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**United Nations Human Rights Committee**  
**Palais des Nations,**  
**1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland**

October 28, 2015

RE: NGO Response to Draft General Comment No. 36 on Article 6 Right to life

Dear Sir, Madam,

The Dutch Patients Association (NPV) and the Legal Foundation Pro Vita (JPV) thank you very kindly for the opportunity to provide a written submission for the discussion on Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (further: Covenant). On June 12, 2015, we wrote our first letter. We now send you a short second reaction.

The *Nederlandse Patiëntenvereniging (NPV) (The Dutch Patients Association)* ([www.npvzorg.nl](http://www.npvzorg.nl)) is a Christian, pro-life organization with 58.000 members. We reject the practice of euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion. We believe God is the Creator of life. The NPV is not affiliated with a particular church. All churches are represented, Protestant (reformed/evangelical), Roman Catholic, some Jewish and single members without any church background.

The Dutch Juristenvereniging ProVita JPV (Legal Foundation Pro Vita) claims respect for the human dignity of every human being. The invulnerability of human life from earliest conception till natural death is the main commitment of our foundation. We focus on the legal protection of human life at all stages using either existing national and international laws to do so or in striving to change national or international laws to guarantee that protection.

Our vision is that every citizen can live free from the threat of euthanasia, assisted suicide and abortion, regardless of age, ethnicity, disability, health, or financial or social position.

#### **Aims**

1. We oppose to the legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide and abortion.
2. We promote the best care and support for unborn babies and their mothers and vulnerable people who are sick, elderly, mentally ill or disabled.
3. We support people to find meaning, purpose and hope in the face of suffering and despair.

We are in full agreement with the reaction of ADF international (NGO Response to Draft General Comment No. 36 on Article 6 Right to life, date October 22, 2015 by Ewelina Ochab,

UN Counsel, ADF International). Subsequent to their conclusions, we have the following recommendations for the Human Rights Committee:

- I. Reject the draft guidance;
- II. Preserve and promote the true meaning of Article 6 of the ICCPR in the spirit of the Convention;
- III. Re-affirm the protection of life at every stage of human development;
- IV. Re-affirm that there is no right to abortion under international law.

**Final conclusion**

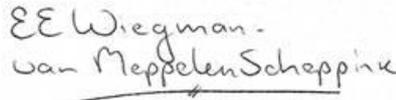
The right to life is a fundamental right. We call on you never to relativize this right and ask you continually to speak out strongly and clearly for the right to life from conception to natural death.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,



Namens de Juristenvereniging Pro Vita  
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Namens de NPV  
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