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REFERENCE:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva and has the honour to refer to Resolution 11/8 entitled, "Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights", which was adopted by the Human Rights Council in June 2009.

The Office was requested to prepare a thematic study on preventable maternal mortality and morbidity and human rights, in consultation with States, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Bank, and all other relevant stakeholders.

The Office of the High Commissioner would be grateful to receive any relevant information for the preparation of this study. In particular, views and information would be welcome on:

- (a) identification of the human rights dimensions of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity in the existing international legal framework;
- (b) an overview of initiatives and activities within the United Nations system to address all causes of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity;
- (c) identification of how the Council can add value to existing initiatives through a human rights analysis, including efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals on improving maternal health; and
- (d) recommended options for better addressing the human rights dimension of preventable maternal mortality and morbidity throughout the United Nations system.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would be grateful if any information with a maximum of 1, 500 words could be sent to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (United Nations Office at Geneva, CH 1211 Geneva 10; Fax. +41 22 917 90 08; E-mail: registry@ohchr.org) by **1 December 2009**.

Please indicate whether the information provided can be made available on the OHCHR website. Any enquiries may be made to Cecilia Möller at cmoller@ohchr.org, telephone: +41 22 928 92 65.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.

