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Agenda item 5

Report of the Advisory Committee on its eleventh session

Report of the Advisory Committee on its eleventh session

Geneva, 12 – 16 August 2013

Rapporteur: Obiora Chinedu Okafor

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I. Action taken by the Advisory Committee at its eleventh session

11/1 Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 22/16 of 21 March 2013, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to prepare a research-based report on best practices and main challenges in the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations and to present a progress report thereon to the Council at its twenty-sixth session and the final report to the Council at its twenty-eighth session,

1. *Designates* the Committee members Chung Chinsung, Latif Hüseyinov, Vladimir Kartashkin, Katharina Pabel, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Anantonia Reyes Prado and Imeru Tamrat Yigezu as members of the drafting group;

2. *Notes* that the drafting group elected Ms. Reyes Prado as chairperson and Ms. Quisumbing as rapporteur of the drafting group;

3. *Also notes* that the drafting group and the full committee held meetings to discuss the topic;

4. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to consider holding a seminar on the topic, bringing together a broad range of stakeholders;

5. *Requests* the drafting group to submit a draft progress report to the Advisory Committee at its twelfth session before its submission to the Council at its twenty-sixth session, taking into account the replies to the questionnaire distributed after the discussion at the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee;

6. *Encourages* the various stakeholders to contribute to the work under way.

*8th meeting
16 August 2013*

[Adopted without a vote.]

11/2 Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 23/3 of 13 June 2013, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to prepare a more focused and in-depth study on the ways and means to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and to submit a progress report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session,

1. *Designates* the Committee members Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Mario L. Coriolano, Latif Hüseyinov, Alfred Ntunduguru Karokora, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Katharina Pabel, Shigeki Sakamoto and Dheerujlall Seetulsingh as members of the drafting group;

2. *Notes* that the drafting group elected Mr. Seetulsingh as chairperson and Mr. Okafor as rapporteur of the drafting group;

3. *Also notes* that the drafting group and the full committee held meetings to discuss the topic;
4. *Requests* the drafting group to submit a draft progress report to the Advisory Committee at its twelfth session before its submission to the Council at its twenty-sixth session, taking into account the replies to the questionnaire distributed after the discussion at the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee;
5. *Encourages* the various stakeholders to contribute to the work under way.

8th meeting
16 August 2013

[Adopted without a vote.]

11/3 The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 23/9 of 13 June 2013, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to submit a research-based report on the issue of the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights to the Council at its twenty-sixth session,

1. *Designates* the Committee members Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Mario L. Coriolano, Latif Hüseyinov, Alfred Ntunduguru Karokora, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Katharina Pabel, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Shigeki Sakamoto, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Imeru Tamrat Yigezu and Mona Zulficar as members of the drafting group;
2. *Notes* that the drafting group elected Mr. Yigezu as chairperson and Ms. Pabel as rapporteur of the drafting group;
3. *Also notes* that the drafting group and the full committee held meetings to discuss the topic;
4. *Requests* the drafting group to submit a draft report to the Advisory Committee at its twelfth session before its submission to the Council at its twenty-sixth session, taking into account the replies to the questionnaire distributed after the discussion at the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee;
5. *Encourages* the various stakeholders to contribute to the work under way.

8th meeting
16 August 2013

[Adopted without a vote.]

II. Officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its eleventh session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 12 to 16 August 2013. The session was opened by the Chairperson for its eleventh session, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz.
2. The Vice-President of the Human Rights Council, Iruthisham Adam, addressed the Advisory Committee at its first meeting, on 12 August 2013.
3. At the same meeting, the Chief of the Special Procedures Branch at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) made a statement on behalf of the High Commissioner.
4. Also at the same meeting, participants observed a minute of silence for the victims of human rights violations around the world.

B. Composition of the Advisory Committee

5. The names of the members are as follows:¹ Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani (Bahrain, 2015); José Antonio Bengoa Cabello (Chile, 2013); Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (France, 2014); Chinsung Chung (Republic of Korea, 2013); Mario L. Coriolano (Argentina, 2015); Wolfgang Stefan Heinz (Germany, 2013); Latif Hüseyinov (Azerbaijan, 2014); Alfred Ntunduguru Karokora (Uganda, 2013); Vladimir Kartashkin (Russian Federation, 2013); Obiora Chinedu Okafor (Nigeria, 2014); Katharina Pabel (Austria, 2015); Anantonia Reyes Prado (Guatemala, 2014); Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing (Philippines, 2014); Shigeki Sakamoto (Japan, 2013); Dheerujlall Seetulsingh (Mauritius, 2014); Ahmer Bilal Soofi (Pakistan, 2014); Imeru Tamrat Yigezu (Ethiopia, 2015); and Mona Zulficar (Egypt, 2013).

C. Attendance

6. The session was attended by members of the Advisory Committee, observers for States Members of the United Nations, observers for non-member States and intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, other organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations. Ahmer Bilal Soofi was unable to attend the session.

D. Meetings and documentation

7. In the course of the eleventh session, the Advisory Committee held eight plenary meetings and five closed meetings. The drafting groups on human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, and the enhancement of international cooperation also held private meetings.

¹ The year in parentheses indicates when the term of office of the member expires (terms of office end on 30 September).

E. Officers

8. In accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the Advisory Committee, the following officers, elected by acclamation at the first meeting of the tenth session of the Advisory Committee, held on 18 February 2013, also served as officers at the eleventh session:

Chairperson:	Wolfgang Stefan Heinz
Vice Chairpersons:	Saeed Mohamed Al Faihaini Latif Hüseyinov Anantonia Reyes Prado
Rapporteur:	Obiora Chinedu Okafor

F. Adoption of the agenda

9. At its first meeting, held on 12 August 2013, the Advisory Committee adopted its agenda (see annex I).

G. Organization of work

10. At the same meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the draft programme of work prepared by the secretariat.

III. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions

A. Requests currently under consideration by the Committee

1. Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations

11. At its first and second meetings, on 12 August 2013, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 22/16, held a discussion on the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations.

12. At the first meeting, the representative of Uruguay took the floor as the main sponsor of resolution 22/16. At the same meeting, statements were also made by members of the Advisory Committee. At the second meeting, representatives of OHCHR made presentations on the issue. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Committee and observers for non-governmental organizations (see annex II).

13. At the eighth meeting, on 16 August 2013, the chairperson of the drafting group on the promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations, Anantonia Reyes Prado, introduced draft text A/HRC/AC/11/L.1, to which Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, rapporteur of the drafting group, made oral revisions. The draft text, sponsored by all the Committee members, was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chapter I, action 11/1).

2. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

14. At its third meeting, on 13 August 2013, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 23/3, held a discussion on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights. In this context, Zdzislaw Kedzia, member and Chairperson of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, made a presentation on international cooperation from the perspective of the Committee. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and a government observer (see annex II). The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, also took the floor as the main sponsor of resolution 23/3.

15. At the eighth meeting, on 16 August 2013, the chairperson of the drafting group on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, introduced draft text A/HRC/AC/11/L.2, sponsored by all Advisory Committee members. The draft text was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chapter I, action 11/2).

3. The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights

16. At its fourth meeting, on 13 August 2013, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 23/9, held a discussion on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights. Statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee, government observers and an observer for a non-governmental organization (see annex II). The representatives of Austria, Indonesia and Morocco also took the floor as the main sponsors of resolution 23/9.

17. At the eighth meeting, on 16 August 2013, the rapporteur of the drafting group on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, Katharina Pabel, introduced draft text A/HRC/AC/11/L.3, sponsored by all Advisory Committee members. The draft text was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chapter I, action 11/3).

4. Integration of a gender perspective

18. At the fifth meeting, on 14 August 2013, a member of the Advisory Committee made a statement on the issue of the integration by the Committee of a gender perspective into the implementation of its mandate, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 6/30 (see annex II).

5. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

19. At the same meeting, a member of the Advisory Committee made a statement on the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolutions 8/5 and 18/6 (see annex II).

6. Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities

20. Also at the same meeting, a member of the Advisory Committee made a statement on the issue of the integration by the Committee of the perspective of persons with disabilities in carrying out its work, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 7/9 (see annex II).

B. Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council

1. Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

21. At the fifth meeting, on 14 August 2013, the rapporteur of the drafting group on the draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, briefed the Advisory Committee on the discussion held at the first session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on the draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace, held from 18 to 21 February 2013. A statement was also made by another member of the Committee (see annex II).

2. Right to food

22. At the same meeting, the rapporteur of the drafting group on the rights of peasants, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, briefed the Advisory Committee on the first session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on a United Nations declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, held from 15 to 19 July 2013.

3. Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind

23. Also at the same meeting, the Advisory Committee held a discussion on promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind, in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 16/3. Statements were made by members of the Committee (see annex II).

4. Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking

24. At the fifth meeting, Mr. Heinz briefed the Advisory Committee on the final study on the issue of terrorist hostage-taking for the purposes of promoting awareness and understanding submitted by the Committee to the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/24/47), in accordance with Council resolutions 18/10 and 21/18. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Committee and a government observer (see annex II).

IV. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011

A. Review of methods of work

25. At its sixth meeting, on 15 August 2013, the Advisory Committee held a discussion on enhancing its procedural efficiency. Statements were made by members of the Committee (see annex II).

B. Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities

26. At its seventh meeting, held on 15 August 2013, the Advisory Committee held a discussion on possible research proposals that could be submitted to the Human Rights Council for consideration and approval.

27. Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani made the proposal that the Advisory Committee conduct a new study on a possible universal human rights court. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Committee (see annex II).

28. Mario L. Coriolano resubmitted his proposal that the Advisory Committee conduct a new study on citizens' safety and human rights, which he had introduced at the tenth session of the Committee. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Committee (see annex II).

C. Appointment of members of the Working Group on Communications

29. Pursuant to paragraphs 91 and 93 of annex IV to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the Advisory Committee is to appoint five of its members to constitute the Working Group on Communications with a mandate of three years, renewable once only. In view of the fact that the term of membership of four members of the Working Group, namely, Mr. Bengoa Cabello, Ms. Chung, Mr. Heinz and Mr. Kartashkin, expires on 30 September 2013, the Committee decided, at its seventh meeting, on 15 August 2013, to appoint Mr. Coriolano, Mr. Hüseyinov, Ms. Pabel and Ms. Quisumbing as members of the Working Group to serve until the end of their respective terms as members of the Committee (see paragraph 5 above).

V. Report of the Advisory Committee on its eleventh session

30. At the eighth meeting, on 16 August 2013, the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee presented the draft report on the eleventh session of the Committee. The Committee adopted the draft report ad referendum and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with its finalization.

31. At the same meeting, closing remarks were made on behalf of the High Commissioner.

32. Also at the same meeting, Mr. Al Faihani, Mr. Bengoa Cabello, Ms. Boisson de Chazournes, Ms. Chung, Mr. Kartashkin, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto and Ms. Zulficar made valedictory statements. Following the usual exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson made closing remarks and declared the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee closed.

Annex I

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions:
 - (a) Requests currently under consideration by the Committee:
 - (i) Integration of a gender perspective;
 - (ii) Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;
 - (iii) Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities;
 - (iv) Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations;
 - (v) Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;
 - (vi) The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights.
 - (b) Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council:
 - (i) Right to food;
 - (ii) Promotion of the right of peoples to peace;
 - (iii) Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind;
 - (iv) Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking.
3. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011:
 - (a) Review of methods of work;
 - (b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities;
 - (c) Appointment of members of the Working Group on Communications.
4. Report of the Advisory Committee on its eleventh session.

Annex II

[English only]

List of speakers

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
3. Requests to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions		
(a) Requests currently under consideration by the Committee		
(i) Integration of a gender perspective	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Member: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani
(ii) Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Member: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani
(iii) Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Member: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani
(iv) Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations	First and second meetings 12 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Vladimir Kartashkin, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Dheerujall Seetulsingh, Mona Zulficar Government observer: Uruguay Observers for non-governmental organizations: International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (also on behalf of International Longevity Centre), Japanese Workers' Committee for Human Rights, Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), International Service

Agenda item	Meeting and date	Speakers	
(v) Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights	Third meeting 13 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Shigeki Sakamoto, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Imeru Tamrat Yigezu, Mona Zulficar Government observers: Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation	
(vi) The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights	Fourth meeting 13 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Chinsung Chung, Mario L. Coriolano, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Alfred Ntunduguru Karokora, Vladimir Kartashkin, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Katharina Pabel, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Imeru Tamrat Yigezu, Mona Zulficar Government observers: Austria, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Morocco, Switzerland Observer for non-governmental organizations: Transparency International	
(b) Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council	(i) Right to food	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Member: José Antonio Bengoa Cabello
	(ii) Promotion of the right of peoples to peace	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Member: Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Vladimir Kartashkin
	(iii) Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind;	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Members: Vladimir Kartashkin, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh
	(iv) Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking	Fifth meeting 14 August 2013	Members: Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing Government observer: Algeria

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<p>4. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011</p> <p>(a) Review of methods of work</p>	Sixth meeting 15 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Latif Hüseyinov, Katharina Pabel, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Mona Zulficar
<p>(b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities</p>	Seventh meeting 15 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Chinsung Chung, Mario L. Coriolano, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Vladimir Kartashkin, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Shigeki Sakamoto, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Mona Zulficar
<p>(c) Appointment of members of the Working Group on Communications</p>	Seventh meeting 15 August 2013	Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Vladimir Kartashkin, Anantonia Reyes Prado

Annex III*[English only]***List of documents issued for the eleventh session of the Advisory Committee***Documents issued in the general series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/AC/11/1/Rev.1	1	Provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/11/1/Add.1/Rev.1	1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/11/2	4	Report of the Advisory Committee on its eleventh session

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/AC/11/L.1	2	Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations
A/HRC/AC/11/L.2	2	Promotion and protection of human rights in post-disaster and post-conflict situations
A/HRC/AC/11/L.3	2	The negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights
