**Questionnaire for Member and Observer States, by the**

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

**Mary Lawlor, September 2021**

The UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, Ms. Mary Lawlor invites Member and Observer States to respond to the questionnaire below. Submissions received will inform the thematic report of the Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights defenders working on corruption, which will be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in March 2022.

The questionnaire and related concept cote on the report are available at OHCHR website in English (original language) as well as in French and Spanish, (and 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 OHCHR-defenders@un.org

Deadline for submissions: **15 October 2021**

**Contact Details**

Please provide your contact details in case we need to contact you in connection with this survey. Note that this is optional.

Corruption is a fundamental human rights issue, and human rights defenders who work on it are often attacked for exposing or researching abuse of power, graft, bribery, fraud and other related malpractices.

**Questions FOR NGOs/HRDs**

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. Does your Government accept that corruption is a human rights issue?

Given the current state of things one cannot be affirmative. During two years of anti-corruption mobilization, we witnessed on the one hand the repression against the militants and the appointment of people accused of corruption within the government of Jovenel Moise on the other hand. Note that the former president himself was pinned as well as senior officials of his party in various corruption scandals.

1. How does your Government support and protect human rights defenders working against corruption?

Most of the time they are attacked, intimidated or forced into exile.

1. Has your Government ratified the UN Convention against Corruption?

Being a member of the UN, it is certain that Haiti has signed all the conventions against corruption

1. If yes, what, specifically, has your Government done to implement its Article 13 including “…to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption…”?

If nowadays, the fight against corruption is topical, we cannot say that it is the result of a political will on the part of a government but rather a global movement both internationally and locally. Mobilization on the management of Petrocaribe funds has lifted a veil on the issue and at the same time contributes to the desire of civil society to fight corruption in public administration. But, we do not have concrete facts from the government.

1. If your government has not ratified the Convention yet, are you carrying out any advocacy work in support of its ratification?

SEROvie has already been fully involved in the fight for the respect of human rights for almost 20 years. This amounts to saying that it is quite natural that it engages for the signature of this convention in the case it is not yet done but also for its respect and its application if it is already the case.

1. Have there been any cases of human rights defenders working on anti-corruption issues physically attacked, including killed, in your country between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2021? What action has been taken to bring the perpetrators to justice?

At the present time we do not have any information on this subject. However, we can say that the past five years have not been easy for human rights defenders generally but also anti-corruption activists specifically.

1. Have cases of attacks, intimidation and harassment of anti-corruption activists been investigated and prosecuted? Please provide details of cases is available.

As we said above, we do not have concrete facts on the subject but we can easily affirm that the state does not take real measures to protect human rights activists in general and anti-corruption activists in particular.

1. Could you please share good practices (evidence-based) that have proved effective in protecting human right defenders working on anti-corruption issues?
2. How has your Government publicized and celebrated the work of human rights defenders working against corruption in your country?
3. What more could your Government do to help protect human rights defenders working on issues of anti-corruption?