June 20, 2017

STATEMENT

GANHRI statement to the 35th session of the Human Rights Council

Item 10. Annual Thematic Discussion on Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building

Theme: A decade of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the Human Rights Council: challenges and the way forward

Mr President,

The Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) welcomes the focus of today’s annual panel on progress and challenges in enhancing technical cooperation and capacity-building since the establishment of the Human Rights Council and the related report prepared by the OHCHR (Report A/HRC/35/20).

GANHRI commends OHCHR’s role over the past decade supporting of states’ efforts in establishing and strengthening national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in all regions, in compliance with the Paris Principles.

The Human Rights Council, in its resolutions on NHRIs has welcomed, and has further encouraged, OHCHR’s efforts in supporting the work of NHRIs and helping ensure that NHRIs are well equipped to fulfil their mandate and functions effectively.

To further support OHCHR’s work and in order to ensure a UN coherent approach in support of NHRIs, since 2011, GANHRI has been enjoying a Tripartite Partnership with UNDP and OHCHR in support of NHRIs. Each partner offers a specific value proposition and complementary expertise to the Partnership.
Areas of joint activities in support of NHRI s include:

- Supporting NHRI s in their bridging role between the state and civil society, and human rights defenders;
- Strengthen NHRI s in supporting Member States to achieve, monitor and report on the Sustainable Development Goals; and
- Providing in-country support and capacity building for NHRI s as early warning mechanisms for conflict prevention and operating in conflict and post-conflict settings.

The Tripartite Partnership has been recognized and welcomed by the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly in recent NHRI resolutions as best practice example of UN coherent approach to cooperation and capacity building efforts.

Encouraged by the important progress achieved so far in supporting NHRI s, as partners we are now working to scale-up our support and leverage our complementary mandates to increase our impact.

With enough support from the Council and Member states, we can do more to strengthen the role of NHRI s in advancing peace, human rights, and sustainable development and to achieve more results and impact at the national level.

We aim to strengthen the exchange of good practices among NHRI s through enhanced support to GANHRI and NHRI regional networks, and to bring to the UN the insights of NHRI s into how to ensure best implementation of human rights for all.

We look forward to hearing the views of the Human Rights Council and all stakeholders on how we can do more through our joint work to build peaceful and inclusive societies – that is the ultimate aim of our partnership.

I thank you.