



MIAMSI



CONGREGATION OF OUR LADY OF CHARITY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

**23rd Session of the Human Rights Council
Geneva, 27 May – 14 June 2013
Agenda Item 6: UPR General Debate
7 June 2013**

Joint Oral Statement submitted by
International Catholic Child Bureau (ICCB)
and co-signed by:

1. Catholic International Education Office, OIEC;
2. Compagnie des Filles de la Charité de St Vincent de Paul ;
3. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd;
4. Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers);
5. Edmund Rice International, ERI;
6. Fédération Internationale de l'Action des Chrétiens pour l'Abolition de la Torture, FIACAT ;
7. Franciscans International, FI ;
8. Good Neighbors International, GNI;
9. International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development, VIDES;
10. Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice – IIMA
11. Mouvement International Catholique des Milieux Sociaux Indépendants, MIAMSI ;

Thank you Mr. President,

ICCB, on behalf of a coalition of eleven NGOs, welcomes the commitment of States to the UPR process in compliance with relevant core documents.

The GA resolution 60/251 establishing the UPR mechanism stated that the “*the review shall be a cooperative mechanism, based on an interactive dialogue*”¹. Likewise, the institutional building package echoed the cooperative nature of the mechanism as one of its principles and underlined that “*support for cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights*”² and the “*encouragement of full cooperation and engagement with the Council*”³ remained key objectives of the process. Moreover, States reaffirmed commitment and cooperation to the UPR mechanism in the Council resolution 16/21 on the Review of the work and functioning of the Council.

Whilst the outcome of the review should be implemented primarily by the State concerned, the cooperative nature of the mechanism and the constructive involvement of other States in the review process should not be limited to the formulation of recommendations.

Accordingly, States that make recommendations should assist, support and follow-up the implementation process of their recommendations. This could be done, *inter alia*, through bilateral dialogue and cooperation but also during the general debate under agenda item 6 of the Council. Furthermore, panels, interactive dialogues with country and thematic mandate holders and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, general debates, as well as decisions and conclusions, offer opportunities for States to follow-up on their recommendations.

Mr. President,

According Council resolution 16/21, States are encouraged to provide “*midterm update on follow-up to accepted recommendations*”⁴. Though it is on a voluntary basis, States should commit themselves and comply with intermediary report submission as a sign of their cooperation not only with the mechanism itself but also with other stakeholders.

Thank you Mr. President.

¹ Res. 60/251, § 5 e).

² Res. 5/1, Annex, Universal Periodic Review, § 4 e).

³ *Ibid.*, 4 f).

⁴ Res. 16/21, Annex, § 18.