

ACTIVITY REPORT UGANDA

National Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on UPR Implementation 4th - 6th October 2017 *Venue: Protea Hotel, Entebbe*

Timeline for UPR engagement in the current cycle





1. Introduction

Between 4th and 5th September, 2017, Accordingly, the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER), Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA), and UPR Info have organised a two day stakeholder dialogue on the implementation of Economic and Social Rights (ESRs) recommendations received by Uganda during the Uganda Universal Periodic Review (UPR) at the Protea Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda.

The purpose of the dialogue was to bring together civil society and government to discuss the recommendations received and develops strategies for implementation. The objectives of the meeting were 1/ to reflect on key recommendations relating to ESRs received during Uganda's second UPR; 2/ to develop strategies for implementation and indicators to monitor progress; and 3/ to identify opportunities and strategies to strengthen collaboration between civil society and Government on advancing ESRs.

2. Activity

2.1. Overview

This dialogue provided an opportunity to participants to make assessment on the status of implementation of UPR recommendations relating to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCRs) and to develop indicators to monitor the implementation. On the first day, different presenters from government bodies gave the status of implementation of various issues that are Education, Vulnerable group and Labor, Health, Land and Housing. This was followed by a presentation by UPR Info Africa on the International and Regional good practices on implementation. Thereafter, the representative of the Uganda Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) took the floor to discuss on how to leverage the UPR to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure Implementation of ESCR related recommendations made to Uganda.

The second day was focused on the development of the indicators to monitor implementation. Doing so, the representatives of National Planning Authority (NPA), Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development (MoGLSD), Ugandan Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) and Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

(MoJCA) presented on the various indicators that they have developed to monitor the UPR; the National Action Plan on Human Rights; and the 2019 Mid Term report. Thereafter, the representative of Ugandan Human Rights Commission (UHRC) shared tools that they developed in collaboration with OHCHR. Finally, the participants broke into their respective thematic groups to develop the indicators.

2.2. Achievements

Some outcomes were assessable at the end of that two days dialogue. We can note the opportunity that all stakeholders had to meet in one place to discuss and develop strategies for implementation and indicators to monitor progress then identify opportunities and strategies to strengthen collaboration between civil society and Government on advancing ESRs was indeed unprecedented. That was a great thing in fact that all the government bodies invited were present and gave assessment on the issues they are dealing with.

Secondly, the level of commitment from the Members of Parliament and representatives of the various Ministries and above all the commitment by the representative of the Prime Minister that his office would work on the matrix and take into account the work done by and contribution from CSOs, was a major achievement.

2.3. Lessons learnt

There is challenge with regard to the coordination of the UPR issues at the level of the Government of Uganda thereby making it difficult for civil society to have a credible interlocutor with whom they can have constructive discussion on the UPR process. Lastly, there is a deep need for capacity building at both civil society and government level on the UPR.

3. Way forward

- ✓ The group rapporteur of each thematic working group will submit the result of their reflection to ISER and that will serve to reinforce the matrix and action strategy and indicator for monitoring.
- ✓ CSOs must continue advocating toward government officials to adopt the UPR implementation matrix and action strategy drafting by civil society



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The participants committed to

- ✓ Have another workshop to work deeply on the matrix and action strategy and to understand it well to set subgroup to deal with different issues,
- ✓ To have this kind of engagement frequently to keep on the commitment
- ✓ Do capacity building for local government for awareness on UPR recommendations and action strategy.



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