



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18 June 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter dated 17 June 2020, from H.E. Mr. Jürg Lauber, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations and H. E Mr. Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations, the co-facilitators for the review of the UN human rights treaty body system.

The co-facilitators request Member States to submit written contributions regarding the review process of the UN human rights treaty body system.

I avail of this opportunity to express my solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and extend my sincere condolences for their loss.

Please accept, Excellency, accept, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations**



*Permanent Mission of the  
Kingdom of Morocco to the UN*

17 June 2020

Excellency,

In our capacity as co-facilitators of the process of the consideration of the state of the UN human rights treaty body system and as described in our letter dated 11 June 2020, we would like to call, as a first step, for written contributions.

Without intending thereby to restrict the nature and scope of the inputs, the issues outlined below - without being exhaustive - can be used as a guide in formulating the submissions:

1. The functioning of the treaty body system: its efficiency, effectiveness, strengths and weaknesses; suggestions for its further improvement;
2. Implementation of UNGA resolution 68/268 and views on biennial report of the UN Secretary-General on the status of the treaty body system;
3. Good practices and methodologies in relation to working methods and procedural matters, including harmonization and alignment of working methods;
4. Coordination and predictability in review cycles and reporting;
5. Current reporting system, including common core document, and ways to further improve and simplify reporting for States parties whilst ensuring the substantive quality of the national reports;
6. Dialogue between States and treaty bodies both in preparation for and during States reviews as well as in follow-up to the review;
7. Assessment of the concluding observations and recommendations;
8. Strengthening the engagement with civil society and other relevant stakeholders;
9. The capacity-building programme, experiences and impact, in terms of reporting and in terms of national implementation of recommendations;
10. Use of new information and communications technologies and its potential to further increase efficiency and accessibility;
11. Opportunity of reviews in countries or in regions;
12. Preserve and strengthen the independence and impartiality of treaty body members and ensure diversity in terms of gender, geography, background, expertise, representation of different forms of civilization and principal legal systems, as well as the participation of persons with disabilities;

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13. Enhancement of the coordinating role of treaty bodies Chairpersons;
14. Overall coherence of the treaty body system and the collaboration among treaty bodies as well as within the UN system and with regional monitoring bodies;
15. Funding of the treaty body system and ensuring that treaty bodies have an adequate allocation of financial and human resources for all their mandated activities;
16. Current system of processing individual communications, inter-State communications and urgent actions: its efficiency, effectiveness, strengths and weaknesses; suggestions for its further improvement;
17. Accessibility for persons with disabilities and wider accessibility and visibility of the work of the treaty bodies;
18. Efficient and effective use of the meetings of States parties.

Submissions should be sent in English as a MS Word Document to the following address [treatybodies@gmail.com](mailto:treatybodies@gmail.com) by 7 July 2020. Submissions are also open to all other relevant stakeholders. All submissions will be published on the OHCHR webpage dedicated to the process, where all other information is also available: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRTD/Pages/TBStrengthening.aspx>

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Jürg Lauber



Ambassador, Permanent Representative of  
Switzerland to the UN

Omar Hilale



Ambassador, Permanent Representative of  
The Kingdom of Morocco to the UN