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

**Questionnaire to United Nations offices, agencies, programmes and funds**

**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. The Committee is requested to present this report to the Human Rights Council’s twenty-eighth session (March 2015).

The resolution also requests the Committee, in the preparation of its report, to seek views and inputs from different stakeholders, such as Member States, relevant international and regional organizations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, such as the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, relevant human rights special procedures, as well as agencies and organizations that work in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, and civil society representatives.

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), which will present a progress report to the twenty-seventh session of the Council (September 2014). The drafting group elaborated the hereunder questionnaire for the abovementioned United Nations offices, agencies, programmes and funds.

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Part I: General**

1. Has your UN agency work in 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. What is the role of your organization in attending to disasters? Does it have operational guidelines relating to human rights-based approach?

2. Does your organization have a specialized mechanism to verify/monitor human rights protection and promotion during disasters? And during post-disaster actions?

3. Which human rights do you focus on?

4. Which human rights do you find that States focus on in disaster and post-disaster situations? Which human rights would you recommend States to focus on more?

5. Does your organization cooperate with Governments for capacity building on a human rights-based approach to relief, recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation after a disaster?

6. Have you noticed any discrimination or neglect in provision of services, relief, etc. in post-disaster situations? Are there protections/standards put in place by States to ensure non-discrimination and the respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity and impartiality and independence in provision of services, relief, etc.?

7. What are the biggest challenges you notice that States face?

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

**Part III: Post-conflict situations**

1. Do you have a specialized mechanism to verify/monitor human rights protection and promotion during armed conflict? And in the post-conflict stage?

2. Which human rights do you focus on?

3. Which human rights do you find that States focus on in conflict and post-conflict situations? Which rights would you recommend States to focus on more?

4. Does your organization engage in capacity building activities for Government officials on a human rights-based approach to relief, recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation after a conflict?

5. Does your organization engage in capacity building activities for Government officials on a human rights based-approach in post-conflict stages, including peace building, transitional justice?

6. Have you noticed any discrimination or neglect in provision of services, relief, etc. in post-conflict situations? Are there protections/standards put in place by States to ensure non-discrimination and the respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity and impartiality and independence in provision of services, relief, etc.?

7. What are the biggest challenges you notice that States face?

8. 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 **18 April 2014**.

Answers can be submitted via email to the following address:

hrcadvisorycommittee@ohchr.org

OR

Secretariat of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

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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)