



21 March 2018

Dear colleagues and friends,

I write with respect to paragraphs 16 and 17 of General Assembly resolution A/RES/72/247 of 25 January 2018 entitled “Twentieth anniversary and promotion of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms” (<https://www.un.org/en/ga/72/resolutions.shtml>).

These paragraphs request the Secretary-General to present an assessment of the ways in which the relevant United Nations offices, departments and specialized agencies have taken into account the Declaration and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in their work and assisted states in strengthening and role and security of human rights defenders.

In that context, the Office would be grateful for your organization’s inputs relating to:

1. **Progress, achievements and challenges** related to the ways in which relevant United Nations offices, departments and specialized agencies, including at the country level,
 - give and can give due consideration to the specific **provisions of the Declaration** (for its full text in different languages see: www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/SRHRDefenders/Pages/Translation.aspx)
 - take into account the **reports of the Special Rapporteur**, in their work, and
 - **assist States in strengthening the role and security of human rights defenders.**
2. **Good practices** of effective technical assistance and capacity-building and **examples of positive impact or change as well as challenges** related to the provision of support to States in the implementation of relevant human rights obligations and commitments.



3. **Recommendations** on measures relevant to promoting the Declaration and ensuring its implementation.

Furthermore, paragraph 15 of A/RES/72/247 encouraged all parts of the international community to initiate and take part in **awareness-raising activities at the local, national, regional and international levels**, to promote and support the Declaration and its implementation, and invited all stakeholders to report thereon to the Office of the High Commissioner.

Please send your inputs not exceeding four pages **no later than 15 April 2018** by e-mail: sbayarmagnai@ohchr.org, in English or French.

Please note that, unless requested otherwise, the information provided will be made available for consultation on the Office's website at www.ohchr.org.

Yours sincerely,

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Director

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