**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 GOVERNMENTS**

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?
2. How does your Government support and protect human rights defenders working against corruption?
3. Has your Government ratified the UN Convention against Corruption, and 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…”?
4. 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?
5. Have cases of attacks, intimidation and harassment of anti-corruption activists been investigated and prosecuted? Please provide details of cases is available.
6. Have there been any cases of arrests and detention of anti-corruption activists in your country in the afore-mentioned period, and if yes, on what legal basis? Have any anti-corruption activists been charged or convicted?
7. Could you please share good practices (evidence-based) that have proved effective in protecting human right defenders working on anti-corruption issues?
8. How has your Government publicized and celebrated the work of human rights defenders working against corruption in your country?