



FES GENEVA REPORTS

REPORT ON THE 17TH REGULAR SESSION OF
THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

30 MAY– 17 JUNE 2011

THEODOR RATHGEBER

General overview

By tradition, the HRC opened its 17th regular session hearing a statement by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, in which she updated the HRC on her Office's activities. She stressed the protests in North Africa and the Middle East identifying them as a result of the decades of denial of civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, as well as the right to development. The High Commissioner was commended during the following debate for her Office's activities and involvement particularly in establishing the rule of law and transitional justice in some of the countries. Navi Pillay further highlighted the human rights situation in Libya and Syria and condemned the massive oppression as well as the continuing violation of human rights. She also noted with satisfaction that suspects of serious crimes could not escape justice, as was shown with the arrests of Ratko Mladic in Serbia and Bernard Munyagishari in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. With reference to other similar situations, she warned that no perpetrator of such crimes should feel untouchable. May be Sri Lanka? In relation to Sri Lanka, Navi Pillay appreciated the report of the UN Secretary-General's Panel of Experts on accountability in Sri Lanka and underlined, that there were credible allegations of a wide range of serious violations of international law committed by both the Sri Lankan Government forces and Tamil Tigers in the final stages of the conflict.

A next paragraph was dedicated to the situation of migrants and refugees. Navi Pillay expressed concern over the rhetoric of recent months to depict migrants as a singular problem best offloaded elsewhere. She particularly mentioned the situation of

migrants in Mexico, Italy, France, Denmark, Australia and the European Schengen area. She urged the states to show effective support and live up to the international obligations. International cooperation should support a genuine development of the concerned countries. Navi Pillay further mentioned the issue of climate change. During the debate, some NGOs repeated the request of last year's Social Forum to establish a corresponding mandate of the Special Procedure.

The High Commissioner mentioned the situation of the opposition in Iran, Belarus and Uganda, freedom of opinion in China, corruption in Vietnam, freedom of opinion and assembly in Myanmar as well as the human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Compared to previous responses by the concerned states, it was remarkable how decent the replies were articulated though disqualifying the remarks on each human rights situation.

A big bang was provoked by the resolution on human rights, sexual orientation and gender equality sponsored by South Africa. The resolution A/HRC/RES/17/19 requests the OHCHR to present a study on violence and discrimination against people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity to be finished in December 2011. The study shall then be the base for a panel discussion during the 19th session of HRC in March 2012. Although it was a lively and polarised debate, it was far from the clash in 2003 when the ambassadors of Pakistan and Malaysia blocked any debate on a similar resolution sponsored by Brazil making use of numerous points of orders. As in the past, in particular, member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference repeated their strong opposition to such document. The representative from

Mauritania even talked of a perverted sense of right and dehumanising approach on human rights. Nigeria on behalf of the group of African states deplored that South Africa had broken the group's tradition not to present a resolution against the vote of the group. Nevertheless, in the voting process, out of this group Mauritius voted in favour, Burkina Faso and Zambia abstained.

Strong opposition signalled also Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Bangladesh and Qatar. Out of the Asian group, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand voted in favour; as did Cuba and Ecuador being in the ideological neighbourhood of European Union and USA. China abstained, the Russian Federation voted against. All together, Latin American and Western countries, the EU members of the group of Eastern states and the Ukraine reached a majority of 23:19. The decade long advocacy of NGOs supported by predominantly North European states showed a first break through.

A second bang related to the EU's endeavour to establish a country mandate on Belarus. Remarkable was not only the intention but also the way the EU went ahead with the text. At the beginning, it seemed that the negotiations of the draft would turn into a next disaster. The EU missed again to inform and consult close allies as countries from Latin America like Mexico. Only when Mexico explicitly warned not to support the resolution, the EU started to fundamentally alter the text. As an example, the EU renounced its intention to establish a Special Rapporteur on Belarus. Now, the resolution A/HRC/RES/17/24 requests the OHCHR a monitoring and a comprehensive report to the 20th regular HRC session (June 2012). The resolution further encourages the pertinent thematic Special Procedures to

consider the situation in Belarus. The resolution was adopted by 21 in favour (among them Jordan, Gabon, Brazil, Maldives and Zambia), five against (China, Cuba, Ecuador, Nigeria, Russian Federation) and 19 abstentions.

