

## **Item 10 GD statement**

Thank you Madam President,

URG firmly believes that the provision of technical assistance and capacity building is crucial to better preventing human rights violations and crises.

For this reason, we believe there is a need to improve the functioning of item 10, which falls short of its objective of providing advisory services, technical assistance and capacity-building in consultation with and with the consent of Member States concerned.

URG analysis has shown that few expert reports produce specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound recommendations as set out in paragraph 98 of the Manual of Operations of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. Instead, item 10 scrutiny largely serves as a light monitoring exercise, which results in limited concrete and actionable recommendations to the Government and other stakeholders.

While monitoring is fundamental to the identification of a country's shortcomings in the field of human rights, the objective should be the improvement of national laws, policies and practices through the identification of gaps and ways in which these can be filled. We therefore call on experts reporting under item 10 to ensure that recommendations are SMART and include benchmarks, indicators, timelines and mappings of possible partners to help drive domestic progress.

Mindful of the urgent need to consider how the Council and the wider UN could strengthen the mobilisation and delivery of capacity building support on-the-ground, in February, URG partnered with Singapore and Norway to organise a pilot 'capacity-building support forum' as a voluntary platform to match States self-assessed needs with support from stakeholders of the international community. As a pilot effort, we hope to learn from it to inform proposals for a more inclusive and effective system for the delivery of technical assistance and capacity building under item 10.

Thank you.