Assunto: Questionário das Nações Unidas sobre mortalidade e morbidade maternas

No que respeita ao assunto em epígrafe, cumpre informar o seguinte:

1. Na sequência de pedido dirigido a este Gabinete pelo Gabinete do Ministro de Estado e dos Negócios Estrangeiros sobre o assunto supra mencionado, foi solicitado à Direção-Geral da Saúde resposta ao questionário em apreço;

2. O conteúdo da resposta da Direção-Geral da Saúde, com o qual se concorda, é o que segue:

"In response to the request made by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, we would like to inform the following:

1. Does your Government or organization currently rely on existing technical guidance related to applying a human-rights approach to policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity? If so, please share these tools.

The Directorate General of Health does not rely on existing technical guidance related to applying a human-rights approach to policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity.

2. Does your Government or organization rely on technical guidance to applying a human rights-based approach to policies and programmes in other areas of health? If so, please share these tools.

The Directorate General of Health does not rely on technical guidance to applying a human rights-based approach to policies and programmes in other areas of health. We would, nevertheless, like to stress the existence of a clinical guideline regarding feminine genital mutilations (issued in February 2012), as
well as a ministerial dispatch, issued in 2001, that allows all immigrants, legal or illegal, to have access to the Portuguese national health service in the same conditions applied to Portuguese citizens. Please consider, for both, the attached documents.

3. How would such technical guidance assist your organization in efforts to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity?

The Directorate General of Health issues several clinical and technical regulations and guidelines, in order to assist healthcare organizations for better healthcare. Though not specifically focused in a human rights-based approach, the subject, being so intrinsically linked to public health, is never far from our thoughts.”

Lisboa, 20 de Fevereiro de 2012

Ana Veiga Correia,
(Ana Veiga Correia)