

HOW DO TREATY BODIES REVIEW STATES?

The human rights treaty bodies are committees of independent experts that monitor implementation of the core international human rights treaties. Each State party to a treaty has an obligation to take steps to ensure that everyone in the State can enjoy the rights set out in the treaty. There are ten human rights treaty bodies composed of independent experts of recognized competence in human rights, who are nominated and elected for fixed renewable terms of four years by State parties.

States are obligated to report to treaty bodies every four years after its initial reporting (i.e. 1 year after ratification). The reporting process involves the State (its agencies) to submit report on situation of compliance and measures undertaken to address gaps. NHRIs and civil society are also involved in this reporting process. They can provide feedback to the State and/ or submit their own parallel reports. The diagram below illustrates this process,

