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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 Resolution 18/2 entitled "Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights" adopted by the Human Rights Council on 28 September 2011.

The Office was requested to prepare concise technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal mortality and morbidity. The Office recalls that numerous contributions were received from Member States, Observers, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders for the preparation of two reports by OHCHR: the study on the human rights dimensions of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity (A/HRC/14/39) and the compilation of good and effective practices in adopting a human rights-based approach to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity (A/HRC/18/27). The contributions will be considered in the drafting of the concise technical guidance, and they remain available on the OHCHR website: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/>

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would like to be aware of any existing technical guidance on the application of a human rights based approach which your Government or institution uses in its work to eliminate maternal mortality and morbidity. In particular, information on the following would be welcome:

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

Additionally, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would be interested to have information from your Government or institution on how such technical guidance would assist your organization in efforts to eliminate preventable maternal mortality and morbidity.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would be grateful if submissions could be limited to two pages and 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) by 15 December 2011.

Please indicate whether the information provided can be made available on the OHCHR website. Any enquiries may be made to Lucinda O'Hanlon at lohanlon@ohchr.org, telephone: +41. 22. 928 9152.

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