



Improving the Human Rights dimension of the fight against corruption

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UPR Info



UPR Info

- ❑ Non-advocacy NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland
 - ❑ Africa Regional Bureau
 - ❑ National Focal Points in Asia
- ❑ Mission: to make the UPR process an effective mechanism to improve human rights on the ground by:
 - ❑ Providing capacity-building tools and training
 - ❑ Engaging with all stakeholders, including States, civil society, UN agencies, NHRIs, parliamentarians, media
 - ❑ Strengthening the UPR process through cross-cutting approach: linkage with Int'l HR mechanisms and SDGs



The UPR and corruption

Overview of corruption-related UPR recommendation

- ❑ Corruption is not a high profile issue in the UPR (ranked 48/56 themes)
- ❑ Total number of recommendations: 307 (1-26 session)
- ❑ Less action-oriented recommendations compared to the global average
- ❑ 43% increase between cycles:
 - 1st cycle 126 recs, 2nd cycle 181 recs
- ❑ Acceptance levels: 90%

UPR recommendations related to corruption (1-26 session)

Ranking	Issue	Number of recs	Percentage
1	International instruments	12 714	22%
2	Women's rights	10 718	19%
3	Rights of the child	10 112	18%
47	Right to housing	311	0.54%
48	Corruption	307	0.54%
49	Environment	280	0.49%

Source: UPR Info's Database

Flow between States of UPR recommendations related to corruption (1-26 session)

Ranking	State under review	Recommending state
1	Mozambique (14)	United States (27)
2	Equatorial Guinea (14)	Canada (19)
3	Cambodia (9)	Russian Federation (14)
4	Mexico (7)	Turkey (10)
5	Moldova (7)	Australia (10)
6	Egypt (7)	Germany (8)
7	Liberia (6)	United Kingdom (7)
8	Romania (6)	Singapore (7)
9	Bulgaria (6)	Cuba (7)
10	Russian Federation (6)	Morocco (7)



Statistical overview: Regional groups

Flow between regional groups of UPR recommendations related to corruption

- ❑ GRULAC, untapped potential: 16.89% of overall UPR recs, only 5.9% on corruption
- ❑ WEOG overrepresented (45.6% recs on corruption, 33.9% overall UPR recs)
- ❑ WEOG only regional group making more recommendations than they receive

Receiving corruption recs	Making corruption recs
Africa (38.8%)	Africa (15.6%)
Asia (25.1%)	Asia (17.6)
EEG (18.9%)	EEG (13.7%)
GRULAC (14.3%)	GRULAC (5.9)
WEOG (2.9%)	WEOG (45.6%)
Observer states (N/A)	Observer states (1.6%)



Action categories

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

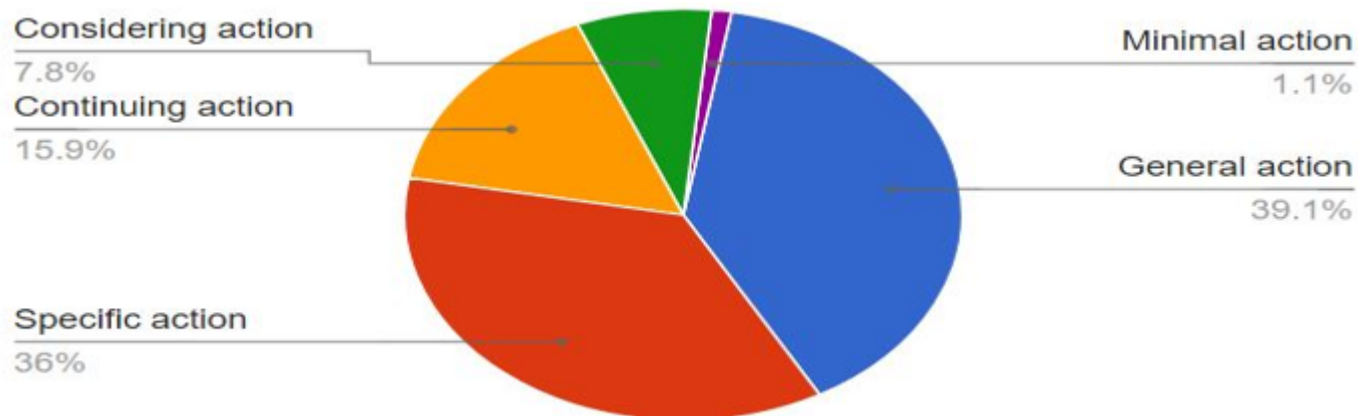
Rank 2: Recommendation emphasizing **continuity** (*Continue, maintain, persevere, persist, pursue*).

Rank 3: Recommendation to **consider change** (*Analyse, consider, envisage, envision, examine, explore, reflect upon, revise, review, study*).

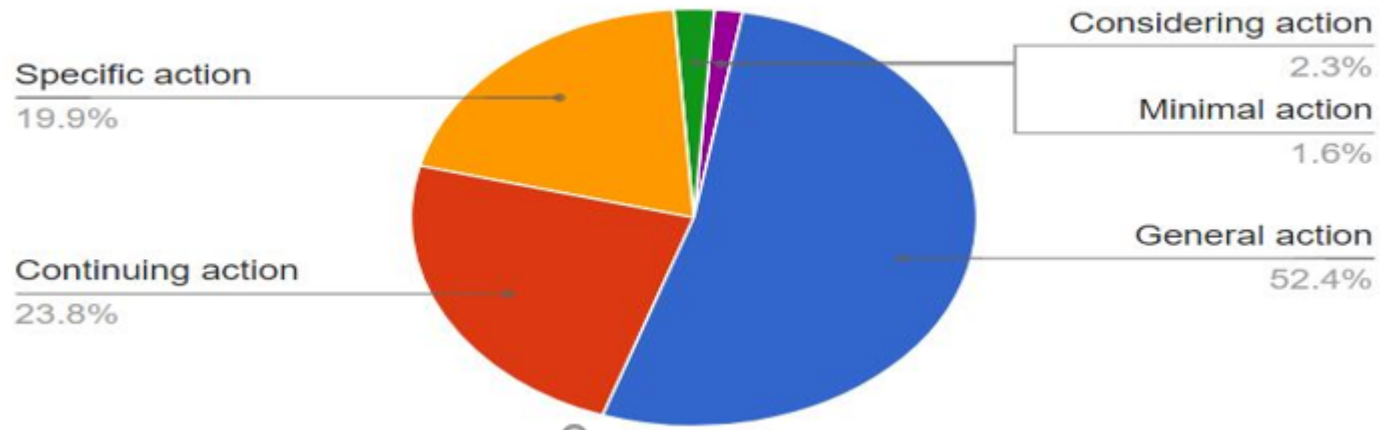
Rank 4: Recommendation of action that contains a **general element** (*Accelerate, address, encourage, engage with, ensure, guarantee, intensify, promote, speed up, strengthen, take action, take measures or steps towards*).

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

Global average



Corruption related recommendations





Examples of recommendations

Specific action

Create a legal framework that gives sufficient protection for "**whistle-blowers**" testifying in crimes related to corruption

(Sweden to Guinea Bissau, accepted)

General Action

Carry out necessary reforms to strengthen the rule of law to prevent political interference in the **justice system** and to tackle corruption at all levels

(Japan – Moldova, accepted)

Continuing action

Maintain the frontal fight against corruption

(Venezuela – Cuba, accepted)

Popular issues: *anti-corruption legislation, ratification of Convention against Corruption, specific agencies or mechanisms*



Way forward

Increasing action-oriented recommendations

CSO actions

- Joint UPR submissions on corruption
- UPR Advocacy Factsheets on corruption
- Identify “friendly States” in each region
- Suggest SMART recommendations that if implemented will improve the situation
- Share expertise with States in the implementation process
- Don't approach to UPR in isolation: identify synergies with the overall UN HR machinery and SDGs



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