

Sixteenth Annual Meeting of Special Rapporteurs, Representatives, Independent Experts and Chairpersons of Working Groups of the Human Rights Council

**Geneva
Palais Wilson
Ground floor conference room
29 June to 3 July 2009**

Annotated agenda

Opening of the meeting

Item I: Organization of work

- (a) Election of the Chairperson and Rapporteur of the 16th Annual Meeting**
- (b) Adoption of the agenda**
- (c) Election of three members of the Coordination Committee**
- (d) Adoption of the report of the 16th Annual Meeting**

Participants will elect the Chairperson and Rapporteur of the 16th Annual Meeting. The discussion and adoption of the agenda and programme of work will follow. Participants will elect the three remaining members of the Coordination Committee. They will adopt the report of the 16th Annual Meeting presented by the Rapporteur.

Participants will have before them:

- The Agenda of the 16th Annual Meeting
- The Annotated Agenda of the 16th Annual Meeting
- The Programme of work/time table of the 16th Annual Meeting

Item II: Activities of the Coordination Committee

Report by the former Chairperson

The former Coordination Committee (CC) Chairperson and Chair of the fifteenth meeting, Ms. Asma Jahangir, will present the report and will brief participants on the activities of the Coordination Committee in 2008-2009, followed by an exchange of views.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note on the activities of the Coordination Committee since June 2008

Item III: Exchange of views with the High Commissioner

Participants will have an exchange of views with the High Commissioner, Ms. Navanethem Pillay. The High Commissioner will *inter alia* inform participants about the current strategic planning process and future priorities of her Office.

Item IV: The Human Rights Council and the Special Procedures system

(a) Update by the Secretariat on recent developments

Participants will be briefed by the Secretariat on recent developments since June 2008 and will have a discussion to prepare the exchange of views with the former and current Presidents of the Council and its Bureau.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat: Developments at the Human Right Council since June 2008

(b) Exchange of views with the former Human Rights Council President

Participants will have an exchange of views with the former Human Rights Council President, Ambassador Martin Ihoeghian Uhomoibhi, Permanent Representative of Nigeria.

(c) Exchange of views with the Human Rights Council President and members of the HRC Bureau

Participants will have an exchange of views with the Human Rights Council President, Ambassador Alex Van Meeuwen, Permanent Representative of Belgium, and members of the HRC Bureau, Permanent Representatives (or their representatives) of Chile, Egypt, Indonesia, and Slovenia.

Item V: Working Methods

(a) Strengthening the effectiveness of the Special Procedures: putting in place a joint report on communications

Participants will be briefed by the Secretariat on the steps taken so far to put in place a joint report on communications. A discussion and adoption of decision will follow.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat: A joint report on communications of all Special Procedures mandate holders

(b) The Universal Periodic Review and the Special Procedures

Mandate holders will discuss recent developments in relation to the UPR and its relevance for the Special Procedures.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat: The Universal Periodic Review mechanism - Recent developments

(c) Lessons learnt and recent developments in relation to common approaches to human rights situations: follow-up to 15th annual meeting and developments in 2008/2009

Participants will discuss how to further develop a common approach to special human rights situations.

Participants will have before them:

- A paper by Ms. Gay McDougall, Independent Expert on minority issues, and Mr. Olivier De Schutter, Special Rapporteur on the right to food, on a common approach to special human rights situations.

(d) Planning and resources

Participants will be briefed on interpretation by officials from the Interpretation Service of the UNOG Conference Services Division. Participants will also have an exchange with the OHCHR Communications Section on working with the media. Participants will also be briefed on resources and country visit planning by the Finance and Budget Section of the OHCHR Programme Support and Management Services.

Participants will have before them:

- Briefing material prepared by the UNOG Conference Services Division
- Briefing material prepared by the OHCHR Media Section (tbc)
- Briefing material prepared by the OHCHR Finance and Budget Section (tbc)

Item VI. Integrating approaches and new mechanisms into the work of the Special Procedures

(a) Protection of victims and witnesses

Participants will have a discussion on the protection of victims and witnesses who cooperate with United Nations' Human Rights mechanisms.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat on the protection of victims and witnesses who cooperate with United Nations Human Rights mechanisms.
- A report of the Secretary-General: “Progress reports and studies relevant to cooperation with representatives of United Nations human rights bodies”, A/HRC/10/36

(b) Human Rights and climate change

Participants will have a discussion on human rights and climate change.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat on human rights and climate change

(c) Human rights and disabilities

Participants will have an exchange of views with the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Mr. Mohammed Al-Tarawneh.

Participants will have before them:

- A handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities and its Optional Protocol.

Item VII: Joint session with Chairpersons of Human Rights Treaty Bodies

Mandate holders will have the opportunity to discuss with the chairpersons of Treaty Bodies questions relating to follow-up to recommendations, conclusions and concluding observations relating to the work of Special Procedures, Treaty Bodies and the Universal Periodic Review.

Participants will have before them:

- A Note by the Secretariat with suggested points for discussion (tbc)
- A Note by the Secretariat: Follow-up to special procedures activities and UPR

Item VIII: Consultation with stakeholders

Participants will have a discussion with representatives of civil society and national human rights institutions on issues of common interest, including follow up to recommendations and conclusions. Participants will have an exchange of views with the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, Mr. Francis Deng. Participants will also have an exchange of views with the recently appointed

Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children, Ms. Marta Santos Pais.

Participants will have before them:

- Briefing material prepared by NGOs and NRHI
- A report of the Secretary-General: “Effort of the United Nations system to prevent genocide and the activities of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide”, A/HRC/10/30

Annex

Side events and informal meetings:

- Briefing by Mr. Ted Piccone from The Brookings Institute on his research project “The Impact of UN Human Rights Mechanisms”, Ground floor Conference room, Tuesday 30 June, 9h00-10h00.
- Individual meetings with Chief of Travel Unit, OHCHR Programme Support and Management Services, Salon des Délégués, Wednesday 1 July, 14h00-15h00.
- Individual meetings with staff of OHCHR Documents Processing Unit to discuss documentation issues, Salon des Délégués, Thursday 2 July, 14h00-15h00.
- Expert meeting regarding study on secret detention, organized by the Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism, Mr. Martin Scheinin – private meeting, room 3016, Wednesday 1 July 9h00-19h00, Thursday 2 July 8h30-17h00.