

Report of the Consultative Group to the President of the Human Rights Council relating to the vacancies of mandate holders to be appointed at the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council

23 May 2022

I. Background

1. In paragraphs 47 and 49 of the annex to its resolution 5/1, the Human Rights Council decided to establish a Consultative Group comprised of Permanent Representatives appointed by Regional Groups and serving in their personal capacity. The Consultative Group is mandated by the Council to propose to the President a list of candidates who possess the highest qualifications for the mandate in question and meet the general criteria and particular requirements. Recommendations to the President of the Human Rights Council are required to be made public and substantiated pursuant to paragraph 50 of the annex to resolution 5/1.

2. The members of the Consultative Group for the selection of the mandate holders to be appointed at the fiftieth session of the Human Rights Council are: Ms. Juhara Al-Suwaidi (Qatar), Mr. Abdellah Boutadghart (Morocco), His Excellency Mr. Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli (El Salvador) and Mr. Tom Neijens (Belgium). The member of the Group from Eastern European States is yet to be nominated. The working cycle of the current Consultative Group commenced on 1 April 2022 and will end on 31 March 2023, pursuant to paragraph 1(b) of Council decision 30/115. The Group held its initial organizational meeting on 7 April 2022.

3. A total of eight vacancies of mandate holders, including one expert mechanism and seven special procedure mandates, are to be filled at the Council's fiftieth session as follows (listed in alphabetical order):

- 1. Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States (Human Rights Council resolution 42/23)**
- 2. Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (Human Rights Council resolution 49/5)**
- 3. Special Rapporteur on the right to education (Human Rights Council resolution 44/3)**
- 4. Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Human Rights Council resolution 49/22)**
- 5. Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Human Rights Council resolution 43/20)**
- 6. Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from Eastern European States (Human Rights Council resolution 45/3)**
- 7. Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States (Human Rights Council resolution 44/15)**
- 8. Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Western European and other States (Human Rights Council resolution 44/15)**

4. Vacancies number 1, 5 and 7 above – those of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States, Special Rapporteur on torture and

other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States – were not initially foreseen and arose due to the resignation of the respective mandate holders, Mr. Armando Antonio De Negri Filho effective 20 January 2022, Mr. Nils Melzer effective 4 February 2022, and Mr. Githu Muigai effective 21 February 2022.

5. The present report contains the list of recommended candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President of the Council for these eight mandates.

6. In its second organizational meeting of 26 April 2022, the Consultative Group decided that the chairing function for the interview and selection process for the entire period of 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 would be equally shared among its members through a rotation. The Group decided to divide equally the chairing of the interviews for the mandates among the current four Consultative Group members, by alphabetical order of the mandates and of the members' last names. It is understood that such an arrangement is subject to adjustment upon the future nomination of the Consultative Group member from the Group of Eastern European States and upon the possibility of recusal of members of the Group, in accordance with paragraph 13 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 on the methods of work of the Consultative Group of the Human Rights Council. The chairing arrangements for the specific mandates under consideration are noted below under each respective mandate.

II. Process

7. The application period for the submission of applications opened on 22 February 2022 for all eight mandates. The call for applications closed on 6 April 2022 (12 noon Geneva time) for the following four mandates: Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States; Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from Eastern European States and the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Western European and other States. Due to the initially limited number of applications received, the application period was extended until 13 April 2022 for the following four mandates: 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 and the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States.

8. The Consultative Group considered 114 individual applications from 109 eligible candidates¹ submitted for the aforementioned eight vacancies in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of Human Rights Council resolution 16/21. The applications of the eligible candidates were made public on the designated web page² of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) as provided for in paragraph 22 (b) of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 and paragraph 26 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 (see annex I of this report).

9. The Consultative Group held 14 formal meetings on 7 and 26 April 2022 and from 9 to 16 May 2022 to consider and interview candidates for the aforementioned eight vacancies. This included two meetings with interpretation.

10. In accordance with paragraph 34 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, each member of the Consultative Group individually ranked the most qualified candidates for each vacancy drawing on the written applications received, reflecting on their stated qualifications, relevant experience,

¹ Several candidates submitted applications for more than one mandate in this selection round.

² See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sp/hrc50>.

expertise, independence, impartiality, personal integrity, objectivity, availability and motivation in compliance with relevant provisions of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, resolution 16/21, President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and also Council resolutions relating to the specific mandates under consideration. On the basis of the list of ranked candidates and after consideration of all aforementioned elements, the Group had a discussion and established a shortlist of candidates to be interviewed for each mandate.

