

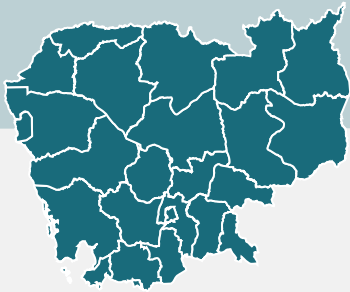
THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

- ☑️ The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a United Nations (UN) mechanism that operates by reviewing each UN Member States' adherence to its human right obligations.
- ☑️ During the UPR, UN Member States give recommendations on how the State under review could improve human rights.

The process takes place in each country every 5 years on a cyclical basis.



THE UPR IN CAMBODIA



1st Cycle
December 2009



2nd Cycle
February 2014



3rd Cycle
January 2019

THE REVIEW PROCESS

The Universal Periodic Review is conducted by the UPR Working Group that is composed by all UN member States and chaired by the Human Rights Council president.

The review is based on information provided in the three main documents:



1

The State under review, explains accomplishments and challenges faced in implementing recommendations since the previous review in its national report.

The State is encouraged to consult with national bodies and CSOs when it is compiling its own report.

2

The compilation of UN information, prepared by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) contains information from various UN agencies, special procedures and treaty bodies about recent development in the human rights situation of the state under review.

3

OHCHR summarizes reports submitted by civil society organizations and national human rights institutions into the Stakeholders summary.

Submissions from CSOs typically focus on a particular thematic area. Organizations may also wish to collaborate with other CSOs to create a joint report, demonstrating a united voice of civil society on the international arena.



During the UPR, the State under review also presents its national report, explains & highlight the current human rights situation and actions undertaken to implement recommendations received in the last report.



Other UN Member States make recommendations on how the State under review could improve human rights.

Once the review process is finished, the State concerned can:



support the recommendations received, that is, to make a political commitment to implement that recommendation before the next review; or, note the recommendations received.

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Cambodian Center for Human Rights

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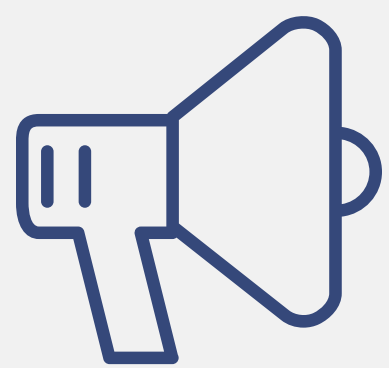
CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

The UPR process provides for the participation of all relevant stakeholders:

- ✓ Any civil society actors
- ✓ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- ✓ National human rights institutions (NHRIs)
- ✓ Human rights defenders
- ✓ Local associations
- ✓ Grass root organizations
- ✓ Trade unions
- ✓ Other groups and organizations that do not usually engage with the UN



Groups are encouraged to submit written information for the stakeholders report that is to be considered during the review.



In their submissions, CSOs are encouraged to suggest new recommendations, and reiterate previous ones where relevant.



Accredited Stakeholders can also attend and observe the UPR Working Group.

CSOs are not allowed to take the floor during the review but they can be present in the room. During the adoption of the report of the Working Group at the HRC plenary session, 20 minutes are allocated to NGOs to make statements.



After the review, CSOs can assist and cooperate with all stakeholders in the implementation of recommendations as well as monitor and report on the implementation of supported recommendations.

WHY SHOULD CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATE?

- 1 CSOs can influence the outcome of the review;
- 2 Their reports provide a basis for advocacy to Recommending states in advance of the interactive dialogue;
- 3 They give their assessment of the human rights situation, in comparison with the national report;
- 4 They are crucial in monitoring the implementation of the recommendations, thereby increasing the impact of the UPR and promoting the adoption of progressive human rights policies.