



Peace Movement Aotearoa

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NGO collaboration around NZ's Universal Periodic Review

The government's overall human rights performance will be assessed in the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) early next year, and NGO reports must be submitted in June 2013 (as with the first UPR cycle, before the government report).

For the first UPR cycle, Peace Movement Aotearoa provided information for NGOs wishing to submit a report to the UN Human Rights Council; national coordination around the combined reports, including circulating the various reports for NGOs to sign-on to before they were sent to the Council; and opportunities for NGO involvement throughout the process. We will be doing this again for the second cycle, beginning with publishing an NGO guide to NZ's second UPR later this month.

Combined reports have more impact in the UPR process than reports from individual NGOs, and it would be useful to include contact details for the NGOs planning to coordinate thematic combined reports in the NGO guide, or we can forward the contact details of NGOs interested in particular human rights themes and topics on to you, as you prefer.

For the first UPR cycle, there were three thematic combined reports:

- on children's rights, coordinated by Action for Children and Youth Aotearoa;
- on economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, including immigration issues, and the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers, coordinated by the Human Rights Foundation with contributions from other NGOs; and
- on the Treaty of Waitangi and indigenous peoples' rights, coordinated by the Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust and Peace Movement Aotearoa.

There was also an overarching report, which included information from the three combined reports. The NGO reports, together with an outline of the process, the first Universal Periodic Review Outcome Report on NZ, the government's response, NGO interventions at the UN Human Rights Council session when the UPR Outcome Report was adopted, follow-up and other information, are available on the NZ UPR index page at <http://www.converge.org.nz/pma/nzupr.htm>

Work is already underway on a combined NGO report on the Treaty of Waitangi and indigenous peoples' rights for the second UPR. It would be great if there are more combined NGO reports for the second UPR, including on topics not covered by the thematic reports in the first UPR. If you are interested in being involved with one or more NGO combined report/s, can you kindly contact Peace Movement Aotearoa email pma@xtra.co.nz (with 'NZ UPR NGO reports' in the subject line of your message) and let us know if you would like to:

- **coordinate** a combined NGO report, and if yes, on which human rights topic or topics;
- **contribute** to a combined report, and if yes, on which topic or topics; and / or
- **sign-on** to a combined report, and if yes, on which topic or topics.

We are also happy to assist with individual NGO reports. Thank you.