

# **SURVEY ON INTERNET FREEDOM AND THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) IN AFRICA**

April 2022



# Table of Contents

---

<b>1.0 Background</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0 Methodology</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.0 The Findings</b>	<b>6</b>
Aspects of Internet Freedom Organisations Engage On	6
Knowledge About the UPR Process	7
Understanding of the UPR Process	8
UPR-Related Skills and Development	9
Areas of the UPR Covered in the Training	9
Gaps in UPR Knowledge and Skills	10
Importance of the UPR Process to the Work of Respondents' Organisations	11
Challenges to Implementing UPR Recommendations on Internet Freedom	12
How the UPR Process can Contribute to the Realisation of Internet Freedom in Africa	13
<b>4.0 Discussion</b>	<b>14</b>
Recommendations	15
Annex 1	17
Annex 2	20



Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence  
([creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/))  
Some rights reserved.

# 1.0

## Background

---

The *Universal Periodic Review* (UPR) is a unique process which involves a review of the human rights records of all United Nations (UN) Member States. The UPR is a state-driven process under the auspices of the Human Rights Council (HRC), which provides the opportunity for each state to declare the actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to fulfil their human rights obligations. The UPR takes the form of an interactive dialogue between the country under review and any other UN country or countries. It was *created* in response to concerns that previous UN mechanisms focused too much on certain regions. Accordingly, the UPR is designed to be applied more universally and uniformly. For every state, the review process is conducted every four-and-a-half years.

The main goals of the UPR are addressing inequalities and all forms of discrimination, advancing the human rights situation for all, pushing governments to fulfill their human rights obligations and commitments, reviewing positive developments and challenges faced by countries, and sharing best practices between the countries and stakeholders.

The UPR process follows a sequence consisting of *five major steps*. These are:

**Preparations of the documents:** The country under review provides a 20-page report with detailed information on how it has fulfilled its human rights obligations and commitments, including information on achievements, best practices, challenges, and limitations. Countries are encouraged to meet with civil society to gather information for the report.

**Interactive dialogue between the country under review and UN countries:** During this interactive dialogue, the country under review presents its report, answers questions, and receives recommendations from other countries.

**Informal adoption of the outcome document:** After the dialogue, the UPR Working Group writes a report – generally within 48 hours of the conclusion of the session – summarising the list of questions and recommendations raised during the review, as well as any voluntary commitments made by the country under review.

**Official adoption of the outcome document:** The outcome document is officially adopted at the next HRC regular session. During this session, the country under review can respond to questions and issues that require clarification and respond to recommendations that were raised by other countries during the review. Countries may express their comments on the outcome of the review, and non-government organisations (NGOs) and other stakeholders from civil society are permitted to make general comments.

**Follow up implementation of recommendations:** This is the final step in the UPR process and NGOs and other civil society organisations (CSOs) ought to play a pivotal role in ensuring that their governments implement the recommendations they committed to. This is an important stage in preparation for the next cycle of the process for their countries.

Currently, there is limited participation by African civil society in the UPR process although it provides a framework within which activists and human rights defenders can lobby governments to promote different rights and freedoms. In particular, there is limited work by African actors to promote internet freedom through the UPR. In the 2014–2016 period, stakeholder submissions to the reviews of African countries were dominated by international human rights organisations such as Article 19, Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International. Whereas a number of national human rights commissions of the respective countries made submissions, there was limited input from Africa-based civil society and those submissions minimally addressed internet freedom.

As *CIPESA notes*, submissions from Africa-based organisations remain focused on so-called offline rights, and address such issues as *women's rights, children's rights, land rights, sexual rights, the death penalty, health rights, education rights, as well as the rights of refugees and persons with disabilities*. A growing but limited number of submissions is focused on both online and offline rights, including on *access to information, access to the internet, free speech and media freedom, freedom of assembly and association, and privacy*.

Various factors play a role in the limited participation of African civil society in the UPR processes, including low awareness among organisations of the cycle periods and opportunities to make submissions or statements. Further, capacity to make individual submissions is limited. This gap in skills and knowledge presents an opportunity for interventions aimed at research, training, and support for African civil society to deliver stakeholder submissions, particularly on digital rights.

Accordingly, since 2018, CIPESA, *Small Media Foundation* and a coalition of regional partners have been working to support civil society organisations across Africa to engage with the UPR process through capacity development in *research and advocacy*. The project has made up to 16 UPR submissions on digital rights in Africa with a focus on the Democratic Republic of Congo, *Ethiopia, the Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe*.

To further concretise CIPESA and Small Media's efforts, a survey was commissioned to gauge the awareness, engagement and existing capacities of stakeholders in relation to the UPR process and their development needs with regard to UPR advocacy, campaigning, and research. This report presents the findings of that survey and offers recommendations for CSOs, governments, and international development partners.