11. The members of the Consultative Group took into full consideration the technical and objective requirements as stipulated in paragraphs 39-41, 44-46, 48, 50-51 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, paragraph 22 of resolution 16/21, paragraph 31 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and also Council resolutions relating to the specific mandates under consideration.

12. As per paragraph 51 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 33 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, the Consultative Group took note of the perspectives offered by stakeholders including current or outgoing mandate holders in determining the necessary expertise, experience, skills and other relevant requirements for the mandates in question.³

13. The Consultative Group gave due consideration to gender balance, equitable geographic representation, as well as representation of different legal systems as stipulated in paragraph 40 of Council resolution 5/1 and in paragraphs 31 and 48 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2.

14. In connection with the aforementioned, the Consultative Group affirmed its commitment to ensuring that the most qualified candidates are recommended to the positions under consideration, that the process of selection is objective and transparent, ensures equal treatment of all candidates, and that the recommendations to the President are public and substantiated pursuant to Council resolutions 5/1 and 16/21 and President's statement PRST OS/14/2.

15. In accordance with paragraph 13 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, Mr. Tom Neijens (Belgium) recused himself from participating in the shortlisting, interviews, deliberation and decision-making process of the candidates to be interviewed for the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, in view of the fact that a candidate from Belgium was under consideration.

16. The Consultative Group adhered to paragraph 14 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2 which provides that the members of the Consultative Group, in the event that they have been approached by any Member State, organization or individual with regard to the application of a candidate, shall inform the other members in order to ensure maximum transparency.

17. In accordance with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraphs 35 to 38 of President's statement PRST OS/14/2, the Consultative Group sought to address consistently the observance of the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions and the potential for conflict of interest of all candidates holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity. These issues were clarified during interviews to ensure, inter alia, that if appointed, the candidate should state what steps he or she would be prepared to take with regard to any functions or duties that may give rise to an accumulation of human rights functions and/or any potential conflict of interest. When necessary, further clarifications were requested in writing.

18. The Group held a total of 36 interviews with 35 shortlisted candidates for the aforementioned eight mandates (see annex II of this report for the alphabetical list of interviewees per mandate). These interviews occurred from 9 to 16 May 2022, pursuant to paragraph 22 (c) of the annex to Human

³ As per paragraph 51 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1. Letters from the Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures to the Consultative Group on the selection process of special procedure mandate holders (dated 25 April 2022 and 9 May 2022, both available on <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Welcomepage.aspx>).

Rights Council resolution 16/21. Each candidate was asked similar questions based on the relevant provisions of Council resolution 5/1, decision 6/102, resolution 16/21, President's statement PRST OS/14/2 and Council resolutions relating to the specific mandates under consideration.

19. Shortlisted candidates were able to request in advance and make use of interpretation in one of the six official languages of the United Nations during their interviews, pursuant to the President's statements PRST 29/1 and PRST OS/14/2. Fluency in one of the two working languages of the United Nations was also assessed by the members of the Consultative Group for all candidates.

20. The Consultative Group carried out interviews by video calls through the platform Webex, and through the platform Zoom when the interviewees requested interpretation. Three interviews were held by phone due to poor internet connection.

21. The decisions of the Consultative Group were taken by consensus.

III. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States

22. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Ms. Juhara Al-Suwaidi (Qatar). There were six eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the three candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Liliana VALIÑA (F) (Argentina)

2. Victor SACO (M) (Peru)

3. Paulo de Tarso LUGON ARANTES (M) (Brazil)

23. **Liliana Valiña** is a freelance writer. She was a representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Guatemala and worked as a legal and human rights advisor for OHCHR field offices in Paraguay, Mexico, Honduras and Colombia. Prior to that, she served as a legal adviser at the Association for the Prevention of Torture and as an international consultant at the International Labour Office (ILO). She holds a law degree from the University of Buenos Aires, a Master in Development Studies and a Master in Law, both from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. The Consultative Group noted her extensive experience with the United Nations human rights system, her deep knowledge of the mandate, particularly, her focus on linking development with human rights.

