Subject: Resolution A/HRC/RES/41/21 – Human Rights and Climate Change


In paragraph ten of the above-mentioned resolution, the Council requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to consult Member States and other relevant stakeholders in order to prepare and submit to its forty-fourth session an analytical study on the promotion and the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities in the context of climate change. Consequently, the Office would be grateful to receive inputs for this study by e-mail to registry@ohchr.org with copy to tannesen@ohchr.org by no later than 31 December 2019.

In formulating their inputs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights invites Member States to respond, as appropriate, to the attached questionnaire. For environmental considerations, electronic submissions are encouraged and we ask that responses not exceed five pages. Please submit contributions in MS Word or compatible format in either of the official working languages of the United Nations (French or English). Inputs received will be posted on our website.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

Geneva, 30 August 2019

1. Please describe the impacts of the adverse effects of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities. Where possible, please share specific examples and stories.

2. Please describe any relevant commitments, legislation, policies and other measures that you have taken, in compliance with applicable international human rights law, in particular the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to promote an approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation that ensures the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities. Please also note and identify any relevant mechanisms for ensuring accountability for these commitments including their means of implementation.

3. Please share a summary of any relevant data that captures how the adverse effects of climate change have affected persons with disabilities, taking into account multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination (i.e. discrimination based on a combination of multiple grounds, including disability, gender, race, colour, sex, language, religion, nationality and migration status).

4. Please describe mechanisms and tools that can be used to measure and monitor the impacts of climate change on the full and effective enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities.

5. Please identify and share examples of good practices and challenges in the promotion, protection, and fulfilment of the human rights of persons with disabilities in the context of the adverse effects of climate change. Please include examples that highlight multilateral cooperation and approaches that are implemented in close consultation with and with the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations.

6. Please provide any additional information you believe would be useful to support climate action that promotes the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities.