Update on discussions in New York and TRIP – a mid-term follow-up procedure

Friday 25 October 2019, 9:30 – 11:30
Geneva Academy, Villa Moynier, 120B rue de Lausanne

This meeting is part of the Geneva Human Rights Platform (GHRP) series of ‘Geneva Academy Fridays’, which keep the diplomatic community informed on the recommendations on the 2020 treaty body (TB) Review, especially on the implications of a single/clustered report and consolidated state review, individual communications and related developments as detailed in the publication Optimizing the UN Treaty Body System.

The discussion will focus on the importance of a national-level mid-term review in form of a Technical Review of Implementation Progress (TRIP). Especially in the case of an 8-year reporting cycle, as recently adopted by the Human Rights Committee, a strengthened and coordinated follow-up mechanism at the national level will be crucial to maintain the engagement of the TB system with the concerned country.

This meeting will additional serve to give an update on recent events around the 2020 TB Review at the UNGA in New York.
Agenda

9:15 – 9:30  Welcome Coffee

9:30 – 10:00  Update on the discussion on TB Review in New York

10:00 – 10:30  Follow-up in an 8-year cycle: The proposal for a TRIP

- Felix Kirchmeier, GHRP / Geneva Academy
- Andrea Meraz-Sepulveda, CCPR-Centre
- Simon Walker, OHCHR

10:30 – 11:30  Open Discussion

Background

The Academic Platform on TB Review 2020 proposes two new models of consolidated TB dialogues with states, taking place on an 8-year cycle.

Option 1: Single Consolidated Review based on a single State report
Option 2: Clustered Reviews based on semi-consolidated reports

The Technical Review of Implementation Progress (TRIP) adds a national component of follow-up and an evaluation of the implementation of TB recommendations, consolidating the follow-up stage and allowing for an increased role of domestic stakeholders in country.

Why? To avoid a protection gap in the time-lapse between the reviews and to move a stronger focus on national implementation, this new mechanism complements the models on the reporting procedure with a national follow-up component, spaced in-between the Geneva-based reviews. Combining the follow-up to all TB recommendations will add coherence and respond to the national-level perception of the TBs as one integrated system.

When? Between the consolidated reviews which take place in Geneva. Inspired by the UPR mid-term review it would allow for monitoring the implementation of TB COBs and Views.

Who? The TRIP would be done by a small delegation. This could be a joint team of different TBs’ country rapporteurs or, alternatively, one country rapporteur mandated by the other concerned country rapporteurs.

How? Country rapporteurs will undertake the follow-up visit halfway in-between country reviews. OHCHR staff will be required to support the TRIP, relying on the organizational and convening roles of domestic stakeholders (e.g. NHRI). Based on a select number of recommendations the TRIP delegation will meet and discuss with government and other relevant stakeholders in the country. It will then issue an evaluation of implementation of recommendations.