

Framework for Presenting Public Statements at ACT Alliance General Assembly 2024

1. Principles and Mechanisms

By adhering to this framework, ACT Alliance aims to facilitate a focused, informed, and impactful discussion on critical global and regional issues, fostering a spirit of unity and collaboration among participants in the pursuit of justice and positive change while speaking out meaningfully on key issues facing the world.

In the context of public statements, it is crucial to emphasize key benchmarks below:

- **ACT Regional Pre-Assemblies:** Scheduled to occur from September 16-25, 2024, these events provide a focused platform for engagement and discussion among participants, setting the stage for meaningful contributions regarding the statements.
- **General Assembly:** The main event is slated to take place from October 28 to December 1, 2024. This extended timeframe allows for comprehensive deliberations and collaborative decision-making during the General Assembly.

By aligning public statement submissions with these significant dates, participants can contribute effectively to the dialogue, ensuring timely and informed discussions at both the Regional Pre-Assemblies and the General Assembly.

2. Preparation of Statements

The preparation of statements is a vital process to ensure robust and informed discussions. Statements on **global issues**, particularly those aligning with the themes of thematic feature days and member conversations, are meticulously crafted in advance by designated existing ACT structures such as Reference Groups (RGs) or Global Communities of Practice (CoPs). Likewise, statements on **regional issues** are crafted by Regional Forums (RFs). These established bodies play a critical role in shaping statements that reflect a collective understanding of global challenges within their respective domains.

Moreover, recognizing the diversity of concerns across regions, each region is encouraged to submit 1 to 3 statements, spotlighting **regional and country-specific issues**. This inclusive approach allows for a comprehensive representation of the diverse challenges faced by our members globally. ACT national forums are empowered to initiate statements, bringing forward their unique perspectives, and subsequently, submit them for consideration during the ACT Regional Pre-Assemblies.

Through this collaborative and participatory process, we aim to foster meaningful dialogue and collective action, addressing both global and localized issues that resonate with the ACT Alliance.

3. Coordination of Statements Process

Before General Assembly:

Leading up to the Assembly, the **Advocacy and Policy Reference Group** (APG) takes charge of overseeing the coordination of statements. Their role is critical in ensuring the coherence and relevance of the statements submitted by various entities. This proactive oversight guarantees that the statements align with the overarching goals and themes of the Assembly.

During Assembly:

Once the Assembly is underway, the coordination of statements transitions to the **Public Statements Committee** (PSC). This committee is dedicated to facilitating the process, ensuring that statements are presented effectively, and addressing any emerging issues or concerns promptly. Their role is integral to maintaining the fluidity of the statement coordination process during the dynamic environment of the Assembly.

Through the dual coordination efforts of the APG before the Assembly and the PSC during the Assembly, we aim to streamline the statement process, fostering a cohesive and impactful dialogue throughout the General Assembly.

4. Discussion and Editing

During this crucial phase of the statement preparation process, engaging discussions and meticulous editing are paramount for ensuring the quality and impact of the statements:

Content Discussions and Editorial Suggestions: In-depth discussions and editorial refinements of draft statements are scheduled to occur within dedicated breakout sessions on Thematic Day. This focused setting allows participants to collaboratively contribute into the content, offer insights, and suggest editorial improvements, ensuring the statements align closely with the Assembly's themes and objectives.

Member Conversations: Member conversations serve as a valuable forum for participants to provide constructive feedback and offer suggestions for further refining the statements. This iterative process ensures that the statements are enriched by diverse perspectives and considerate of the varied insights within the ACT Alliance.

Final Editing and Review: Given that these discussions unfold among assembly participants, the statements are expected to be in advanced stages of editing, closer to their final form. Only the Public Statements Committee (PSC) will conduct further edits and reviews following these valuable contributions, ensuring the statements reflect the collective wisdom and insights of the Assembly participants.

5. Amendments and Approval

This phase focuses on the finalization and approval of statements, adhering to a structured process:

Plenary Sessions Policy: To preserve the integrity and coherence of the statements, no amendments will be entertained during plenary sessions. The inputs and refinements are expected to have been addressed during the dedicated opportunities outlined earlier in the process.

Exceptional Circumstances: In the event of impromptu and significant international news items, any additional statements must receive approval or be specifically requested by the Assembly Steering Committee (ASC). This ensures that statements remain responsive and relevant to the rapidly evolving global context while maintaining a controlled and considered approach.

By adhering to these guidelines, we aim to uphold the quality and clarity of the statements while allowing for adaptability in exceptional circumstances, ensuring the effectiveness and credibility of the final approved statements.

6. Transparency and Communication

Ensuring transparency and effective communication is fundamental to the success of the statement preparation process. Here's how we plan to uphold these principles:

Clear Communication Channels: Establishing clear communication channels between the Public Statements Committee (PSC), ACT Reference Groups/Communities of Practice (CoPs), and ACT regional representatives. This ensures that all relevant stakeholders are well-informed and aligned throughout the statement preparation process.

Regular Updates: Providing regular updates to participants on the progress of statement preparation and editing. This ongoing communication aims to keep all stakeholders informed about the evolving status of the statements and encourages active engagement in the process.

7. Adherence to Theme and Principles

Ensuring that statements are aligned with the theme and uphold the core principles of ACT Alliance is imperative for their effectiveness. Here are the key guidelines:

Alignment with General Assembly Theme: All statements are expected to closely align with the overarching theme of the General Assembly. Emphasis should be placed on fostering hope, encouraging collective action, and advocating for justice. This thematic alignment contributes to a unified and impactful narrative throughout the Assembly.

Reflection of Core Values and Principles: Statements should authentically reflect the core values and principles of ACT Alliance. These encompass compassion, solidarity, inclusivity, justice, and human rights. By embodying these principles, the statements contribute to a cohesive and ethical representation of the ACT collective stance.

Through this commitment to thematic alignment and adherence to fundamental principles, we aim to present statements that not only resonate with the General Assembly's overarching theme but also uphold the core values that define the identity of ACT Alliance.

8. Engagement of Participants

To maximize the impact and inclusivity of the statement preparation process, active participant engagement is prioritized. Here's how we facilitate this engagement:

Opportunities for Insightful Discussions: Participants will be provided with structured opportunities to actively engage with the statements. These dedicated discussion sessions offer a platform for offering insights, sharing perspectives, and collectively refining the content.

Encouragement of Active Participation: Active participation is strongly encouraged to deepen the collective understanding of the issues addressed in the statements. By fostering a collaborative environment, we aim to strengthen the impact of the statements and ensure they authentically represent the diverse perspectives within the ACT Alliance.

Through these initiatives, we aim to cultivate a dynamic and participatory atmosphere, where the collective wisdom and insights of participants contribute significantly to the development and refinement of impactful statements.

9. Documentation and Dissemination

Ensuring the accessibility and widespread impact of the finalized statements involves comprehensive documentation and strategic dissemination:

Comprehensive Documentation: All finalized statements will be thoroughly documented, encompassing essential background information, key points, and recommendations. This comprehensive documentation serves as a valuable resource for members and stakeholders seeking a detailed understanding of the ACT Alliance's positions on relevant issues.

Strategic Dissemination: The dissemination of statements will extend beyond the General Assembly, reaching relevant stakeholders, partners, and the wider public. This strategic approach amplifies the advocacy efforts of ACT Alliance, ensuring that the collective voice and recommendations resonate globally.

10. Timeline to Statement Submission, Review, and Distribution

This organized timeline ensures a methodical approach to statement preparation, review, and distribution, fostering meaningful participation during the assemblies:

a) Indications of Interest for Submission of Public Statements

By May 31, 2024: Reference Groups (RGs), Communities of Practice (CoPs) and Regional Forums (RFs) express an indication of interest to submit statements indicating the main themes. This will allow the ACT Advocacy and Policy Group (APG) to keep coherence, quality, and the possibility of proposing revisions or merging of statements.

b) Statements Submission Deadline

By July 31, 2024: Statements addressing global issues, prepared by RGs, CoPs and RFs, are to be submitted to the APG.

c) APG Review and Distribution to Regional Pre-Assemblies

By September 6, 2024: Following the APG review, the Secretariat will distribute proposed statements to participants in Regional Pre-Assemblies. This distribution will occur at least 10 days before the respective pre-assemblies, allowing ample time for thorough review, consideration, and potential amendments.

d) Final Submission Deadline

By September 30, 2024: All proposed statements (on global issues and regional/country specific) must be submitted to the APG by September 30, 2024, providing sufficient time for review, consideration, and potential amendments before dissemination.

e) General Assembly Statement Distribution Deadline

By October 12, 2024: The final deadline for distributing statements to participants at the General Assembly is set for October 12, 2024, ensuring a comprehensive and well-informed discussion during the General Assembly.

This timeline is meticulously designed to allow for a structured and informed process, fostering effective engagement and collaboration throughout the assembly proceedings.