Reference: WHRGS/MG/Res45/29/Rev.1

Analytical report on a comprehensive approach to promoting, protecting and respecting women’s and girls’ full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations, including good practices, challenges and lessons learned at the national, regional and international levels

This Note Verbale replaces communication WHRGS/MG/Re.45/29 of 13 April 2021.

Pursuant to resolution 45/29, adopted by the Human Rights Council on 7 October 2020, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is preparing “an analytical report on a comprehensive approach to promoting, protecting and respecting women’s and girls’ full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations, including good practices, challenges and lessons learned at the national, regional and international levels”. The report will be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its forty-ninth session.

OHCHR would like to invite all United Nations Member States, United Nations entities, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, humanitarian actors, independent experts of human rights treaty bodies and Human Rights Council special procedures and other relevant stakeholders to submit information for the report, including:

1. Please provide information on the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls in humanitarian situations, which include humanitarian emergencies, forced displacements, armed conflicts and natural disasters, including sudden-onset natural disasters and slow-onset events.

2. Please provide information on patterns and structures of discrimination and inequalities exacerbated or created by humanitarian settings, which undermine access to health-care services and information, housing, water, sanitation, education and employment, and disrupt protection systems for women and girls.

3. Please provide examples of concrete measures taken by your Government or organization to respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of women and girls in humanitarian settings. In the context of the humanitarian programme cycle, please provide examples of measures taken to ensure protection of the human rights of women and girls in the different stages of programming (design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation).

4. What challenges does your Government or organization face in promoting, protecting and respecting women’s and girls’ full enjoyment of human rights in humanitarian situations? Please elaborate on the nature of these challenges and steps taken to address them.

5. Please provide information on international cooperation, technical assistance and humanitarian support provided by the international community, including Member States, and by relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian actors, to address the human rights of women and girls in humanitarian situations, with a focus on good practices, challenges and lessons learned.

6. Please provide information on the barriers women and girls face in reporting and seeking justice, as well as protection for violations of their human rights in humanitarian settings, including women and girls who face intersecting forms of discrimination? Please also provide
information on mechanisms that operate in your context to ensure access to justice and remedies for human rights violations and abuses that women and girls may experience, thus ensuring accountability. (E.g. judicial and non-judicial mechanisms; truth-seeking initiatives; community-based initiatives; investigative and independent monitoring and/or reporting bodies; community complaint mechanisms; parliamentary-led oversight etc.).

7. What steps has your Government or organization taken to ensure women’s and girls’ meaningful participation, empowerment and leadership, including that of survivors and victims, in efforts to prevent, reduce the risk of, prepare for, resolve and rebuild from humanitarian emergencies. Please elaborate on any lessons learned, good practices as well as challenges faced.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would be grateful if submissions could be sent to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Email: registry@ohchr.org, cc: mghafory@ohchr.org) by 12 July 2021.

As much as possible, we appreciate receiving submissions:
- Limited to 5-7 pages;
- Sent by email in Microsoft Word format;
- Written in English, French or Spanish, and provided with a summary in English.

Please expressly indicate when the information provided cannot be made publicly available on the OHCHR website. Any enquiries may be made to Masiha Ghafory at mghafory@ohchr.org or Ruben Brouwer at rbrouwer@ohchr.org.

25 May 2021