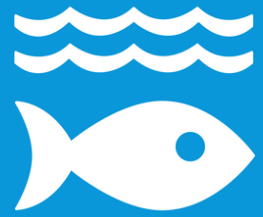




# Protecting Oceans through the UPR

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

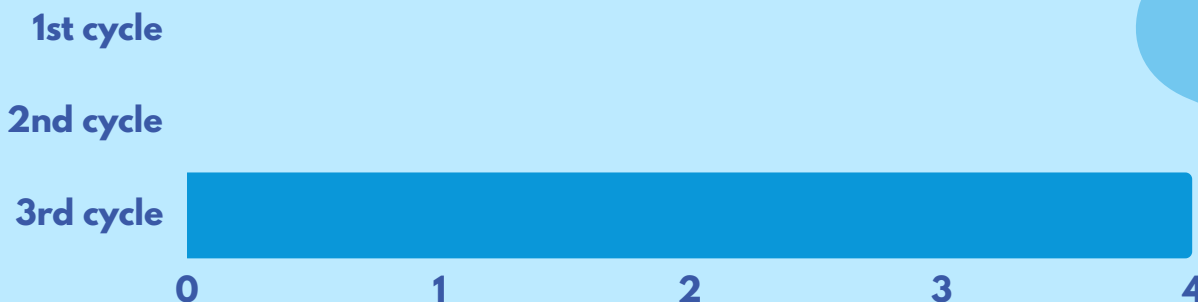


The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a mechanism of the Human Rights Council that reviews the human rights situation in all UN Member States. States provide recommendations for improving their practices in this area.

Although it is a state-led process, the UPR offers significant opportunities for civil society actors to engage and advocate for enhanced human rights in their countries.

Since its establishment, 12 recommendations pertaining to protecting oceans have been made in the UPR.

Number of recommendations addressing ocean protection per UPR cycle



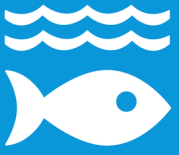
So far, in the 4th UPR cycle (2022-2027) there have been 8 recommendations on the topic, out of which 1 has been supported and 7 noted.

Overall recommendations supported

5

7 noted

**14** LIFE  
BELOW WATER



The well-being of the ocean affects not only the biodiversity of wildlife but human health (SDG3) and access to important resources, such as food (SDG2). Pollution, overfishing, and ocean acidification harm both humans and wildlife. To ensure a sustainable world for current and future generations, combatting climate change (SDG13) and protecting the world's oceans is vital.

States can either support or note UPR recommendations. By supporting them, States commit to implementing those measures. UPR recommendations can be utilised by civil society actors in their advocacy efforts at the national level in protecting oceans.

## Examples of UPR recommendations addressing ocean protection

Marshall Islands



Canada



*37.218 Hold Canadian-registered companies accountable for environmental damage to oceans, marine life and the seabed.*

*158.176 Refrain from discharging radioactive wastewater in the Pacific Ocean until all concerns from the Pacific island countries are addressed, including information gaps, and make available verifiable scientific data on the impact of discharge on human and marine life*



Haiti



Iceland

The UPR can reinforce obligations outlined in the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

To find out how you can engage in the UPR to support your human rights cause, visit our website at [upr-info.org](http://upr-info.org) or contact us at [info@upr-info.org](mailto:info@upr-info.org).

