



About the Human Rights Council's Meetings

Whereas the former Commission met only once a year for a total of six weeks, the Council meets at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, for at least three regular sessions a year, for a total duration of no less than 10 weeks. The Council's main (four-week) session is normally held in March.

The Council may also hold special sessions at the request of a member State, where such a request is supported by at least one third of its member States. By August 2009, the Council had held eleven special sessions.

The Council also organizes panel discussions and special events to enhance dialogue and mutual understanding on specific issues. By September 2008 the Council had held six of these events, including annual discussions on the rights of persons with disabilities and the integration of a gender perspective into its work and the work of its mechanisms.

Scheduled Meetings during the fourth cycle: 2009 - 2010

Human Rights Council Regular Sessions:

12th regular session: 14 September to 2 October 2009

13th regular session: 1 to 26 March 2010

14th regular session: 31 May to 17 June 2010

Human Rights Council Organizational Meetings

For the 13th session: 18 February 2010

For the 14th session: 20 May 2010

Human Rights Council Organizational Session

For the 5th cycle: 18 June 2010

Universal Periodic Review Working Group:

6th session: 30 November – 11 December 2009

7th session: 8 to 19 February 2010

8th session: 3 to 14 May 2010

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