

National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up on Recommendations from Treaty Bodies and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

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Presentation outline

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ The situation before 2010
- ▶ The National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up on Recommendations from Treaty Bodies and the UPR
- ▶ The treaty body reporting process and the UPR
- ▶ The prospects

INTRODUCTION

- Niger is party to several international and regional legal instruments for the protection and promotion of human rights.
- This has led to a significant improvement in its legal framework and;
- To promote and disseminate state reporting by enlightening the various stakeholders on the meaning of the process and its implications.

The situation before 2010

- The reports to the treaty bodies were prepared by consultants on behalf of the sectoral ministries concerned;
- Niger was very late in submitting its initial and periodic reports.

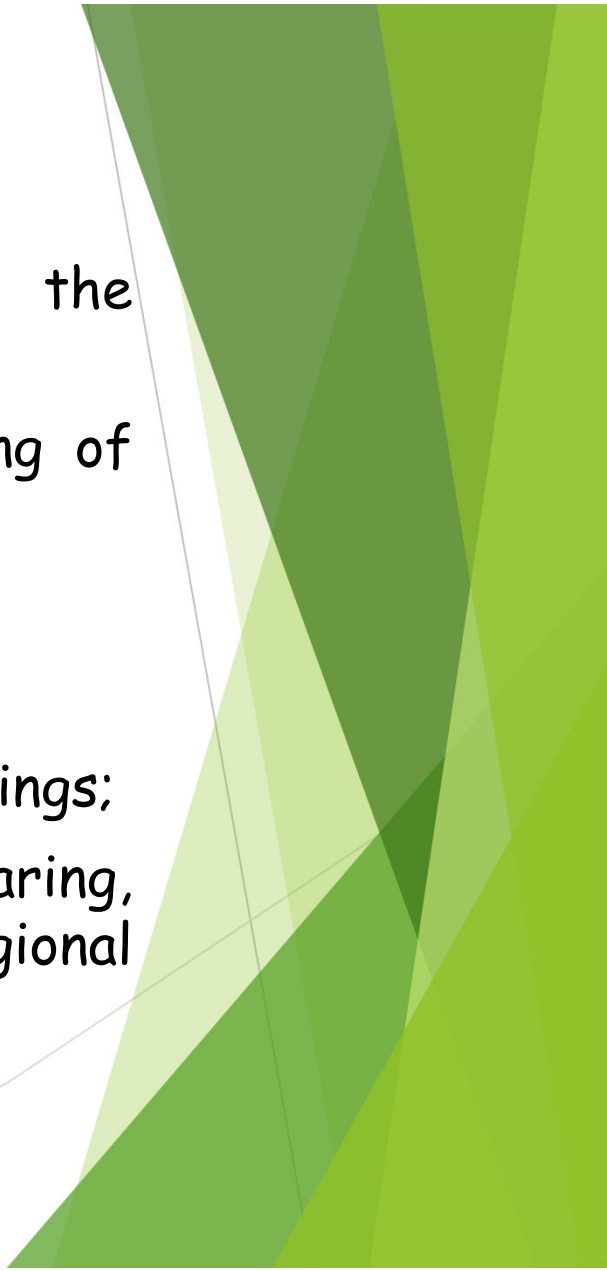
Creation of the Inter-ministerial Committee

- When it was created in 2010, the Inter-ministerial Committee was attached to the General Directorate for Human Rights of the Ministry of Justice. The Director-General for Human Rights chairs the meetings.
- It was tasked with addressing the backlog of reports Niger has been experiencing in drafting and submitting reports to treaty bodies at the national and international levels.

- By Decree No. 2010-908/PRN/MJ of 28 December 2018 on the organization of the Ministry of Justice, the Inter-ministerial Committee was directly attached to the Cabinet of the Minister of Justice, Keeper of the Seals.
- The activities of the Committee are directed by a Permanent Secretary

