**QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON THE PROMOTION OF A DEMOCRATIC AND EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL ORDER**

**20.02.14**

1. What is the level of information provided to the population at large on military expenditures, including Army, Navy and Air Force contingents, military research, the production and stockpiling of weapons, maintaining domestic military bases and military bases in foreign countries, national defence, intelligence and surveillance, anti-terrorism, involvement in armed conflicts, private military and security companies, etc. ?

2. What is the level of secrecy that accompanies military expenditures, including concerning weapons of mass destruction? What safeguards exist to prevent abuse and waste, especially when the crucial information is “classified” and not subject to public debate?

3. What measures are in place to ensure budget and fiscal transparency, and to what extent can the electorate participate in establishing budget priorities?

4. Does the government pro-actively seek to inform the public and to obtain input from civil society and non-governmental organizations concerning military expenditures?

5. Are official or unofficial opinion polling on military expenditures and public referenda on aspects of the military budget conducted, e.g. concerning the continued production and/or testing of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, concerning measures of “surveillance” of communications, telephone and internet?

6. What is the actual level of all military-related expenditures in real terms, and what actual percentage of national budgets (not percentage of GNP) does this represent, regardless of whether the expenditures are separately assigned to the “defence” budget, the “intelligence” budget, the “anti-terrorism” budget, the “research” budget?

7. By comparison, what is the percentage of national budgets devoted to education and health care, medical research, the administration of justice, road safety, infrastructures, etc.?

8. What level of accountability exists when military expenses exceed the budget approved by Parliament?

9. What strategies, if any, exist to reorient budget priorities away from military expenditures and into the promotion of all human rights, the protection of the environment, climate change, clean water, sustainable energy, medicine and other peace-time industries as well as to achieve the millennium development goals and the post 2015 development agenda? To what extent can civil society and human rights institutions participate in shaping these strategies?

10. What strategies, if any, exist to recycle the workforce away from military industries into peace-time industries, conservation, medical research, renewable energy sources, maintenance of infrastructures. To what extent can civil society and human rights institutions participate in shaping these strategies?

11. Are there regional agreements in force (e.g. military alliances) that commit the State to devote a certain percentage of its budget to military expenses? If so, what percentage and how is it enforced?

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