



HAUT-
COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: ohchr-registry@un.org

REFERENCE: TESPRDD/DESIB/ESCR/KH/NM

Subject: Call for Contributions - OHCHR analytical study on key challenges in ensuring access to medicines, vaccines and other health products (HRC resolution 50/13)

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to all Permanent and Observer Missions to the United Nations Office in Geneva, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions, and non-governmental organizations and has the honour to inform of the following:

At its fiftieth session, the Human Rights Council adopted resolution 50/13 on access to medicines, vaccines and other health products in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

The resolution requests the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to prepare an analytical study on key challenges in ensuring access to medicines, vaccines and other health products to be presented to the Human Rights Council at the fifty-sixth session in June 2024.

In this regard, OHCHR is seeking inputs on the following areas, in particular:

- (a) What are the major obstacles at the national, regional and international levels to ensure equitable access to medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (b) Please elaborate on the specific barriers, if any, that women and girls, older persons, children, persons living in poverty, or other persons or groups in situations of vulnerability or marginalization face in accessing medicines, vaccines and other health products.
- (c) Are there any legal or regulatory challenges that impact the accessibility and affordability of medicines, vaccines and other health products?



- (d) Please elaborate on the impact of research and development models for pharmaceuticals and other health technologies, including emerging digital technologies, on the access to medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (e) From your perspective, what are the main challenges in terms of international cooperation, partnerships and collaboration to ensure access to medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (f) What impact, if any, does the existing intellectual property rights regime have on access to medicines, vaccines and other health products. How can global efforts better address intellectual property rights and technology transfer issues to enhance access to medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (g) What are the main challenges to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of medicines and vaccines?
- (h) What obstacles do you see to ensuring the affordability of medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (i) What concrete recommendations would you make to enhance access to medicines, vaccines and other health products?
- (j) Please add any other information or data you would like to share that have not been covered above?

Submissions should be limited to five pages and be submitted in an accessible format (Microsoft Word). The Office would be grateful for any inputs to be submitted by 30 November 2023, addressed to the Registry of OHCHR, indicating in the subject matter 'Input to HRC resolution 50/13 - challenges'. For any follow-up queries, kindly contact Ms Narmeen MOHAMMED (narmeen.mohammed@un.org) or Mr Khaled HASSINE (khaled.hassine@un.org).



P. Wagle

5 September 2023