# 2.0

## Methodology

---

Conducted between July 2019 and December 2021, the survey targeted 16 countries on which CIPESA, Small Media and partners had made UPR submissions focused on digital rights. The survey recorded a total of 134 respondents from 12 African countries - Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Uganda. The respondents included activists, academics, diplomats, lawyers, journalists, government officials, development actors, and civil society organisations. The areas of work of respondents' organisations were mainly human rights and ICT, including women's rights, media development, digital security, sexual rights, data science, universal access, innovation, ICT law, disability rights, migrant rights, digital rights and governance. See Annex 1 for the list of respondents.

There were mixed methods of survey administration including in-person interviews and remote interviews over telephone or virtual meeting platforms. In some instances, questionnaire links were sent directly to respondents to independently complete the survey. In terms of scope, the survey parameters included awareness and understanding about the UPR process and the source of information about the process, engagement in the UPR process, utility of the UPR process, the issues addressed by the review process, and the challenges impeding the implementation of UPR recommendations.

# 3.0

## The Findings

### Aspects of Internet Freedom Organisations Engage On

At 23%, freedom of expression was the main area of internet freedom that respondents engaged on as part of their organisations' mandate. It was closely followed by access to information at 23%. Privacy and data protection (19%), non-discrimination (16%) and affordability and access to the internet (16%) followed, as seen in figure 1 below.

Other areas of work were anti-corruption, information controls, youth and democracy, infrastructure and telecommunications, media development, labour rights in the digital age, safety of journalists, cybersecurity/cybercrime, civic participation, accountability, and democratic reforms.

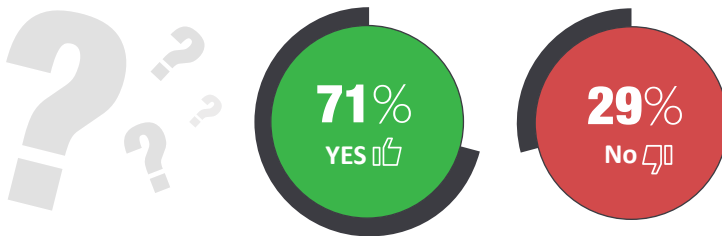
**Figure 1:** *Aspects of internet freedom that organisations engage on*



## Knowledge About the UPR Process

At least seven out of every 10 respondents reported knowing about the UPR process. Knowledge about the UPR was acquired through a variety of ways including attending training, individual initiative, participation in international meetings, involvement in preparing stakeholder reports, and through media reports online and offline. Among the organisations cited in conducting the training and awareness initiatives were the International Service for Human Rights (*ISHR*) in Geneva, the West African Network of Human Rights Defenders (*ROADDH*), CIPESA, Small Media, Human Rights Watch, Article 19, Amnesty International and national offices of UN High Commission for Human Rights.

**Figure 2:** *Do you know about the UPR Process?*

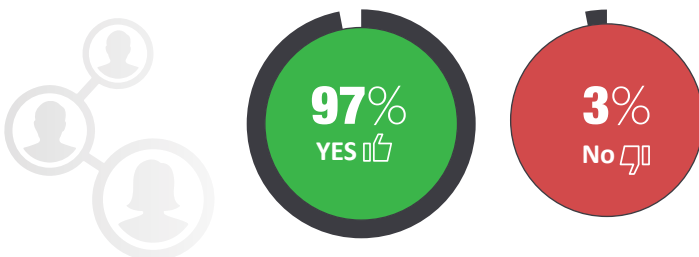


After the UPR process was explained to the respondents who had no prior knowledge about it, nearly all (97%) agreed that the process offered useful opportunities for engagement on the work of their organisations.

Respondents stated that through the process, their organisations and partners can submit shadow reports to the review process about the state of human rights in various countries. These reports provide alternative narratives to those offered by governments and thus help in amplifying the human rights concerns affecting different states.

Moreover, through the process, CSOs can secure observer status at the UN sessions and use this status to mobilise the support of other states in pushing their governments to adopt progressive human rights legislation and practices. The process also offers CSOs a window to align their work with the goals and objectives of the UPR.