24. **Victor Saco** is a professor of international development law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. He worked as a lawyer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru and as a research fellow for the World Trade Institute in Bern. He has also worked for the Interamerican Platform for Human Rights researching and publishing on economic, social and cultural rights. Mr. Saco holds Bachelor of Humanities and Master of Law degrees from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, as well as a Master of Laws in International European Law from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. He also has a PhD in International Investment Law from the University of Bern. The Consultative Group noted his specific focus on the relationship between investment and international trade and human rights as well as his experience with different stakeholders

25. **Paulo de Tarso Lugon Arantes** is an independent consultant on human rights. He worked as a representative to the United Nations for NGO coalition CELS/Conectas/Humanas, as a researcher and capacity building officer for the Global Health Program at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva and as a human rights adviser and capacity building coordinator

at the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office in Geneva. He holds a Bachelor of Law from the Federal University of Holy Spirit in Brazil, a Master of Laws in International and European Protection of Human Rights from the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands and a PhD in International Law from the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. The Consultative Group noted his diplomatic experience, expertise in liaising with different stakeholders and knowledge of the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

IV. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

26. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Mr. Abdellah Boutadghart (Morocco). There were 16 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Nazila GHANEA (F) (Islamic Republic of Iran)

2. Amna NAZIR (F) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

3. Satvinder JUSS (F) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

27. **Nazila Ghanea** is a professor of international human rights law and Director of Human Rights Programmes at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Ms. Ghanea has extensive academic, research and writing experience in international human rights law, with freedom of religion or belief as her specialization. She has carried out training, and provided expert advice to intergovernmental organizations, Governments and other stakeholders. She was a member of the Assessment Team at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland appointed to review the implementation of the Truro Recommendations on freedom of religion or belief. She served as an independent expert member of the Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe. She has published extensively on international human rights law and freedom of religion or belief. Ms. Ghanea holds a Bachelor's in International Relations from Keele University, a Master's in International Studies from the University of Leeds, and a PhD in international human rights law from Keele University in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. She currently serves as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Governors of the non-governmental organization Universal Human Rights Group, and as a consultant for OHCHR for the development of online courses on the Faith4Rights toolkit. She has indicated her readiness to relinquish these positions if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted her deep knowledge of, extensive expertise in and clear vision for further development of the mandate as well as her experience with the United Nations human rights system. The Group valued her commitment to the mandate, her demonstrated ability to build bridges between various stakeholders and the impartial approach to the most sensitive issues relating to the mandate.

28. **Amna Nazir** is a senior lecturer in international human rights law at Birmingham City University, where she also serves as the director of the Master of Laws programme in international human rights law and as the deputy director of the Centre for Human Rights. She has provided consultancy to governments on human rights and freedom of religion or belief and worked on projects with NHRIs and NGOs such as Reprieve. She has published extensively on freedom of religion or belief related matters. Ms. Nazir holds a Bachelor's in Law from Birmingham City University, a Master of Laws in International Development Law and Human Rights from the University of Warwick, and a PhD in International Human Rights and Religion from the University of Birmingham and Birmingham City University, all in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Ms. Nazir is currently a consultant for the non-governmental organization Sudanese Human Rights Initiative, where she focuses on freedom of religion or belief, and for the Alliance for International Development, Education and Research. She has indicated her readiness to relinquish these positions if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted her strong and confident knowledge of the issues pertaining to the mandate, her clear and structured vision for its further development, as well as her focus on and expertise in the protection of minorities.

29. **Satvinder Juss** is a professor of law at King's College London, a barrister at the 3 Hare Court Chambers, Master of the Bench at Gray's Inn in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and serves as a Deputy Judge at the Immigration and Asylum Chamber of the Upper Tribunal. He was previously a Lecturer in Law at Cardiff University and a barrister at 4 King's Bench Walk Chambers, both in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He has published extensively on human rights law. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Wolverhampton and a PhD from Cambridge University, both in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Consultative Group noted his practical legal approach to the mandate and a geographical focus to its implementation.

V. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Special Rapporteur on the right to education

30. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli (El Salvador). There were 27 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the six candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Farida SHAHEED (F) (Pakistan)

2. Mikel MANCISIDOR (M) (Spain)

3. Jan DE GROOF (M) (Belgium)

31. **Farida Shaheed** is the Executive Director of Shirkat Gah-Women's Resource Centre in Pakistan and the former first Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights. She worked as an independent expert consultant to various international and bilateral development agencies as well as to the government of Pakistan. She is a former member of the National Commission on the Status of Women. Ms. Shaheed has coordinated work by academic institutions and civil society organizations in China, Pakistan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Ms. Shaheed holds a degree in sociology from the University of Geneva and a Master's in Sociology from Leeds University in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. She has indicated her readiness to relinquish her position as the Executive Director if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted her excellent knowledge of and experience with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, as well as her experience with various aspects of education, both formal and informal. The Consultative Group highly valued the candidate's clear vision and focus to continue to further contribute to the development of the mandate.

