**Reply of the Republic of Armenia to the OHCHR questionnaire on implementation of GA Resolution 68/268**

* Armenia welcomes and supports GA resolution 68/268 and views its implementation as an effective tool for improving the efficient functioning of the independent human rights treaty body system.
* We support the offer to State parties for simplified reporting procedure which will facilitate the preparation of the national report and interactive dialogue on the implementation of treaty obligations.
* We emphasize the importance of more focused and concise concluding observations (recommendations). Concluding observations and recommendations of the treaty bodies often do not ensue from the dialogue with the State delegation and are often prepared in advance, based on the provisions of the alternative reports without taking into account the views of the state.

It is imperative that while drafting concluding observations treaty bodies primarily rely on the actual exchange of views during the interactive dialogue, taking into consideration the factual information, comments and responses of the State Party delegation to the questions raised by Committee members. This approach ensures unbiased reflection of human rights situation on the ground which is central for the integrity and efficiency of the Treaty Body system.

* In the context of the alternative methods of reporting by NGOs, Armenia stresses the importance of the use of non-politicized, non-abusive language in the reports. Another challenge necessary to address by treaty bodies is the use of information from verified sources and organizations. Armenia particularly stresses this issue because it was found out that non-existent NGO “Human Rights Monitoring Group of Ethnic Minorities” submitted alternative reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination during the consideration of Armenia’s periodic reports in 2011 and 2017.