

18.09.2014

## Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity

*The Human Rights Council,*

*Recalling* the universality, interdependence, indivisibility and interrelatedness of human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and consequently elaborated in other human rights instruments, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other relevant core human rights instruments,

*Recalling also* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;

*Recalling further* that the Vienna Declaration and Program of Action affirms that all human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated, that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis, and that while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which the Assembly stated that the Human Rights Council should be responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner,

*Recalling also* all relevant Human Rights Council and United Nations General Assembly resolutions on combating all forms of discrimination and violence exercised due to discrimination of any kind, particularly Human Rights Council resolution 17/19 of 17 June 2011,

*Expressing grave concern* at acts of violence and discrimination, in all regions of the world, committed against individuals because of their sexual orientation and gender identity,

*Welcoming* positive developments at international, regional and national levels in the fight against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity,

*Welcoming also* the efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the fight against violence and discrimination based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on "Discriminatory laws and practices and acts of violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity" of 17 November 2011,<sup>1</sup> and the panel discussion held in the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council.

2. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to update the Report A/HRC/19/41 with a view to share existing good practices and ways to overcome violence and discrimination, in application of existing international human rights law and standards, to present it at the twenty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council;

3. *Decides* to remain seized of this issue.

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<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/19/41