Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights
Towards Best Practice

Edited by Dr Purna Sen
Research by Monica Vincent

The Universal Periodic Review mechanism of the UN Human Rights Council, which came into effect in 2008, has established itself as a mechanism with huge potential and which promotes dialogue and a level playing field for all countries undergoing the review of their human rights record.

Building on the Commonwealth Secretariat’s observations and analysis of the process, and the seminars it has conducted with member states, Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights consolidates the lessons learned so far, speaking equally to the three major stakeholders in the process – to states, to national human rights institutions, and to civil society organisations.

An effective UPR mechanism will enhance the promotion of human rights across the world. It is therefore essential for the key players to understand and advance the UPR process including at the implementation phase.

This publication describes UPR, shares experiences and provides analysis of the Commonwealth countries that reported in the first year of the UPR process.

Contents
Abbreviations, Preface, Foreword
Introduction
Collaborating with the Commonwealth Secretariat
Introduction to the Universal Periodic Review Process
The Universal Periodic Review as Mechanism and Process
Section I. How the Universal Periodic Review Works
Section II. What Has Been Learned?
Section III. The First Year of the UPR: Analysis and Summary
Annexes

Editor
Dr Purna Sen is Head of Human Rights at the Commonwealth Secretariat.

“This publication represents an additional contribution to improving understanding and knowledge of the UPR.”

Giuliano Comba, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

www.thecommonwealth.org/publications

Publications Section, Commonwealth Secretariat, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HX
Telephone 020 7747 6342. Fax 020 7839 9081. Email publications@commonwealth.int

Trade orders to: BEBC Distribution, Tel: +44 (0)1202-724292, Fax: +44(0)1202-712913, Email: commonwealth@bebc.co.uk
Order form

Please send me

___ copies of Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights GBP £10.00 (+p&p), ISBN: 978-1-84929-005-0

Title _______ First name/Initial ___________________ Surname __________________
Position ___________________ Dept _____________________________
Institution __________________________
Address (not PO Box) _____________________________________________
Town ___________________ County/State ___________________ Postcode ________________
Country ___________________ Telephone ___________________ Fax __________________
Email ___________________________ Date ________________________

All prices subject to change without notice

Post & packing: UK: £4.95 first book, plus 50p each additional (max £15.95).
EU: £6.95 first book, plus £2.95 each additional, for up to 20 items.
Rest of world: £8.95 first book, £3.95 each additional, for up to 20 items.
For orders of more than 20 items please contact us and we will quote you a shipping charge based on the weight of the books ordered.

I enclose my sterling cheque, payable to BEBC Distribution or
Please charge my Visa/Mastercard (delete as applicable)
Card number [_____] / [_____] / [_____] / [_____] Expiry date [_____] / [_____] 
Signature ____________________________________________

☐ Please tick if you do NOT want to join the Commonwealth Secretariat mailing list.

send to
Publications Section, Commonwealth Secretariat, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HX, UK
Telephone +44 (0)20 7747 6534 Fax +44 (0)20 7839 9081 Email publications@commonwealth.int

browse and buy at...
www.thecommonwealth.org/publications