



**48th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 6 of the Agenda: General Debate
October 1, 2021**

Joint Oral Statement

Submitted by

CCIG – Centre Catholique International de Genève

Co-signed by

**Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Confédération internationale Société de Saint Vincent de Paul
Edmund Rice International**

Fédération internationale de l'Action des chrétiens pour l'abolition de la torture

Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale

**International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial
Discrimination**

International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development

Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos

Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice

Mouvement International d'Apostolat des Milieux Sociaux Indépendants

VIVAT International

48th Session of the Human Rights Council
Item 6: UPR General Debate
1 October 2021
Speaker: Maria Lilian Espedilla

CCIG, on behalf of this NGO coalition, welcomes the commitment of Member States to the UPR process over the years.

Moving forward to the 4th cycle, the main challenge is to **ensure the monitoring and implementation of recommendations at the local level.**

Accessibility of UPR Recommendations at the Local Level.

Widespread dissemination of recommendations locally is still lacking and the involvement of the media is too limited. ***Further efforts are needed to enhance the role of communication experts in raising awareness of the UPR and the human rights issues that it raises.***

The language in which the recommendations are framed is not always accessible for non-experts in human rights. As a result, the UPR risks to be a prerogative of a few advocacy professionals within the Government and the Civil Society.

Awareness Raising and Capacity Building for Local Actors

To boost better implementation, there is a need to empower not only advocacy professionals, but all those who deal directly with human rights challenges providing related services, like education and victims assistance.

We recommend to implement targeted capacity building initiatives to widen the pool of actors reached and ensure that human rights monitoring is a prerogative of civil society as a whole.

National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow Up (NMRFs)

Much remains to be done to make the National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow Up an effective practice. ***We call upon Member States to set up these mechanisms in order to enhance implementation efforts of government institutions in consultation with Civil Society.***

Thank you.