32. **Mikel Mancisidor** is an adjunct professor of international human rights law at the American University Washington College of Law and a lecturer in international law at the University of Deusto in Spain. He has previously worked as a human rights coordinator for the NGO Fundación Mundubat, director of coordination of Gernika Gogoratuz Peace Research Center and director of the UNESCO Center at the Basque Country, all in Spain. He was awarded the Human Rights Golden Medal by the Spanish League of Human Rights in 2013 and received the Eusko Ikaskuntza Culture, Social

Sciences, Humanities and Arts Award in 2020 for his work in the human rights area. Mr. Mancisor has publications on the right to education and the right to science. Mr. Mancisor holds a law degree from the University of Deusto in Spain and a doctorate in international relations and diplomacy from Geneva School of Diplomacy. Since 2012, he has been a member of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, a position he would be willing to relinquish if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted his comprehensive knowledge of the issues pertaining to the mandate, his extensive experience with the United Nations system, both as an academic and a practitioner, as well as his legal focus on the mandate.

33. **Jan De Groof** is a professor of European Interdisciplinary Studies at the College of Europe in Belgium, professor at the Research Centre on Education Law at the National Research University, Higher School of Economics in Russia and an extraordinary professor at the Edu-HRight Research Unit at the North West University of South Africa. He is the president of the European Education Law and Policy Association (ELA), president of the Interuniversity Centre for Education Law and Policy and an international member of the National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine. Previously, Mr. De Groof was a holder of the UNESCO Chair on the right to education at the College of Europe and University of Antwerp in Belgium and held a number of public service positions at the Government of the Flemish Community in Belgium relating to education, culture, constitutional reform and ethics. He served as UNESCO Chargé de mission with the task to promote the right to education globally. He worked as professor at Tilburg University in the Netherlands and in the Universities of Ghent and Antwerp in Belgium. Mr. De Groof has provided legal expertise, consultancy and advisory services on education law and education rights to governments in cooperation with regional and international organizations. He has published extensively on the right to education. Mr. De Groof holds degrees in law, religious studies, philosophy and arts, as well as a doctorate on right to and freedom of education from the Catholic University of Louvain and honorary doctorates from South East European University in North Macedonia and the University of Pretoria in South Africa. The Consultative Group noted Mr. De Groof's academic credentials, deep expertise in the area of the mandate and his experience of cooperation with regional and international organizations.

VI. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

34. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Mr. Tom Neijens (Belgium). Due to conflicting commitments, Ms. Juhara Al-Suwaidi (Qatar) participated in the shortlisting but not in the interviews, deliberation and decision-making process for this mandate. There were eight eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the five candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following two candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Elizabeth SALMON (F) (Peru)

2. Sriprapha PETCHARAMESREE (F) (Thailand)

35. **Elizabeth Salmon** is the Director of Institute for Democracy and Human Rights, Director of the Master Programme on Human Rights and Full Professor at the Faculty of Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. She currently serves as Chair of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee and a member of the Working Group on Communications. She worked as a legal adviser on international human rights law and international humanitarian law at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Peru. Prior to that, she worked as a legal adviser at the International Criminal Court,

the United Nations Development Programme as well as the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Justice of Peru. She has published extensively on a variety of themes related to human rights. She holds a Degree in Law from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru and a Doctorate in Law from the University of Seville in Spain. Ms. Salmon indicated that, if appointed, she would resign from the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, in compliance with the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions. The Consultative Group noted her vision for the implementation of the mandate, knowledge and experience of the United Nations system as well as the attention to reprisals and gender-related issues.

36. **Sriprapha Petcharamesree** is a senior lecturer in human rights at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies of Mahidol University in Thailand and a guest lecturer at the Viet Nam National University in Hanoi. She is also an ad hoc senior research advisor on statelessness and citizenship to United Nations agencies. She currently serves as a member of the Migration Research and Publishing High-Level Advisory Panel of the International Organization for Migration and as the co-chair of the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism. Previously, she worked as a senior programme officer at the Department of Technical and Economic Cooperation of Thailand, as a senior lecturer at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies at Mahidol University in Thailand, as well as an adjunct professorial lecturer at the American University in Washington, D.C. She has also previously served as a representative of Thailand to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights. Ms. Petcharamesree holds a Bachelor's in Political Science from Thammasat University in Thailand, a Degree of in-Depth Studies (DEA) in Comparative Politics and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Paris X-Nanterre. She indicated that, if she were to be appointed, she would relinquish her activities with the United Nations agencies and ASEAN, in compliance with the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions. The Consultative Group noted her vast academic knowledge in areas indirectly related to the mandate and her experience at the regional level.

