



Promoting and strengthening
the Universal Periodic Review
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United Nations Human Rights Council: 41st Session

Oral statement Item 6 – General Debate

UPR Info – July 5th, 2019 (delivered by: Tenar Lorente, Programme manager, UPR Info)

Mr. President,

UPR Info would like to take this opportunity to address the inclusion of the UPR in the ongoing long-term efficiency dialogue.

Current proposals to move the adoption from the Human Rights Council to the UPR Working Group would reduce the time between the Review and the adoption, and lead to inequalities in the review of States. In this scenario, some States would be granted four months before the adoption, while others only two.

Mr. President,

One of the founding principles of the UPR is that it should ensure the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and NHRIs, in the Review process. Their contribution to the improvement of human rights through the UPR cannot be overstated.

Yet the proposed changes to the adoption under Item 6 would diminish the time available for States to consult with stakeholders prior to adoption. This period is critical. It gives other stakeholders the opportunity to exchange with States and sets the stage for an inclusive and effective implementation process.

Mr. President,

Improving the efficiency of the Human Rights Council must not come at the expense of the values guiding the UPR.

Rather than removing the UPR adoption from the Council, we strongly urge the Council to consider allowing Item 6 to be a space of dialogue and exchanges on best practices to strengthen implementation of recommendations. The success of the mechanism depends on it.

I thank you

