

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD)

110th session (7 - 31 August 2023)

*Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais Wilson, Conference Hall, Ground Floor, Geneva*

INFORMATION NOTE NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

States parties reports

The Committee will examine the reports of the following six States parties during its **110th session: Croatia, Italy, Namibia, Senegal, Turkmenistan and Uruguay.**

CERD Committee Members

The CERD Committee consists of 18 members, serving in their personal capacity. For the details about all CERD members, see:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CERD/Pages/Membership.aspx>

Decision of the Committee

At its seventy-seventh session, on the 3 August 2010, the Committee held an informal meeting with representatives of non-governmental organizations to discuss ways and means of strengthening cooperation. The Committee decided to have *informal meetings* with non-governmental organizations, at the beginning of each week of its sessions when States parties' reports are being discussed (Annual Report, see A/65/18, para.87). At its hundredth and fifth session, the Committee adopted the guidelines on its cooperation with non-governmental organizations. The Committee welcomes representatives of national and international NGOs to provide

country-specific information on States parties whose reports are before the Committee

Documentation

The reports of the six States parties to be considered at the 110th session, the provisional agenda and other documents pertaining to the session (will be posted shortly) on our [web page](#).

Venue

The 110th session of the Committee will take place in Geneva at the **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Palais Wilson, Conference Hall, Ground Floor in Geneva.**

NGO reports for the Committee at its sessions

The Committee welcomes written information, which should be as specific, reliable and objective as possible from international, regional, national and local organizations. NGO "alternative reports" which follow the same form of presentation as the reports submitted by the Government concerned, are especially welcome. NGO reports prepared by coalitions, rather than individual NGOs, are also encouraged. **Submissions should not exceed 20 pages.**

All submissions to CERD should:

1. Be submitted in English, French or Spanish. As most Committee members use English as their preferred working language, documents submitted in French and Spanish should, to the extent possible, be translated into English, an executive summary can be provided in English, instead. Please note that **the UN Secretariat does not translate documents submitted by NGOs.**
2. Be transmitted to the CERD Secretariat electronically on ohchr-cerd@un.org for the reports relating to the **List of Themes** preferably before **12 May 2023**. The reports relating to the **main review** should be transmitted before **14 July 2023**. The requests under **Early Warning Urgent Action Procedures (EWUAP)** should be submitted before **14 July 2023**. The reports relating to the **Follow-up procedure to concluding observations** should be submitted by **14 July 2023 (hard copies not needed)**. **Exceptionally, Submissions deadlines may be extended upon request.**

Accreditation

NGO representatives who wish to attend the CERD session **in person** are requested to register online on by clicking on the [Link](#). **All participants must have the meeting badge of the session.** In order to receive a ground pass, all applicants must bring the confirmation of registration (which will be sent to you by email upon successful registration online. Uploading your passport size photo is mandatory), a valid national passport or government issued ID bearing a photograph, and must appear in person. Kindly ensure your registration well in advance. The registrations will remain open until **22 July 2023**.

Please note that OHCHR will neither send letters of invitations to NGOs to attend CERD sessions nor assist with travel or accommodation costs relating to their participation.

Informal meetings and lunchtime briefings

NGO representatives are welcome to attend as observers, but will not be given the opportunity to speak during the Committee's meetings with the State delegation. Nevertheless, NGO representatives may register and attend the *Informal Meetings* organized for NGO's to present country-specific information on States parties whose reports are before the Committee. **These meetings might take place in-person or remotely.**

To find out the schedule of informal meetings, please consult the Programme of Work available on our [web page](#).

Lunchtime briefings by the NGOs may also be arranged immediately prior to the afternoon meetings when the States parties' reports are being discussed, typically from **13.45 to 14.45 pm**. **These briefings might take place in-person.** The Secretariat will not provide interpretation.

CERD Concluding observations

Following the consideration of the States parties reports during the **110th CERD** session, the Committee will formulate concluding observations that will assist the States parties concerned in the implementation of the Convention. These concluding observations outline positive aspects, principal subjects or concerns and the Committee's recommendations on how to address challenges faced by the States parties. Once the concluding observations have been adopted, the document will be posted on our [web page](#).