**Contributions presented by State of Qatar regarding the review process of the UN human rights treaty body system**

The State of Qatar cooperates fully with the human rights treaty bodies of the treaties to which it is a party. The state of Qatar has ratified and acceded several UN human rights treaties, which includes:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

- Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against women (CEDAW).

- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and its optional protocol to the Convention on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and the optional protocol to the Agreement on involvement of children in armed conflict.

- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).

- Convention on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

As the state of Qatar submits and discusses its initial and periodic national reports to the treaty bodies committees, a constant communication between Qatar including its national human rights institutions and the UN treaty bodies is found.

Comments on the current UN Human Rights treaty body system:

**Strengths:**

**- Word Limits:** Qatar believes that the current word limits of reports is an effective way to focus on the progress and priorities made by countries regarding the application of the treaty. Having more words in initial reports is necessary to express the full measures taken by state parties as a start.

**- Simplified reporting procedure:** Qatar supports the simplified reporting procedure as it assures a more focused reports and as a result dialogue with the specific treaty body. The state of Qatar had the chance to prepare its third periodic report submitted under the Convention Against Torture based on the simplified reporting procedure which we found very realistic and focused on priorities for both, the state under review and the specific committee.

**- Common Core Document:** Qatar believes that the common core document has an actual positive result on rationalization of time and effort on state parties to submit reports within the specified time and meeting deadlines.

Suggestions for further improvements:

**- Constructive Dialogue:** Qatar has noticed that some treaty bodies members raise most of the questions during the dialogue with the state parties regarding the articles which the state has already submitted reservation on. Qatar finds that this procedure may be ineffective and can reach a dead end.

**- Recommendations:** Qatar has noticed that some treaty bodies focus the recommendation given on articles that the state party has already made reservation about, which is in accordance with the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (1969).

**- Simplified method of reporting:** Qatar would encourage that all states parties are given the option to choose the simplified way of reporting in all treaties and for all reports including initial reports to enhance the ability of states to submit all reports on time and focus the reports on the priorities.

**- Standardize reporting and discussing of all treaties’ reports:** Qatar has noticed that each treaty body has a diverse way of reporting, word limits, and way of discussing its report with the state party. Qatar would recommend that all treaty bodies have a standardize one scheme of reporting and discussing sessions with the state party.

**-Treaty bodies members:** Qatar gives greatest importance to the independence and impartiality of members of the treaty bodies where they should not politicize issues raised by states or committees.

**- Repetition**: Treaty bodies should make an effort to determine cases which were mentioned in previous dialogues so that the same cases are not repeatedly mentioned.

**-Use of Technologies**: Qatar would encourage treaty bodies to use technologies to allow officials to attend the constructive dialogue sessions from their capitals. By applying this, states will be able to respond to all questions raised with exact data and information as not all official can travel due to other responsibilities or abilities.

**- Cooperation:** Treaty bodies should work alongside with other human rights mechanism either international or regional to enhance human rights situations in states.

**In conclusion, we would like to renew our commitment to contribute and cooperate with treaty body system and supporting all efforts made to enhance and strengthen the system to fulfil the work of the human rights treaty bodies.**