**Comments by Kenya on the State of Human Rights Treaty Body System, in particular on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/268 including those provisions addressed to States**

Kenya is a democratic state that has in place the Bill of Rights as an integral pillar and a source framework for social, economic and cultural policies. As a vibrant nation, Kenya highly appreciate and encourages the initiatives developed under the General Assembly resolution 68/268.

In deed States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights. In line to this, Kenya has endeavored to execute its responsibilities bestowed upon it under the international law including the Charter of the United Nations, Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Human Rights Treaties. These threefold instruments provides a foundational basis upon which humanity places utmost reliance as far as political, economic, social and cultural issues are concerned.

Kenya is pleased to be associated with and to be part and parcel of these regimes of international law that provides us a guiding torch and a beacon of hope in our endeavors to fulfilling the fundamental rights and freedoms for all in every sphere of our lives. From its historic stand point, Kenya has had its fair share of ups and downs and do understand that life has its own dynamisms but we often resort to the established mechanisms such as these above in order to streamline our conscience and adopt well-founded principles that set pace to standards of existence and fairness to humanity.

In all its attributes, Kenya is proud to be associated with the General Assembly Resolution 68/268 on the need to strengthen and enhance the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system. Kenya being a nascent democracy and toddler nation in the realm on nations would take credence on an already entrenched guiding instruments for the well-being, tranquility and prosperity of humanity.

In the wake of all these developments, Kenya has made stride to be at par with the international partners as far as promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms is concerned. At this time and age of globalization, Kenya has come of age as a nation and we have put in place building block that entrenches the standards, values and principles for the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in our Constitution, legislations and institutions.

Kenya has a comprehensive and a robust Bill of Rights entrenched in the Constitution under Chapter 4. In addition Article 2 (5) and (6) recognizes the general rules of international law and treaties or conventions that Kenya has ratified forms part of Kenya law. Owing to these provisions, Kenya has put itself under the international radar and ought to comply with all its international obligations arising thereof. Nonetheless, Kenya has ratified seven of the core international human rights instruments which is a milestone achievement set the strengthen human rights.

In this regard, Kenya has spearheaded the formation of a Committee at the national level called the National Committee on the International and Regional Human Rights Obligations that is tasked with ensuring that the Kenya is compliant, complement and implement the obligations bestowed on it by the instruments. This committee is tasked as well to prepare responses to communications, visits from the UN Special procedures and follow-up questions and recommendation received from human rights mechanisms.

In ensuring compliance in implementation of the recommendations given, Kenya has developed tools and mechanisms such as implementation matrix and follow up. Kenya therefore commends the impartial and positive aspects/comments received from the independence experts of the various treaty bodies. In most of the treaties, Kenya has welcomed the initiative that allows sending of combined reports that has since eased our backlog and ensured timely reporting.

To this end, Kenya has tapped into the good practices and has strived to be timely in all its reporting obligations on all the ratified instruments. As such Kenya is appreciative of the coordination in the reporting process and has established partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the respective treaty body Committees.