The drumming part was taken by John Ruggie, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on business and human rights in order to get adopted his „*Guiding Principles*“ on the subject and to continuing the mandate. John Ruggie presented also his last annual report (A/HRC/17/31 und A/HRC/17/31/Add.1 *Piloting Principles for Effective Company-Stakeholder Grievance Mechanisms: A Report of Lessons Learned*, A/HRC/17/31/Add.2 *Human Rights and Corporate Law: Trends and Observations from a Cross-National Study*, A/HRC/17/31/Add.3 *Principles for Responsible Contracts: Integrating the Management of Human Risks into State-Investor Contract Negotiations: Guidance for Negotiators* plus A/HRC/17/32 *Business and human rights in conflict-affected regions: challenges and options toward State responses*). Co-sponsored by Norway, Argentine, Nigeria and Russian Federation, the HRC extended the mandate in form of a Working Group without a vote. The HRC further decided to establish in addition a so called Forum which should focus on the implementation of the Guiding Principles.

No consideration was given to the concerns of e.g. Bolivia and a number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which demanded to establish a complaint mechanism with the mandate. Ecuador and others dissented from the consensus as they missed any binding character of the principles. The dissenting voices at least achieved that the original reference in the draft text on the *Global Compact* as standard for setting human rights was eliminated. It was remarkable enough when

the US Ambassador concluded by saying that the USA are now with the expectation that based on the resolution there will not be any 'inappropriate' intention to correspondingly regulate business by national laws. The UK representative argued more in the classic style: the resolutions have no binding effect on business at all.

Nigeria and Brazil emphasised the situation of migrants and refugees fleeing from North Africa. The resolution A/HRC/RES/17/22 demands all states to comply with their humanitarian and international obligations. The resolution refers in this regard to a statement by the European Council of May 2011. It requests the OHCHR to present a report on the situation to the 18th HRC session in September 2011. Mandate holders of the Special procedures, in particular the Special Rapporteur on migration, are requested to continuously update the HRC. Hungary on behalf of the EU responded that the resolution is unbalanced and unnecessarily polarising; making use of the same set of argument as other countries with less reputation are normally doing. It did not help too much: the resolution was adopted with 32:14, re-submitted in September.

Within the thematic field of human rights, a number of reports were presented. Christof Heyns, Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary killings presented his first annual report (A/HRC/17/28, A/HRC/17/28/Add.1 communication with governments, A/HRC/17/28/Add.2 visit in Ecuador, A/HRC/17/28/Add.3 Albania, A/HRC/17/28/Add.4 Kenya, A/HRC/17/28/Add.5 follow up of the recommendations on USA, A/HRC/17/28/Add.6 follow up Afghanistan). He stressed, among others, that a state of emergency cannot sweep away neither the right to life nor the right to peaceful assembly. Gabriela Knaul, Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and

lawyers focussed on gender equality and the promotion of women (A/HRC/17/30, A/HRC/17/30/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/30/Add.2 Mozambique, A/HRC/17/30/Add.3 Mexico).

The report of Jorge Bustamante, Special Rapporteur on migration, was presented by Joy Ngozi Ezeilo (Special Rapporteur on Trafficking) and deals with climate change, environmental degradation and its impacts on migration, in particular on children. Again, there was an appeal to withstand from criminalisation of migrants (A/HRC/17/33, A/HRC/17/33/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/33/Add.2 Senegal, A/HRC/17/33/Add.3 Japan, A/HRC/17/33/Add.4 South Africa). Kishore Singh, Special Rapporteur on education, underlined the importance of having access to the right on education (A/HRC/17/29, A/HRC/17/29/Corr.1, A/HRC/17/29/Add.1 communication und A/HRC/17/29/Add.2 Senegal). He estimates that currently about 67 million of children do not have access even to basic education. About 71 million of adolescent people do not have access to secondary education.