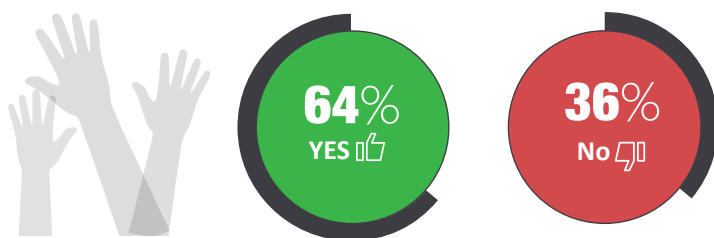
**Figure 3:** *The UPR process can offer a useful opportunity for engagement*



## Understanding of the UPR Process

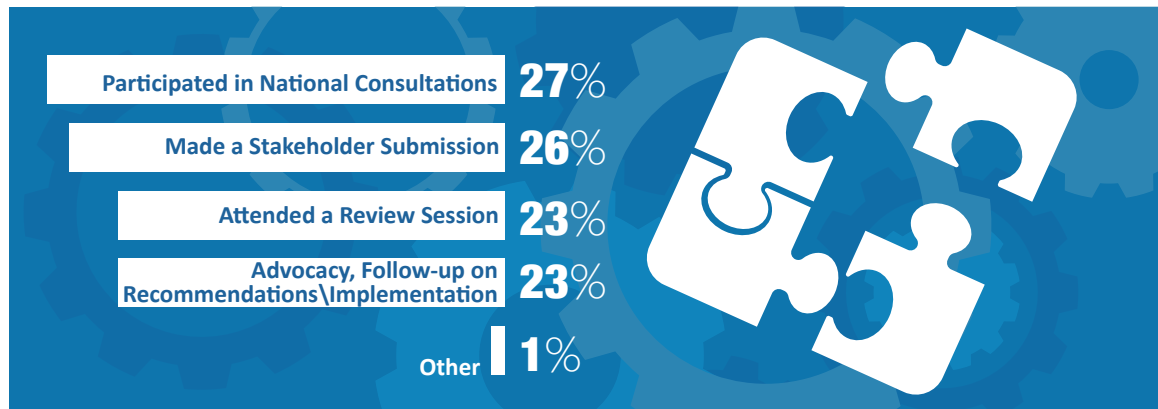
Among the respondents that indicated awareness of the UPR process, the level of this understanding was found to be limited. On a scale of 0-5 with 0 being no understanding and 5 being very high understanding, the majority of respondents (60%) indicated moderate understanding (3-4). Only 18% indicated a high level of understanding (5) of the UPR process while 22% had none to low (0-2) levels of understanding.

**Figure 4:** Have you or your organisation ever participated in the UPR process?



A majority of the respondents (64%) had participated in the UPR process while 36% had never participated. Those that had a history of participation in the UPR had done so as part of national consultations (27%); submission of stakeholder reports (26%); attendance of review sessions (23%); and advocacy and follow-up on recommendations and implementation (23%). See Annex 2 for a list of respondents' history of engagement in UPR processes.

**Figure 5:** Nature of previous participation in the UPR process



The human rights issues addressed by the respondents in their UPR engagements reflect the diverse social, economic and political mandates and interests of the respondent organisations in the different countries. They included freedom of expression, access to information, press freedom and journalists' safety, right to assembly, migrant workers' rights, children's rights and welfare, freedom of association, refugee rights, rights of sexual minorities, access to justice, business rights, the right to health, women's rights, youth and democracy. It is noteworthy that while some organisations have engaged on broad human rights issues in the offline domain, few have addressed digital rights and freedoms.



### UPR-Related Skills and Development

The study inquired into the level of skills that respondents had about the UPR and the capacity development they had received in relation to the review process. Only one third of respondents (30%) had ever received such capacity development. In terms of the prerequisites to engage in the UPR process, 28% of respondents indicated having skills and experience in participating in national consultations while 25% had experience and skills in advocacy/follow up on recommendations and their implementation. Skills and experience in attending a review session and making stakeholder submissions stood at 23% and 23% respectively.

Figure 6: Specific skills or experience of respondents in engaging with the UPR process

