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**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus  
Geneva**

Ref.: 248/81/54

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with reference to the latter's Letter dated 25 September 2015, concerning the technical guidelines on "Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern"- Human Rights Council Resolution 27/14, has the honour to enclose herewith the relevant information as received from the competent Authorities of the Republic of Cyprus.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

  December 2015

To:  
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MoH:4.3.04.2/2

**Preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age as a human rights concern – Human Rights Council Resolution 27/14**

**1. Has your Government disseminated the Technical Guidance or is planning to disseminate it? Please specify what target audiences has the Technical Guidance been disseminated to/or is planned to be disseminated to (relevant Ministries, parliament, health service providers and other relevant stakeholders)**

Yes, the Technical Guidance was sent by the Ministry of Health to the following services/stakeholders:

- To all the Departments of the Ministry of Health which are involved in providing services to children such as the Medical and Public Health Services, the State General Laboratory, the Nursing Services, the Pharmaceutical Services, etc
- To healthcare providers (medical doctors, nurses, health visitors) involved in the provision of healthcare to children and newborns.
- To the professionals working in the Health Monitoring Unit of the Ministry of Health which is in charge of collecting data related to mortality and morbidity of children in Cyprus.
- To other stakeholders such as the National Committee for protection, promotion and Support of Breast Feeding in Cyprus, the National Committee for the prevention of accidents and violence among children, National Committee for the Environment and Health of Children, etc.

**2. Is your Government planning to use/or has used the Technical Guidance in the development, evaluation and/or revision of existing laws, policies and plans of action on prevention of child mortality and morbidity under five years of age?**

The Ministry of Health is planning to use the Technical Guidance for the development of a National Strategy towards the protection, promotion and support of the rights of children in the area of health.

The development of the Strategy is expected to start during the 1<sup>st</sup> months of 2016.

**3. Have efforts been made to use the Technical Guidance to improve health care provision for new-borns, infants and young children?**

All the involved services of the Ministry of Health have been informed about the particular Guidance and they were encouraged to promote actions towards the improvement of healthcare provision for newborns, infants and young children.

As also mentioned in Q2, the Technical Guidance will be used as a basic document for the development of a National Strategy for the promotion of the rights of children in the area of health. The aim is to improve healthcare provision.

Ministry of Health  
16<sup>th</sup> November 2015