

Report of the Consultative Group to the President of the Human Rights Council relating to the vacancies of mandate holders to be appointed at the fifty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council

11 August 2023

I. Background

1. In paragraphs 47 and 49 of the annex to its resolution 5/1, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a Consultative Group comprised of five members appointed by Regional Groups and serving in their personal capacity. The Consultative Group is mandated by the Council to propose to the President a list of candidates who possess the highest qualifications for the mandate in question and meet the general criteria and particular requirements. Recommendations to the President of the Human Rights Council are required to be made public and substantiated pursuant to paragraph 50 of the annex to resolution 5/1.

2. The members of the Consultative Group for the selection of the mandate holders to be appointed at the fifty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council are: His Excellency Mr. Stuart Harold Comberbach (Zimbabwe), His Excellency Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa (Iraq), His Excellency Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan (Armenia), Dr. Iakovos Iakovidis (Greece) and His Excellency Mr. Álvaro Moerzinger Pagani (Uruguay). The working cycle of the current Consultative Group commenced on 1 April 2023 and will end on 31 March 2024, pursuant to paragraph 1(b) of Council decision 30/115. The Consultative Group held its initial organizational meeting on 25 April 2023.

3. A total of eight vacancies of special procedure mandate holders are to be filled at the Council's fifty-fourth session as follows (listed in alphabetical order):

- 1. Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/10)
- 2. Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy (Hansen's disease) and their family members** (Human Rights Council resolution 53/8)
- 3. Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities** (Human Rights Council resolution 53/14)
- 4. Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from African States** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/18)
- 5. Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Asia-Pacific States** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/18)
- 6. Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/18)
- 7. Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Western European and other States** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/18)
- 8. Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States** (Human Rights Council resolution 51/13)

4. The vacancies of Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and of member from Eastern European States of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination were not initially

foreseen and arose due to the resignation of the respective mandate holders, Mr. Gerard Quinn, effective as of 31 October 2023, and Ms. Jelena Aparac, effective as of 1 July 2023.

5. The present report contains the list of recommended candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President of the Council for the aforementioned eight mandates.

6. In its initial organizational meeting of 25 April 2023, the Consultative Group decided that the chairing function for the interview and selection process for the entire period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 would be equally shared among its members through a rotation. The Consultative Group decided to divide equally the chairing of the interviews for the mandates among the current Consultative Group members, by alphabetical order of the mandates and of the members' last names. It is understood that such an arrangement would be subject to adjustment upon the possibility of recusal of members of the Consultative Group, in accordance with paragraph 13 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 on the methods of work of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council. The chairing arrangements for the specific mandates under consideration are noted below under each respective mandate.

II. Process

7. The application period for the submission of applications opened on 1 May for the eight mandates. The call for applications closed on 13 June 2023 (12 noon Geneva time) for the following five mandates: Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity; Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; and Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from African States, member from Asia-Pacific States and member from Western European and other States. Due to the initially limited number of eligible applications received, the application period was extended until 22 June 2023 (12 noon Geneva time) for the following three mandates: Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy (Hansen's disease) and their family members; Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States; and Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States.

8. The Consultative Group considered 99 individual applications, from 95 eligible candidates,¹ submitted for the aforementioned eight mandates in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of Human Rights Council resolution 16/21. The applications of the eligible candidates were made public on the designated web page² of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) as provided for in paragraph 22 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 and paragraph 26 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 (see also annex I of this report for the alphabetical list of eligible candidates per mandate).

9. The Consultative Group held a total of 15 formal meetings on 4 July and from 18 to 26 July 2023 to consider and interview candidates for the aforementioned eight vacancies. These included two meetings with interpretation.

10. In accordance with paragraph 34 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, each member of the Consultative Group individually ranked the most qualified candidates for each vacancy drawing on the written applications received, reflecting on their stated qualifications, relevant experience, expertise, independence, impartiality, personal integrity, objectivity, availability and motivation in compliance with relevant provisions of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, resolution 16/21, President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and also Council resolutions relating to the

¹ Several candidates submitted applications for more than one mandate in this selection round.

² See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/hrc54>

specific mandates under consideration. On the basis of the list of ranked candidates and after consideration of all aforementioned elements, the Consultative Group had a discussion and established a shortlist of candidates to be interviewed for each mandate.

11. The members of the Consultative Group took into full consideration the technical and objective requirements as stipulated in paragraphs 39-41, 44-46, 48, 50-51 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, paragraph 22 of resolution 16/21, paragraph 31 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and also Council resolutions relating to the specific mandates under consideration.

12. As per paragraph 51 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 33 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, the Consultative Group took note of the perspectives offered by stakeholders, including current or outgoing mandate holders, in determining the necessary expertise, experience, skills and other relevant requirements for the mandates in question.³

13. The Consultative Group gave due consideration to gender balance, equitable geographic representation, as well as representation of different legal systems as stipulated in paragraph 40 of Council resolution 5/1 and in paragraphs 31 and 48 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2.

14. In connection with the aforementioned, the Consultative Group affirmed its commitment to ensuring that the most qualified candidates are recommended to the positions under consideration, that the process of selection is objective and transparent, ensures equal treatment of all candidates, and that the recommendations to the President are public and substantiated pursuant to Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and President's statement PRST OS/14/2.

15. In accordance with paragraph 13 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, H.E. Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa (Iraq) recused himself from participating in the shortlisting for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Asia-Pacific States, in view of the fact that a candidate from Iraq was under consideration. H.E. Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan (Armenia) recused himself from participating in the shortlisting for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States, since a candidate from Armenia was under consideration. He also recused himself from participating in the shortlisting, interviews, deliberation and decision-making process for the mandate of Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States, since a candidate from Armenia was shortlisted for an interview.