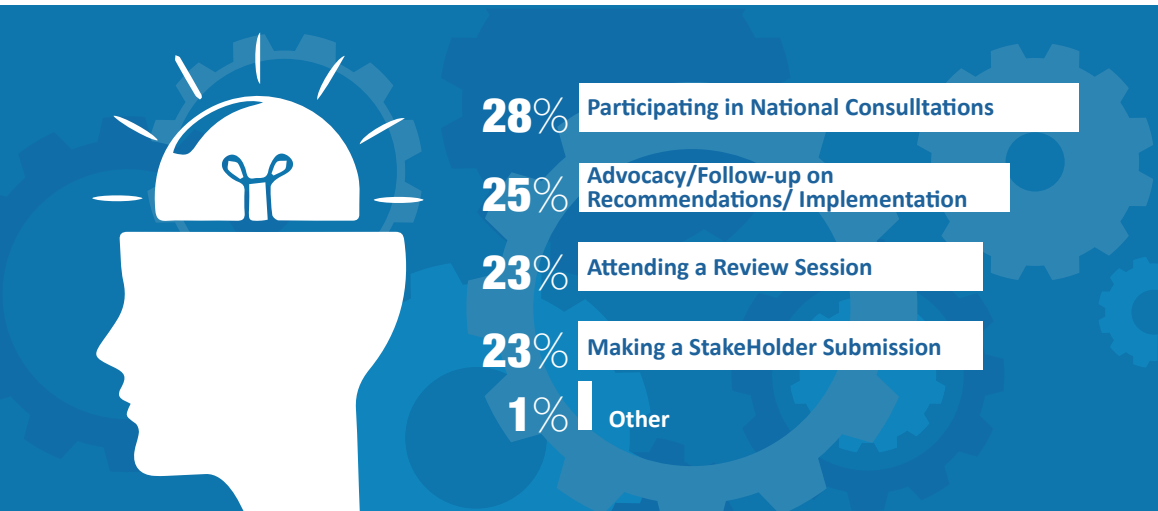


Figure 7: Previous participation in UPR-related training



### Areas of the UPR Covered in the Training

The three most covered topics in the training were review of the human rights situation of the state under review and adoption of the report (30%), preparation for the review and reporting on implementation (26%), and drafting stakeholder submissions (24%).

**Figure 8: Areas of the UPR covered in the training**

### Gaps in UPR Knowledge and Skills

Several of skills and knowledge gaps emerged prominently. Respondents were interested in developing skills in advocacy and follow-up on recommendations; making stakeholder submissions; and participating in national consultations and review sessions. Other skills development needs identified included data collection; analysis and report writing to feed into submissions; stakeholder engagement; and diplomacy and international negotiations.

Specifically on digital rights, skills building in understanding the legal and regulatory environment for the digital sector at national, regional and global levels, coalition building strategies, and communications for advocacy, were identified. Other skills needed included digital security for human rights defenders; knowledge of the full range of the UN Human Rights Mechanisms; crafting human rights policy recommendations; and monitoring and evaluation.

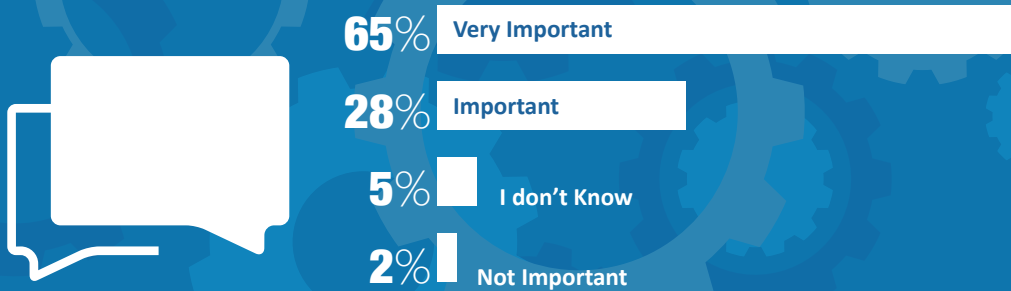
Respondents emphasised the need for multi-stakeholder collaborations and coalitions for engagements throughout the lifecycle of each country's review process. Furthermore, they stressed that for more effective engagement at the UPR, African civil society need to get more involved in national report writing and submissions; undertake skills and knowledge building exercises in UPR for the wider public; monitor the implementation of recommendations; and directly participate in review sessions. As one respondent put it:

“ There should be greater awareness of the system. A year before the review is done, the greater African public should be made aware [of the review] and why it is important that they participate. Equally, they should be told how the previous review impacted on their lives. ”

## Importance of the UPR Process to the Work of Respondents' Organisations

A majority of the respondents (65%) deemed the UPR process important to their work. However, support is needed for organisations to become more engaged in the review process. The needed support includes capacity development in engagement during reviews and cycle periods, drafting submissions, research, campaigning, and monitoring and evaluation.

**Figure 9: Importance of the UPR process to the work of respondents' organisations**



**“** *There should be educational visits to other countries to learn their relationship with the government when it comes to identifying pertinent issues to report on and how to galvanise community support to embrace the recommendations from the reviews,* **”**  
**a respondent suggested.**

There were also calls for financial support and material support such as computers and connectivity, as well as institutional support in public communications and facilitating partnerships and networks.

