The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a United Nations (UN) mechanism to review the human rights practices of all the States in the world. During the UPR, States under review explain what they have done to respect human rights while other UN member States give recommendations on how it could improve human rights.

How Does the UPR Work?

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The UPR is divided in four phases:
- **Submission of Reports**
- **Discussion**
- **Interactive**
- **Recommendations**

**Submission of Reports**

The State under review, the UN, NGOs, national institutions and UN agencies, can make comments, ask questions or make recommendations on how the State could improve the human rights situation in the country. The State under review can attend the discussion but cannot take the floor. The Interactive Discussion happens during the meeting of the UPR Working Group about the human rights situation in the country under review; but at the end it is the State under review who choose which questions or make recommendations on how it could improve the human rights situation in his country. Then UN Member States can make comments, ask questions or make recommendations on how the State could improve the human rights situation in the country.

**Interactive**

The Interactive Discussion happens during the meeting of the UPR Working Group in Geneva. Other member States of the United Nations can attend the discussion but cannot take the floor.

**Recommendations**

When the State accepts a recommendation, it commits itself to implement it and to take the necessary steps to protect and enhance the human right involved. At this point the State has to do the necessary changes to accomplish the goal of the recommendation, such as legislative reforms, new policy measures, etc.

**Acceptance of Recommendations**

Any State can make recommendations about the human rights situation in the country under review, but at the end it is the State under review who choose which recommendations will be accepted or not. The period between the review and the next review is called the “follow-up” period and the States under review have to submit an expert report on the implementation of the recommendations received.

**The Follow-up period**

In the review take place during a dialogue between the State under review and the other UN member States. The States under review explain what they have done to respect human rights situation in their country. Next, UN member States can make comments, ask questions or make recommendations on how the State could improve the human rights situation in the country under review.

Who Can Get Civil Society Involved?

- **Cambodia**
- **The UPR Cycle**
- **Cambodia and the UPR**
- **The UPR in Cambodia**

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For more information, please contact:

CCHR, founded in November 2002, is a non-aligned, non-governmental, non-profit, non-commercial, independent, non-governmental organization that works to promote and protect democracy and respect for human rights – primarily civil and political rights throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Acceptance: Number of days the State under review has to accept or reject recommendations.

Noted: Number of States that made recommendations to Cambodia in 2009.

Rejected: Number of States that made recommendations to Cambodia in 2009.

Adopted by the State Reviewed: Number of recommendations made to Cambodia in 2009.

Adopted by the State Reviewed: Number of recommendations made to Cambodia in 2014.

Noted: Number of States that made recommendations to Cambodia in 2014.

Recently accepted: Number of States that made recommendations to Cambodia in 2014.

Recently rejected: Number of States that made recommendations to Cambodia in 2014.

2009 accepted recommendation: “Ensure freedom of assembly and association, and respect freedom of association and collective bargaining” – The final UPR report of Cambodia 2009 included “ensure freedom of assembly and association, and respect freedom of association and collective bargaining,” which was not implemented by Cambodia. In 2014, Cambodia’s human rights situation improved, and it was only 2014 that it fully implemented the recommendation.

2014 noted recommendation: “Ensure the freedom of association and collective bargaining for workers in order to improve the economic rights of workers” – Cambodia has made a difficult effort to ensure the freedom of association and collective bargaining for workers, so this recommendation is still pending.

2014 rejected recommendation: “Implement government’s plan and take necessary steps to protect and enhance freedom of speech” – Cambodia has taken some steps to respect the freedom of speech, but it is still far from being implemented.

2014 accepted recommendation: “Ensure the freedom of association and collective bargaining for workers in order to improve the economic rights of workers” – Cambodia has taken some steps to respect the freedom of speech, but it is still far from being implemented.

2014 rejected recommendation: “Eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, including violence against women and girls, and implement the national action plan on violence against women” – Cambodia has not taken any steps to respect the freedom of speech, but it is still far from being implemented.

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