



**56th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
Annual thematic panel discussion on technical cooperation and capacity-
building
July 9, 2024**

Joint Oral Statement

Submitted by

CCIG - Centre Catholic International de Genève

Co-signed by

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII

Caritas Internationalis

Compagnie des Filles de la Charité 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

Instituto de Desenvolvimento e Direitos Humanos

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Office International de l'enseignement catholique

UPR Info

VIVAT International

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Speaker: Emily Grace Pauwels

This NGO coalition welcomes the topic of this panel discussion.

While recognizing the commitment of Member States to the UPR process, efforts are still needed to ensure the effective implementation of UPR recommendations for the advancement of human rights at the local level. **National civil society as well as local and regional governments have a key role to bring the decision-making process closer to the citizens and ensure that laws, policies and programs fully integrate rights holders' concerns.**

Widespread dissemination of recommendations locally is still lacking. ***Further efforts are needed to enhance the role of legal professionals and media in raising awareness of the UPR and relevant human rights issues.***

To enhance the effective implementation of human rights, States need to adopt a holistic approach that ensures respect, protection, and fulfillment of these rights for all, leaving no one behind. This involves not only strengthening the legal and institutional framework, but also promoting human rights education, fostering a human rights-based economy, and ensuring access to justice, redress, and remedies.

National Mechanisms for Implementation, Reporting, and Follow-up (NMIRFs) and local actors are essential for developing inclusive human rights monitoring plans, establishing baselines, and creating objective-oriented human rights indicators, which foster accountability and transparency.

Finally, greater efforts are required to provide a safe space and ensure technical and financial support for civil society, enabling them to effectively contribute to advancing human rights.

Thank you.