Reference: WRGS/COW/Res71/175

Subject: Report of the Secretary-General on child, early and forced marriage, pursuant to the resolution 71/175 of the United Nations General Assembly

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva and has the honour to refer to General Assembly Resolution 71/175 entitled, “Child, early and forced marriage”.

This resolution requests the Secretary-General to submit “a comprehensive report to the General Assembly, before the end of its seventy-second session, on progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage worldwide, including, for the consideration of Member States, action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice, using information provided by Member States, United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and other relevant stakeholders”.

In this context, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would like to request information in response to the following questions for the preparation of this report on progress made by your country/government to end child, early and forced marriage:

1. What are the measures taken to implement the recommendations of the last report on Preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage (A/HRC/26/22)?

2. What are the measures adopted to address the root causes, systematic and underlying factors, such as poverty, insecurity, lack education, of child, early and forced marriage, including in humanitarian settings?

3. What progress have been made in the enforcement of laws and policies to promote gender equality, prohibit violence against women and girls, repeal discriminatory provisions, and eradicate harmful practices? What concrete actions have been taken to monitor the implementation of all measures?

4. What measures have been undertaken to promote girls and women’s autonomy and build the capacity of other stakeholders to promote social norms that support gender equality?

5. What concrete actions have been taken to provide adequate protection and accountability mechanisms for women and girls at risk and the survivors, including in insecure contexts?
6. What kinds of data have been collected and what kinds of research have been conducted?

7. What are the persisting challenges and gaps in the eliminating of the practice? How could such challenges and gaps be overcome?

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 (United Nations Office at Geneva, CH 1211 Geneva 10; Fax. +41 22 917 90 08; Email: registry@ohchr.org, cc: couaffowafang@ohchr.org) by 3 November 2017.

As much as possible, we appreciate receiving submissions:
- Limited to 5 pages (or 2,000 words);
- Sent by email in Microsoft Word format;
- Written in English or French, or provided with a summary in English or in French.

Please indicate whether the information provided can be made available on the OHCHR website. Any enquiries may be made to Caroline Ouaffo Wafang at couaffowafang@ohchr.org, telephone: +41-229179881.

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