**Human Rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations**

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

*as part of the consultations undertaken by the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee with National Human Rights Institutions with a view to preparing a research-based report on best practices and main challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, pursuant to Council resolution 22/16.*

**Background:**

Recognizing the need for a human rights-based approach to the delivery of humanitarian assistance and taking note of the Advisory Committee’s research proposal submitted to the Human Rights Council[[1]](#footnote-1), the Council, in its resolution 22/16, mandated the Advisory Committee to prepare a research-based report on best practices and main challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, to foster the capacity of States in such efforts and which would have to be presented on the Council’s twenty-eighth session (March 2015).

It is therefore in this context that the Advisory Committee decided, at its eleventh session held in August 2013, to appoint a drafting group[[2]](#footnote-2) in charge of the preparation of this report. The drafting group will present a progress report at the twelfth session of the Committee in February 2014, before its submission to the twenty-sixth session of the Council (June 2014). The resolution also requests the Committee, in its preparation of the report, to seek views and inputs from different stakeholders, such as Member States, international and regional organizations working in post-disaster and post-conflict situations and civil society representatives. The drafting group therefore elaborated the hereunder questionnaire for National Human Rights Institutions.

**Part I: General**

1. Has your country faced a situation of disaster or conflict? If yes, please indicate below which one or both and kindly proceed to answer the following questions.

**Disaster**

Conflict

**Part II: Post-disaster situations**

1. Do you have a specialized mechanism to verify/monitor human rights protection and promotion during disasters? And during post-disaster actions?

**No, however in the event of a disaster, the Commission endeavours to bring any Human Rights violations to the fore through the press and/or holding meetings with the different stakeholders including the State.**

2. Which human rights do you focus on?

**Right to Shelter, health and food**

3. Which human rights do you find that the Government focuses on? Which rights would you recommend the Government to focus on more?

**Government, through the Vice President’s office (Disaster Manangement Unit) focuses on**

* **Provision of alternative land for resettlement in collaboration with Local authorities and traditional leadership**
* **Provision of security arrangements**
* **Provision of relief materials(food and non-food items)**
* **Counseling**

4. Are you involved in capacity-building for the Government on a human rights-based approach to relief, recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation after a disaster?

**No**

5. Have you noticed any discrimination or neglect in provision of services, relief, etc.? Are there protections/standards in place by the Government to ensure non-discrimination and the respect of the humanitarian principals of neutrality, independence, impartiality and humanity in provision of services, relief, etc.?

**The main issue has been that of timely response**

6. What are the biggest challenges you notice that the Government faces?

**In certain cases the response is not timely**

**The relief material (both food and non-food items) provided is not always adequate**

**The response is not always engendered**

7. What are the biggest challenges that your organization faces?

**Adequate resources to follow up on the consequence of the disaster, wherever it may occur; technical expertise in Human Rights and Post disaster**

**Part III: Post-conflict situations**

1. Do you have a specialized mechanism to verify/monitor human rights protection and promotion during armed conflict? In post-conflict stages?

**No**

2. Which human rights do you focus on?

3. Which human rights do you find that the Government focuses on? Which rights would you recommend the Government to focus on more?

4. Are you involved in capacity-building for the Government on a human rights-based approach to relief, recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation after a conflict?

5. Are you involved in capacity-building for the Government on a human rights-based approach in post-conflict stages, including peace building, transitional justice?

6. In these capacity-building exercises, do you include the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality and independence?

7. Have you noticed any discrimination or neglect in provision of services, relief, etc.? Are there protections/standards in place by the Government to ensure non-discrimination and the respect of the humanitarian principals of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in provision of services, relief, etc.?

8. What are the biggest challenges you notice that the Government faces?

9. What are the biggest challenges that your organization faces?

**Deadline for submission of responses to the questionnaire:**

In order to give the Drafting Group the opportunity to take into account the different contributions, all parties are encouraged to submit their responses as soon as possible and at the latest by **8 November 2013**.

Answers can be submitted via email to the following address:

[hrcadvisorycommittee@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcadvisorycommittee@ohchr.org)

OR

Secretariat of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

c/o Ms. Dina Rossbacher

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Palais Wilson, Room 4-065, Fax: +41 22 917 9011

United Nations Office at Geneva,

CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Thank you for your contribution.

For more information on the Advisory’s mandate: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/AdvisoryCommittee/Pages/HRCACIndex.aspx>

1. A/HRC/AC/9/1, 10 August 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. A/HRC/AC/11/L.1, 16 August 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)