VII. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

37. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Ms. Juhara Al-Suwaidi (Qatar). There were 30 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the seven candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Malcolm David EVANS (M) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

2. Alice Jill EDWARDS (F) (Australia)

3. Felice GAER (F) (United States of America)

38. **Malcolm David Evans** is a professor of international law at the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and holds an honorary title of a member of the Institute of International Law. He served as Chair of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and Co-chair of the Advisory Board supporting United Nations Global Study of Children Deprived of Liberty. He contributed to the drafting of the Robben Island Guidelines on the Prevention of Torture in Africa and to the revision of the Nelson Mandela Rules. He has acted as an expert for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. He has published extensively on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment covering, particularly, torture prevention in Europe, and on the African human rights system. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Law and a PhD in International Law,

both from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Consultative Group noted his considerable experience with the United Nations system and cooperative approach to working with different stakeholders, in particular, with States. The Group valued his clear vision of the mandate and a practical approach to its implementation.

39. **Alice Jill Edwards** is an adjunct professor of international human rights law at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and a barrister qualified in Australia. She was the Head of Secretariat for the Convention against Torture Initiative working with states on the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Torture. She worked as chief legal adviser at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other posts in various field locations with this agency. Ms. Edwards has published extensively on torture and inhuman treatment, human trafficking, women's rights, rights of refugees and asylum seekers and other issues of human rights, humanitarian law and refugee law. She holds a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Asian Studies from the University of Tasmania in Australia, a Master of Laws in Public International Law from the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, a Diploma in International and Comparative Law from René Cassin International Institute for Human Rights in France and a PhD in Public International Law from the Australian National University. The Consultative Group noted her in-depth knowledge of the mandate, her strong legal background and experience with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including vast field experience.

40. **Felice Gaer** is the Director of the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights of the American Jewish Committee in the United States of the America. She served as a member of the United Nations Committee Against Torture, including as Vice-Chair. She also served as Commissioner on the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. Prior to that, she was a regents professor in international human rights at the University of California, Executive Director for European Programs of United Nations Association, Executive Director of International League for Human Rights and a program officer at the Ford Foundation, all in the United States of America. She is a recipient of awards and honorary positions for her achievements in advancing international human rights. Ms. Gaer has published extensively on human rights topics, including on torture, human rights of women and strengthening of the United Nations human rights system. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Wellesley College, as well as a Master of Arts and a Master of Philosophy, both in political science, from Columbia University in the United States of America. The Consultative Group noted her deep knowledge of international human rights instruments and her extensive experience with the United Nations, her solid understanding of its operations, as well as her clear vision of the mandate.

VIII. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from Eastern European States

41. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Mr. Abdellah Boutadghart (Morocco). There were four eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the three candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Grażyna BARANOWSKA (F) (Poland)

2. Eva NUDD (F) (Slovakia)

3. Ermal FRASHERI (M) (Albania)

42. **Grażyna Baranowska** is an assistant professor at the Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Human Rights Centre in Warsaw, Poland, and a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral researcher at Hertie School in Berlin, Germany. She worked as a researcher and policy advisor in a project on enforced disappearances at the German Institute of Human Rights and as the director of the human rights course at the Foundation: Human Rights Promotion in Poznan, Poland. Prior to that, she worked as a researcher on the project “FRAME: Fostering Human Rights Among European (Internal and External) Policies” at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland. She has published extensively on enforced disappearance and on missing persons. She holds a Master’s in Turkish Philology and a Master’s in European Studies, both from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland, and a PhD in International Law from the Polish Academy of Sciences. The Consultative Group noted her deep knowledge of the legal context of the mandate, particularly as it relates to Eastern Europe, as well as her clear vision for its further development. It also noted her experience of the United Nations system and cooperative approach with its stakeholders.

43. **Eva Nudd** is a legal adviser at “Dignity - Danish Institute Against Torture”. She worked as a legal adviser at REDRESS. Prior to that, she worked as a legal officer at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and as a legal consultant for the Open Society Justice Initiative, both in Kenya. She also worked in various legal positions in the United States of America and in Kenya on issues relating to asylum seekers, migration, female genital mutilation and gender-based crimes. She published extensively on enforced disappearances in Africa. She holds a Bachelor’s in Psychology from the University of Iowa, a Master’s in International Relations from Seton Hall University and a Juris Doctor degree from Fordham University School of Law in New York, all in the United States of America. She has indicated her readiness to relinquish her position at Dignity if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted her knowledge, expertise and experience relating to the mandate, particularly as it relates to the African region, as well as her gender- and victim-sensitive approach to the implementation of the mandate.

