# ERITREA’S CONTRIBUTION FOR THE REVIEW PROCESS OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY BODY SYSTEM.

# 7 July 2020

* Eritrea fully aligns with the Common African Position on the Review Process of UN Human Rights Treaty Body System submitted by the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso, in its capacity as the Chair of the Africa Group for the month of July on 06 July 2020. Eritrea would like to express the following preliminary views to compliment the Common African Position.
* Eritrea strongly believes that a successful review on the effectiveness and efficiency of the human rights treaty body system will significantly advance the overall effort to promote and protect human rights everywhere.
* Eritrea stresses on having a transparent and a member state led process based on UN General Assembly resolution 68/268, which was adopted following a lengthy and transparent intergovernmental negotiation.
* Treaty bodies are established through international treaties that reflect the determination of the States parties. Therefore, their activities must respect the views and concerns of the states. The success of the treaty bodies depends on ensuring that their engagement with state parties are constructive and within their mandate. Refraining from exceeding the scope of their mandate and avoiding being instruments for a politicized criticism of States parties.
* Treaty bodies and treaty parties should continuously enhance their means of engagement with States parties in order to establish a greater level of understanding and establish useful recommendations to address challenges faced by member states in implementing their treaty obligations.
* An essential aspect of strengthening the treaty body system is a stronger relationship, collaboration cooperation among treaty bodies and between treaty bodies and states parties. Greater cooperation should be made among treaty bodies, including by sharing experience and best practices, while maintaining their specific mandates.
* There is a need to ensuring the independence, transparency, objectivity, capacity, competency and professionalism of treaty bodies. Member states should strengthen efforts in the selection and nomination of treaty body experts. It should be based on balanced geographic representation, competency, professionalism, and independence.
* The review should assess the working methods and process related to treaty bodies based on their respective mandates. Some area that the review can stress include identifying better ways for:
* proper allocation of financial resources, including from existing resources in the human rights system, to be provided for the effective fulfillment of their mandate.
* engaging state parties to better understand their capacity needs in fulfilling their treaty obligations, such are regular reporting. This is critical as developing countries face shrinking resources overstretched by a proliferating regional and international treaty reporting obligations.
* simplifying and harmonizing reporting procedure as an option for State parties, while avoiding the creation of unequal status between different reports of state parties.
* enhancing professionalism and impartiality of members of the treaty bodies, including concluding a code of conduct that aims to standardize acceptable ethical behaviors and prevent abuse and politicization.