**COMMENTS OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO QUESTIONNAIRE IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTAION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 68/268**

It is instructive to reiterate that Resolutions 68/268 and 75/174 emphasize the important and unique role and contribution of each of the human rights treaty bodies in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Treaty bodies through their examination of the progress made by States parties to the respective human rights treaties, ensure that States render account to the United Nations on how they have fared in the implementation and application of respective treaties. Indeed, the process of treaty reporting is expected to enable the citizens of a State to evaluate the performance of that State in fulfilling its treaty obligations. In the same vein, the process of treaty reporting provides an appropriate opportunity for the State to strategically align its policies in such a way that communities can be brought together, whilst vulnerable and marginalized groups can be brought into active participation of the nation building process.

The National Human Rights Commission is of the view that this questionnaire will help in no small measure in strengthening the relationship between States and the Treaty bodies and address the growing backlog of State reports, individual communications, and urgent actions.

We recommend that States should be encouraged to set up or strengthen National Mechanism for Reporting and follow-up. This, we believe, will go a long way to strengthen cooperation with treaty bodies.

On our part, the Commission will continue to cooperate with Ministries, Department and Agencies as well as Civil Society Organizations in Nigeria to ensure that Nigeria meets her treaty reporting obligations.