44. **Ermal Frasher** is a member of the United Nations Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. He worked as a consultant for the Authority for Information on Documents of former State Security in Albania. Prior to that, he worked as an adjunct professor of international law and migration at Denver University Sturm College of Law and as an adjunct professor of public international law at Babson College, Wellesley, both in the United States of America. He holds a Master of Laws from Jagiellonian University in Poland, as well as a Master of Laws and a Doctorate of Juridical Science, both from Harvard Law School in the United States of America. Mr. Frasher indicated that, if appointed, he would resign from the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, in compliance with the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions. The Consultative Group noted his knowledge and experience of the United Nations system, in particular relating to the rights of migrant workers.

IX. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States

45. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by H.E. Mr. Joaquín Alexander Maza Martelli (El Salvador). There were 11 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following two candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Damilola OLAWUYI (M) (Nigeria)

2. David BILCHITZ (M) (South Africa)

46. **Damilola Olawuyi** is a full professor and the UNESCO Chair in Environmental Law and Sustainable Development at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar. He is also the director of the Institute for Oil, Gas, Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development at the Afe Babalola University, Nigeria. He currently serves as an Independent Expert of the Working Group on Extractive Industries, Environment and Human Rights Violations in Africa (WGEI) of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and he sits on the governing board of the Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (NEITI). Mr. Olawuyi has acted as a project consultant for the World Bank, UNESCO and UNEP. He has published extensively on business, environment, energy and human rights law with a focus on Africa and the Middle East. Mr. Olawuyi holds a Bachelor of Law degree from Igbinedion University, a Baccalaureate in Law from the Nigerian Law School, both in Nigeria. He also holds a Master of Laws from the University of Calgary in Canada, and a Master of Laws from Harvard Law School in the United States of America, as well as a Doctor of Philosophy in Law from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Mr. Olawuyi indicated that, if appointed, he would resign from his positions at WGEI and NEITI, in compliance with the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions. The Consultative Group noted the candidate's deep knowledge of the mandate and his willingness to engage in a constructive manner with the states, as well as his understanding of the current dynamics in the African region.

47. **David Bilchitz** is a professor of law at the University of Johannesburg in South Africa and a professor at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He is also the director of the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law at the University of Johannesburg. He previously worked as a senior research associate at the University of Pretoria in South Africa and as a law clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa. He has published extensively in the field of business and human rights, most recently on the legal obligations of corporations with respect to human rights. Mr. Bilchitz holds an LLB, a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and a Bachelor of Arts in Law and Philosophy, all from the University of Johannesburg in South Africa, as well as a Master of Philosophy and a PhD in Law, both from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Consultative Group noted the candidate's global and regional experience on business and human rights and his previous involvement in the development of the draft legally binding instrument on business and human rights.

X. Candidates proposed by the Consultative Group to the President for the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Western European and other States

48. The meetings held by the Consultative Group in relation to this mandate were chaired by Mr. Tom Neijens (Belgium). There were 16 eligible candidates for this vacancy. Of the four candidates interviewed, the Consultative Group decided to recommend the following three candidates as best qualified to fulfil the mandate, ranking them in the order of preference below.

1. Robert MCCORQUODALE (M) (Australia)

2. Erika GEORGE (F) (United States of America)

3. Ilias BANTEKAS (M) (Greece)

49. **Robert McCorquodale** is a professor of international law and human rights at the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He is a barrister at Brick

Court Chambers and the founder and principal of Inclusive Law, a consultancy on business and human rights. He is a former director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. Prior to that, he worked as an associate professor in international human rights law at the Australian National University, and as a lecturer and Director of Studies in Law at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He was a special advisor on corporate responsibility for human rights to the Joint Committee on Human Rights of the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Mr. McCorquodale has published extensively on the issues of business and human rights. He holds a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Law from the University of Sydney in Australia, a Masters of Law and a PhD in International Human Rights Law from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The candidate indicated his readiness to relinquish his consultancy if appointed to the mandate. The Consultative Group noted his deep knowledge and lengthy and varied experience relating to the mandate, both globally and regionally. It also noted his cooperative attitude to working constructively with all stakeholders and his methodic and pragmatic legal approach to the implementation of the mandate.

