HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

30 June 2016

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 the five vacancies of special procedures mandate holders to be appointed at the thirty-second session of the Human Rights Council, namely:

- Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;
- Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief;
- Special Rapporteur on the right to education;
- Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea;
- Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Western European and other States.

I have held broad consultations, in particular through the regional coordinators, based on the recommendations of the Consultative Group, to ensure the endorsement of my proposed candidates in accordance with paragraphs 52 and 53 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1.

After the consultations and careful consideration, I have decided to follow the recommendations of the Consultative Group on all mandates while noting the concerns expressed in relation to appointing a current mandate holder to another mandate and how it may affect the proper fulfilment of special procedures mandates and the institution-building package.

For the position of Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, I propose Ms. Agnes CALLAMARD (France).

In relation to the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, I propose Mr. Ahmed SHAHEED (Maldives). In this regard, I wish to make a procedural clarification which I have also raised in my consultations through the regional coordinators. Mr. Shaheed is the current Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran (appointed in June 2011). Specific measures should therefore be taken to avoid a protection gap and ensure the smooth transition among mandate holders with the clear understanding that this should not serve as a precedent and not be reiterated in future circumstances. Mr. Shaheed will therefore remain in his functions as the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran until the appointment and entry into functions of his successor. I will ask the Consultative Group and the Secretariat to expedite the process so that the new Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran can be appointed as soon as possible and at the latest at the September session. While Mr. Heiner Bielefeldt has reached the end of his six-year tenure, on an exceptional
basis, he will remain in his functions as the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief until the entry into functions of Mr. Shaheed.

As far as the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, I propose Ms. Koumbou BOLY (Burkina Faso).

For the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, I propose Mr. Tomás OJEA QUINTANA (Argentina).

Regarding the member from Western European and other States of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, I propose Ms. Anita RAMASASTRY (United States of America).

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the members of the Consultative Group for their work and the seriousness with which they have carried out their task.

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

Yours sincerely,

CHOI Kyonglim
President of the Human Rights Council

Enclosure

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva
List of special procedures mandate-holders scheduled to be appointed at the 32nd session of the Human Rights Council

1. Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Ms. Agnes CALLAMARD (France)

2. Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

Mr. Ahmed SHAHEED (Maldives)

3. Special Rapporteur on the right to education

Ms. Koumbou BOLY (Burkina Faso)

4. Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Mr. Tomás OJEA QUINTANA (Argentina)

5. Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Western European and other States

Ms. Anita RAMASASTRY (United States of America)