**“** *We need financial support to carry out training and capacity building for CSO to be more aware of this mechanism and engage in the process. Financial support will also allow us to organise press conferences and other activities with media to call on the government to respect its commitments in regards[ to] UPR recommendations,* **”**  
**noted one respondent.**

---

## Challenges to Implementing UPR Recommendations on Internet Freedom

In the last few years, a growing number of internet freedom-related recommendations have been made in UPR reviews, due in part to dedicated efforts by some organisations and coalitions to integrate digital rights issues in African countries' reviews. However, the implementation of the UPR recommendations relating to internet freedom in Africa has been beset by several challenges. Generally, the lack of political will by governments has meant that not many African countries have national strategies on digital issues in general. Moreover, governments have tended to politicise the recommendations, drawing attention away from critical issues and instead trivialising and packaging them as partisan concerns. In many cases the digital rights recommendations are a criticism of the government's human rights record, including how it enables civic space, media freedom, and the operations of the political opposition and dissenters. Many countries lack the will to make progressive reforms in this area whether it is offline or online. The net effect of this has been non-implementation of these recommendations.

Further, there is widespread lack of understanding of internet governance by the general public. For example, access to the internet often gets disrupted by some government during moments of tense political situations and yet the population largely remains quiet, despite the great inconvenience and financial losses resulting from these shutdowns. With more awareness and appreciation of internet governance, citizens can prompt governments to positively respond to set recommendations. For example, The adoption and implementation of recommendations, such as on uninterrupted access to the internet, would benefit from pressure from the general public and other civic actors through clamouring for their rights.

In addition, CSOs are ill-equipped in advocacy skills for UPR and digital rights, have insufficient synergy among themselves, have limited resources for monitoring the implementation process, and are struggling to forge credible stakeholder engagement with authorities - further dampening the implementation of recommendations.

It is also to be noted that not many CSO movements consistently and rigorously work on internet freedom - a scenario that can partly be blamed on the poor funding towards digital rights and capacity building for the local CSOs' understanding and appreciation of internet freedom issues. In turn, this translates into limited participation in UPR processes including at review level and in pushing for the implementation of recommendations.

## How the UPR Process can Contribute to the Realisation of Internet Freedom in Africa

The UPR process offers immense potential for advancing internet freedom in Africa. It is a public window to exposing rights violations, thus encouraging leaders to act transparently and be more accountable. The exposure of shortcomings in the human rights situation in a country can create international pressure on governments to respect rights, such as access to online information and freedom of expression online. On the other hand, the sharing of good practices from different countries in which the UN evaluation is carried out can encourage non-compliant governments to adopt these good practices.

Coupled with the requirement to address the set recommendations, the UPR provides a benchmark around which states can be held accountable and a basis for campaigning and advocacy by CSOs, especially on safeguarding the rights and freedoms of citizens to access and use digital technologies including the internet. Advocacy can help to bring in more actors, both public and non-government, to support the promotion of internet freedom for all.

The UPR process champions the principle that rights are inherent and indivisible, which could help to place internet freedom at the forefront of human rights and governance issues. It offers an opportunity to mainstream the key message that access to the internet is a basic right, not a luxury as it is commonly perceived in some quarters of African society.

Accordingly, civil society organisations should utilise the UPR cycle to enlighten and equip citizens to challenge oppression and denial of their rights by demonstrating to them that countries across the globe are held to universally recognised human rights standards. Moreover, this public awareness is one means through which CSOs can dispel the politicisation of the demands made of states to respect and promote human rights.

With a good appreciation of the UPR mechanisms, CSOs and governments can nurture mutually beneficial partnerships to exploit the dividends from internet freedom. For example, collaboration between governments and civil society groups can result in progressive laws, policies and practices on internet freedom. However, for this to be realised, governments and civil society must appreciate and share the belief that UPR is a process for reflection and not fault-finding, and should be viewed as a monitoring and evaluation process of how the country is performing in the observance of human rights and implementation of the agreed recommendations.

# 4.0

## Discussion

---

The survey found that there is limited participation by African civil society in the UPR process despite the review process providing a framework within which human rights defenders can participate in lobbying and holding governments to account to promote internet freedom. The number of internet freedom-related submissions on Africa is still few though growing, which is a reflection of the small number of actors conducting internet freedom work and participating in UPR reviews. Further, it reflects the capacity challenges that face many of the organisations that seek to participate in the review process.

While there is a relatively high level of awareness of the existence of the UPR process, partly the result of training efforts by various organisations in recent years, the level of knowledge about the process is limited. Similarly, the level of participation in the review is moderate, with only 27% having taken part in national consultations and one in four having participated in submission of stakeholder reports. It is also noteworthy that even for those processes that many respondents had participated in, such as stakeholder submissions and review processes, those efforts were often led by entities based outside the continent.

Clearly, growing skills, capacity and interest, engendering collaboration at national level, entering partnerships with international actors, and developing research and advocacy capacity are all key to raising the level of African human rights actors' participation in the UPR reviews and the uptake of recommendations by governments. Only one third of respondents had ever received UPR-related capacity development, and it is clear that training on participating in national consultations, advocacy and follow up on recommendations, is highly needed. Similarly, training is needed in areas such as report writing, legal and policy analysis on internet freedom, coalition building, crafting policy recommendations, and engaging with UN mechanisms.

