**Information Note Regarding “General Comment No. 36 (2017) on Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the Right to Life”**

**Comments by REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

The draft text forwarded by the UN Human Rights Committee, entitled “**General Comment No. 36 (2017) on article 6 of the international covenant on civil and political Rights on the right to life**” which had been adopted after the first reading during its 120th session, have been examined thoroughly by relevant Turkish authorities, and some suggestions on the draft text are listed below;

1.In light of different legal systems of UN member states the sentence in para 10 (page:3) starting with “at the same time” phrase should read “*At the same time, States parties [may allow] ~~[should not prevent]~~ medical professionals to provide medical treatment or the medical means in order to facilitate the termination of life of [catastrophically] afflicted adults, such as the mortally wounded or terminally ill, who experience severe physical or mental pain and suffering and wish to die with dignity*” .

2. In general terms, the text contains various explanations about and references to international war law as well as international humanitarian law. Bearing in mind that the Committee’s terms of reference covers in particular ICCPR and additional protocols and relevant international human rights law, the General Comment should cover “right to life” only within this context.

3.With regard to existing international framework, para 55 (page:18) should be reevaluated and rewritten in line with states’ Conventional obligations and should not extend them or create new extra-conventional obligations via the General Comment,

4.In para 64 (page: 20) the term “*sexual orientation and gender identity”* should be deleted or replaced with the term “*sex*” which is approved and accepted by the international legal literature.