

## UPR Info's Database

### Action category

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The Action Category is a unique feature of UPR Info's Database of UPR Recommendations. Developed by Professor Edward R. McMahon of the University of Vermont (US) with the support of UPR Info, it creates a new approach to recommendations by looking into the action requested.

This new and exclusive feature analyses the first verb and the overall action contained in the recommendation and ranks it on a scale from 1 (minimal action) to 5 (specific action).

### 1. Categories

**Rank 1** Recommendation directed at non-SuR states, or calling upon the SuR to request technical assistance, or share information (Example of verbs: call on, seek, share).

**Rank 2** Recommendation emphasizing continuity (Example of verbs: continue, maintain, perpetuate, persevere, persist, pursue, remain, sustain).

**Rank 3** Recommendation to consider change (Example of verbs: analyse, assess, consider, envisage, envision, examine, explore, reflect upon, revise, review, study).

**Rank 4** Recommendation of action that contains a general element (Example of verbs: accelerate, address, encourage, engage with, ensure, guarantee, intensify, promote, speed up, strengthen, take action, take measures or steps towards).

**Rank 5** Recommendation of specific action (Example of verbs: conduct, develop, eliminate, establish, investigate, undertake as well as legal verbs: abolish, accede, adopt, amend, implement, enforce, ratify).

## 2. Principles

When there is a perfectly even rationale for two different actions in a recommendation, emphasis is generally placed on the first action.

When a recommendation starts with two verbs, the second one is privileged. Ex: “Continue and strengthen...” -> category 4.

When a recommendation starts with a general action but then provide examples of specific actions, it is considered as category 5. Ex: “Improve women’s rights by amending the family code”.

*UPR Info*, August 2016

### Disclaimer

The action level coding for each recommendation was done by Prof. McMahon with the support of UPR Info blindly i.e. without reference to the SuR or recommending state. This obviated the possibility of coder bias entering into the coding decision.