

Group A: MPs role in the self –assessment exercise

Best practices for MPs to play an effective role on the self-assessment process: the period/stage between when the country accedes to APRM, through to the preparation of the CSAR (depending on country: accession and post accession, formation of country structures (and representation and input therein), national and sectoral sensitization, process of self assessment (collection of information, input into the research process)

Levels of understanding parliament's involvement should be distinct and cover:

- The Individual member of parliament (including personally, as a constituency representative, or as a party member)
- The Institution of parliament (provincial, national, continental)

What is to be done? (Individual MPs)

- Mobilizing the people (buy-in and opportunity to contribute)
- Sensitization/information (letting the people understand the process)
- Propagation of APRM ideals

Reporting back to constituency on the progress of the process

How?

- All parties in parliament should be represented in NGC (and any APRM-related structures). This team should also be multi- disciplinary
- Parliament to have multi-party ad-hoc/portfolio committee in parliament on APRM
- Individual MP to go to constituency for sensitization/information/education of constituents and feedback from constituents. Emphasize objectives, national and individual benefits of APRM to the masses
- Collect as much info about APRM as possible (as a resource) –self-empowerment
- Link activities in community setting with APRM
- Package information for targeted constituencies in a simplified language

Content into self assessment report

- Feedback from the constituency

System of Governance (Strong Executives / Dictatorship can not be in line with APRM objectives)

- It is imperative that Parliament impose their constitutional rights and not give their power to the Executive, regardless of the make up of Parliament in order to make APRM a continuous reality.
- The structural weakness in that the APRM Secretariat is answerable to the Executive. MPs need to correct that power relations
- MPs need to lobby regional parliaments so that member states accede to APRM mechanism (correcting govt structures)

AGENDA ITEMS

- A) Location of MPs and Parliament, PAP, Legislatures, Executive and Judiciary
- B) Effects of political systems on possibility and ability of parliamentary participation in APRM