



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: CESCR/MAB/cr

Subject: Election of members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for the seats becoming vacant on 31 December 2018

The Secretary-General of the United Nations has the honour to refer to Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17 of 28 May 1985, which is reproduced in Annex I, in particular to paragraphs (b) and (c) relating to the procedure for the election of members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural rights.

In conformity with the established procedure, one half of the membership of the Committee shall be renewed every second year, bearing in mind the need to maintain equitable geographical distribution. Accordingly, the terms of office of nine members of the Committee elected by the Economic and Social Council in 2014, whose names appear in Annex II, will expire on 31 December 2018. The Economic and Social Council is tentatively scheduled to hold an election for those seats in April 2018 at United Nations headquarters in New York. A list of the other nine members of the Committee who will continue to serve on the Committee until 31 December 2020 is contained in Annex III.

In accordance with resolution 1985/17, the total number of seats allocated to the group of state parties belonging to the Western Europe and Other Group is three. In addition, the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2010/201 B of 28 April 2010, decided that, on an exceptional basis, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States would be allocated the third rotating seat on the Committee for the four-year term beginning on 1 January 2011 and that the Group of Western European and other States would be allocated the same seat for the four-year term beginning on 1 January 2015, and that such arrangement would not be affected by the number of ratifications to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights received by any regional group during that eight-year period. Decision 2010/201 B of 28 April 2010 has now expired, and thus the total number of seats belonging to WEOG from 1 January 2019 is three.

Of the current four members of the Committee from the Group of Western European and Other States, the term of two seats will expire on 31 December 2018 and the term of two seats will expire on 31 December 2020. The Group of Western European and Other States would thus have one seat that would need to be filled for the term beginning on 1 January 2019.

Paragraph (b) of the resolution provides that the members of the Committee shall be experts with recognized competence in the field of human rights, serving in their personal capacity, due consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of different forms of social and legal systems. Information on the requirements, responsibilities and entitlements relating to Treaty Body Membership can be found in Annex IV.

The Secretary-General, therefore, in accordance with subparagraph (c) (vi) of Council resolution 1985/17, has the honour to invite Your Excellency's Government to submit a nomination for membership of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural rights, together with relevant biographical information concerning its candidate, prepared in accordance with the enclosed candidacy form (Annex V). Nominations should be sent to the Secretary-General, c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva, in electronic form (Word) (cescr@ohchr.org) by **22 December 2017 at the latest.**

MAB

22 September 2017