



THE INSIDE TRACK

**CONCISE INFORMATION AND POLITICAL INSIGHT
ON THE UPCOMING SESSION OF THE HUMAN
RIGHTS COUNCIL**

The Inside Track HRC36: the 36th regular session of the
Human Rights Council

Monday 11th September to Friday 29th September 2017 (3 week session),
Room XX, Palais des Nations

IN BRIEF

● On 11th September, H.E. Mr Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will open HRC36 with an oral update on the human rights situation around the world. This will provide the basis for a general debate under item 2 on 12th September.

● A number of high-level dignitaries are expected to address the Council, including, the Foreign Ministers of Finland, Senegal, Qatar, and Venezuela, the Grand Imam from Egypt, and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

● The speaking times during the general debates have been set to: 2 minutes 30 seconds for HRC member states, and 1 minute 30 seconds for observers. The speaking time for all States during the interactive dialogues will be 2 minutes.

● During the session, the Council will consider country-specific reports by the High Commissioner or Secretary-General covering issues in, inter alia: Burundi, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic, Sudan, and Yemen.

● It will also consider High Commissioner/Secretary-General reports on a number of thematic issues, including inter alia: composition of the staff

of OHCHR; non-discrimination and the protection of persons with increased vulnerability in the administration of justice, in particular in situations of deprivation of liberty and with regard to the causes and effects of overincarceration and overcrowding; the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights; role and achievements of OHCHR in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights; the situation of human rights in Yemen, including violations and abuses since September 2014; the compendium of principles, good practices and policies on safe, orderly and regular migration in line with international human rights law; cooperation with Georgia; the right to development; capital punishment and the implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty; implementation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education; and the rights of indigenous peoples.

● The Council will consider regular reports (including, in some cases, country mission reports) from, and hold interactive dialogues with, 18 Special Procedures mandate-holders (four country-specific and 14 thematic), including those dealing with:

arbitrary detention; truth, justice, reparation; rights of older persons; enforced disappearances; international order; unilateral coercive measures; use of mercenaries; hazardous wastes; EMRIP; African descent; contemporary forms of slavery; right to development; water and sanitation; Cambodia; Central African Republic; Sudan; Somalia; and indigenous peoples.

● At the end of the session, Council members will move to take action on between 25 and 30 draft resolutions and other texts; and is expected to appoint new mandate-holders for the positions of Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members; Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; a member of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent from Western European and other States, and members each from the African States, the Asia-Pacific States, the Eastern European States and the Western European and other States for the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice.



**FOR THE FULL DRAFT
PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 36TH SESSION,
PLEASE CLICK HERE.**

PANEL DEBATES

THE 36TH SESSION IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD FOUR PANEL DEBATES ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- Biennial panel discussion on unilateral coercive measures and human rights (14th September)
- The UPR and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the HRC and that of its mechanisms) (15th September)

- The commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with a special focus on challenges and good practices in achieving the ends of the Declaration (annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples) (20th September)

- Panel discussion on the impact of multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence in the context of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls (25th September)



**CONCEPT NOTES ON THESE PANEL DISCUSSIONS
WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE HERE.**

WHAT'S IN PRINT?

During HRC36, States will consider 65 reports from the High Commissioner, the Secretary General, Advisory Committee, Working Groups and/or the Special Procedures mandate-holders.



These UN reports, which were commissioned by the Council through earlier resolutions, when published, will be made available here.

NUMBER⁴ – DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER TEXTS AT HRC36⁵

Based on announcements made during the HRC36 organisational meeting, on the voluntary calendar of regular initiatives, and on recurring initiatives from one year previously (HRC33), a number of important draft resolutions and other texts are expected to be tabled during HRC36. Before adoption, these texts would be subject to at least one round of open informal consultations with interested delegations.

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS



(Highlighted in pink = Initiative formally announced during HRC35 organisational meeting)

Focus of resolution	Lead sponsor[s] ⁴	Expected agenda item	Vote history ⁵
Human rights situation in Burundi	European Union	4	Vote (19-7-21)
The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic	France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA	4	Vote (27-8-12)
Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights	Australia, Italy, Tunisia (African Group), Turkey, United Kingdom, USA	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	Arab Group	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	Tunisia (African Group)	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Sudan	Tunisia (African Group)	10	Consensus

4. Based on main sponsors of previous resolutions. 5. Vote results from the last time the resolution was adopted by the Council.

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

Focus of resolutions

Lead sponsor(s)⁶

Expected
agenda
item

Periodicity⁷

Vote history⁸

Conscientious objection to military service	Costa Rica, Poland, Croatia	3	Quadrennial	Consensus
Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights	Fiji, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Uruguay	3	Triennial	Vote (31-1-15)
Enforced or involuntary disappearances	Argentina, France, Japan, Morocco	3	Triennial	Consensus
Equal participation in political and public affairs	Botswana, Czech Republic, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Peru	3	Annual	Consensus
Human rights and indigenous people	Guatemala, Mexico	3	Annual	Consensus
Human rights and transitional justice	Argentina, Morocco, Switzerland	3	Annual	Vote (29-1-17)
Human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice	Austria	3	Biennial	Consensus
Mainstreaming a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda	Brazil (Community of Portuguese Language Countries)	3	NEW	N/A
Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and unilateral coercive measures	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (NAM)	3	Triennial	Vote (32-14-0)
Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes	Tunisia (African Group)	3	Triennial	Consensus
Mental health and human rights	Brazil, Portugal	3	Annual	Consensus

6. Based on main sponsors of previous resolutions. 7. Based on the voluntary calendar of thematic resolutions. 8. Vote results from the last time the resolution was adopted by the Council.

