**Questionnaire for Civil Society by the**

**UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders**

**Mary Lawlor, August 2020**

The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Ms. Mary Lawlor invites you or your organization to respond to the questionnaire below. Submissions received will inform the thematic report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of killings of human rights defenders, which will be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in March 2021.

The questionnaire and related concept cote on the report are available at OHCHR website in English (original language) as well as in French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic (unofficial translations): (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/SRHRDefenders/Pages/SRHRDefendersIndex.aspx>).

All submissions received will be published in the aforementioned website, unless you/your organization clearly indicated that you did not wish to have your input be made publicly available when submitting your response.

There is a word limit of 2500 words per questionnaire. Please submit the completed questionnaire to defenders@ohchr.org

Deadline for submissions: **5 October 2020**

**Contact Details**

Please provide your contact details in case we need to contact you in connection with this survey. Note that this is optional. (edited for public release)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of Stakeholder (please select one) | [ ]  Civil Society Group or Organisation* [ ]  Individual human rights defender

[ ]  Academic/training or research institution[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| Name of Stakeholder/Organization (if applicable)Name of Survey Respondent | AkpoBari Celestine Nkabari |
| Email |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Address |  |
| Can we attribute responses to this questionnaire to you or your organization publicly? | * [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

Comments (if any): |

**Questions**

Human rights defenders are persons, who individually or in association with others, work peacefully to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

1. Have you, any of your colleagues or your organization received online/offline threats and attacks since 1 January 2019 up 30 June 2020?. Yes, I have received several

2) If yes, can you please detail and in the case of Facebook preferably provide screenshot with URL?. I am an Ogoni and campaign against human and environmental rights abuse in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. The Ogoni through their peaceful struggle stopped Shell Petroleum Development Company from producing oil in their land. Recently, some unknown people had being calling and threatening fire and brimstone that I am preventing resumption of oil operation with my “leave oil in the soil” campaign

3) Did any of these threats/attacks escalate into killings - can you please chart the path as you see it? There are issues of insecurity and almost daily killings in Ogoni and the Niger Delta but I wouldn’t know if those murdered also received threats.

4) Have any of your colleagues been killed since 1 January 2019 up to 30 June 2020? No, but some got their houses burnt last year. If occupants didn’t escape for their lives, they would have been burnt in the building. We’ve heard of occasions where innocent people are locked up in some of the buildings their burn

5) If so in what context did the killing(s) occur? Have there been any convictions for the killing(s)? Like I said above, there are killings going on almost daily without any reason. What I will not know is whether they received any threat before they met their untimely death.

6) Do you normally report death threats? If so, where? Yes. To the police

7) What in your/Organization’s experience has worked well to respond to death threats? And to prevent them from escalating into the actual killing(s) of human rights defenders? What has worked well in preventing them is when the target take precautionary measures like not moving alone, not staying out late. In my case, by 6pm I am home. Again, these killers are afraid when the home has surveillance camera installed. I have to fenced my family home last year when the threat became very frightening