16. The Consultative Group adhered to paragraph 14 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, which provides that the members of the Consultative Group, in the event that they have been approached by any Member State, organization or individual with regard to the application of a candidate, shall inform the other members in order to ensure maximum transparency.

17. In accordance with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraphs 35 to 38 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, the Consultative Group sought to address consistently the observance of the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions and the potential for conflict of interest of all candidates holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity. These issues were clarified during interviews to ensure, inter alia, that if appointed, the candidate should state what steps he or she would be prepared to take with regard to any functions or duties that may give rise to an accumulation of human rights

³ Letter from the Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures to the members of the Consultative Group on the selection process of special procedure mandate holders dated 3 July 2023 (available at <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council>) and a criteria document prepared by the global coalition of civil society organizations working to support the mandate of the Independent Expert on violence and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, received on 29 June 2023.

functions and/or any potential conflict of interest. When necessary, further clarifications were requested in writing.

18. The Consultative Group held a total of 36 interviews with 36 shortlisted candidates for the aforementioned eight mandates (see annex II of this report for the alphabetical list of interviewees per mandate). These interviews took place from 18 to 26 July 2023, pursuant to paragraph 22 (c) of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21. Each candidate was asked similar questions based on the relevant provisions of Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, resolution 16/21, President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and Council resolutions relating to the specific mandates under consideration.

19. Shortlisted candidates were able to request in advance and make use of interpretation in one of the six official languages of the United Nations during their interviews, pursuant to the President's statements PRST 29/1 and PRST OS/14/2. Fluency in one of the two working languages of the United Nations was also assessed by the members of the Consultative Group for all candidates.

20. Pursuant to PRST OS/14/2, reasonable accommodation should be made available to ensure that the interview process is accessible to persons with disabilities. In this respect, sign language interpretation was provided for one interview following the request of the candidate concerned.

21. The Consultative Group carried out interviews by video calls through the platform Webex and through the platform Zoom when the interviewees requested interpretation.

22. The decisions of the Consultative Group were taken by consensus and on the basis of the information provided by the candidates, both in their application forms and during the interviews.

III. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

23. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Álvaro Moerzinger Pagani (Uruguay). Initially, there were 24 eligible candidates for this vacancy. One candidate, who had been invited to an interview, withdrew his candidacy before the interview took place (see annex I). Of the six candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Graeme REID (M) (South Africa)

2. Arvind NARRAIN (M) (India)

3. Tarek ZEIDAN (M) (Lebanon)

24. **Graeme Reid** is the Director of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights Program at Human Rights Watch and a Lecturer at Yale and Columbia Universities, all in the United States of America. Previously, he was a researcher at the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research, the founder and director of the Gay and Lesbian Archives of South Africa and coordinator at the National Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality, all in South Africa. Mr. Reid has published on issues relating to the field of the mandate. He holds a Bachelor's in African Literature and a Master's in Social Anthropology, both from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. He also holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the Amsterdam School for Social Science Research at the University of Amsterdam in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Mr. Reid indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, he would be willing to relinquish his position at Human Rights Watch to address any potential conflict of interest with the mandate. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Reid's skills relevant for the mandate

as well as his recognized expertise and vast practical and academic experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted his solid knowledge of the subject matter and his excellent understanding of the mandate and its challenges as well as his approach to address them. The Consultative Group appreciated Mr. Reid's clear and articulated vision for the further development of the mandate building on the work done by the previous mandate holders as well as his good approach regarding cooperation between the mandate and other stakeholders.

25. **Arvind Narrain** is a Visiting Faculty at the Azim Premji University and at the National Law School of India, both in India. He is also a member of the Core Group on LGBTI issues of the National Human Rights Commission of India. Previously, Mr. Narrain was the Director of Practice and Research at Arc International in Switzerland; researcher and advocate at Alternative Law Forum in India; and research officer at the Center for Child and the Law at the National Law School of India University. He has several publications on issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. He holds a law degree from the National Law School of India University and a Master's in Law in Development from the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Mr. Narrain indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, he would be prepared to relinquish his honorary position with the core group on LGBTI issues of the National Human Rights Commission of India if necessary to address any perceived conflict of interest. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Narrain's extensive experience and expertise in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted his vision for the implementation of the mandate.

26. **Tarek Zeidan** is the Executive Director of Helem in Lebanon as well as a Ford Foundation Global Fellow and an Ashoka Global Changemaker Fellow. Previously, he was the Chairperson of the Board of Helem, the Director of Communications and Strategic Planning of Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Lebanon, and a communications manager at the Brookings Institution in Qatar. Mr. Zeidan has several publications on issues relating to the field of the mandate in Lebanon. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from the American University of Beirut as well as a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy (International Relations) from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at the Tufts University and a Master in Public Administration (Human Rights Advocacy and Law) from Harvard Kennedy School at Harvard University, both in the United States of America. Mr. Zeidan informed the Consultative Group of his resignation as Executive Director of Helem effective in late 2023. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Zeidan's vast knowledge of the subject matter and extensive experience in the field of the mandate, in particular at the regional level. The Consultative Group also noted his clear vision for the implementation of the mandate and appreciated his energetic approach.

IV. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy (Hansen's disease) and their family members

27. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired H. E. Mr. Stuart Harold Comberbach (Zimbabwe). Initially, there were seven eligible candidates for this vacancy. One withdrew on 7 July 2023. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below and expressing a strong preference for the first candidate.

