



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: SPs/5

**Subject: Fifth Meeting of States parties to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of the States parties to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances and has the honour to refer to the forthcoming meeting of States parties to the Convention.

**The fifth Meeting of States parties to the Convention will convene on 25 June 2019, at 10:00 am, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, in Conference room 4.** It will mainly focus on the election of five members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances whose terms are due to expire on 30 June 2019. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of the General Assembly resolution 68/268 on the strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the treaty body system, the Meeting may also comprise discussions on the implementation of the Convention.

In accordance with article 26 of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, members of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons nominated by States Parties from among their nationals, at a meeting of States Parties convened for this purpose. The Committee shall “consist of ten experts of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, who shall serve in their personal capacity and be independent and impartial. The members of the Committee shall be elected by the States Parties according to equitable geographical distribution. Due account shall be taken of the usefulness of the participation in the work of the Committee of persons having relevant legal experience and of balanced gender representation”. According to paragraph 4 of article 26 of the Convention, the members of the Committee “shall be elected for a term of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election once”.

The Secretary-General would like to draw attention to General Assembly resolution 68/268, adopted on 9 April 2014 entitled “Strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system” and its paragraphs 10 and 13 on the nomination and election of treaty body experts:

“10. *Encourages* States parties to continue their efforts to nominate experts of high moral standing and recognized competence and experience in the field of human rights, in particular in the field covered by the relevant treaty, and, as appropriate, to consider adopting national policies or processes with respect to the nomination of experts as candidates for human rights treaty bodies;”

“13. *Encourages* States parties, in the election of treaty body experts, to give due consideration, as stipulated in the relevant human rights instruments, to equitable geographical distribution, the representation of the different forms of civilization and the principal legal systems, balanced gender representation and the participation of experts with disabilities in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies.”

The current gender and geographic composition of the membership of Committee as well as the list of the five members of the Committee whose mandates will expire on 30 June 2019, is available in Annex II.

The Secretary-General, therefore, has the honour to invite your Excellency's Government to submit its nomination for membership to the Committee, in accordance with article 26, paragraph 3, of the Convention. **Nominations and biographical data, using the attached Word format (Annex I) should be submitted to the Secretary-General Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at Geneva, Switzerland, by 8 March 2019 at the latest**, at the following email address: [ced@ohchr.org](mailto:ced@ohchr.org).

All relevant information on elections can be found on the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights website at the following link:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CED/Pages/Elections2019.aspx>

Information about discussions on matters related to the implementation of the Convention will be shared with your Excellences in due course.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a vertical line followed by two large, overlapping loops.

7 December 2018