50. **Erika George** is a professor of law and the director of the Tanner Humanities Center of the University of Utah in the United States of America. She also serves on the Board of Trustees of Earthjustice. She has a previous experience of working as a fellow and consultant for Human Rights Watch and as a corporate litigation associate for law firms in the United States of America. Ms. George has published extensively on business and human rights, corporate social responsibility and access to remedy. She holds a Bachelor of Arts, Politics, Economics, Rhetoric and Law, and a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Chicago, as well as a Juris Doctor in Law from the Harvard Law School, all in the United States of America. The Consultative Group noted her knowledge of issues relating to the mandate and long-standing commitment to the mandate, as well as her normative perspective on its implementation.

51. **Ilias Bantekas** is a professor of transnational law at the Hamad bin Khalifa University in Qatar and a professor of international human rights law at Georgetown University in the United States of America. He worked as a professor of transnational law at Brunel University London and as a professor of international law at the University of Westminster, both in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Mr. Bantekas has published extensively on human rights. He holds a Degree in Law from the University of Athens in Greece, a Master of Laws and a PhD in International Law and Human Rights from the University of Liverpool and a Diploma in Theology and Religious Studies from Cambridge University, all in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Consultative Group noted his knowledge, expertise and experience relating to the mandate.

*Annex I - List of eligible candidates by mandate⁴***Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States**

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Juan Manuel	AMAYA-CASTRO	Colombia	M
Ramiro	BARRIGA	Plurinational State of Bolivia	M
Paulo de Tarso	LUGON ARANTES	Brazil	M
Victor	SACO	Peru	M
Daniel Fernando	URIBE TERAN	Ecuador	M
Liliana	VALIÑA	Argentina	F

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Bibhu	DASH	India	M
Ying	GAO	China	F
Nazila	GHANEA	Islamic Republic of Iran	F
Satvinder	JUSS	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Junyan	LIANG	China	F
Lina	MA	China	F
Jihong	MO	China	M
Amna	NAZIR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Ewelina U.	OCHAB	Poland	F
Rosemarie	PARRIS RICHTER	Canada	F
Louis Robert	SENGHOR	Senegal	M
Drolma	SONAM	China	F
Denakpon	TCHOBO	United States of America	M
Knox	THAMES	United States of America	M
Niteesh Kumar	UPADHYAY	India	M
Katharina	VON SCHNURBEIN	Germany	F

Special Rapporteur on the right to education

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Raghad	AL SAADI	United States of America	F
Taghreed	ALSARAJ	Saudi Arabia	F
Sylvain	AUBRY	France	M
Ilias	BANTEKAS	Greece	M

⁴ The list of mandates and of candidates is provided in alphabetical order.

Bibhu	DASH	India	M
Jan	DE GROOF	Belgium	M
Fatima-Zohra	DELLADJ-SEBAA	Algeria	F
Loise	GICHUHI	Kenya	F
Souhila	GUEMMOUDI	Algeria	F
Steven	HAINES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Carla	HANANIA DE VARELA	El Salvador	F
Anohar	JOHN	India	M
Xia	LI	China	F
Chen	LIU	China	F
Jihene	MALEK	Tunisia	F
Mikel	MANCISIDOR	Spain	M
Joash Abere	MIGOSI	Kenya	M
Luísa	NETTO	Brazil	F
Christine Muhonja	OLANDO	Kenya	F
Farida	SHAHEED	Pakistan	F
Hayat	SHEHAB	Saudi Arabia	F
Tony Peters Musungu	SISULE	Kenya	M
Rhona	SMITH	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Min	TIAN	China	M
Juliette	TORABIAN	France	F
Niteesh Kumar	UPADHYAY	India	M
Yan	XIANG	China	F

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Homayoun	ALIZADEH	Austria	M
Michael C.	DAVIS	United States of America	M
Ermal	FRASHERI	Albania	M
Muhammad Muzahidul	ISLAM	Bangladesh	M
Sriprapha	PETCHARAMESREE	Thailand	F
Andrzej	RZEPLIŃSKI	Poland	M
Elizabeth	SALMON	Peru	F
Ricardo III	SUNGA	Philippines	M

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Uju Roselyn	AGOMOH	Nigeria	F

