Contents

| A PREFACE BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL | 5 |
|--|-----|
| KEY FINDINGS OF THE REPORT | 8 |
| GUIDE TO THE REPORT | 13 |
| PART I – DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS | 15 |
| CHAPTER 1 – EFFICIENT, IMPARTIAL AND INDEPENDENT JUDICIARIES | 17 |
| Introduction | 17 |
| Judicial independence | 21 |
| Judicial accountability | 29 |
| Efficiency of judicial systems | 32 |
| CHAPTER 2 – FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION | 37 |
| Introduction | 37 |
| Legal guarantees for freedom of expression | 38 |
| Safety of journalists and others who speak up | 41 |
| Independent and pluralistic media environment | 45 |
| Reliability and trust in information | 48 |
| CHAPTER 3 – FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION | 53 |
| Introduction | 53 |
| Freedom of assembly | 54 |
| Freedom of association | 58 |
| CHAPTER 4 – POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS | 65 |
| Introduction | 65 |
| Functioning of democratic institutions | 66 |
| Democratic elections | 68 |
| Local and regional democracy | 72 |
| Good governance at all levels | 73 |
| CHAPTER 5 – INTEGRITY OF INSTITUTIONS | 79 |
| Introduction | 79 |
| Institutional integrity frameworks | 80 |
| Standards of conduct for public officials | 83 |
| Integrity, effectiveness and the impact of accountability and enforcement mechanisms | 86 |
| Criminal and non-criminal enforcement mechanisms | 89 |
| PART II – DEMOCRATIC ENVIRONMENT | 93 |
| CHAPTER 6 – HUMAN DIGNITY | 95 |
| Introduction | 95 |
| Combating trafficking in human beings | 96 |
| Promoting and protecting women's rights | 98 |
| Human rights and dignity of children | 102 |
| Social rights | 110 |
| Humane detention conditions | 117 |
| CHAPTER 7 – ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION | 121 |
| Introduction | 121 |
| Anti-discrimination | 122 |
| Diversity and inclusion | 130 |
| CHAPTER 8 – DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION | 143 |
| Introduction | 143 |
| Education for democracy | 144 |
| Youth for democracy | 147 |
| Culture and cultural heritage for democracy | 152 |