 47 HRC member States = 147

Comments:

- **Madagascar** and **Zambia** are the only two HRC members which did not take the floor during the sixth session.
- Despite representing only 37.8% of the participating States, the HRC member States contributed to 51.3% of the statements made, **each speaking approximately twice as much as observers** (average of 9 to 5 approximately)

Participation by Regional Groups

	Participating States	%	Participation within group	Statements	%	Statements per participating State
Af. G (53)	23	19.3 ⁸	43.4% ⁹	133	17.7 ¹⁰	5.8
As. G (54)	34	28.6	63%	156	20.8	4.6
EEG (23)	18	15.1	78.3%	106	14.1	5.9
GRULAC (33)	19	16	57.8%	105	14	5.5
WEOG (29)	23	19.3	79.3%	244	32.5	10.6
UN Observ. (2)	2	1.7	100%	6	0.01	3
Total	119	100	N/A	750	100	6.3

Comments:

- **All regional groups** have increased their number of statements made compared to session 5, with the exception of the UN observers.
- Compared to session 5, the GRULAC has increased **both** the number of **participating States** and, together with the EEG and the WEOG, **the number of statements made**
- The WEOG is, as always, the most active group **in terms of the number of statements made** (244 in total, giving an average of 10.6 statements made per speakers during the session), whereas the Asian group was the most active in terms of **number of States participating** (34 States)

⁸ 23/119 = 19.5%. 19.5% of the States participating in the sixth session were members of the African Group.

⁹ 23/53 = 43.4%. 43.4% of the members of the African Group took the floor during the sixth session.

¹⁰ 133/750 = 17.7%. 17.7% of the statements made during the sixth session were from members the African Group.

Regional groups sorted by States under review

	Eritrea (Af.G)	Cyprus (As.G)	Dominican Republic (GRULAC)	Cambodia (As.G)	Norway (WEOG)	Albania (EEG)	DRC (Af.G)	Côte d'Ivoire (Af.G)
Af. G (53)	7	6	5	5	9	5	19	19
As. G (54)	8	3	2	17	14	8	5	7
EEG (23)	5	7	4	8	7	13	8	7
Grulac (33)	5	5	14	4	6	5	6	5
WEOG (29)	14	14	12	19	18	16	20	15
UN Obs. (2)	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
Total	39	35	38	53	54	47	59	54

	Portugal (WEOG)	Bhutan (As.G)	Dominica (GRULAC)	North Korea (As.G)	Brunei (As.G)	Costa Rica (GRULAC)	Equ. Guinea (Af.G)	Ethiopia (Af.G)
Af. G (53)	9	3	2	4	5	6	14	15
As. G (54)	9	24	3	17	24	4	3	8
EEG (23)	8	7	4	5	5	6	4	8
Grulac (33)	5	6	9	6	6	13	5	5
WEOG (29)	15	13	10	19	14	15	14	16
UN Obs. (2)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Total	46	53	28	52	54	45	40	53

Comments:

- This table shows the **key role** played by regional groups.
- Leaving aside the WEOG's dominant presence during most reviews, **on 14 out of 16 reviews, the most active regional group** was the one to which the State under Review belongs.
- For example, for the review of Bhutan, nearly **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 (23/53)

Algeria	16	Libya	7
Angola	6	Mauritius	4
Burkina Faso	4	Morocco	14
Burundi	4	Niger	2
Cameroon	4	Nigeria	10
Congo	7	Senegal	4
Côte d'Ivoire	2	Somalia	1
DRC	5	South Africa	7
Djibouti	4	Sudan	2
Egypt	14	Uganda	2
Gabon	3	Zimbabwe	2
Ghana	9		

The Western European and Others Group (WEOG) (23/29)

Australia	10	Luxembourg	2
Austria	10	Netherlands	16
Belgium	10	New Zealand	4
Canada	16	Norway	14
Denmark	5	Portugal	4
Finland	4	Spain	16
France	16	Sweden	14
Germany	16	Switzerland	10
Greece	4	Turkey	16
Ireland	6	United Kingdom	16
Israel	5	United States	16
Italy	14		

The Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC) (19/33)

Argentina	13	Jamaica	2
Bolivia	2	Mexico	16
Brazil	15	Nicaragua	5
Chile	14	Panama	1
Colombia	3	Paraguay	1
Cuba	12	Peru	2
Ecuador	2	Trinidad and Tobago	1
El Salvador	1	Uruguay	5
Guatemala	2	Venezuela	7
Haiti	1		

The Asian Group (34/54)

Afghanistan	1	Maldives	3
Bahrain	3	Myanmar	4
Bangladesh	8	Nepal	2
Bhutan	2	Oman	1
Brunei	2	Pakistan	9
Cambodia	2	Philippines	6
China	15	Qatar	5
DPR Korea	1	Republic of Korea	7
India	10	Saudi Arabia	5
Indonesia	4	Singapore	4
Iran	6	Sri Lanka	3
Japan	7	Syria	3
Jordan	5	Thailand	4
Laos	4	United Arab Emirates	4
Kyrgyzstan	4	Uzbekistan	3
Kuwait	1	Viet Nam	6
Malaysia	10	Yemen	2

The Eastern European Group (18/23)

Armenia	1	Macedonia	1
Azerbaijan	14	Montenegro	1
Belarus	11	Poland	6
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	Romania	1
Bulgaria	3	Russian Federation	6
Czech Republic	9	Serbia	4
Hungary	3	Slovakia	10
Latvia	10	Slovenia	16
Lithuania	1	Ukraine	4

*States in bold and italic were members of the HRC during the 6th UPR Working Group Session.