- 1. Beatriz MIRANDA GALARZA (F) (Ecuador)**
- 2. Paula BRANDÃO (F) (Brazil)**
- 3. Ahmed Rufai AHMED (M) (Nigeria)**

28. **Beatriz Miranda Galarza** is a Critical Disability Studies Programme Coordinator at 17, Instituto de Estudios Críticos in Mexico. Previously, she was study manager and coordinator at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, researcher and teaching assistant at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, technical officer at De Waal Foundation Latin American Office in Ecuador, researcher and instructor at Nirmala Sadam Center in India, and research officer at MAP International Latin America Office in Ecuador. She also taught at several academic institutions. Ms. Miranda Galarza is the co-founder of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the recovery of the history of leprosy. She has published extensively on the issues of leprosy and disability. Ms. Miranda Galarza holds a degree in sociology from the Central University of Ecuador, a specialization in social development from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Mexico, a Master's in Latin American Studies from the University Parmenteros Andinos in Ecuador, and a Master's in Anthropology of Development from KU Leuven University in Belgium. She also holds a PhD in Disability Studies from the University of Leeds and has completed a post-doctoral project on leprosy at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Miranda Galarza's motivation as well as her expertise and extensive experience in the field of the mandate, including her solid academic background. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate as well as her holistic vision and priorities for its implementation, including awareness-raising. The Consultative Group appreciated Ms. Miranda Galarza's passion for the field of the mandate as well as her cooperative approach and her ability to work with a variety of stakeholders.

29. **Paula Brandão** is a professor at Fundação Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. She also serves as a volunteer for the Movement for the Reintegration of Persons Affected by Hansen's disease (MORHAN), including as member of its Board. Previously, she worked as a nurse in the Hansen's disease programme in the city of Rio de Janeiro. Ms. Brandão has several publications on the issue of Hansen's disease. She qualified as a nurse from the College of Nursing of the State University of Rio de Janeiro and as a Family Health Specialist from the University of Vassoras, both in Brazil. She also holds a Master's and a PhD in public health from the Fundação Instituto Oswaldo Cruz in Brazil. Ms. Brandão indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to resign from her leadership position at MORHAN should a conflict of interest arise. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Brandão's strong academic and practical experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group appreciated her commitment to the human rights of persons affected by Hansen's disease.

30. **Ahmed Rufai Ahmed** is an Assistant Chief Legal Officer at the Lagos State Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Nigeria. Previously, he worked as Senior Legal Officer and Principal Legal Officer at the National Human Rights Commission of Nigeria in Kwara. He holds a Bachelor in Laws (Common Law) from the University of Maiduguri as well as a Master of Laws (International Human Rights Law) and a PhD in Jurisprudence and International Human Rights Law from the University of Ilorin, all in Nigeria. He also holds a postgraduate diploma in education from the National Teacher Institution in Nigeria. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Ahmed's good knowledge in the field of the mandate.

V. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

31. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H. E. Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa (Iraq). Initially, there were 15 eligible candidates for this vacancy. One candidate, who had been invited to an interview, withdrew her candidacy before the interview took place (see annex I). Another candidate withdrew her candidacy after her interview took place (see annex II). Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the

following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Heba HAGRASS (F) (Egypt)

2. María Soledad CISTERNAS REYES (F) (Chile)

3. Nawaf KABBARA (M) (Lebanon)

32. **Heba Hagrass** is a board member and the Head of the Women with Disabilities Committee of the National Council for Women and a board member of the National Council for Disability Affairs, both in Egypt. She is also member of the High Commission for Human Rights in Egypt. Previously, she was, inter alia, a member of the Egyptian Parliament, Secretary General of the National Council for Disability Affairs in Egypt, founding member of the Arab Organization for Persons with Disabilities, a member of the African Union Peer Review Mechanism in Egypt, and a team leader for the drafting of the Second Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities 2023-2032 for the League of Arab States. Ms. Hagrass has several publications on the rights of persons with disabilities. She holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration and a Master of Arts in Sociology and Anthropology from the American University of Cairo in Egypt. She also holds a PhD in Sociology and Social Policy from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Ms. Hagrass indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish her positions with the National Council of Women and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities should a conflict of interest arise. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Hagrass' skills relevant for the mandate, including her ability to work with a variety of stakeholders, and her commitment to the human rights of persons with disabilities. The Consultative Group also noted her varied and extensive experience in the field of the mandate at the national, regional and international levels, including with the Egyptian Parliament, the League of Arab States and civil society. The Consultative Group further noted that, while emphasizing the importance of continuing the work done by the previous mandate holders, Ms. Hagrass clearly identified her priorities for the further development of the mandate.

33. **María Soledad Cisternas Reyes** is an advisor on human rights projects at the University of Alba as well as professor at the University of Talca, the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile, the Diego Portales University and the Central University, all in Chile. She is also a member of the Advisory Council of the National Human Rights Institute of Chile. Previously, she was the Director of the Legal Programme on Disability at the Diego Portales University. Ms. Cisternas Reyes served as member of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (from 2009 to 2016), holding the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur on communications of the Committee, as well as Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility (from 2017 to 2023). She has published extensively on the human rights of persons with disabilities and of older persons. Ms. Cisternas Reyes holds a Bachelor's in Law, a Law degree and a Master's in Political Science, all from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Cisternas Reyes' recognized expertise and vast academic and practical experience in the field of the mandate, including with the United Nations system. The Consultative Group also noted her motivation, her excellent understanding of the mandate and her capacity to engage with all relevant stakeholders.

34. **Nawaf Kabbara** is the President of the Arab Organization of Persons with Disabilities and serves as executive member of the International Disability Alliance. Previously, he worked as Associate Professor at Balamand University and as General Director of the National Association for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, both in Lebanon. He also served as President of the Human Rights Committee of the Socio-Economic Council in Lebanon. Mr. Kabbara holds a Bachelor's and a Master's in business administration from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon and a PhD in political science from Essex University in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He has published in the area of the mandate. Mr. Kabbara indicated that, if appointed mandate

holder, he would be willing to relinquish his positions as President of the Arab Organization of Persons with Disabilities and as executive member of the International Disability Alliance should a conflict of interest arise. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Kabbara's solid knowledge of the subject matter as well as his experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted his clear vision for the implementation of the mandate and his ability to engage with different stakeholders in order to promote cooperation in the area of the mandate. The Consultative Group appreciated his engagement and passion for the mandate.

