

The respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of every person, without exception, is at the heart of the work of the United Nations and is essential to the advancement of development, peace, security and in humanitarian responses, in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international treaties and instruments. All persons have an equal right to live free from violence, persecution, discrimination, harassment and stigma, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ+) persons.

Externally, we commit, in line with our respective mandates, international law, norms and standards and other globally agreed commitments including the 2030 Agenda, to prevent, mitigate and address exclusion, violence, stigma and discrimination, and to advance the protection and realization of the human rights, of LGBTIQ+ persons.

We will provide strong leadership and accountability within the Secretariat to reflect these commitments in our organizational practices, policies and programmes, in line with our respective mandates, operational contexts and leadership and decision-making structures, to allow for safe, inclusive and effective implementation. We will strengthen partnerships, including between Secretariat entities and with States, civil society and other stakeholders and meaningfully engage with LGBTIQ+ persons in the implementation of this strategy.

A Steering Group will be established at Principals level to support implementation of this strategy. The Steering Group will be chaired by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and be composed of a representative of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, and representatives of UN entities, and will meet annually.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the support of the Steering Group, will provide leadership and strategic direction to deliver the strategy's vision, assess progress, ensure regular consultations with relevant stakeholders, ensure alignment, linkages and synergies with relevant UN processes and reforms, mobilize support and leverage partnerships.

An Inter-Agency Network at the technical level will support coordination and implementation and will report to the Steering Group.

A Secretariat for the strategy will be hosted by OHCHR and will ensure regular consultations with relevant stakeholders, including the UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, Member States, civil society, staff representatives and UN-GLOBE, as appropriate.

While this strategy applies to the UN Secretariat, other UN system entities may accept coverage of the Strategy, in which case they will become members of the Inter-Agency Network.

A draft operational and monitoring framework will be developed to track the implementation of the strategy and identify gaps that need to be addressed. This draft framework will be presented to the Executive Committee for consideration and decision.

A separate draft operational and monitoring framework will be developed for the Special Political Missions (SPMs), Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs), and the Resident Coordinator System in alignment with their specific mandates and operational contexts and in consultation with them. This separate draft framework will be consulted and validated by SPMs, PKOs and Resident Coordinators to ensure consistency in the implementation of the Strategy in integrated settings, including vis-à-vis UN personnel. Until this framework is approved by the Executive Committee, SPMs, PKOs and Resident Coordinators will be exempt from reporting on this strategy but may do so if they so wish.

This strategy will be subject to a review after six years.