Farida Shaheed, Independent Expert on culture, emphasised on cultural heritage as a human right (A/HRC/17/38, A/HRC/17/38/Corr.1, A/HRC/17/38/Add.1 Brazil, A/HRC/17/38/Add.2 Austria). The report concludes that cultural heritage is critical for human dignity and identity and, therefore, needs protection as well as control and safeguarding. The report raises the question on who will be in the position to determine concept and scope of 'cultural heritage' and how far the local guardians are participating in such processes. If politics neglects this relationship, it risks assimilation. The Independent Expert on foreign debt and other financial international obligations, Cephias Lumina, reported the outcome of three consultations on the subject of guidelines conducted in Latin

America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and the Pacific (A/HRC/17/37), plus country visits to Australia and the Solomon Islands (A/HRC/17/37/Add.1) as well as to Vietnam (A/HRC/17/37/Add.2). The Independent Expert on extreme poverty, Maria Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, also dealt with the impacts on poor people of the recent crisis in financial affairs and policy on austerity (A/HRC/17/34, A/HRC/17/34/Add.1 Vietnam, A/HRC/17/34/Add.2 Ireland). She favours a tax on international financial transactions.

The Special Rapporteur on health, Anand Grover, emphasises the link between development and right to health A/HRC/17/25, A/HRC/17/25/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/25/Add.2 Guatemala, A/HRC/17/25/Add.3 Syria, A/HRC/17/43 consultation on access to medical treatment). The Special Rapporteur on trafficking, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, focussed on effective measures of rehabilitation for the victims of trafficking, including good practice (A/HRC/17/35, A/HRC/17/35/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/35/Add.2 Egypt, A/HRC/17/35/Add.3 Uruguay, A/HRC/17/35/Add.4 Argentina, A/HRC/17/35/Add.5 regional mechanisms, A/HRC/17/35/Add.6 effective rehabilitation). The Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion, Frank La Rue, emphasised two aspects in relation to the Internet: access to the diversity of information and access to the technical part of the Internet including a proper infrastructure (A/HRC/17/27, A/HRC/17/27/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/27/Add.2 und A/HRC/17/27/Add.2/Corr.1 Republic of Korea, A/HRC/17/27/Add.3 Mexico). The Special Rapporteur on violence against women, Rashida Manjoo, dealt with discrimination as a part of violence (A/HRC/17/26, A/HRC/17/26/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/26/Add.2 El Salvador, A/HRC/17/26/Add.3 Algeria, A/HRC/17/26/Add.4 Zambia, A/HRC/17/26/Add.5 USA).

The Director at the OHCHR on the issues of Human Rights Council and Special Procedures, Bacre Ndiaye, presented a number of reports, on the right to truth (A/HRC/17/21), eliminating violence against women (A/HRC/17/22 and A/HRC/17/23), economic, social and cultural rights (A/HRC/17/24 plus A/HRC/17/24/Corr.1), child rights with special reference to street children (A/HRC/17/46). A report dealt with the establishment of a Secretariat for the Council (A/HRC/17/19). The Chairperson of the Working Group on the Optional Protocol to the Rights of the Child, Drahoslav Stefanek, presented the draft (A/HRC/17/36), which will introduce a communication and complaint procedure. The Special Rapporteur on racism and xenophobia, Githu Muigai, focussed on Roma and victims of discrimination based on work and decent (A/HRC/17/40, A/HRC/17/40/Add.1 communication, A/HRC/17/40/Add.2 Singapur).

In addition to the reports, the yearly panel discussion on the issue on women's rights took place which focussed on prevention and violence against women in conflicts. Among others, the Chairperson of the Indonesian Commission on Violence Against Women, Yuniyanti Chuzaifah, mentioned the ongoing refusal of states like Indonesia to recognise the state's responsibility when its members of the security forces are committing sexual violence. A second panel focussed on (post) conflict situations and violence against women. Marek Marczynski, Amnesty International, reported that in many such states the perpetrators are often still in positions where they can continue humiliating the victims. Further panels dealt with the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Action Plan, and global dialogue for promoting a culture of tolerance and peace, based on human rights and the diversity of religions and

beliefs. During the debate, several governments mentioned examples of good practice; e.g. Austria, Australia, Saudi Arabia, UK, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In relation to country situations, the report of the Mission of Inquiry on the Ivory Coast was presented (A/HRC/17/48) which reported about ongoing violence and severe violations of human rights and international law. The report of the OHCHR on the same country (A/HRC/17/49) mentioned the hotline established since December 2010 with more than 12,000 calls since then. A next report dealt with the human rights situation in Libya (A/HRC/17/44) and stated a variety of severe violations against international law, including war crime. The representative of the Libyan government denied that such crimes would have been ordered by Libyan authorities. The representative of Jordan read out the response by the Libyan rebels. The OHCHR presented also a preliminary report on Syria (A/HRC/17/CRP.1) although the OHCHR was not able to visit the country because the Syrian government denied the visa. Further country debates dealt with the situation in Palestine, Israel and occupied Arab territories. The OHCHR reported about the implementation of the recommendations by the Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza-Flotilla (A/HRC/17/47). Israel did not respond to OHCHR's questions.

