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Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

Questionnaire for non-State Actors

The principle of accountability in the context of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

As part of his research, the Special Rapporteur welcomes responses to the following questions:

1. Please describe the role and responsibilities of your organization in the water and sanitation sector.
2. Depending on the role and responsibilities of your organization, please provide information on how the **principle of accountability is defined and applied** in the policies and activities of your organization, particularly to ensure the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Alternatively, please provide information on how the **principle of accountability is defined and applied** in the legal, policy and institutional frameworks of the State(s) with whom your organization is working, particularly to ensure the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.

3. Please describe any **challenges or gaps identified** when applying and implementing the principle of accountability in relation to the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. How were these challenges and gaps addressed?

Responsibility

4. Please provide information on the **level of clarity and transparency of the roles and responsibilities, and performance standards of State and non-State actors** in accordance with the normative content of the human rights to water and sanitation. In other words, how are defined the roles of the actors responsible for the accessibility, availability, affordability, acceptability and quality of water and sanitation services in an equal and non-discriminatory manner.

5. Please provide information on the **availability and accessibility of information about State and non-State actors** responsible for the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Answerability

6. Please provide examples of good practices or gaps on **how the State informs individuals or civil society organisations** of its progress, retrogression and failures in the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.
7. Please provide examples of good practices or gaps on how individuals or civil society organisations **obtain reasoned justification for actions and decision** of State and non-State actors.
8. Please outline the main **obstacles encountered when accessing existing accountability mechanisms***.
*Examples may include judicial, quasi-judicial, administrative, political and social mechanisms.

Enforceability

9. Please share your experiences in **holding States accountable** for violation of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation. How do these mechanisms work in practice?
10. Please provide examples of **accountability mechanisms* suited for holding non-State actors** accountable for breaches of its responsibility to respect human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation.
*Examples may include judicial, quasi-judicial, administrative, political and social mechanisms.
11. Please describe **how your organisation participated in mechanisms to hold State and non-State actors accountable** for the violation or abuse of the rights to water and sanitation. Has the contribution been taken into account in a meaningful manner and has it been included in State's follow-up action and reporting?
12. Please provide information on specific cases where **compliance with outcomes** of accountability mechanisms was or was not ensured or implemented.