Siham	AL-JIBOURY	Iraq	F
Sareta	ASHRAPH	Trinidad and Tobago	F
Lise-Lotte	CARLSSON	Finland	F
John	CERONE	United States of America	M
Michael C.	DAVIS	United States of America	M
Jasteena	DHILLON	Canada	F
Jan	DOERFEL	Germany	M
Carolyn	EDGERTON	Canada	F
Alice Jill	EDWARDS	Australia	F
Malcolm David	EVANS	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Karina	FERNANDEZ	Chile	F
Felice	GAER	United States of America	F
Lisa	HAJJAR	United States of America	F
Xiangping	HE	China	F
Verónica	HINESTROZA ARENAS	Colombia	F
Segun	JEGEDE	Nigeria	M
Ting	JIN	China	F
Anohar	JOHN	India	M
Changlin	LI	China	M
Xiao	LI	China	F
Sabrina	MAHTANI	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Piya	MUQIT	Bangladesh	F
Amna	NAZIR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Maria Alicia	NOLI	Argentina	F
Ying	SHEN	China	F
El Hadji Malick	SOW	Senegal	M
Elīna	ŠTEINERTE	Latvia	F
Vladimir	TOCHILOVSKY	Ukraine	M
Karen	TSE	United States of America	F

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Grazyna	BARANOWSKA	Poland	F
Ermal	FRASHERI	Albania	M
Eva	NUDD	Slovakia	F
Ewelina U.	OCHAB	Poland	F

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Omogboyega	ABE	Nigeria	M
Marie-Louise	AREN	Nigeria	F
David	BILCHITZ	South Africa	M
Kuzi	CHARAMBA	Zimbabwe	M
Solomon Ayele	DERSSO	Ethiopia	M
Stephen Gitahi	GITHUKU	Kenya	M
Sabelo	GUMEDZE	South Africa	M
Erick	KASSONGO KALONJI	Democratic Republic of the Congo	M
Damilola	OLAWUYI	Nigeria	M
Louis Robert	SENGHOR	Senegal	M
Tongnoma	ZONGO	Burkina Faso	M

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

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Husain	ABDULLA	United States of America	M
Ilias	BANTEKAS	Greece	M
Cristiana	CARLETTI	Italy	F
Erika	GEORGE	United States of America	F
Shadan	KAPRI	United States of America	F
Olga	MARTIN-ORTEGA	Spain	F
Robert	MCCORQUODALE	Australia	M
Aidan	MCQUADE	Ireland	M
Richard	MEERAN	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Justine	NOLAN	Australia	F
Claire	O'BRIEN	Ireland	F
Frances	RADAY	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Suzanne	SPEARS	United States of America	F
Ekkehard	STRAUSS	Germany	M
Tara	VAN HO	United States of America	F
Mariette	VAN HUIJSTEE	Netherlands	F

*Annex II – List of shortlisted candidates interviewed by the Consultative Group⁵***Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, member from Latin American and Caribbean States**

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Paulo de Tarso	LUGON ARANTES	Brazil	M
Victor	SACO	Peru	M
Liliana	VALIÑA	Argentina	F

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Nazila	GHANEA	Islamic Republic of Iran	F
Satvinder	JUSS	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Amna	NAZIR	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	F
Knox	THAMES	United States of America	M

Special Rapporteur on the right to education

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Ilias	BANTEKAS	Greece	M
Jan	DE GROOF	Belgium	M
Mikel	MANCISIDOR	Spain	M
Joash Abere	MIGOSI	Kenya	M
Farida	SHAHEED	Pakistan	F
Juliette	TORABIAN	France	F

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Homayoun	ALIZADEH	Austria	M
Muhammad Muzahidul	ISLAM	Bangladesh	M
Sriprapha	PETCHARAMESREE	Thailand	F
Andrzej	RZEPLIŃSKI	Poland	M
Elizabeth	SALMON	Peru	F

⁵ The list of mandates and of candidates is provided in alphabetical order.

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Uju Roselyn	AGOMOH	Nigeria	F
Lise-Lotte	CARLSSON	Finland	F
Alice Jill	EDWARDS	Australia	F
Malcolm David	EVANS	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	M
Felice	GAER	United States of America	F
Verónica	HINESTROZA ARENAS	Colombia	F
El Hadji Malick	SOW	Senegal	M

Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, member from Eastern European States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Grazyna	BARANOWSKA	Poland	F
Ermal	FRASHERI	Albania	M
Eva	NUDD	Slovakia	F

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from African States

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Omogboyega	ABE	Nigeria	M
David	BILCHITZ	South Africa	M
Kuzi	CHARAMBA	Zimbabwe	M
Damilola	OLAWUYI	Nigeria	M

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

First name	Last name	Nationality	Gender
Ilias	BANTEKAS	Greece	M
Cristiana	CARLETTI	Italy	F
Erika	GEORGE	United States of America	F
Robert	MCCORQUODALE	Australia	M