At another level, it is apparent that the number of organisations that are consistently and rigorously working on internet freedom needs to expand, and this could be through capacitating legacy human rights organisations to embrace digital rights work as well. These entities would then need to work together more closely in national consultations and infuse the internet freedom angle into, for example, women's rights, disability rights, journalists' rights, workers' rights and children's rights in making submissions to the UPR. In the same vein, digital rights CSOs can piggy-back on the strong existing advocacy capacities among entities that work on offline rights.

Stepping up the implementation of UPR recommendations relating to internet freedom requires a multi-pronged approach. In some countries, many government officials have a low appreciation of the value of the internet. In yet other countries, there is mistrust of citizens freely using the internet and governments take proactive measures to clamp down on internet freedom. Such governments will not be keen on implementing UPR recommendations that require them to promote a free and open internet. It is thus crucial to build mechanisms for closer and consistent working relations with the relevant government entities (such as parliaments, national human rights institutions, justice ministries, and ICT regulators) on implementing the recommendations from the review. Those efforts should include local CSOs raising awareness among government officials and the populace of the utility of a free internet in advancing the economic wellbeing of individuals and societies in this increasingly digitised world.

Moreover, given the fairly long cycle of the UPR process (every four and a half years), and the need for sustained engagement on the subject, CSOs would benefit from multi-stakeholder partnerships to create synergies. These partnerships would include working with governments to prepare the state reports as this would lessen government suspicions that CSOs are bent on criticising and giving them a bad image on the international scene.

Finally, CSOs and other actors should fashion the UPR recommendations as a basis for campaigning and advocating for legislation that will safeguard the rights and freedom of citizens on the internet, bringing internet freedom at the forefront of human rights and governance, especially in the context of the shrinking civic spaces phenomenon in Africa. Further, the continuous follow up on the implementation of recommendations would provide much-needed pressure on African governments to open up internet freedom.

## Recommendations

### CSOs

---

- CSOs should take ownership of the UPR process by equipping themselves with expert knowledge about internet freedom as a precursor to constructively engaging governments to participate in the UPR process, most especially in implementing the agreed recommendations.
- CSOs should draw and implement sustained engagement strategies with the whole UPR cycle, and not only the reporting phases. This sustained campaign would cultivate a critical mass of stakeholders engaging on the issues being flagged.
- Continuously document internet freedom rights issues in their respective countries and steadily elevate them and their implications to the attention of government officials, the private sector, civil society and ordinary citizens.

- 
- CSOS should develop and implement on-going awareness raising campaigns to educate the general public, other key stakeholders and government entities on the UPR process and its importance in the development of their countries.
  - Enter partnerships with national and international actors to enable the collaborative development of submissions and participation in national consultations and review processes.

## Governments

---

- Governments should embrace the UPR process as a reflection and not fault-finding exercise intended to improve their service delivery performance.
- Governments should openly engage with civil society in preparing country reports and auditing the implementation of recommendations from the review..
- Governments, including national human rights institutions, should undertake annual reporting on the state of internet freedom, as part of their mandates to promote human rights and in their periodic report to the different international human rights treaty body monitoring mechanisms.

## Development partners and International CSOs

---

- International partners should enhance the capacity of CSOs to engage their governments on internet rights. This can be through financial, technical (hardware and software), and skills development and technical backstopping as identified by the CSOs.
- International partners should support the widespread awareness about the full cycle of the UPR process to all key stakeholders and the general public to create critical demand on governments to account.
- International partners should facilitate linkages between local actors and international groups and the governments that are active in the review process at the Human Rights Council to ensure civil society's recommendations are directly raised with respective governments under review.



## Annex 1: Respondents' Institutional Affiliation

1. INCM - Autoridade Reguladora dos Sectores Postal e de Telecomunicações (Regulatory Authority), Mozambique
2. Action Aid International, The Gambia
3. Activist Movement, Mozambique
4. Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC), Uganda, Botswana, Cameroon, DR Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe
5. Africa Young Voices Media, Sierra Leone
6. African Albinism Alliance (Pilot), Sub Saharan Africa
7. African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights, Africa
8. AMODEFA - Associação Moçambicana para Desenvolvimento da Família, Mozambique
9. ARTICLE 19, West Africa
10. Association for Human Rights in Ethiopia (AHRE)
11. BBC Media Action, Sierra Leone
12. Beakanyang, The Gambia
13. Believers Broadcasting Network, Sierra Leone
14. Bloggers Association of Kenya
15. BudgIT Foundation, Nigeria
16. Campaign for Human Rights and Development in Sierra Leone
17. Center for Human Rights, Addis Ababa University
18. Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation, Malawi
19. Centre for Human Rights Education Advice and Assistance- CHREAA, Malawi
20. Child Care Organisation, Namibia
21. Child Protection Alliance, The Gambia
22. CIP - Public Integrity Centre, Mozambique
23. CIPIT - Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law, Kenya
24. Citizens Advocacy Network (CAN), Sierra Leone
25. Coalition for Change Gambia
26. Co-Creation Hub Nigeria
27. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), Worldwide
28. Consortium of Ethiopian Rights Organisations
29. Economic and Social Justice Trust, Namibia
30. Editors' Forum of Namibia (EFN)
31. EHRP/Addis Maleda
32. EiE Nigeria
33. Ethiopian Human Rights Project
34. Federal Attorney General, Ethiopia
35. Fix Solution (SL) Limited, Sierra Leone
36. Forum Social Senegalais, Senegal
37. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), Addis Ababa Office
38. Gambia Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
39. Gambia Organisation of the Visually Impaired

