

# Engaging with Governments

Companies can engage with governments to promote regulations, conventions, and other legal frameworks that protect human and labor rights for seafood workers, including migrant seafood workers.

However, fishing vessels are excluded from many international convention provisions that protect workers' rights. Businesses can use their leverage and influence to drive ratification of the policies and conventions that protect fishers' working rights below.

## To encourage policy reform, companies can engage through two primary means:

- Direct government or civil society engagement -
  - Government engagement consists of encouraging legal reform directly with a governmental body, typically through advocacy letters, meetings with policymakers, or other means.
  - Advocacy with civil society organizations may include exercises like developing and advancing Global Framework Agreements, non-binding agreements between trade unions and multinational companies that can help to set minimum standards and organize unions in transnational corporations.
- Supply chain improvements -
  - As a greater number of companies implement practices that they hope to be legally required, the barrier for implementing that policy or law may then be lowered.

These two seafood industry resources outline company actions that can take place through direct government engagement:

- FishWise [Vessel Transparency Report](#)
- Global Tuna Alliance [Government Partnership Toolkit](#)