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**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

7 November 2016

Excellencies,

I have the honour to transmit for your attention the report of the Consultative Group dated 4 November 2016, with its recommendation of candidates for consideration for appointment to the vacancy of Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers. This unexpected vacancy arose due to the resignation of the current mandate holder. The appointment is expected to be made at the Organizational Session of the Human Rights Council on 5 December 2016.

I would like to take this opportunity to recall that according to paragraph 52 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1: "on the basis of the recommendations of the Consultative Group and following broad consultations, in particular through the regional coordinators, the President of the Council will identify an appropriate candidate for each vacancy."

In line with this paragraph, I will be holding broad consultations, based on the report of the Consultative Group, with a view to identifying an appropriate candidate for the above-mentioned vacancy.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

CHOI Kyonglim  
President of the Human Rights Council

Enclosure

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva