

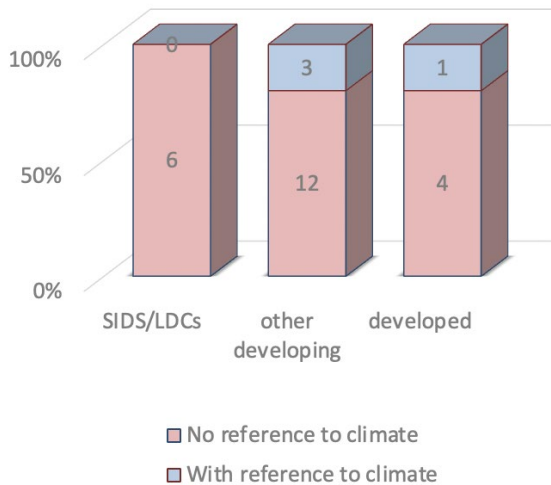
# Human Rights Committee (CCPR)



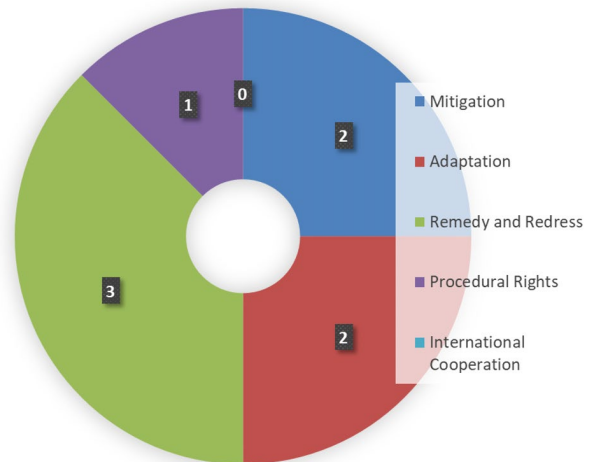
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This note reviews the outputs of the CCPR related to climate change in 2023 and complements our previous notes dedicated to such outputs up to 2022.

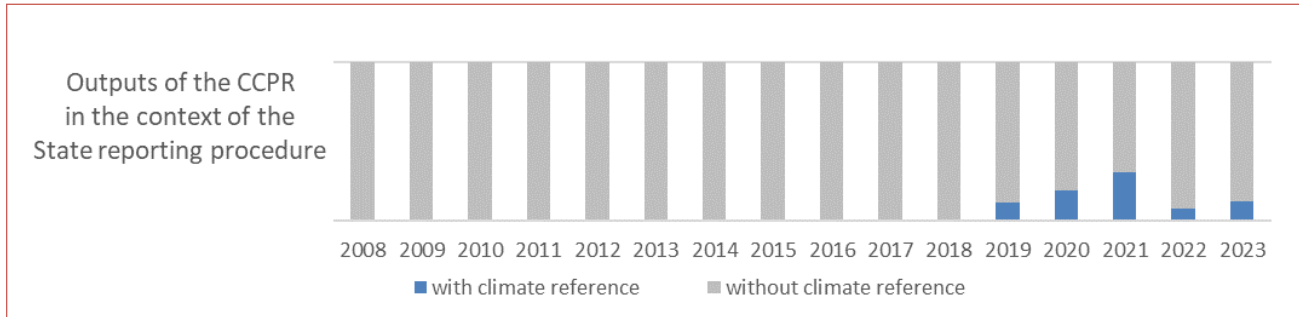
Outputs of the CCPR in 2023, by country category



Themes addressed by the CCPR in the State review procedure in 2023



In 2023, for the fifth year in a row, the Human Rights Committee (CCPR) addressed climate change in its State review procedure. It brought it up in two Concluding Observations (COB) and two List of Issues (LOIs). This reverted the decline experienced last year when the Committee only addressed climate change in one LOI and one COB.



In its COB to Brazil, the CCPR, although not necessarily in connection with climate change, stressed its concern in relation to “the lack of substantial action to mitigate or address the impact of climate change and environmental degradation” and the “extensive deforestation in the Amazon and the lack of a legal and institutional framework adequate for its protection.” In light of that, the Committee called on Brazil to “[s]trengthen the legal framework to combat and alleviate the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation.”

Additionally, in relation to mitigation, in the LOIs to Namibia and Pakistan, the Committee required the States to provide information related to “efforts to prevent and mitigate the effects of climate change and environmental degradation.”

The CCPR also focused on specific obligations related to Indigenous Peoples (e.g., COB to Brazil). In that sense, the CCPR touched on the requirement of free, prior and informed consent (e.g., LOIs to Namibia and Suriname) and informed and meaningful participation (e.g., COB to Brazil and LOI to Jamaica).

Another issue analyzed by the CCPR was the rights of environmental defenders (e.g., COB to Panama and LOI to Serbia). In the COB to Panama, the Committee showed its concern regarding the deaths and injuries due to excessive use of force during protests against mining and hydroelectric projects (e.g., COB to Panama). The Committee emphasized the obligation to protect human rights defenders, which is incumbent upon States.