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The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and wishes to call the latter's attention to a matter of serious concern to China.

It is learnt that Dolkun Isa, Mahira Isa and Peter Irwin, members of the "World Uyghur Congress" have submitted applications for participation in the 8th Session of the Forum on Minority Issues. China is firmly against their participation.

The so-called "World Uyghur Congress" is a notorious secessionist organization whose objective is to separate the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region from China to establish the so-called "East Turkistan State". This organization originated from the "World Uyghur Youth Congress", which is on the list of terrorist organizations designated by the Ministry of Public Security of China. In addition, "World Uyghur Congress" has close links to terrorist organizations, including the "Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement", which is designated as a terrorist organization by the United Nations Security Council in its resolution 1390 (2002).

The interventions by the members of "World Uyghur Congress" in previous

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sessions of the Forum, in which the term "East Turkistan" were repeatedly used despite of prohibitive rulings by Chairperson-Rapporteurs, have clearly revealed the true motive of the "World Uyghur Congress" to conduct secessionist activities against China under the pretext of human rights, which severely infringes upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China.

The participation of "World Uyghur Congress" and its members in the Forum is neither consistent with the subject of the Forum, nor in conformity with the Human Rights Council Resolution 6/15, in which it is explicitly stated that "aims and purposes" of non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council should be "in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations".

China firmly opposes the attempt of the "World Uyghur Congress" and its members to utilize the Forum to conduct separatist activities. Their presence at the Forum will not only do harm to the smooth conducting of the Forum, but also pose a potential threat to the security of the Palais des Nations as well as the safety of Chinese delegation.

Therefore, the Permanent Mission of China requests that the OHCHR not allow the above-mentioned individuals or any other persons from the "World Uyghur Congress" to participate in the Forum, and that no official of the OHCHR meet these persons, or accept any materials from them.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

