12 February 2024

Excellencies,

In my capacity as President of the Human Rights Council, I have the honour to submit for your attention the list of candidates proposed for 12 out of the 14 vacancies of mandate holders that are to be filled at the fifty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council (listed in alphabetical order):

1. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from Africa** (Human Rights Council resolution 33/25)
2. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from North America** (Human Rights Council resolution 33/25)
3. **Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/4)
4. **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali** (Human Rights Council resolution 52/42)[[1]](#footnote-1)
5. **Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/8)
6. **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association** (Human Rights Council resolution 50/17)
7. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from African States** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/9)
8. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Asia-Pacific States** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/9)
9. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Eastern European States** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/9)
10. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Latin American and Caribbean States** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/9)
11. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Western European and other States** (Human Rights Council resolution 54/9)

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

1. **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 African States** (Human Rights Council resolution 51/13).

In follow-up to my letter of 29 January 2024, and in accordance with paragraphs 52 and 53 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, upon receipt of the Consultative Group’s report, dated 29 January 2024, I have held broad consultations in particular through the regional coordinators and based on the recommendations of the Consultative Group, to ensure the endorsement of my proposed candidates.

Following my consultations with States and other relevant stakeholders, I have decided to follow the recommendation of the Consultative Group for the 12 vacancies.

With regard to the **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from Africa**, I propose for appointment **Mr.** **Ojot Miru OJULU (Ethiopia)**.

Concerning the **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from North America**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Sheryl LIGHTFOOT (Canada)**.

For the mandate of **Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**, I propose for appointment **Mr. George KATROUGALOS (Greece)**.

With regard to the mandate of **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali**,I propose for appointment **Mr. Eduardo GONZALEZ (Peru)**.

As to the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of nonrecurrence**, I propose for appointment **Mr.** **Bernard DUHAIME (Canada)**.

For the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Gina Paola ROMERO RODRIGUEZ (Colombia)**.

For the **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from African States**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Uche Ewelukwa OFODILE (Nigeria)**.

Concerning the **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Asia-Pacific States**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Shalmali GUTTAL (India)**.

In relation to **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Eastern European States**, I propose for appointment **Mr. Davit HAKOBYAN (Armenia)**.

Regarding the **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Latin American and Caribbean States**, I propose for appointment **Mr. Carlos DUARTE (Colombia)**.

With regard to the **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Western European and other States**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Geneviève SAVIGNY (France)**.

For 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, member from African States**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Michelle René SMALL (South Africa)**.

I look forward to receiving the addendum to their report with recommendations of candidates for the unforeseen vacancies of Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environmentand of Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change, which I will transmit to you once received.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Consultative Group for their hard work, which has facilitated my efforts to identify an appropriate candidate for each vacancy.

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

Omar ZNIBER

President of the Human Rights Council

1. The appointment of this mandate holder will be made provided that the mandate itself is extended by the Human Rights Council. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)