



BUREAU DU PRÉSIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

03 July 2024

Excellencies,

In my capacity as President of the Human Rights Council, I have the honour to submit for your attention the candidate proposed for the vacancy of **member from Western European and other States in 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**, one of the three vacancies of mandate holders that are to be filled at the fifty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council.

In follow-up to my letter of 25 June 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 of 25 June 2024, to its report dated 20 May 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 candidate.

Following my consultations with States and other relevant stakeholders, I have decided to follow the recommendation of the Consultative Group for this vacancy and therefore to propose **Ms. Joana LOPES DE DEUS PEREIRA (Portugal)** for appointment as **member from Western European and other States in 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**.

For the sake of completeness, allow me to recall that I also followed the recommendations of the Consultative Group, included in its report of 20 May 2024, for the following two vacancies of mandate holders. The complete list of candidates proposed for appointment as mandate holders at the 56th session of the Human Rights Council is enclosed.

For the mandate of **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran**, I proposed for appointment **Ms. Mai SATO (Japan)**.

With regard to the **Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Eastern European States**, I proposed for appointment **Ms. Lyra JAKULEVIČIENĖ (Lithuania)**.

Enclosed

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva



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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

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



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

- 1. Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Ms. Mai SATO (Japan)**
- 2. Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Eastern European States**  
**Ms. Lyra JAKULEVIČIENĖ (Lithuania)**
- 3. 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 Western European and other States**  
**Ms. Joana LOPES DE DEUS PEREIRA (Portugal)**