51st Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Item 6 of the Agenda: General Debate
September 30, 2022

Joint Oral Statement
Submitted by
CCIG – Centre Catholique International de Genève

Co-signed by
Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Compagnie des Filles de la Charité de Saint Vincent de Paul
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 Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development
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UPR Info
This NGO coalition welcomes the commitment of Member States to the UPR process over the years.

Moving forward to the 4th cycle, the main goal is to ensure an effective implementation of the UPR recommendations to advance the realization of human rights at the local level. National civil society as well as local and regional governments have a key complementary role to bring the decisions making process closer to the citizens and ensure that laws, policies and programs integrate rights holders’ concerns.

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

To boost better implementation, there is a need to empower not only advocacy professionals, but also those providing human rights related services (for instance in the education or health sector or supporting survivors of human rights violations), both within the government and civil society. The accountability framework can be strengthened formulating SMART recommendations, fostering transparency and accessibility to local actors, and developing human rights monitoring plans with baselines and objective-oriented human rights indicators. We recommend implementing targeted capacity building initiatives to widen the pool of actors reached and ensure that human rights education and monitoring is systematically undertaken by key local stakeholders, including the government, the judiciary and the Parliament.

Thank you.