VI. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from African States

35. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H. E. Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyian (Armenia). There were 12 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Laura NYIRINKINDI (F) (Uganda)

2. Satang NABANEH (F) (Gambia)

3. J. Jarpa DAWUNI (F) (Ghana)

36. **Laura Nyirinkindi** is a Senior Managing Consultant at Pro Initiatives Agency in Uganda and a board member of the non-governmental organization Root Change, based in the United States of America. Previously, she worked as a legal associate at Bitangaro and Company Advocates in Uganda and taught human rights at Kampala International University, both in Uganda. She was also the Chairperson of the Uganda Association of Women Lawyers; worked under the Amnesty International Special Programme for Africa to monitor and document human rights violations in Africa; worked with Spotlight Initiative Africa Regional Programme to end violence against women and girls, harmful practices and strengthen sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in Africa; and was elected member of the Africa Development Bank-Civil Society Committee to highlight women's rights and concerns in Eastern Africa. She also worked with the Uganda Human Rights Commission and other ministries to develop seven of Uganda's reports to human rights treaty bodies and its universal periodic review report as well as the National Implementation Action Plan in 2017. She also held an appointment with the Steering Committee of Women in International Security in Belgium. Ms. Nyirinkindi has published extensively on the rights of women and girls in Africa. She holds a Bachelor of Laws from Makerere University in Uganda and a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Ms. Nyirinkindi indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish her membership in the governance structures of any of the civil society organizations, committees or boards to which she belongs if necessary to avoid any potential risk of conflict of interest. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Nyirinkindi's skills relevant for the mandate as well as her solid knowledge of the subject matter. The Consultative also noted her vast and diverse practical experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group appreciated her engagement as well as her consensual and cooperative approach.

37. **Satang Nabaneh** is the Director of Programmes for the Human Rights Center at the University of Dayton in the United States of America. Previously, she was a post-doctoral fellow, manager of the academic programme in sexual and reproductive rights, and a project officer on women's rights at the Centre for Human Rights of the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She also taught human rights law at University of the Gambia, coordinated the Female Lawyers Association of the Gambia and co-founded the non-profit organization Think Young Woman. Ms. Nabaneh has several

publications in areas relating to the mandate, including on reproductive rights and female genital mutilation. She holds an LLB from the University of the Gambia as well as an LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa and a PhD in Law, both from the University of Pretoria. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Nabaneh's strong knowledge of the subject matter and her solid academic background in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group appreciated her commitment, motivation and enthusiasm as well as her energetic approach to, and passion for, the mandate.

38. **J. Jarpa Dawuni** is an Associate Professor at Howard University and the Executive Director of the Institute for African Women in Law, both in the United States of America. She is also the Founding Director of the Howard University Center for Women, Gender and Global Leadership. Previously, she was Visiting Professor at the UNESCO Peace Master's Program at the University of Jaume 1 in Castellon in Spain and Assistant Professor at Georgia Gwinnett College in the United States. She has published extensively on topics relating to the mandate, such as women's access to justice in Africa. Ms. Dawuni holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Ghana and a Qualified Certificate in Law from the Ghana School of Law as well as a Master's in International Development from the Ohio University and a PhD in Political Science from Georgia State University, both in the United States. Ms. Dawuni indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would take all the necessary steps to avoid a perceived or real conflict of interest, including stepping down from her role as Executive Director of the Institute for African Women in Law if necessary. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Dawuni's expertise as well as her extensive experience in the field of the mandate, including her strong academic background.

VII. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Asia-Pacific States

39. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Dr. Iakovos Iakovidis. There were 10 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the five candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Haina LU (F) (China)

2. Madina MAHBOOBI (F) (Afghanistan)

3. Heisoo SHIN (F) (Republic of Korea)

40. **Haina Lu** is a Professor of Law and the Executive Director of the Human Rights Center of the Renmin University of China. She also serves as legal advisor for the LGBTI Asia Programme of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), leading expert of the Yale Law School's project on LGBTI employment discrimination in China and member of the Human Rights Lawyers' Network of the Law Association for Asia and the Pacific. Previously, she worked as project officer of the UNDP Governance for Equitable Development Project Management Office in China, Sohmen Human Rights Visiting Scholar at the Law School of the Hong Kong University in China, researcher at the Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies of the University of Liege in Belgium, and trademark officer of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of China. Ms. Lu has published extensively on women's rights and on gender equality. She holds a Bachelor's in French Language and International Political Studies from the Foreign Affairs College of China, a Master's in Theory and Practice of International Human Rights from the Norwegian Center for Human Rights of the University of Oslo in Norway, a Master's in Public International Law from the Université Libre de Bruxelles and a PhD in International Human Rights Law from the Catholic University of Leuven in

Belgium. Ms. Lu indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish her position as legal advisor for the UNDP's LGBTI Asia Programme should a conflict of interest arise. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Lu's strong knowledge of the subject matter as well as her vast practical and academic experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate as well as her clear and articulated priorities for its further development. The Consultative Group appreciated her constructive approach.

41. **Madina Mahboobi** is the Founder and Executive Director of the Vision Development Organization in Afghanistan. Previously, she worked as Deputy Director of the Administrative Office of the President of Afghanistan as well as Chief of Staff and Director of Human Resources of the Ministry of Urban Development and Land of Afghanistan. She also worked as Associate Executive Director at the American University of Afghanistan and as Senior Project Officer at GRM International / AusAID. Ms. Mahboobi holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration from SWISS UMEF University of Applied Sciences Institute and a Master's in Public Administration from Kardan University, both in Afghanistan. Ms. Mahboobi indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would take all the measures necessary to avoid any issues that may give rise to conflict of interest, including relinquishing her position as Executive Director of the Vision Development Organization if necessary. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Mahboobi's motivation and practical experience in the promotion and protection of women and girls' rights, including in difficult circumstances in her home country Afghanistan. The Consultative Group also noted the importance she placed on independence for the implementation of the mandate. The Consultative Group appreciated Ms. Mahboobi's enthusiasm, engagement and cooperative approach.

42. **Heisoo Shin** is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Korea Center for United Nations Human Rights Policy (KOCUN). Previously, she held several academic positions, including adjunct professor, invited professor at the Graduate School of International Studies and lecturer at the Graduate Program in Women's Studies, all of the Ewha Womans University; visiting professor at the Graduate School of NGO Studies of the Kyung Hee University; assistant/associate professor at the Hanil University and Presbyterian Theological Seminary; and lecturer at the Keimyung University and the Sungshin Women's University, all in the Republic of Korea. She also worked as adjunct professor at the Rutgers University in the United States of America. Before that, she was a staff member of the Korea Church Women United, the Korean League of Women Voters and the Medical College of the Ewha Womans University. Ms. Shin also served as commissioner of the Korean National Human Rights Commission as well as in civil society organizations, such as the Committee for Beijing and Korea Women's HotLine and its umbrella organization Korea Women's Associations United. In addition, Ms. Shin served as member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (from 2001 to 2008) and as member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (from 2011 to 2022). She has a Bachelor's in English language and literature from the Ewha Womans University and a Master's in sociology from the Graduate School of the same university. She also holds a PhD in Sociology from Rutgers University. Ms. Shin indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish her position as chair of the board of directors of KOCUN should a conflict of interest arise. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Shin's vast and varied professional experience in the field of the mandate, including her extensive experience with the United Nations system. The Consultative Group also noted her motivation and her vision for the mandate.

VIII. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States

43. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Álvaro Moerzinger Pagani (Uruguay). There were 10 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the five candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Ivana KRSTIC (F) (Serbia)

2. Katarzyna SĘKOWSKA-KOZŁOWSKA (F) (Poland)

3. Zuzana FELLEGI (F) (Czechia)

44. **Ivana Krstic** is a Full Time Professor and Director of the Human Rights Center at the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade, where he also holds or has held other positions. She is also a legal expert on Gender Equality Law and on Non-Discrimination Law for Serbia at the Human Consultancy, European Network of Legal Experts on Gender Equality and Non-discrimination (EELN); Senior Human Rights Expert at OSCE Serbia; member (as representative of academia) of the Working Group on poverty in Serbia; founder and coordinator of the Legal Clinic on Non-Discrimination Law; and member of the Feminist Judgments Project for Central and Eastern Europe of the London School of Economics. Previously, Ms. Krstic held a number of positions in international organizations' offices in Serbia, such as Leading Serbian Gender Equality Expert at UN WOMEN; Senior Human Rights Expert at OHCHR; Senior Human Rights and Gender Expert at the Council of Europe; National Expert for the work with the National Assembly at UNICEF; Senior Human Rights Expert at UNHCR; Leading Human Rights Expert at UNFPA; Senior expert on anti-discrimination law at UNDP; and Expert on Free Legal Aid in Serbia at the World Bank. She also served as member of governmental bodies as a representative from academia, namely the Asylum Commission, the Committee on Child Rights and the Commission for Transgender Persons. In addition, Ms. Krstic held expert positions with the Serbian Commissioner for the Protection of Equality, the British Council, AIRE Centre, MDRI, IDEAS, PRAXIS, Belgrade Center for Human Rights and EPC (CEP) as well as in CLRA and EPI in North Macedonia. She has published extensively on issues relating to human rights, non-discrimination and asylum. Ms. Krstic holds a Bachelor's in International Law, a Master's in International Human Rights Law and a PhD in International Law, International Criminal Law and International Humanitarian Law from the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade in Serbia. She also holds an LLM in International Law, Constitutional Law and Equality from the School of Law of the University of Pittsburgh in the United States of America. Ms. Krstic indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish her position in EELN should a conflict of interest arise. She also clarified that her engagement with OSCE Serbia will expire in September 2023. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Krstic's skills relevant for the mandate as well as her expertise and her extensive and varied experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate as well as her vision for it and for addressing the challenges it currently faces. The Consultative Group appreciated Ms. Krstic's consensual and cooperative approach.

45. **Katarzyna Sękowska-Kozłowska** is an Assistant Professor and the Director of the Poznan Human Rights Centre at the Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. She is also a lecturer at SWPS University in Poland and a member of the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law in the United States of America. Previously, Ms. Sękowska-Kozłowska worked as national consultant for the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence's monitoring of Poland's implementation of the Istanbul Convention. She has also been invited to contribute to a number of research projects or studies, such as those run by the Federation for Women and Family Planning, the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland, the Harvard Kennedy Law School, the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency and the University of Pretoria (in collaboration with the Geneva

Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and OHCHR). Prior to that, Ms. Sękowska-Kozłowska was a research assistant at the Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a legal expert at the PBS Spółka z.o.o and the Director of the Summer Course on International Protection of Human Rights at the Foundation Human Rights Promotion, all in Poland. She has published extensively on United Nations human rights mechanisms and discrimination against women and girls. Ms. Sękowska-Kozłowska holds a Master's in Law from the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Adam Mickiewicz University and a PhD in International Human Rights Law from the Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Sękowska-Kozłowska's expertise and extensive experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the United Nations human rights system, including of the mandate, and appreciated her cooperative approach.