The Independent Expert on Haiti, Michel Forst, appealed to support Haiti in a balanced way (A/HRC/17/42). The Independent Expert on Burundi, Fatsah Ouguergouz, attested the government of Burundi to have conducted a number of changes on institutional level and the establishment of a national commission on human rights (A/HRC/17/50). The latter was the condition to eliminate the country mandate. The OHCHR reported on Kyrgyzstan and commended the govern-

ment for emerging with a system of human rights protection (A/HRC/17/41). In a number of occasions, the human rights situation in China was mentioned. The UN Working Group on enforced disappearance even used a press release to refer to the case of disappeared monks in the Province of Sechuan and the incommunicado artist Ai Weiwei. The agenda item 4, country situations which require the Council's attention, experienced the known polarisation: countries like China, Brazil, Cuba, Pakistan, Algeria, Honduras, Iran, Belarus or Venezuela blaming the Western countries e.g. on the situation of Roma people or indigenous peoples or xenophobia in France, Denmark, Hungary, Germany and Sweden. Mostly Western countries made reference to the human rights situation in Sri Lanka, China, Syria, Belarus, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain and Iran. Country mandates were renewed or newly established on Libya, Ivory Coast, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Somalia and Yemen. In September, the situation on the right of opinion and peaceful assembly in Bahrain will be on the HRC agenda.

The outcomes of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) were adopted without a vote as follows: Nauru (A/HRC/DEC/17/101), Ruanda (17/102), Nepal (17/103), Saint Lucia (17/104), Oman (17/105), Austria (17/106), Myanmar (17/107), Australia (17/108), Georgia (17/109), Saint Kitts and Nevis (17/110), Sao Tomé and Príncipe (17/111), Namibia (17/112), Niger (17/113), Mozambique (17/114), Estonia (17/115) and Paraguay (17/116). In the future, based on the HRC review process, there will be some changes in the UPR procedure. Instead of 16 countries as by now, only 14 countries will be reviewed in one round. The hearing can be extended from 3 hours (now) up to 3,5 hours. The second UPR cycle should in particular consider the

implementation of the recommendations and recent events.

Conclusions

The recently observed new dynamic in the HRC comprises now also the procedures. In order to deal with country situations, the spectrum of mechanisms and instruments has been extended. In addition to the known Special Session, country mandate and technical assistance, the HRC operates with 'urgent debate', monitoring by OHCHR, ad hoc Fact-Finding-Missions, brief reports by the OHCHR and submission to the next HRC session; as e.g. the Fact-Finding-Missions to Libya and Ivory Coast.

In relation to country situations, also countries of the European Union come into the view even of the OHCHR; e.g. the human rights of Roma in Europe, migrants and refugees in the Mediterranean Sea, or freedom of expression in Hungary.

According to the HRC President, the HRC Review process in New York at the UN General Assembly will be rather procedural. The only insecurity currently is the wording: whether 'takes note of' or 'welcomes' the outcome of the review by the HRC.

At several opportunities, representatives of the OHCHR as well as of the HRC underlined the financial constraints which may hamper the future work of the HRC.

Resolutions

Resolution A/HRC/RES/17/1

Mandate on trafficking in persons, especially in women and children
without a vote

17/2

Independence of judges and lawyers
without a vote

17/3

The right to education: follow-up to resolution 8/4
without a vote

17/4

Human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises
without a vote

17/5

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions
without a vote

17/6

Mandate of the independent expert on human rights and international solidarity

32 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Chile; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; Gabon; Ghana; Guatemala; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand; Uganda; Uruguay, Zambia.

14 against: Belgium; France; Hungary; Japan; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; Ukraine; UK, USA.

17/7

The effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

30 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; Gabon; Ghana; Guatemala; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand; Uganda; Uruguay, Zambia.

13 against: Belgium; France; Hungary; Japan; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; Ukraine; UK, USA.

3 abstentions: Chile; Mexico, Norway.

