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La Mission Permanente du Royaume du Maroc auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève et autres Organisations Internationales en Suisse présente ses compliments au Haut-commissariat aux Droits de l'Homme (HCDH) et a l'honneur de se référer à la lettre datée du 12 août 2020, par laquelle le Rapporteur Spéciale sur la torture et autres peines ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants sollicite la contribution des Etats membres, en perspective de l'élaboration de son rapport thématique, à présenter lors de la 46<sup>ème</sup> session du Conseil des Droits de l'Homme, en mars 2021.

A cet égard, le HCDH voudra bien trouver, ci-joint, les éléments de réponse des autorités marocaines compétentes, au questionnaire transmis par le Rapporteur Spéciale à ce sujet.

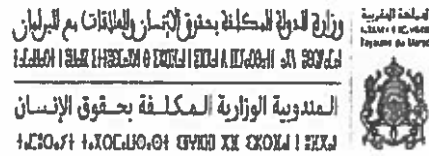
La Mission Permanente du Royaume du Maroc saisit cette occasion pour renouveler au Haut-commissariat aux Droits de l'Homme l'assurance de sa haute considération.

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Genève, le 15 octobre 2020.

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## Reply of Moroccan Authorities to the Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment's Questionnaire

It is with great pleasure to provide the following answers to the questionnaire submitted by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment:

### Question 1:

Please describe the procedures applied by your Government in responding to / following –up on official communications transmitted by the Special Rapporteur, in line with the responsibilities of States outlined in para 2 of Human Rights Council resolution A/ HRC/43/1.30 of 31 March 20, including the initiation of measures of prevention, investigation, prosecution and redress as may be required under applicable international law?

### Answer 1:

The approach followed by Morocco in dealing with official communications is based on the participation of national stakeholders and the honoring of Morocco's international commitments. Once a correspondence is referred to by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Interministerial Delegation for Human Rights (IDHR) embarks upon its analysis and the determination of its concerned governmental departments and institutions. Upon the reception of governmental departments and national institutions' replies, an accurate comprehensive reply is elaborated taking into consideration the development of international human rights system's recommendations, opinions, comments, deliberations and deductions implementation at the national level. It is, then, studied and approved in a coordination meeting attended by concerned parties to be sent via diplomatic channels.

### Question 2:

How does your Government self-evaluate its interactions with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur relating to official con specific concerns or allegations regarding torture or ill-treatment during the past four years (1 November 2016 until 31 October 2020)?

**Answer 2:**

Morocco has not received so far any official communication submitted by the Special Rapporteur on torture, yet it does receive from time to time official joint communications in which the Special Rapporteur may be a part. They are processed and replied to, about which no recommendations that necessitates follow-up are incurred.

**Question 3:**

How does your Government self-evaluate its interactions with the mandate in response to official requests transmitted by the Special Rapporteur to conduct a country visit during the past four years (1 November 2016 until 31 October 2020)?

**Answer 3:**

Morocco has not received so far any official visit request submitted by the incumbent Special Rapporteur, bearing in mind that the former Special Rapporteur conducted a visit to Morocco in the period between September 12 and 15, 2012.

**Question 4:**

Please describe and explain any measures which should be taken, and by which authority, mechanism or institution, in or for your Government to achieve a "fully cooperative" interaction on official communications and visit requests transmitted by the Special Rapporteur, in line with resolution A/HRC/43/L.30 of 31 March 2020 and applicable norms of international law.

**Answer 4:**

There is no institutional obstacle that hinders the achievement of a "full cooperation" interaction on official communications and visits' requests, given that our country has established an interministerial institution, the Interministerial Delegation of Human Rights (IDHR), mandated with the role of intergovernmental and interinstitutional coordination in the area of human rights. It coordinates, in this regard, the elaboration of replies about the questionnaires and correspondences that are referred to it in close consultation with the concerned governmental departments and national institutions in charge of human rights aspects via their focal points. In addition to that, it ensures the smooth functioning of the official visits conducted to Morocco in the field of human rights. Indeed, a recent study published by the OHCHR entitled "National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-Up: A Practical Guide to Effective State Engagement with International Human Rights Mechanisms" considers IDHR as an international reference of good practice among other national coordination and reporting mechanisms.