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

Focus of resolutions	Lead sponsor(s) ⁶	Expected agenda item	Periodicity ⁷	Vote history ⁸
Promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal	Brazil, China, Congo, Cyprus, Greece, Japan, Lebanon, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation	3	Annual	Consensus
Promotion and protection of the human rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas	Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, South Africa	3	Biennial	Vote (31-1-15)
Renewal of the mandate of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to consider the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies	Tunisia (African Group)	3	Biennial	Vote (32-13-2)
The right to development	Venezuela (NAM)	3	Annual	Vote (34-2-11)
Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence	Argentina, Morocco, Switzerland,	3	Triennial	Consensus
The question of the death penalty	Belgium, Benin, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, Mongolia, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland	3	Biennial	Vote (26-13-8)
The use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination	Cuba	3	Annual	Vote (32-13-2)
Unaccompanied migrant children	El Salvador	3	Annual	Consensus

6. Based on main sponsors of previous resolutions. 7. Based on the voluntary calendar of thematic resolutions. 8. Vote results from the last time the resolution was adopted by the Council.

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

Focus of resolutions	Lead sponsor(s) ⁶	Expected agenda item	Periodicity ⁷	Vote history ⁸
World Programme for Human Rights Education	Brazil, Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, Slovenia, Switzerland	3	Triennial	Consensus
From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	Tunisia (African Group)	9	Biennial	Vote (32-12-3)
Mandate of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	Tunisia (African Group)	9	Triennial	Consensus
Enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights	Brazil, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Norway, Qatar, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey	10	Annual	Consensus
Promoting international cooperation to support national human rights follow-up systems and processes	Brazil, Paraguay	10	Biennial	Consensus

6. Based on main sponsors of previous resolutions. 7. Based on the voluntary calendar of thematic resolutions. 8. Vote results from the last time the resolution was adopted by the Council.

MOST COMMON THEMES OF HRC36*



* Based on all announced resolutions, side-events, interactive dialogues, panels, and reports.

TRUST FUND TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF LDCS AND SIDS

The Trust Fund for the participation of LDCs and SIDS in the work of the Council, which was set up in 2012, will fund the participation at HRC36 of five (two female and three male) government officials.

WELCOMING PARTICIPANTS FROM:

1. ANGOLA
2. BELIZE
3. COMOROS
4. GUINEA BISSAU
5. MALI

The Trust Fund's fellowship programmes also provide government officials from LDCs/SIDS the opportunity to undertake a three-month placement relating to the work of the Council.

WELCOMING FELLOWS FOR 2017 FROM:

1. CAMBODIA
2. MALAWI
3. THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
4. MAURITANIA
5. SAMOA

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

14 thematic Special Procedures (e.g. Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts) will present reports exploring issues and questions related to their mandate. Many of these thematic Special Rapporteurs will also present country mission reports (in addendum to their main reports). In addition, four country-specific Special Procedures will present reports/oral updates on the human rights situation in the countries covered by their mandates and their engagement with the concerned State(s).

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC MANDATES

Mandate	Presentation of report/oral updates and interactive dialogue
Special Rapporteur on Cambodia	26 th September
Independent Expert on Central African Republic	27 th September
Independent Expert on Sudan	27 th September
Independent Expert on Somalia	26 th – 27 th September

THEMATIC MANDATES

Mandate	Presentation of report/oral updates and interactive dialogue	Country mission reports
Working Group on arbitrary detention	11th September	Azerbaijan, USA
Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, reparation	11th September	
Independent Expert on the rights of older persons	11th September	Singapore, Namibia
Special Rapporteur on water and sanitation	11th September	Portugal, Mexico

THEMATIC MANDATES

Mandate	Presentation of report/oral updates and interactive dialogue	Country mission reports
Working Group on enforced disappearances	12 th September	Albania
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery	12 th September	
Independent Expert on international order	12 th – 13 th September	
Special Rapporteur on coercive measures	12 th – 13 th September	Russian Federation
Working Group on use of mercenaries	13 th September	Central African Republic
Special Rapporteur on hazardous wastes	13 th September	Peru, United Kingdom
Special Rapporteur on the right to development	13 th September	
Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples	20 th September	USA, Australia
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	20 th September	
Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent	25 th -26 th September	Canada, Germany

THE UPR OUTCOME REPORTS OF 14 STATES WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL

21ST SEPTEMBER

1. BAHRAIN
2. BRAZIL*
3. ECUADOR
4. FINLAND
5. INDIA*
6. INDONESIA*
7. MOROCCO
8. TUNISIA*
9. UNITED KINGDOM*

22ND SEPTEMBER

10. ALGERIA
11. THE NETHERLANDS*
12. THE PHILIPPINES*
13. POLAND
14. SOUTH AFRICA*

DID YOU KNOW? THESE STATES WERE THE FIRST STATES TO BE REVIEWED DURING THE THIRD CYCLE OF THE UPR.

* Council Members



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