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Subject: Applications for vacancies of special procedures mandate holders

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, international organizations or their offices, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other human rights bodies, and has the honour to inform them that three vacancies are to be filled at the twenty-first session of the Human Rights Council (10–28 September 2012). The list of vacancies is attached. An updated information note on selection and appointment of mandate holders and web-based application procedure, along with a new application form are available online at the following web page link;
<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/chr/special/nominations.htm>

The Consultative Group established in accordance with paragraph 47 of Annex to Council resolution 5/1 is mandated to propose a list of candidates to the President of the Council one month prior to the Council's session. In order for the Consultative Group to implement this mandate, applications for the vacancies should be submitted by **15 August 2012 (midnight, GMT)** through the new on-line application procedure as indicated above. In case of technical difficulties, the Secretariat may be contacted by email: hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org or by fax: + 41 22 917 9011.

Attention is drawn to paragraph 42 of Annex to Council resolution 5/1, which indicates that the following entities may nominate candidates: (a) Governments, (b) Regional Groups operating within the United Nations human rights system, (c) international organizations or their offices, (d) non-governmental organizations, (e) other human rights bodies, and (f) individual nominations. Attention is also drawn to paragraph 22 (a) of Annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011 which provides that national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles may also nominate candidates.

Furthermore, paragraph 22 (b) of Annex to Council resolution 16/21 stipulates that individual candidates and candidates nominated by entities shall submit an application for each specific mandate, together with personal data. A motivation letter, which should be no longer than 600 words, must also be submitted by candidates. In accordance with the new procedure the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights shall prepare a public list of candidates who will apply for each specific vacancy.

For further information, reference documents on the appointment and selection process (Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, resolution 16/21), as well as on the specific mandates (Council resolutions 18/11, 20/13 and 20/20) are available on-line at the Council's webpage through the following link; <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/>

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council avails itself of this opportunity to present to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, international organizations or their offices, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, and other human rights bodies the assurances of its highest consideration.

12 July 2012
A handwritten signature in black ink.

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES – MANDATE HOLDERS
LIST OF VACANCIES***

SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL AT ITS TWENTY-FIRST SESSION IN SEPTEMBER 2012		
TITLE OF THE MANDATE/DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT	NAME, COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF THE CURRENT MANDATE HOLDER	REMARKS
<p>Special rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus Established by resolution A/HRC/RES/20/13</p>	-	New mandate
<p>Special rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea Established by resolution A/HRC/RES/20/20</p>	-	New mandate
<p>Special Rapporteur on the human rights obligations related to environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and waste Extended by resolution A/HRC/RES/18/11</p>	Mr. Calin Georgescu (Romania)	Resignation from November 2012

* The newly appointed mandate holders will assume their functions on 1 November 2012.