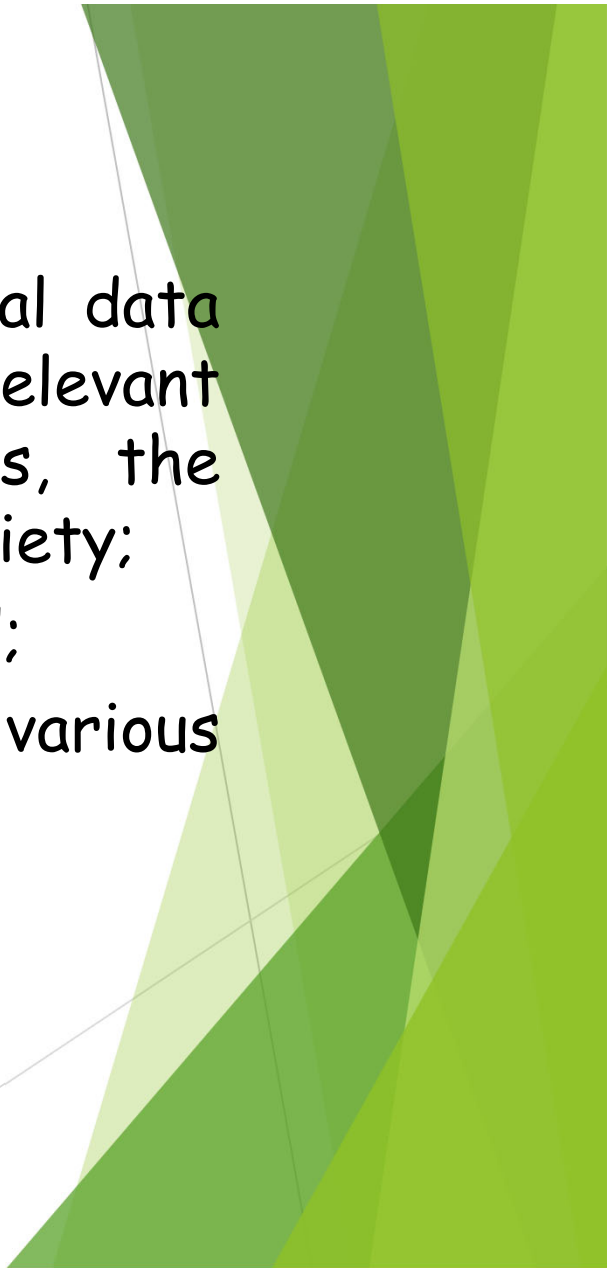
Responsibilities of the IMC

- Preparation and drafting of UPR reports;
- Preparation and drafting of initial and periodic reports to regional and international treaty bodies;
- Follow-up on the implementation of recommendations made in the various initial and periodic reports;

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- Development of national action plans for the implementation of human rights recommendations;
 - Implementation of specific recommendations (training of key actors on specific legal instruments)
 - Management of the funds placed at its disposal.

Missions of the Permanent Secretary

- Preparation, convening and conduct of committee meetings;
- Coordination of the Committee's activities in preparing, drafting, centralizing and submitting reports to regional and international human rights mechanisms;

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- Collection of information and other statistical data related to human rights in cooperation with relevant ministries, specialized government agencies, the National Human Rights Institution and civil society;
 - Creation of a human rights documentation fund;
 - Update the various data included in the various reports presented;

- Follow-up on relationships and commitments made with the Committee's partners;
- Drafting the minutes and sending them to the Minister of Human Rights.

Composition and operation of the committee

The committee is composed as follows:

- **President:** the Permanent Secretary;
- **Vice President:** a representative of the Ministry in charge of foreign affairs;
- **Rapporteur:** a representative of the Ministry of Justice;

➤ **Members:**

- **One (1)** representative from the Prime Minister's Office;
- **One (1)** representative of the General Secretariat of the Government;
- **Three (3)** representatives of the Ministry in charge of Justice;
- **Two (2)** representatives of the Ministry in charge of the Promotion of Women and Child Protection;
- **Two (2)** representatives of the Ministry in charge of education;
- **One (1)** representative of the Ministry in charge of health;
- **One (1)** representative of the Ministry in charge of labor;
- **One (1)** representative of the Ministry in charge of agriculture;
- **One (1)** representative of the National Institute of Statistics;
- **One (1)** representative of the Ministry in charge of the Interior.

The Committee may consult with any person whose expertise it deems useful to the accomplishment of its mission.

► **National mechanism for reporting and follow-up on treaty bodies and UPR recommendations**

By decree no. 2022-181/PRN/MJ of February 24, 2022, the Inter-ministerial Committee became the MNRS in order to integrate other key actors involved in the protection and promotion of human rights in Niger.

The president of the MNRS was appointed by decree n°2022-422/PRN/MJ of May 12, 2022. He is assisted by a permanent secretary who has not yet been appointed.

The MNRS has the same responsibilities as the Inter-ministerial Committee.

- ▶ The treaty body reporting process and the UPR

- **Guidance and scoping workshop**

The objective of this workshop is to train and familiarize MNRS members with the content of the instrument, the guidelines and recommendations of the treaty body in question.

At the meeting, the division of tasks among the MNRS members will be made and a deadline will be set.

- **Compilation workshop**

This workshop usually lasts three (3) days and its objectives are to compile all the responses provided by the MNRS members and to prepare the first draft of the report. The report will be edited and completed as needed by the MNRS Permanent Secretariat.

It should be noted that the President is assisted by **United Nations volunteers who are made available to the Mechanism by UNDP.**

- **Validation workshop**

The validation workshop brings together all the members of the ministries, institutions (AN, CNDH), civil society, technical and financial partners.

- **Adoption by the Council of Ministers**

The report is submitted to the *General Secretariat of the Government* for discussion in the Cabinet before being adopted by the Council of Ministers.

The main partners of the MNRS.

Among others, we can mention:

- UNDP
- The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- The Danish Institute for Human Rights
- LONG Save the Children
- UNICEF
- GIZ

Prospects:

- Provide the MNRS with a seat;
- Provision of substantial material, human and financial resources
- Partner with other sister institutions to share experiences

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION.