

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 62nd SESSION

UPR Outcome of Oman

01 July 2026

H.E. Mr Idris bin Abdulrahman Al-Khanjari, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman, presented Oman's position on the recommendations received during its fourth Universal Periodic Review. At the outset, he thanked the Human Rights Council, OHCHR, and the members of the Troika — Spain, The Gambia and the Republic of Korea — as well as all delegations that contributed to the review process.

The Ambassador underlined that the recommendations were examined in light of Oman's international commitments, national legislation and policy priorities. He also emphasized the participatory nature of the process, noting consultations with government entities, the Omani Human Rights Commission, civil society organizations and other national stakeholders.

Oman indicated that it had accepted a large majority of the recommendations received. *Out of 246 recommendations, 194 enjoyed Oman's support, 48 were noted, and additional clarification was provided on four recommendations, indicating which parts were supported and which parts were noted.* The recommendations addressed areas including the ratification of some international conventions and optional protocols related to economic, social, cultural and labour rights, or consideration of withdrawing reservations based on some of them, in addition to strengthening the role of the Omani Human Rights Committee, developing cooperation with the human rights mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, and promoting a number of fundamental rights and freedoms, foremost of which are the rights of persons with disabilities, women and domestic workers.

The Ambassador highlighted Oman's accession to and ratification of several core international human rights instruments, including the ICCPR, ICESCR, CRC, CERD, CEDAW, CRPD, the Convention against Enforced Disappearance and the Convention against Torture. He also referred to Oman's accession to two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

Regarding legislative and institutional reforms, Oman referred to the adoption of the Law on Civil Associations through Royal Decree No. 64 of 2026, describing it as an important step in strengthening the role of civil society organizations as partners in sustainable development. Oman also referred to reforms in social protection and social insurance, including Royal Decree No. 65 of 2026 concerning insurance protection for Omani citizens working in GCC countries, and the redesign of the social protection system in line with international standards and ILO recommendations.

The Ambassador also announced that His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq had issued a directive allocating one additional seat for women's representation in the Shura Council in every governorate, for a total of 11 seats reserved for women. He described this as a reflection of Oman's commitment to enhancing women's participation in public life, decision-making and national development.

Finally, Oman announced the establishment of a legal committee chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and including relevant stakeholders and representatives of civil society. The committee will

follow up on the implementation of accepted recommendations, monitor progress and prepare future reporting. Oman reiterated its commitment to cooperation and constructive dialogue with human rights mechanisms.

Interactive dialogue

The majority of delegations, that took the floor, welcomed Oman's constructive engagement with the UPR process and its acceptance of a significant number of recommendations. Several delegations commended Oman's legislative and institutional reforms, as well as its efforts under Oman Vision 2040 to strengthen social protection, access to education and healthcare, women's empowerment, the rights of persons with disabilities and the fight against human trafficking. **Sri Lanka** encouraged Oman to continue combating human trafficking, addressing forced labour and raising public awareness.

The Philippines welcomed Oman's acceptance of recommendations concerning migrant workers, including the possible accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the strengthening of protections for domestic workers. **Qatar** welcomed the acceptance of its recommendations on access to education for children, particularly children with disabilities, support for the Omani Human Rights Commission and efforts to combat human trafficking.

South Sudan commended Oman for legislative reforms aimed at harmonizing national law with international human rights conventions, including laws on trafficking in persons, the rights of persons with disabilities and regulations for domestic workers.

Vietnam welcomed progress in social protection, education, health, anti-trafficking measures, the rights of persons with disabilities, human rights education and environmental protection.

Albania, while welcoming Oman's participation in the UPR process, regretted that recommendations concerning migrant workers and the establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty were not accepted, and called on Oman to move toward a moratorium and strengthen implementation of UPR recommendations.

UNFPA welcomed reforms under Oman Vision 2040, including social protection measures and increased women's participation in the Shura Council, while encouraging further progress on data collection, CEDAW implementation and national population policy.

Overall, NGOs expressed concern over the continued use of the death penalty and called on Oman to move toward abolition, ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and, in the interim, limit the death penalty to the most serious crimes. Several interventions raised concerns regarding freedom of expression, media freedom and civic space. Speakers referred to restrictions under the Penal Code, media legislation, cybercrime provisions and nationality law, and called for stronger protections for journalists, activists and civil society actors.

Organizations welcomed recommendations relating to women's empowerment and participation in public life, while encouraging Oman to pursue further reforms on family law, nationality rights, gender-based violence, domestic violence and marital rape. **However**, concerns were raised regarding Oman's reservations to CEDAW, particularly in relation to family matters and nationality. NGOs encouraged Oman to reconsider these reservations and accelerate the adoption of a national human rights action plan in cooperation with the Omani Human Rights Commission and civil society.

Speakers welcomed progress on the rights of women and children but encouraged Oman to ensure that the minimum age of marriage is set at 18 without exceptions and that protections against harmful practices are effectively implemented.

NGOs also raised concerns about the situation of migrant and domestic workers, including working conditions, forced labour risks, passport confiscation, unpaid wages and restrictions on freedom of movement. They called for full labour protections for domestic workers and stronger implementation of anti-trafficking commitments.

Some organizations welcomed Oman's efforts to promote peace, dialogue and gradual legal reform, while encouraging further engagement with international human rights and disarmament instruments.

Delegations that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (14 country delegations):

Albania, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vietnam and Yemen.

NHRIs and NGOs that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (9):

Gulf Centre for Human Rights Limited, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association, The Advocates for Human Rights, Ingénieurs du Monde, Organization for the Communication in Africa and the Promotion of International Economic Cooperation, Center for Global Non-Killing, Interfaith International, IRDG, Shanxi Patriotic Volunteer Association.

To watch the full meeting refer to the [UN WEB TV](#).

Further information [here](#).

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