46. **Zuzana Fellegi** is a Senior Lecturer and researcher at the Anglo-American University in Czechia. She is also a guest editor at the Women's Studies International Forum in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, a member of the European Consortium for Political Research and its Standing Group on Gender and Politics, and a member of the Gender in Diplomacy network. In addition, she inter alia contributes to the work of the Czech Governmental Council for Equality of Women and Men as a member of its Committee for Gender Equality in Politics and Decision-Making. Previously, Ms. Fellegi was a senior lecturer for the LLB program at the University of London in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a researcher and coordinator for gender issues at the Institute of International Relations in Czechia, General Director of the Section for Human Rights and Minorities at the Office of the Slovak Government, a policy advisor for the Justice and Home Affairs Section at the Delegation of the European Commission in Czechia, an advisor in the Eurojust Department at the Representation of the European Commission in Germany, a legal advisor and policy manager at Europa Capital Management in Czechia and a legal assistant at Clifford Chance in the United Kingdom. She also represented the Government of Slovakia in the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency, the European Commission's Progress Committee and Committee for Equal Opportunities, the Council of Europe's E.22 Ad Hoc Working Party on Fundamental Rights, the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. She has numerous publications relating to the area of the mandate, including on gender equality and the Istanbul Convention. Ms. Fellegi holds a Master's in International Law from Safarik University in Slovakia; an LLM in International, European Law and Human Rights from Humboldt University in Germany; a Research Master's in European Comparative Politics from Sciences Po University in France; and a PhD in Gender Positive Actions in International and European Law from Charles University in Czechia. She also completed a training course for government experts in Management of International Projects and Human Rights Protection at the École Nationale d'Administration in France. Ms. Fellegi indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to end her membership with the Committee for Gender Equality in Politics and Decision-Making of the Czech Governmental Council for Equality of Women and Men as well as any advisory work that may be perceived to potentially cause a conflict of interest with the mandate of the Working Group. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Fellegi's strong academic background and practical experience in the field of the mandate.

IX. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Western European and other States

47. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Stuart Harold Comberbach (Zimbabwe). There were 16 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three

candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below and noting the proximity of the first- and the second-ranked candidates.

1. Claudia FLORES (F) (United States of America)

2. Amanda DALE (F) (Canada)

3. Ruth HALPERIN-KADDARI (F) (Israel)

48. **Claudia Flores** is a Professor of Law, Director of the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic and Faculty Co-Director of the Orville H. Schell Jr. Schell Center for Human Rights at Yale Law School in the United States of America. Previously, she was a Clinical Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School, where she also held other positions; a Partner in Law at Hughes, Socol, Piers Resnik in the United States; a Senior Gender and Constitution Advisor with UNDP/UN WOMEN in Zimbabwe; a Gender Legal Advisor with UNDP/UN WOMEN in Timor-Leste; a Programme Manager at the American Center for International Labor Solidarity in Indonesia; a Supervising Attorney at the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation in the United States; a Skadden Arps Teaching Fellow at the International Women's Human Rights Clinic of CUNY Law School in the United States; and a law clerk to Honorable Harry Pregerson at the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and Women's Studies from the University of Chicago and a Juris Doctorate from New York University, both in the United States. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Flores' expertise as well as her vast and diverse experience in the field of the mandate, both at the academic and practical levels, including with the United Nations system. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate and its challenges as well her vision to address them. The Consultative Group further noted Ms. Flores' global approach to the implementation of the mandate and appreciated her cooperative and consensual approach.

49. **Amanda Dale** is a self-employed consultant providing inter alia expert consultation to rights-based organizations. She is also a research fellow at the Human Rights Research and Education Centre of the University of Ottawa; a faculty member of the Women's Human Rights Institute; a Director at the Canadian Centre for Legal Innovation in Sexual Assault Response; and the Chair of the Board of Directors of Inter Pares, all in Canada. Previously, she was the Executive Director of the Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action; the Executive Director of the Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic; the Acting Executive Director of Sheltersnet; the Director for Advocacy and Communications and a Manager for Social Justice and Education at YWCA; a manager at the St. Joseph's Women's Health Centre, all in Canada, as well as the Project Leader for Women's Rights at BandAid in the Sudan. Ms. Dale has several publications and reports on gender-based violence and gun control. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Joint Specialist) in Women's Studies and Political Science from the University of Toronto, a Master of Arts in Social and Political Thought from the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom and a PhD in International Human Rights Law from Osgoode Hall Law School in York University in Canada. Ms. Dale indicated that, if appointed mandate holder, she would be willing to relinquish any positions that were deemed to constitute a real or perceived conflict of interest with the mandate. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Dale's expertise as well as her extensive experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent knowledge of the mandate as well as her holistic approach and priorities for its implementation. The Consultative Group appreciated Ms. Dale's collaborative approach.

50. **Ruth Halperin-Kaddari** is a Full Professor and the Academic Director of the Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women at the Bar-Ilan University in Israel. She also co-heads the gender training programme at the National Institute for Judicial Training and is a member of the

Advisory Board of the Global Governance Forum. Previously, she was a Professor at Tel-Aviv University and an Associate Professor at the Interdisciplinary Center, both in Israel. In addition, she served as chair of the Advisory Committee to the National Authority for the Advancement of Women in Israel and as member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (from 2007 to 2018), of which she was twice its Vice-President. Ms. Halperin-Kaddari has extensively published on issues relating to the mandate, such as on the legal status of women in the societal context and on the roles and functions of international human rights institutions concerned with the rights of women as standard setting bodies. She holds an LLB from Bar-Ilan University in Israel as well as an LLM and a Doctorate in law (JSD) from Yale Law School in the United States of America. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Halperin-Kaddari's expertise and extensive experience in the field of the mandate, including with the United Nations system. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate and of the challenges it currently faces.

X. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the mandate of Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States

51. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa (Iraq). There were five eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below and noting the proximity of the first- and the second-ranked candidates.

