

Appendix L. Checklist for Reporting to UN and Regional Human Rights Mechanisms

Factfinding

- “Traditional” sources:
 - U.S. State Department Human Rights Country Reports: <http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/>
 - Amnesty International Reports: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/countries>
 - Human Rights Watch Reports: <http://www.hrw.org/publications>
 - The Advocates’ Reports: http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/Human_Rights_Reports.html
 - UK Home Office Reports
 - Country of origin information: <http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/guidance/coi/>
 - Country-specific asylum guidance: <http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/guidance/csap/>
- Second-tier sources:
 - Law Reviews
 - Credible news reports
- “On the ground” research coordinated with partner organization(s) in the country under review:
 - Interviews
 - Surveys
- Diaspora fact-finding; and
- Extracts from news reports along with corroboration.

Developments in Domestic Law

- ⇒ NOTE: For the Universal Periodic Review, submissions must include discussion of the domestic law framework.
- Description of any (favorable or unfavorable) recent draft legislation or proposed changes in administrative law:
 - Likelihood of enactment, political or other barriers to enactment or enforcement.
- Description of any pending litigation; and
- Description of any (favorable or unfavorable) recently adopted statutes, constitutional amendments, referenda, court rulings, etc.:
 - Reaction to changes, likely effects, implementation and compliance issues.

Other

- Statistics;
- Legal issues about interpretation of treaty language;
- Procedural history with this and other UN bodies, including:
 - “List of issues” references to the issue of the current submission;
 - Relevant concluding observations and any comments in response; and
 - Subsequent actions taken in response to review.
- Quotes from news reports appearing in credible sources;
- Discussion of cultural context;
- Description of caselaw developments;
- Proposals for change;
- Appendix with commentary on the law; and
- Questions for committee members to pose to country representatives during review sessions (can be in the submission itself and/or incorporated into one-pagers for advance advocacy).