- 
40. Gambia Press Union
  41. Give1 Project, The Gambia
  42. Global Partners Digital, Global
  43. Groupe AGORA de Recherche pour l'éducation aux Droits de l'Enfant et à la Paix, Senegal
  44. Hanns Seidel Foundation, Worldwide including Tanzania
  45. Human Right Defenders Network Sierra Leone
  46. Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
  47. Human Rights Council/Lawyers for Human Rights, Ethiopia
  48. ICT Association of Malawi
  49. IMD - Instituto para Democracia Multipartidária (Institute for Multiparty Democracy), Mozambique
  50. Independent Consultant for International NGOs and Senegalese CSOs
  51. Independent Media Commission , Sierra Leone
  52. Institute for Governance Reform, Sierra Leone
  53. Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA), The Gambia
  54. Internet Society Namibia Chapter
  55. Internews, Kenya
  56. Ivy Foundation, Malawi
  57. Jonction Senegal
  58. Jukwaa la KATIBA Tanzania
  59. Kenya School of Law
  60. KICTANet - Kenya ICT Action Network
  61. Legal Link, Sierra Leone
  62. LifeLine/ChildLine Namibia
  63. MACRA - Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority
  64. Malawi Human Rights Youth Network
  65. Media Council of Tanzania
  66. Media Institute of Southern Africa, MISA Malawi
  67. Mersa Media Institute, Ethiopia
  68. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia
  69. Ministry of Health, Malawi
  70. Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure, The Gambia
  71. MTWARA NGO'S NETWORK(MTWANGONET), Tanzania
  72. Mwanza Press Club
  73. Mzuzu E-Hub, Malawi
  74. Namibia Diverse Women's Association
  75. Namibia Institute for Democracy
  76. Namibia Non-Government Forum Trust (NANGOF Trust)
  77. Namibia Scientific Society
  78. National Telecommunications Commission, Sierra Leone
  79. Native consortium and research Centre, Sierra Leone
  80. National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC), Kenya

- 
77. Namibia Scientific Society
  78. National Telecommunications Commission, Sierra Leone
  79. Native consortium and research Centre, Sierra Leone
  80. National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (NGLHRC), Kenya
  81. Nkhoma synod Radio, Malawi
  82. Norwegian Church Aid, Malawi
  83. Ombudsman Namibia
  84. OrderPaper Nigeria
  85. Out-Right Namibia
  86. Paradigm Initiative, Nigeria, Zambia, Cameroon, Kenya and Togo
  87. Amnesty International, Sierra Leone
  88. PEN International
  89. Premium Times for Investigative Journalism (PTCIJ), Nigeria
  90. Public and Private Development Centre (PPDC), Nigeria
  91. Purple Innovation for Women and Girls
  92. Regain TRUST, Namibia
  93. Resources Advocacy Initiative, Tanzania
  94. School of Law, Samara University, Russia
  95. Sensi Tech Innovation Hub, Sierra Leone
  96. SIDH Senegal
  97. Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ)
  98. Sierra Leone Cable LTD (SALCAB)
  99. Sister Namibia
  100. Society for Democratic Initiative (SDI), Sierra Leone
  101. Tanzania Youth Vision Association (TYVA).
  102. Techpoint Africa, Nigeria
  103. The Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (TANGO), Gambia
  104. The Digital Foundation of Namibia
  105. The Gambia Cybersecurity Alliance
  106. The Trumpet, Gambia
  107. TIMES MEDIA GROUP, Malawi
  108. Tunduru Paralegal Centre (TUPACE), Tanzania
  109. University of Malawi
  110. Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Kenya
  111. Watetezi TV, Tanzania
  112. Women Forum, Mozambique
  113. Women in Media, Sierra Leone
  114. Women's Action for Development (WAD), Namibia
  115. Women's Solidarity Namibia
  116. Youth Net and Counselling, Malawi
  117. Youth Parliament, Nigeria