17/8

Proclamation of 19 August as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism

without a vote

17/9

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

without a vote

17/10

Follow-up the report of the Independent International Fact Finding Mission on the incident of the Humanitarian Flotilla

36 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Belgium; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Chile; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; France; Ghana; Guatemala; Japan; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Nigeria; Norway; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Spain; Switzerland; Thailand; Uganda; UK, Uruguay.

1 against: USA.

8 abstentions: Cameroon; Hungary; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Slovakia; Ukraine, Zambia.

17/11

Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women

without a vote

17/12

Human rights of migrants: mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

without a vote

17/13

Extreme poverty and human rights
without a vote

17/14

Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health in the context of development and access to medicines
without a vote

17/15

Promotion of the enjoyment of the cultural rights of everyone and respect for cultural diversity
without a vote

17/16

Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

32 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Chile; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; Gabon; Ghana; Guatemala; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand; Uganda; Uruguay, Zambia.

14 against: Belgium; France; Hungary; Japan; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Spain, Ukraine; UK; USA; Slovakia, Switzerland.

17/17

Human rights situation in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
without a vote

17/18

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child
without a vote

17/19

Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

23 in favour: Argentine; Belgium; Brazil; Chile; Cuba; Ecuador; France; Guatemala; Hungary; Japan; Mauritius; Mexico; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; Thailand; Ukraine; UK; USA, Uruguay.

19 against: Angola; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Cameroon; Djibouti; Gabon; Ghana; Jordan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Republic of Moldova; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal, Uganda.

3 abstentions: Burkina Faso; China, Zambia.

17/20

Technical assistance and cooperation on human rights for Kyrgyzstan
without a vote

17/21

Assistance to Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights
without a vote

17/22

Migrants and asylum seekers fleeing from events in North Africa

32 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Chile; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; Gabon; Ghana; Guatemala; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand; Uganda; Uruguay, Zambia.

14 against: Belgium; France; Hungary; Japan; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; Ukraine; UK, USA.

17/23

The negative impact of the non-repatriation of funds of illicit origin to the countries of origin on the enjoyment of human rights

32 in favour: Angola; Argentine; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Brazil; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Chile; China; Cuba; Djibouti; Ecuador; Gabon; Ghana; Guatemala; Jordan; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Nigeria; Pakistan; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand; Uganda; Uruguay, Zambia.

2 against: Japan, USA.

12 abstentions: Belgium; France; Hungary; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Republic of Moldova; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; Ukraine, UK.

17/24

Human rights situation in Belarus

21 in favour: Argentine; Belgium; Brazil; Chile; France; Gabon; Hungary; Japan; Jordan; Maldives; Mauritius; Norway; Poland; Republic of Korea; Slovakia; Spain; Switzerland; UK; USA; Uruguay, Zambia.

5 against: China; Cuba; Ecuador; Nigeria, Russian Federation.

19 abstentions: Angola; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Djibouti; Ghana; Guatemala; Kyrgyzstan; Malaysia; Mauritania; Mexico; Pakistan; Qatar; Republic of Moldova; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Thailand, Uganda.

17/25

Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights
without a vote

Decisions

17/117

Procedural decision on confirming Yemen's invitation towards the OHCHR and delivering its report to the 18th HRC session
without a vote

17/118

Office of the President
without a vote

17/119

Follow up to the Human Rights Council Resolution 16/21 with regard to the Universal Periodic Review / changes in the future procedure
without a vote

17/120

Panel on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests
without a vote

New mandate holders of the Special Procedures

Special Rapporteur on Migration: François Crépeau (Canada/France)

Independent Expert on Minorities: Rita Izsak (Hungary)

Independent Expert on International Solidarity: Virginia Dandan (Philippines)

Special Rapporteur on Counter-Terrorism: Ben Emmerson (UK)

Special Rapporteur on Iran: Ahmed Shaheed (Maldives)

Members of the Working Group on Mercenaries: Anton Ferrel Katz (RSA), Patricia Arias (Chile), Elzbieta Karska (Poland).

Next meetings

18 th regular session of HRC	12–30 September
UPR / 12 th round	03-12 October
Advisory Committee	08-12 August
Social Forum	03-05 October
Forum on Minorities	15-16 December

Workshop of FES / German Institute on Human Rights / Forum Human Rights Germany on 'next steps of HRC' after the Review process 06-07 October / Geneva

On the author:

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