

Recommendation to support implementation of UNEP/EA.7/Res.1

Submitted by Fiji and UNEP

Presented by the ICRI Secretariat, amended following review by members

*Proposed for adoption at the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) 39th General Meeting
(Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)*

Plain language statement

This recommendation calls on ICRI members to support the implementation of UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 (Accelerating global actions to promote the climate resilience of coral reefs), adopted by consensus at the United Nations Environment Assembly in December 2025. ICRI is specifically named in the resolution as an important partner. The recommendation encourages members to integrate coral reef conservation into national policies, contribute to voluntary guidance development, strengthen monitoring through the GCRMN, and support financial resources for coral reef conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

The Members of ICRI,

Commending Fiji and UNEP for their leadership in securing the adoption by consensus of UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 on Accelerating global actions to promote the climate resilience of coral reefs at the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in December 2025,

Recalling UNEA Resolutions 2/12 (2016), 4/13 (2019) and 6/15 (2024) on sustainable coral reef management, recognising the continued and worsening urgency of the challenges facing coral reefs globally,

Recognising that ICRI, specifically identified in UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 as an important partner and the primary global partnership for coral reef conservation and sustainable use, is well placed to support the implementation of the commitments set out in UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 at the national and regional levels,

Noting the ICRI Plan of Action 2025–2027, once finalised, and its relevance to implementing UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 across its five strategic themes,

The 39th General Meeting of the International Coral Reef Initiative:

1. **Encourages** ICRI members to support and advance the implementation of UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 at national, regional, and global levels, translating these commitments into concrete implementation instruments and actions at the national level, consistent with the ICRI Plan of Action 2025–2027, once finalised;

2. **Reaffirms** ICRI's commitment to working with UNEP in the development of voluntary guidance to support the integration of coral reef conservation, monitoring, restoration, and sustainable use into national policies and plans, as called for under UNEP/EA.7/Res.1. In doing so, encourage ICRI Members to contribute their expertise and experience to the guidance development process, including by identifying priority guidance needs and contributing relevant knowledge through existing regional mechanisms, networks and partnerships, and urge that the resulting guidance be made accessible to all countries;
3. **Encourages** ICRI Members to strengthen the role of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network as the principal global platform for coordinating coral reef monitoring data, and encourages ICRI Members, stakeholders and partners to voluntarily contribute data, data syntheses, and expertise to the GCRMN, including through harmonised approaches, to contribute to evidence-based decision-making towards global targets;
4. **Also encourages** ICRI Members and partners to support the provision and mobilisation of financial resources for coral reef conservation, restoration and sustainable use, as appropriate;
5. **Further encourages** ICRI Members to integrate the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of coral reefs into their national biodiversity strategies, action plans and other relevant national plans, and to enhance national coordination and knowledge-sharing on coral reef conservation and restoration.

Conclusion

ICRI Members express their collective commitment to supporting UNEP/EA.7/Res.1 and its translation into meaningful national and regional action to conserve, restore, and sustainably manage coral reef ecosystems for present and future generations.

Statement on the record — United States of America

"The United States is unable to join consensus on a recommendation to support implementation of a resolution adopted at UNEA-7. The United States disassociated itself from all resolutions, decisions, and from the ministerial declaration at that meeting, as they contain principles and language we cannot support."

Statement submitted by the United States delegation (U.S. Department of State) and recorded in the GM39 proceedings at the request of the United States, 18 May 2026.