**COMMITTEE ON MIGRANT WORKERS (CMW)**

**Information Note for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and   
National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)**

**33rd session (27 September to 8 October 2021)**

**I. Consideration of reports submitted by States Parties**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 33rd session of the CMW Committee might be held online and, if that is the case, no physical meetings will take place in Geneva.

In case its **33rd session** will be held online from **Monday, 27 September to Friday, 8 October**, the Committee will consider the third periodic report of **Azerbaijan**, and the second periodic report of **Rwanda**,on an exceptional basis owing to the pandemic, during **online dialogues over three days** in thefirst and the second week of the 33rd session (the **exact days and times will be confirmed** in due course and this information note updated accordingly).

The Committee's online dialogues with Azerbaijan and Rwanda will be **publicly webcast** on UN Web TV: http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/

**II. Documentation**

The third periodic report of Azerbaijan, the second period report of Rwanda, the provisional agenda (CMW/C/33/1), the programme of work and other documents pertaining to the session will be available online at: <https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1397&Lang=en>

**III. Venue**

The public meetings of the 33rd session of the Committee will be webcasted at http://webtv.un.org/.

1. **CSO and NHRI submissions**

The Committee welcomes representatives of national and international CSOs, as well as NHRIs to provide country-specific information on issues relevant to the implementation of the Convention by Azerbaijan and Rwanda. This can be done orally and/or in writing. Due to the volume of documentation received, written submissions should not exceed **4,000 words**. They must be in one of the working languages of the Committee **(English, French or Spanish)**. Information should be as specific, reliable and objective as possible. CSO reports prepared by coalitions of individual CSOs are encouraged.

CSOs/NHRIs wishing to submit reports to the Committee are required to:

* Identify the full name of the CSO/NHRI (in the title of the submission);
* Indicate the country to which the information relates (in the title of the submission);
* Indicate whether or not the submission may be posted on the webpage of CMW for public information purposes;
* Submit the report in Word and PDF formats by e-mail to the CMW Secretariat. CSO/NHRI submissions should be in English, French or Spanish and should generally not exceed 4,000 words in length. OHCHR does not translate nor reproduce CSO/NHRI documents; and
* Address **as briefly and precisely as possible** the main human rights issues arising under the articles of the Convention affecting migrant workers and members of their families in the State party concerned, as well as migrant workers and members of their families from that State party who live abroad. They should also address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and measures taken by States parties in response thereto, on the enjoyment of the human rights of migrant workers and members of their families. Written submissions should be prepared with a view to assisting the Committee in formulating targeted conclusions and recommendations, as well as lists of issues, and in the case of lists of issues prior to reporting, in identifying the central issues to be addressed during the constructive dialogue with the State party (See the link for the template for submissions by stakeholders at the end of the note).

All written submissions should reach the Secretariat of the Committee four weeks prior to the beginning of the session, i.e., **no later than 30 August 2021**. The Word and PDF versions of the submission should be sent to the following e-mail address: [cmw@ohchr.org](mailto:cmw@ohchr.org).

**V. Meetings with CSOs/NHRIs**

The Committee will set aside time at its 33rd session for CSOs and NHRIs to provide orally country-specific information in respect of the consideration of the third periodic report of Azerbaijan and the second periodic report of Rwanda. These briefings are scheduled on **Monday, 27 September 2021,** for one State party to be reviewed, **and** on **Monday,** **4 October 2021,** for the other, and will take place in a public meeting (exact days and times to be confirmed).

CSOs/NHRIs making oral statements should note that such interventions should typically not exceed 8 minutes. More or less time may be provided by the Chair depending upon the number of speakers. CSOs/NHRIs should also provide the Secretariat of the Committee with an **electronic copy** (in Word and PDF formats) at [cmw@ohchr.org](mailto:cmw@ohchr.org) **of their oral statements/talking points** by **Monday, 27 September 2021,** and **Monday, 4 October 2021, 12h30 (Geneva time),** respectively, for interpretation purposes.

CSOs/NHRIs must confirm their intention to brief the Committee by informing the CMW secretariat in advance at [cmw@ohchr.org](mailto:cmw@ohchr.org). In case of an online session, a meeting link will be sent to them a few days prior the beginning of the session.

**VI. Registration**

In case the 33rd session of the Committee will have to be held online, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, **no observers will be accredited**. However, all public meetings of the Committee will be webcast live on the following website: <http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/>

**VII. Informal briefings with the Committee**

In line with the Committee’s decision 31/3 taken at its 31st session to provide CSOs, including migrants’ organizations, and NHRIs, with the option of not attending the public informal meeting of the Committee on States parties to be reviewed during the respective session held during its first meeting, CSOs/NHRIs wishing to provide country-specific information in relation to the consideration of the third period report of Azerbaijan and the second periodic report of Rwanda, may also organize a one hour private briefing for the Committee on Monday, 27 September 2021, and on Monday, 4 October 2021, at 18h00 (Geneva time). CSOs/NHRIs wishing to organize such briefings should contact the CMW Secretariat to coordinate well in advance of the session.

**VIII. Additional Information**

For further information about the treaty bodies in general, specific information on CMW and on the participation and role of CSOs, NHRIs and United Nations specialized agencies and other bodies with respect to the State reporting procedure, please consult the following links:

* <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Pages/TreatyBodies.aspx>
* <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/AboutUs/Pages/CivilSociety.aspx> (Here you can also subscribe to e-mail updates if you would like to stay informed about UN human rights activities and developments)
* Statement on the Committee’s relationship with CSOs: <http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CMW/C/21/2&Lang=en>
* Statement on the Committee’s relationship with NHRIs: <http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT/CMW/STA/8065&Lang=en>
* Guidelines for submission of reports by United Nations specialized agencies and other bodies:

<https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CMW%2fC%2f1&Lang=en>

* Template for UN Agencies, NHRIs and CSOs to provide information on a State party to the Committee: <http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT%2fCMW%2fINF%2f29%2f27229&Lang=en>