

How to Read an ARP Report

During the first six years of the [Accountability and Remedy Project \(ARP\)](#), three substantive phases were completed, with each phase resulting in numerous practical outputs regarding the different categories of grievance mechanisms referred to in the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights \(UNGPs\)](#). This guide seeks to clarify how to read ARP reports, each of which contains four main sections:

- **Opening narrative of the main report**
- **Annex of the main report:** This constitutes the heart of each ARP phase. It contains the recommended actions for enhancing the effectiveness of grievance mechanisms.
- **Addendum to the report:** This provides added explanations and context for the recommended actions.
- **Model terms of reference for States**

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| MAIN REPORT | <p><i>Opening narrative of the main report:</i> The opening narrative section of each ARP report (ARP I, ARP II, ARP III) contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information on that phase of the project: relevant background, the scope of the work, an overview of the methodology, the target audience, etc.; and - General observations on the role of the mechanism in achieving accountability and access to remedy: including important cross-cutting contextual issues. | <p><i>Annex of the main report:</i> The technical annex of each ARP report contains the recommended actions for enhancing the effectiveness of the mechanism. These recommended actions are based upon actual “good practice” lessons observed during the ARP work, and they are split into a series of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy Objectives: for States (and developers and operators of grievance mechanisms) to strive for; and - Elements: that demonstrate the different ways in which the Policy Objectives can be achieved in practice. <p>To ensure global relevance and applicability, the recommended actions are designed to be readily adaptable to a range of different legal systems and contexts and, at the same time, practical, forward-looking and reflective of international standards on access to remedy.</p> |
| ADDENDUM | <p><i>Model terms of reference for States:</i> The ARP reports recommend that States consider using the recommended actions as a basis for reviewing the effectiveness of their judicial and non-judicial mechanisms, and to review the State’s role in relation to non-State-based grievance mechanisms. These reviews are meant to support the identification of priority areas for action and to enable greater policy coherence.</p> <p>To assist States in that regard, OHCHR has developed model terms of reference providing lists of questions for State review bodies. These can be found in the front sections of each ARP addendum.</p> | <p><i>Addendum to the report:</i> The addendum of each ARP report (ARP I, ARP II, ARP III) was prepared as a companion document to the main report. Each addendum provides further background, definitions, examples and contextual information.</p> <p>Each addendum has a section corresponding to each policy objective found in the annex to each ARP report. To fully understand the ARP findings and recommendations, the addenda should be read alongside the recommended actions in the reports.</p> |