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REFERENCE: Health/2011/01/JG/LG

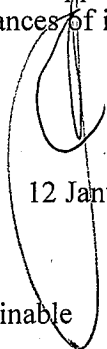
The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office in Geneva and has the honour to refer to Human Rights Council resolution 15/22 of 30 September 2010 entitled "Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health".

In paragraph 11 of its resolution 15/22, the Human Rights Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, with the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in consultation with States, relevant United Nations agencies, national human rights institutions and other relevant stakeholders, to prepare a **thematic study on the realization of the right to health of older persons, including the main existing challenges and best practices.**

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has the honour to transmit the enclosed letter from the Special Rapporteur seeking views from Member States, United Nations agencies, national human right institutions and other relevant stakeholders with regard to the realization of the right to health of older persons.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would be grateful if this letter could be transmitted at your earliest convenience to the relevant department or agency, and if the submissions could be made electronically to srhealth@ohchr.org no later than **Monday, 7 March 2011.**

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.



12 January 2011

Annex.: Letter of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health



PROCEDURES SPECIALES DU
CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

SPECIAL PROCEDURES OF
THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

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12 January 2011

Excellency,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 15/22.

In paragraph 11 of its resolution 15/22, the Human Rights Council requested me, with the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult with States, relevant United Nations agencies, national human rights institutions and other relevant stakeholders, and prepare a thematic study on the realization of the right to health of older persons, including the main existing challenges and best practices.

In that context, I wish to seek the views of your Government on the realization of the right to health of older persons, and invite the relevant department/agency of your Government to submit information on the following questions on the realization of the right to health of older persons:

Question 1: Please provide information on existing or planned legislation and policies to ensure the realization of the right to health of older persons, including the main existing challenges and best practices.

Question 2: Please provide information on existing or planned legislation and policies related to long-term health care, including home-care, care in institutions, and care for chronic diseases, of older persons.

Question 3: Please provide information on measures that are in place or planned to ensure informed consent of older persons to treatment, care and medical research.

Question 4: Please provide information on existing legislation and policies related to palliative care for older persons.

Question 5: Please provide information on availability of age-friendly primary health care services in your national health system.

.../...

Question 6: Please identify and provide information on any other right-to-health issues related to older persons that are of particular concern or relevance in your country.

I sincerely hope that the Government will be able to take part in this consultation and submit information that will substantively inform the thematic study on the realization of the right to health of older persons.

Please submit your information electronically to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on srhealth@ohchr.org at your earliest convenience and no later than **Monday, 7 March 2011**.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Anand Grover', written in a cursive style.

Anand Grover

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health