- 1. Jovana JEZDIMIROVIC RANITO (F) (Serbia)**
- 2. Davit HAKOBYAN (M) (Armenia)**
- 3. Marcin LUKOWSKI (M) (Poland)**

52. **Jovana Jezdimirovic Ranito** is a lecturer and researcher at the University of Twente in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Previously, she was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Porto in Portugal and a visiting scholar at American University in the United States of America. She also taught human rights at the University of Coimbra and the University of Porto, and worked as a project manager at the non-governmental organization Atlas, all in Portugal. Ms. Jezdimirovic Ranito has several publications on issues relating to the mandate, such as on private security contractors. She holds a Bachelor's, a Master's and a PhD in international relations, all from the University of Coimbra in Portugal. The Consultative Group noted Ms. Jezdimirovic Ranito's expertise and experience in the field of the mandate, in particular her solid academic background. The Consultative Group also noted her excellent understanding of the mandate and its challenges, as well as her priorities for its further development, including in terms of awareness raising. The Consultative Group appreciated her enthusiasm for the mandate and her cooperative approach.

53. **Davit Hakobyan** is the Head of Research on Comparatives Legal Studies and Internationalisation of Law at the Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Law of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia. He also practises law as an advocate in Armenia and is a Managing Partner of the Dimension Legal RVS law firm in Armenia. In addition, he serves as the Chairman of the Constitutional Revision Commission of Armenia. Previously, Mr. Hakobyan worked as the Director of the Mining Legislation Reform Institute in Armenia; legal consultant, national politico-military officer and legal expert in Anti-Trafficking Law Enforcement Component at OSCE Office in Armenia; legal expert and team leader at the UNDP office in Armenia; and individual contractor at the International Criminal Court in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. He also held the positions of

researcher at the Center for Responsible Mining, Mining Legislation Reform Initiative, at the American University of Armenia, and of project manager for a fair and accountable mining sector in Armenia at the Transparency International Anti-Corruption Center in Armenia. In addition, he served as non-judge member of the Judicial Ethics and Disciplinary Committee of the Assembly of Judges of Armenia; was the Head of the Litigation Unit and Project Manager at Taxpayers' and Businessmen's Rights Association in Armenia; and held teaching positions at Yerevan State University, Armenian Open University and the Judicial School of Armenia. Mr. Hakobyan holds a Bachelor of Laws, a Master of Laws in Criminal Law and a PhD in International Criminal Law from Yerevan State University in Armenia. He also holds a Master of Laws in Criminal Law and Criminal Policy in Europe from Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne in France and has completed a legal practice course required for legal qualification as solicitor in England and Wales at BPP Law School in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Mr. Hakobyan indicated that the mandate of the Constitutional Revision Commission of Armenia expires on 29 December 2023 and described the measures that he would be willing to adopt to avoid any real or perceived conflict of interest should he be appointed mandate holder before the expiration of the Commission's mandate. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Hakobyan's vast academic and practical experience in the field of the mandate. The Consultative Group also noted his excellent knowledge of the mandate as well as his clear vision and cooperative approach for its implementation.

54. **Marcin Lukowski** is a Corporate Regulatory Counsel at the Vesuvius Sp. Z.o.o. (subsidiary of Vesuvius PLC) in Poland. He is also a lecturer at the Postgraduate Studies Center of Lazarski University and at the Compliance Institute, both in Poland. Previously, he worked as an EMEA Compliance Officer at Jones Lang LaSalle and as a Lawyer at Sandler & Travis, both in Poland. Mr. Lukowski was also a stagiaire at the European Commission's Directorate General for Taxation and Customs Union and a trainee at the European Parliament, both in Belgium. He holds a Master of Law and a PhD in international law from the University of Bialystok in Poland. The Consultative Group noted Mr. Lukowski's extensive knowledge of the subject matter and of the mandate.

Annex I - List of eligible candidates by mandate⁴

Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Tamara	ADRIAN HERNANDEZ	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	F
Stellah	BOSIRE	Kenya	F
Anna	BROWN	Australia	F
Laura	CARTER	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Khalid	CHERKAOUI SEMMOUNI ⁵	Morocco	M
Aeyal	GROSS	Israel	M
Sabelo	GUMEDZE	South Africa	M
Loveday	HODSON	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Adrian	JJUUKO	Uganda	M
Mostafa	KAMEL	Egypt	M
Kseniya	KIRICHENKO	Russian Federation	F
Kimberley Cy.	MOTLEY	United States of America	F
Arvind	NARRAIN	India	M
Jayne	OZANNE	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Graeme	REID	South Africa	M
Cianán B.	RUSSELL	United States of America	Non-binary
Olena	SHEVCHENKO	Ukraine	F
Edoardo	STOPPIONI	France	M
Ramavarma Regunathan	THAMBURAN	India	M
Pierre	THIELBÖRGER	Germany	M
Chamindra	WEERAWARDHANA	Sri Lanka	F
Ralph	WILDE	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Tarek	ZEIDAN	Lebanon	M
Carlos J.	ZELADA	Peru	M

⁴ The list of mandates and of candidates is provided in alphabetical order.

⁵ The candidate withdrew his application on 24 July 2023.

**Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy
(Hansen's disease) and their family members**

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Ahmed	AHMED RUFAl	Nigeria	(M)
Tâmara Joana	BIOLO SOARES ⁶	Brazil	(F)
Paula	BRANDÃO	Brazil	(F)
Ante	GALIC	Canada	(M)
Amina Welten	GUERRA	Brazil	(F)
Jhuma	HALDER	Bangladesh	(F)
Beatriz	MIRANDA GALARZA	Ecuador	(F)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Rhadys	ABREU	Dominican Republic	F
Guadalupe	BARRENA NÁJERA	Mexico	F
Dmitri	BARTENEV	Russian Federation	M
María Soledad	CISTERNAS REYES	Chile	F
Rigbe Gebrehawaria	HAGOS	Ethiopia	F
Heba	HAGRASS	Egypt	F
Nawaf	KABBARA	Lebanon	M
Zhiqiang	LIU	China	M
Pamela Cecilia	MOLINA TOLEDO ⁷	Chile	F
Elizabeth Oluwakemi	MOSES	Nigeria	F
Lawrence Murugu	MUTE	Kenya	M
Ernestine	NGO MELHA	France	F
Xiangfei	QU ⁸	China	F
Andrea	ROMAOLI GARCIA	Brazil	F
Maheshwar	SINGH	India	M

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from African States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Kennedy	ADONGO	Kenya	M
Justine Mawulawoè	AZANLEDJI	Togo	F
Khalid	CHERKAOUI SEMMOUNI	Morocco	M

⁶ The candidate withdrew her application on 7 July 2023.

⁷ The candidate withdrew her application on 1 August 2023.

⁸ The candidate withdrew her application on 20 July 2023.

J. Jarpa	DAWUNI	Ghana	F
Sabelo	GUMEDZE	South Africa	M
Mozn	HASSAN	Egypt	F
Mostafa	KAMEL	Egypt	M
Satang	NABANEH	Gambia	F
Laura	NYIRINKINDI	Uganda	F
Mahamadou	OUMAROU	Niger	M
Candice	WATSON	South Africa	F
Najet	ZAMMOURI	Tunisia	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Asia-Pacific States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Jie	DU	China	F
Khaleel Ibrahim Kadhim	HAMADANI	Iraq	M
Kirthi	JAYAKUMAR	India	F
Ishara	JAYASENA	Sri Lanka	F
Ying	LI	China	F
Haina	LU	China	F
Madina	MAHBOOBI	Afghanistan	F
Roshni	SHANKER	India	F
Heisoo	SHIN	Republic of Korea	F
Tulika	SRIVASTAVA	India	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Anna	ARUTSHYAN	Armenia	F
Parvana	BAYRAMOVA	Azerbaijan	F
Zuzana	FELLEGI	Czechia	F
Kseniya	KIRICHENKO	Russian Federation	F
Ivana	KRSTIC	Serbia	F
Iluta	LACE	Latvia	F
Ewelina	OCHAB	Poland	F
AISTE	RACKAUSKAITE- BURNEIKIENE	Lithuania	F
Katarzyna	SEKOWSKA- KOZŁOWSKA	Poland	F
Dubravka	ŠIMONVIĆ	Croatia	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Western European and other States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Meghan	CAMPBELL	Canada	F
Shazia	CHOUDHRY	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Amanda	DALE	Canada	F
Gema	FERNANDEZ RODRIGUEZ DE LIEVANA	Spain	F
Claudia	FLORES	United States of America	F
Elisa	FORNALE	Italy	F
Jocelyn	GETGEN	United States of America	F
Alexandre	GUERREIRO	Portugal	M
Ruth	HALPERIN-KADDARI	Israel	F
Ruth M.	MESTRE I MESTRE	Spain	F
Nieves	MOLINA	Spain	F
Constance	NEWMAN	United States of America	F
Ruth	RUBIO MARIN	Spain	F
Jyoti	SANGHERA	Canada	F
Purna	SEN	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Ramona	VIJEYARASA	Australia	F

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Ana	DANGOVA HUG	North Macedonia	F
Davit	HAKOBYAN	Armenia	M
Ezequiel	HEFFES	Poland	M
Jovana	JEZDIMIROVIC RANITO	Serbia	F
Marcin	LUKOWSKI	Poland	M

Annex II – List of shortlisted candidates interviewed by the Consultative Group⁹

Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Aeyal	GROSS	Israel	M
Loveday	HODSON	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Adrian	JJUUKO	Uganda	M
Arvind	NARRAIN	India	M
Graeme	REID	South Africa	M
Tarek	ZEIDAN	Lebanon	M

Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy (Hansen’s disease) and their family members

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Ahmed	AHMED RUFAl	Nigeria	(M)
Paula	BRANDÃO	Brazil	(F)
Jhuma	HALDER	Bangladesh	(F)
Beatriz	MIRANDA GALARZA	Ecuador	(F)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
María Soledad	CISTERNAS REYES	Chile	F
Heba	HAGRASS	Egypt	F
Nawaf	KABBARA	Lebanon	M
Pamela Cecilia	MOLINA TOLEDO ¹⁰	Chile	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from African States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
J. Jarpa	DAWUNI	Ghana	F
Satang	NABANEH	Gambia	F
Laura	NYIRINKINDI	Uganda	F
Najet	ZAMMOURI	Tunisia	F

⁹ The list of mandates and of candidates is provided in alphabetical order.

¹⁰ The candidate withdrew her application on 1 August 2023.

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Asia-Pacific States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Jie	DU	China	F
Ishara	JAYASENA	Sri Lanka	F
Haina	LU	China	F
Madina	MAHBOOBI	Afghanistan	F
Heisoo	SHIN	Republic of Korea	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Zuzana	FELLEGI	Czechia	F
Ivana	KRSTIC	Serbia	F
Iluta	LACE	Latvia	F
Katarzyna	SEKOWSKA-KOZŁOWSKA	Poland	F
Dubravka	ŠIMONOVIĆ	Croatia	F

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls, member from Western European and other States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Shazia	CHOUDHRY	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Amanda	DALE	Canada	F
Claudia	FLORES	United States of America	F
Ruth	HALPERIN-KADDARI	Israel	F

Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Davit	HAKOBYAN	Armenia	M
Ezequiel	HEFFES	Poland	M
Jovana	JEZDIMIROVIC RANITO	Serbia	F
Marcin	LUKOWSKI	Poland	M