



THE INSIDE TRACK

CONCISE INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING SESSION
OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Inside Track HRC42: the 42nd regular session of the Human Rights Council

Monday 9th September to Friday 27th September 2019 (3 week session),
Room XX, Palais des Nations

IN BRIEF



● On **9 September**, H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will open the HRC42 with an oral update on the human rights situation around the world. This will provide the basis for an interactive dialogue with the High Commissioner on **10 September**. This will also mark the High Commissioner's first year in office.

● During the session, the Council will consider country-specific reports by the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General covering human rights issues in, *inter alia*: Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Georgia, Nicaragua, and Yemen. The High Commissioner will also provide oral updates on the situation of human rights in Libya, Ukraine, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

● It will also consider High Commissioner and Secretary General reports on a number of thematic issues, including *inter alia*:

- right to development;
- local governments and human rights;
- rights of indigenous people;
- human rights in the administration of justice;

- fourth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education;
- capital punishment and the implementation of safeguards;
- the impact of the civilian acquisition, possession and use of firearms on human rights;
- cooperation with the United Nations, in the field of human rights.

● On 13 September the President of ECOSOC will brief the Council on the discussions of the high-level political forum as requested by Council resolution 37/25.

● The Council will consider reports from, and hold interactive dialogues with, 18 Special Procedures (five country-specific and 13 thematic), including those dealing with: contemporary forms of slavery; international order; rights of older persons; water and sanitation; enforced disappearances; arbitrary detention; use of mercenaries; hazardous wastes; right to development; unilateral coercive measures; truth, justice and reparations; rights of indigenous

peoples; African descent; Cambodia; Central African Republic; Myanmar; Somalia and Sudan.

● The Council is expected to act on between 30 and 39 draft resolutions and other texts. It is also expected to appoint a new mandate-holder for the position of Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic.



FOR THE FULL DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE 42ND, PLEASE CLICK HERE.

MEASURES TO ASSIST SMALL DELEGATIONS DURING THE HRC



As part of the efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the HRC, the OHCHR will continue running the **HRC Helpdesk** (previously known as the HRC Clinic), to facilitate the understanding of issues raised at the HRC and enhance delegates' participation in the session, in particular for small delegations. The helpdesk will be held **every Wednesday** from 4th September to 2nd October in the Palais des Nations, Building E, Room E-3064. Delegates are encouraged to book an appointment through this link.

Following a successful trial at the 41st session of the HRC, the use of the online tool, **E-Delegates** will continue in order to facilitate delegates' work during the HRC. The tool will allow delegates to circulate, table and co-sponsor resolutions, amongst others.

The OHCHR has also reiterated its **commitment to taking steps to avoid scheduling concurrent informals**, in so far as possible. This will alleviate the burden on delegations who are unable to cover multiple meetings at the same time.

PANEL DEBATES



DURING ITS 42ND SESSION, THE COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD THREE PANEL DEBATES ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- The way forward to a United Nations declaration on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of all human rights, including the right to development during the biennial panel discussion on unilateral coercive measures and human rights (**12 September**)
- Promotion and preservation of indigenous languages during the annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of indigenous peoples (**18 September**)

● Gender-responsive initiatives to accelerate gender equality during the annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms (**23 September**)



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

WHAT'S IN PRINT?



During HRC42, States will consider 66 reports from the Secretary-General, High Commissioner, Working Groups and/or the Special Procedures mandate-holders.



WHEN PUBLISHED, THESE UN REPORTS, WHICH WERE COMMISSIONED BY THE COUNCIL THROUGH EARLIER RESOLUTIONS, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE HERE.

'L NUMBER'

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER TEXTS AT HRC42

Based on announcements made during the HRC42 organisational meeting, the voluntary calendar of regular initiatives, and on recurring initiatives from one year previously (HRC39), the following draft resolutions and other texts are expected to be tabled during HRC42. Before adoption, these texts would be subject to at least one round of open informal consultations with interested delegations.

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS

FOCUS OF RESOLUTION	LEAD SPONSOR(S) ¹	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	VOTE HISTORY ²
Human rights situation in Yemen	Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands	2	Vote (21-18-8)
Promotion and protection of human rights in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru	2	Vote (23-7-17)
Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar	Pakistan (OIC)	2	Vote (35-3-7)
Situation of human rights in Burundi	Finland (EU)	4	Vote (23-7-17)
The human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic	France, Germany, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Netherlands, Qatar, Turkey, United Kingdom	4	Vote (27-4-16)
Advisory services and technical assistance for Cambodia	Japan	10	Consensus
Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights	Australia, Italy, Somalia, United Kingdom	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building for Yemen in the field of human rights	Tunisia (Group of Arab States)	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic	Angola (African Group)	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Angola (African Group)	10	Consensus
Technical assistance and capacity-building to improve human rights in Sudan	Angola (African Group)	10	Consensus

¹ Based on main sponsors of previous resolutions. ² Vote results from the last time the resolution was adopted by the Council.

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

FOCUS OF RESOLUTIONS	LEAD SPONSOR(S) ³	EXPECTED AGENDA ITEM	PERIODICITY ⁴	VOTE HISTORY ⁵
Arbitrary detention	France	3	Triennial	Vote (46-0-1)
Elimination of harmful practices against persons with albinism due to manifestation of belief in witchcraft	Angola (African Group)	3	New	N/A
Human rights and indigenous people	Guatemala, Mexico	3	Annual	Consensus
Human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice	Austria	3	Biennial	Consensus
Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	Cuba	3	Annual	Vote (28-14-5)
Protection of workers exposed to hazardous substances and wastes	Angola (African Group)	3	New	N/A
Right to development	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (NAM)	3	Annual	Vote (30-12-5)
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences	Australia, United Kingdom	3	Triennial	Consensus
The full enjoyment of human rights by all women and girls and the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda	Brazil (Community of Portuguese speaking countries)	3	Annual	Consensus
The human rights of older persons	Argentina, Brazil	3	Triennial	Consensus
The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation	Germany, Spain	3	Biennial	Vote (44-1-2)
The question of the death penalty	Belgium, Benin, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, Mongolia, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland	3	Biennial	Vote (27-13-7)
The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health	Brazil	3	Biennial	Consensus

The role of prevention in the promotion and protection of human rights	Australia, Hungary, Maldives, Morocco, Poland, Ukraine, Uruguay	3	Triennial	Consensus
The right to privacy in the digital age	Austria, Brazil, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico	3	Annual	Consensus
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 (30-15-2)
Unaccompanied migrant children	El Salvador	3	Biennial	Consensus
World Programme for Human Rights Education	Brazil, Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, Philippines, Slovenia, Thailand	3	Annual	Consensus
Cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights	Fiji, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Uruguay	5	Biennial	Vote (28-0-19)
From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance	Angola (African Group)	9	Annual	Vote (32-5-10)
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, processes and related mechanisms, and their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Brazil, Paraguay	10	Biennial	Consensus

THE COUNCIL'S MECHANISMS



SPECIAL PROCEDURES

13 thematic Special Procedures (e.g. Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts and Working Groups) will present their reports (including country mission reports) during HRC42. In addition, five country-specific Special Procedures (e.g. Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts) 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 1
Special Rapporteur on Myanmar	16th September
Special Rapporteur on Cambodia	25th September
Independent Expert on Somalia	25th September
Independent Expert on Sudan	25th September
Independent Expert on Central African Republic	26th September

• THEMATIC MANDATES

MANDATE	PRESENTATION OF REPORT/ORAL UPDATES AND INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE 2	COUNTRY MISSION REPORTS
Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery	9th September	Italy
Working Group on use of mercenaries	9th September	Chad Austria
Special Rapporteur on water and sanitation	9th September	Lesotho Malaysia
Special Rapporteur on hazardous wastes	9th September	
Working Group on enforced disappearances	11th September	Ukraine
Special Rapporteur on truth, justice, reparation	11th September	Sri Lanka
Independent Expert on the rights of older persons	11th September	Uruguay Mozambique
Special Rapporteur on the right to development	11th September	Cabo Verde
Independent Expert on international order	12th September	
Special Rapporteur on unilateral coercive measures	12th September	
Working Group on arbitrary detention	13th September	Bhutan
Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples	18th September	Ecuador Timor-Leste
Working Group of experts on People of African Descent	23rd September	Belgium Argentina

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

THE UPR OUTCOME REPORTS OF 14 STATES WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL DURING HRC42 (EXPECTED 19-20 SEPTEMBER):

ALBANIA, BHUTAN, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, COSTA RICA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO*, DOMINICA, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, ETHIOPIA, NICARAGUA, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, QATAR*

* Council Members

TRUST FUND TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF LDCs AND SIDS

The Trust Fund to support the participation of LDCs and SIDs in the work of the Council, set up in 2012, will support the participation of 11 (six female and five male) government officials at HRC42. Four of them represent States that do not have a Permanent Mission in Geneva, (i.e. Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Suriname).

At HRC42 the Trust Fund will support the participation of delegates from the following LDCs and SIDs:

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. ANGOLA* | 5. REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS | 9. TANZANIA |
| 2. BENIN | 6. SAINT LUCIA | 10. UGANDA |
| 3. GRENADA | 7. SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS | 11. ZAMBIA |
| 4. MALAWI | 8. SURINAME | |

MOST COMMON THEMES OF HRC42*



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



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