No: 206/POL-1019/VII/20

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations and the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations (H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations and H.E. Mrs. Pascale Christine Baeriswyl, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, as the co-facilitators of the Review of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body), and has the honor, to convey as enclosed the written submission of Indonesia to the Review of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Body, and kindly requests the latter to take note of it and publish it accordingly.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia wishes to further convey that this submission would not encumber the right of Indonesia from sharing its perspectives or inputs to the Review process from time to time.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations and the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 21 July 2020

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WRITTEN SUBMISSION BY INDONESIA

TO THE REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY BODY

1. The Government of the Republic of Indonesia is fully committed to the work of the treaty bodies and shares their significant contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide.

Principles guiding the Review

2. As a mechanism established by the State Parties, it is only logical that the Review process should be carried out in an inclusive and through a state-driven process. While aware of the increasing role and contribution of other stakeholders, governments remain the main actor in the promotion and protection of human rights.

3. The Review process should aim at evaluating the effectiveness of measures prescribed in Resolution A/68/268 and to identify further recommendations to enhance the performance, effectiveness, and efficiency of the human rights treaty bodies. It should not attempt to expand the mandate or the role of the treaty body mechanism.

4. All the recommendations produced should be realistic, implementable, and focused, taking full consideration of critical factors such as different legal systems, cultural values, and traditions as well as specificity of the social fabric of member states.

5. The review process should take into account both Geneva-based and New York-based expertise.

Areas of concern

Simplified and efficient reporting procedure

6. Indonesia supports any initiatives that would generate efficiency and effectiveness of the treaty body reporting system and procedures. Such initiatives should aim at increasing reporting compliance of member states.

7. Review process should refrain from creating additional or unnecessary new methods or phase of reporting. Nevertheless, this should not encumber any member states if they would like, on its own initiative, voluntarily submit any additional or intermediate national report(s).

Independence and impartiality of expert members

8. Review process should strengthen the measures to ensure independence and impartiality of expert members and the treaty bodies.
Experts nomination, selection and election
9. Review process should enhance the selection criteria regarding expertise and suitability between the individual capacity and the position to be filled, while taking full consideration equitable geographic representation and to target-gender balance, as well as different tradition of legal systems.

10. Review process should not attempt to derail the primary role of member states in the election process mechanism of treaty body experts.

Cooperation between treaty body and regional human rights mechanism
11. Any initiatives to foster and strengthen cooperation between treaty body and regional human rights mechanism or member states at regional level, should be anchored on the full respect to the position of member states upon core international human rights convention and its related instruments.

Optimization of treaty body function and the management of OHCHR support office
12. Taking into consideration the current fiscal situation faced by the member states due to Covid-19 Pandemic as well as the financial situation of the United Nations, the Review process could identify short- or medium-term measures aimed at optimizing the functions of treaty body and the management of OHCHR support office.