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Twelfth Special Session of the Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all United Nations Member States, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC and has the honour to inform them that the Secretariat received from the Permanent Mission of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva on Tuesday, 13 October at 12:15 p.m., a request to hold a special session on the Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory including East Jerusalem.

In order for a special session to be convened, in conformity with operative paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, the support of one-third of the membership of the Council (16 members or more) is required. The above-mentioned request was supported by the following 18 Member States of the Council: **Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Indonesia, Jordan, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Senegal.**

Pursuant to paragraph 122 of the Annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the special session should be held not earlier than two working days and not later than five working days after the formal receipt of the request. Further to paragraph 124, the President should hold open-ended informative consultations before the special session on its conduct and organization.

Accordingly, the organizational meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14 October 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room XVIII and the special session will commence on Thursday, 15 October 2009 at 3:00 p.m. and continue on Friday, 16 October 2009, in Room XX.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H.L.' or similar initials.

13 October 2009