**Questionnaire for National Human Rights Institutionsand International or Inter-governmental Organizations 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 Lawlorinvites National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and International or Inter-Governmental Organizations (IIOOs)to respond to the questionnaire below. Submissions receivedwill inform thethematic 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 the submitter clearly indicated that they did not wish to have their input be made publicly available when submitting their response.

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

Deadline for submissions: **5October 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)

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| Type of Stakeholder (please select one) | * [ ] National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)

[ ] International or Inter-governmental Organisation (IIOO)[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| Name of StakeholderOrganization (if applicable)Name of Survey Respondent | The National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) EgyptAmbassador MokhlessKotbNCHR Secretary General |
| Email |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Address |  |
| Can we attribute responses to this questionnaire to your Institution or Organizationpublicly? | * [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

Comments (if any): |

**Questions**

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

1) Does your Institution/Organization accept the legitimate right to defend human rights and if adefenderis killed in the course of their work, do you publicly condemn it?

**The National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) of Egypt accepts the legitimate right to defend human rights. The NCHR, as per its establishing law No 94 of the year 2003 and the amending law no 197 of the year 2017, has the mandate to promote and protect human rights.**

**If a defender is killed in the course of its work, the NCHR will publicly condemn it.**

2) Have there been any cases of human rights defenders killed in your country (or in the geographic area of responsibility of your organization) since1 June 2019 up to 30 June 2020?

**To the best of our knowledge, there were no cases of human rights defenders killed in Egypt during the above-mentioned period.**

3) How many convictions of perpetrators of killings of human rights defenders were there in your country/geographic area of responsibilitysince 1 June 2019 up to 30 June 2020?

**We refer you to item 2.**

4) Does your Institution/Organizationhave a procedure to respond to death threats to human rights defenders?

**In such cases, the NCHR follows-up on such cases and engage with the Public Prosecutor requesting him to investigate the case, inform the NCHR accordingly and bring the culprit (s) to justice.**

5) Does your Institution/Organizationhave or would be willing to put in place legal guaranteesand other protection measures to allow human rights defendersto do their work withoutpersecution?

**The NCHR is willing to contribute in putting in place by the legislative authority a legislation providing protection measures to human rights defenders.**

**In such cases, the NCHR issues a press release reflection its position to such human rights violation and the action it has taken. NCHR press release is made public by conveying it to the media and posting it on the NCHR website.**

6) Could you please share good practices (evidence-based) that have proofed effective to respond to death threats? And to prevent them from escalating into the killing(s) of human rights defenders?

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