## Annex 2: Respondents' history of engagement in UPR processes

### 1. Article 19 submissions on Ethiopia

<https://www.article19.org/resources/ethiopia-article-19-submission-un-universal-periodic-review-ethiopia/> and

<https://www.article19.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Joint-UPR-Submission-Ethiopia.pdf>;  
Senegal -

<http://article19ao.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Submission-to-the-UPR-of-Senegal.pdf>

### 2. Association for Human Rights in Ethiopia (AHRETHIO) submission on Ethiopia

<https://ahrethio.org/2018/10/04/ahre-joint-submission-to-the-un-universal-periodic-review-33rd-session-of-the-upr-working-group/>

### 3. Article 19 consultation meeting with CSOs in Senegal on the situation of human rights for the period under review

<http://article19ao.org/senegal-article-19-organise-une-rencontre-dechanges-autour-de-lexamen-periodique-universel-epu/>

### 4. Senegalese Coalition of Human Rights Defenders (Coseddh)

<https://www.lequotidien.sn/protection-des-defenseurs-des-droits-humains-la-coseddh-plaide-pour-ladoption-de-la-loi/>

### 5. [https://www.academia.edu/38302918/Ethiopias\\_Human\\_Rights\\_Reporting\\_Opportunities\\_and\\_Challenges](https://www.academia.edu/38302918/Ethiopias_Human_Rights_Reporting_Opportunities_and_Challenges)

### 6. Civicus submission on Guinea

<https://www.civicus.org/documents/JointUPRSubmissionEquatorial%20Guinea.pdf>; Malawi -

<https://www.civicus.org/documents/Malawi.JointUPRSubmission.pdf>

### 7. Pen International submission on Eritrea

<https://pen-international.org/app/uploads/UPR-Eritrea-Final.pdf>

### 8. Media Rights Agenda consultation meeting with CSOs in Nigeria

<http://mediarightsagenda.net/web/workshop-participants-agree-to-compile-human-rights-situation-for-upr/>

### 9. Joint Stakeholder Submission on Nigeria

<https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/uprweb/downloadfile.aspx?filename=210&file=EnglishTranslation>

### 10. Privacy International Submission on Nigeria

[https://privacyinternational.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/UPR\\_The%20Right%20to%20Privacy\\_Nigeria.pdf](https://privacyinternational.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/UPR_The%20Right%20to%20Privacy_Nigeria.pdf); Senegal -

<https://privacyinternational.org/advocacy-briefing/640/right-privacy-senegal>; Guinea -

<https://privacyinternational.org/advocacy-briefing/770/right-privacy-republic-guinea>

- 
11. <https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/uprweb/downloadfile.aspx?filename=1247&file>
  12. <https://www.upr-info.org/en/news/pre-sessions-countries-be-reviewed-upr-20>
  13. *Joint Stakeholder Submission Senegal* - [https://cipesa.org/?wpfb\\_dl=291](https://cipesa.org/?wpfb_dl=291)
  14. <https://mwnation.com/malawi-appears-before-un-on-human-rights/>
  15. [www.ngocoalitionmalawi.org](http://www.ngocoalitionmalawi.org)
  16. **Amnesty International Submission on Sierra Leone**  
[www.amnestyinternational.org/upr/Sierraleone](http://www.amnestyinternational.org/upr/Sierraleone)
  17. *Third cycle UPR stakeholder submission*
  18. <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/UPRNASakeholdersInfoS10.aspx>
  19. [www.imc.gov](http://www.imc.gov)
  20. [www.hrc-sl.org](http://www.hrc-sl.org)
  21. **Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC) submissions and engagements on Angola**  
<https://africafoicentre.org/download/afic-ap-on-implementation-of-upr-recommendations-angola/>; <https://africafoicentre.org/download/angola-upr-afic-statement/>;  
<https://africafoicentre.org/download/angola-upr-afic-submission/>
  22. [https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/document/namibia/session\\_24\\_-\\_january\\_2016/a\\_hrc\\_wg.6\\_24\\_nam\\_1\\_e.pdf](https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/document/namibia/session_24_-_january_2016/a_hrc_wg.6_24_nam_1_e.pdf)
  23. [https://www.unicef.org/namibia/SitAn\\_part\\_1.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/namibia/SitAn_part_1.pdf)
  24. <https://www.girlsnotbrides.org/child-marriage/mozambique/>
  25. <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/africa/mozambique>

This survey was conducted with the support of Small Media Foundation as part of the UPRoar project.

## Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)



+256 414 289 502

programmes@cipesa.org

@cipesaug  facebook.com/cipesaug  LinkedIn/cipesa

 www.cipesa.org