The implementation of a national human rights without discrimination based on gender perspective is a challenge for countries. The effectiveness of gender-sensitive approaches to the implementation of international human rights obligations is crucial for ensuring that women and girls enjoy their human rights. The OHCHR approach to the implementation of the national human rights institutions and processes is to: (1) support the development of a gender-sensitive approach to the implementation of international human rights obligations; (2) encourage the establishment of a national human rights mechanism that is gender-sensitive; and (3) provide technical assistance to countries to implement their international human rights obligations in a gender-sensitive manner.

**National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up (NMRs)**

The National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up (NMRs) are tools used by States to report on the implementation of international human rights obligations and to follow up on recommendations. They are considered important tools for ensuring that States meet their obligations under international human rights law. The OHCHR supports States in establishing and strengthening their NMRs, and provides technical assistance to ensure that they are effective and comprehensive. The OHCHR also coordinates the work of the NMRs through the Thematic Working Group on National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up (TMWRG).

**The Integration of a Gender Perspective**

The OHCHR supports States in integrating a gender perspective into the implementation of international human rights obligations. This is done through the OHCHR’s thematic working group on national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRF), which focuses on gender-sensitive approaches to the implementation of international human rights obligations. The OHCHR also provides technical assistance to States in establishing and strengthening their NMRs, and in ensuring that they are effective and comprehensive. The OHCHR also coordinates the work of the NMRF through the Thematic Working Group on National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up (TMWRG).

**Consultations**

The OHCHR consults with a wide range of stakeholders, including national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, and expert groups, to ensure that the work of the NMRs is informed by a gender perspective. The OHCHR also consults with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ESC) to ensure that the work of the NMRs is aligned with the work of these organizations.

**The Development of Indicators**

The OHCHR works with States to develop indicators that can be used to assess the impact of the implementation of international human rights obligations. These indicators are used to help assess the impact of the implementation of the obligations of States, and to provide a basis for reporting on the implementation of international human rights obligations.

**Technical Assistance**

The OHCHR provides technical assistance to States in implementing their international human rights obligations and in ensuring that they are gender-sensitive. This assistance is provided through the OHCHR’s thematic working group on national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up (NMRF), which focuses on gender-sensitive approaches to the implementation of international human rights obligations. The OHCHR also provides technical assistance to States in establishing and strengthening their NMRs, and in ensuring that they are effective and comprehensive. The OHCHR also coordinates the work of the NMRF through the Thematic Working Group on National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up (TMWRG).
recommendations, the identification of the measures for implementation, the attribution of responsibilities, timelines and indicators to measure progress. Implementation plans can also serve as a tool to assist in identifying capacity gaps and in the assessment of the needs in terms of technical assistance.

### OHCHR Tools

**Handbook on National Human Rights Plans of Action. OHCHR [E]**

**Compilation of National Human Rights Action Plans (NHRAPs), OHCHR [E]**

**Guide - Experiences from the Development, Implementation and Review of National Human Rights Plans of Action [OHCHR/UPRB].**

### Indicators

### Practices

#### What it is: A tool to assist in the assessment of the impact of the implementation of recommendations on the improvement of the human rights situation on the ground. NMRFs should strategically include representatives of national statistics offices.

### OHCHR Tools


### Databases

### Practices

#### What it is: An electronic system to record, track and report on the implementation of the recommendations. It can take the form of a table in a Word document or be supported by various levels of sophistication of software.

### OHCHR Tools

**The Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI) [E] [F]**: OHCHR is carrying out improvements to the UHRI system which will include the following: enhanced search options, the possibility to produce/export tables of thematically clustered recommendations, and their links with the SDGs. In addition, a UHRI Web Service [E] will enable the transferring of recommendations from the UHRI to any customized database or application on any device. Finally, a multi-lingual application to create national databases of recommendations and report progress on implementation will be made available to States free of charge.

### Programs and Funding Mechanisms

Pursuant to GA resolution 68/268, the OHCHR has established a Treaty Body Capacity Building Programme. In addition, the main funds through which the OHCHR and UNCTs are providing technical assistance in the follow-up and implementation of human rights recommendations from all mechanisms include:

- **Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review [E]**
- **United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights [E]**
- **UNDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Trust Fund [E]**

Contact: hrimplementation@ohchr.org

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**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION & NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FOLLOW-UP SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES**

**OHCHR/UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

**Practices**

**What it is:** At the request of States, OHCHR and UN Country Teams (UNCTs) provide support, inter alia, on the elaboration of the core elements of national human rights follow-up systems and processes. They also provide support to the thematic (sectorial) implementation of the recommendations. OHCHR also provides support to UNCTs in integrating a human rights perspective into their work. Who it is: OHCHR Headquarters, UNCTs and OHCHR field presences which include Country/Stand-alone Offices, United Nations Peace Missions, Regional Offices and Centres, and the deployment of Human Rights Advisers in UN Country Teams. How it is provided: The UN is promoting a holistic approach which includes the simultaneous consideration of all recommendations, from the treaty bodies, the universal periodic review and the special procedures, in line with States’ priorities. The assistance can take various forms. The most common ones are:

- Advisory
- Seminar and training (National/Regional)
- United Nations Volunteer (UNV) posting
- Consultant services (National/International)
- Facilitation of national or sectorial consultations
- Support to the thematic implementation of recommendations
- Facilitation of peer exchange of practices
- Referral to OHCHR/UN multilateral or bilateral partners

**Follow-up and implementation:** The UN General Assembly (GA) specifically mandated the Human Rights Council (the Council) to promote the full implementation of human rights obligations undertaken by States (GA res. 60/251), including in the context of the universal periodic review and the work of its special procedures. The universal periodic review as an action oriented mechanism has, among its first objectives, the improvement of the human rights situation on the ground (HRC res. 5/1). The full and effective implementation by State parties of the treaty obligation and the periodic reporting on progresses achieved is also central to the strengthening of the treaty body system (GA res. 68/268).

**International cooperation and the sharing of practices** are essential to the efforts undertaken by States towards the advancement of the enjoyment of human rights and the strengthening of the mechanisms established to that aim. Indeed, the Council was created on the basis of the purpose and principles of the UN Charter, including achieving international cooperation in the promotion of human rights. Moreover, the objectives of the universal periodic review include the sharing of best practice among States and other stakeholders.