



BUREAU DU PRÉSIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

29 February 2024

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Excellencies,

In my capacity as President of the Human Rights Council, I have the honour to submit for your attention the candidates proposed 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 environment<sup>1</sup>** and of **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change**, two of the 14 vacancies of mandate holders that are to be filled at the fifty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council.

In follow-up to my letter of 16 February 2024, and in accordance with paragraphs 52 and 53 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, upon receipt of the Consultative Group's addendum dated 16 February 2024, to its 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 two vacancies.

With respect to the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Astrid PUENTES RIAÑO (Mexico)**.

For the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change**, I propose for appointment **Ms. Elisa MORGERA (Italy)**.

For the sake of completeness, allow me to recall that I also followed the recommendations of the Consultative Group, included in its report of 29 January 2024, for the following 12 vacancies of mandate holders. The complete list of candidates proposed for appointment as mandate holders at the 55<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council is enclosed.

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

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

Enclosed

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

<sup>1</sup> The appointment of this mandate holder will be made provided that the mandate itself is extended by the Human Rights Council.



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

With regard to the mandate of **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali**,<sup>2</sup> I proposed 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 proposed for appointment **Mr. Bernard DUHAIME (Canada)**.

For the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association**, I proposed 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 proposed 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 proposed 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 proposed 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 proposed 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 proposed 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 proposed for appointment **Ms. Michelle René SMALL (South Africa)**.

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<sup>2</sup> The appointment of this mandate holder will be made provided that the mandate itself is extended by the Human Rights Council.



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I would like to take this opportunity to once again 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

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President of the Human Rights Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'O' followed by a long horizontal stroke.



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**Mandate holders**

**to be appointed at the fifty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council**  
(mandates listed in alphabetical order)

1. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from Africa**  
**Mr. Ojot Miru OJULU (Ethiopia)**
2. **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, member from North America**  
**Ms. Sheryl LIGHTFOOT (Canada)**
3. **Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**  
**Mr. George KATROUGALOS (Greece)**
4. **Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali<sup>3</sup>**  
**Mr. Eduardo GONZALEZ (Peru)**
5. **Special Rapporteur on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment<sup>3</sup>**  
**Ms. Astrid PUENTES RIAÑO (Mexico)**
6. **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change**  
**Ms. Elisa MORGERA (Italy)**
7. **Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence**  
**Mr. Bernard DUHAIME (Canada)**
8. **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association**  
**Ms. Gina Paola ROMERO RODRIGUEZ (Colombia)**
9. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from African States**  
**Ms. Uche Ewelukwa OFODILE (Nigeria)**
10. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Asia-Pacific States**  
**Ms. Shalmali GUTTAL (India)**

<sup>3</sup> The appointment of this mandate holder will be made provided that the mandate itself is extended by the Human Rights Council.



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11. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Eastern European States**  
**Mr. Davit HAKOBYAN (Armenia)**
12. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Latin American and Caribbean States**  
**Mr. Carlos DUARTE (Colombia)**
13. **Working Group on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, member from Western European and other States**  
**Ms. Geneviève SAVIGNY (France)**
14. **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**  
**Ms. Michelle René SMALL (South Africa)**