
INVITATION: OPEN WORKING SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP FOR VIETNAM

UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION OF THE UPR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VIETNAM

Dear Colleagues,

UPR (Universal Periodic Review) is a peer review mechanism at the United Nations, in which country members will take a public dialogue and give recommendations for the ultimate goal of improving human rights in the reviewed country. The third UPR of Vietnam took place in January 22, 2019, where Vietnam received 77 questions and 291 recommendations from 121 countries.

291 recommendations address various issues (*please refer to nine clusters of UPR recommendations for Vietnam included in the attached agenda of the Open Session*). These recommendations have been examined by the Government and the result will be formally adopted at the UN Human Rights Council on **July 04, 2019**.

In previous UPR (2009 and 2014), Vietnam supported more than 80% of received recommendations, which the country had approximately 4 years to implement before the next review.

NGOs, social activists, academic researchers, policy makers, and individuals, when informed about UPR recommendations and how to apply them, could utilize these recommendations in your work and in your exercise of rights.

With support from the UN in Vietnam, Human Rights Space (HRS) would like to invite you to:

**The open working session of the UPR working group for Vietnam:
UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATION OF UPR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VIETNAM**

Time: 8:30 – 17:00, 20-21st May, 2019

Venue: 304 Kim Ma, Hanoi.

The working session will discuss UPR recommendations and their implications, together with introducing good practices in implementing UPR recommendations. Participants will meet and talk to international and national experts on this topic, networking with members of the UPR working group and help to identify priorities for actions.

To facilitate your participation and entrance in the Green One UN House, please register your participation at <https://forms.gle/TQL2AcoAMWyQPh2R8>

The registration will close by Thursday May 16 at 17:00. You will receive a confirmation of registration by Friday May 17, 2019.

We look forward to seeing you at the Open Session!

On behalf of HRS Coordination Group/Organisers



NghiêM Hoa.

Email contact of organisers: HRS@HRS.org.vn

Tentative Agenda: OPEN WORKING SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP FOR VIETNAM

UNDERSTANDING AND APPLICATIONS OF THE UPR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VIETNAM

Monday May 20	Introduction of UN Human rights recommendations and reflection on the process
8:30 – 9:00	Check in
9:00 – 9:15	Opening by UNDP and partners
9:15 – 10:15	UN Human Rights recommendations: What are they, where do they come from and what do they mean for Vietnam; Introduction of the 3 rd UPR
10:15 – 10:30	Teabreak
10:30 – 11:00	Breakout session (1): UN human rights recommendations for Vietnam: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to Justice, right to life and securities, anti-torture and ill treatments+ combating human trafficking ; 2. Access to services; health, education and labour; 3. Democracy and rule of law; people’s participation, legal reform; freedom of association and assembly.
11:00 – 11:30	Breakout session (2): UN human rights recommendations for Vietnam: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Gender equality, protection against gender-based violence. Child rights 5. Freedom of religions and belief. Rights of people belong to minorities (ethnic /religions/sexual orientation and gender identities), people with dissabilities. 6. Freedom of expression and information. Defend human rights defenders.
11:30 – 12:00	Breakout session (3): UN human rights recommendations for Vietnam: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. International Cooperation with UN mechanisms, regional mechanisms, and other countries. 8. Building national mechanism for the implementation of international human rights obligations. Establishment of NHRIs. Strengthening HR education 9. Poverty reduction and reduce inequality. SDGs. Environmental Protection and coping with climate change. Protection of vulnerable groups.
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 14:30	Reflection: #10years challenges: what was done better? What was challenging? Panel: Miloon Kothari, Ngo Thu Ha, and one from LGBTI group, Hang (Online campaign)
14:30 – 15:30	Plenary discussion (parking questions and issues): How do we move on from the recommendations?
15:30 – 15:45	Teabreak
15:45 – 16:30	Follow – up with UN Human rights recommendations: introduction of good practices
16:30 – 17:00	Q&A
17:00 – 17:15	Wrap-up
Tuesday May 21	How to follow-up on UN HR recommendations
8:30 – 9:30	Understanding Treaty bodies and Charter-based bodies and how to work with their recommendations
9:30 – 10:30	The UN framework in Vietnam on human rights: options for engagement with civil society
10:30 -10:45	Teabreak
10:45 – 11:45	Development of HR indicators: techniques, resources, practices
11:45 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Development of HR indicators: techniques, resources, practices
14:30 – 15:30	Workgroup: testing indicators
15:30 – 15:45	Teabreak
15:45 – 16:30	Presentations of indicators map
16:30 – 17:00	How do we move on from here?
17:00	Closing