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Agenda item 5

Report of the Advisory Committee on its tenth session

Report of the Advisory Committee on its tenth session

Geneva, 18–22 February 2013

Rapporteur: Obiora Chinedu Okafor

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I. Action taken by the Advisory Committee at its tenth session

10/1. New mandates

At its ninth meeting, held on 22 February 2013, the Advisory Committee expressed serious concern regarding its current lack of new mandates.

Recalling the provisions of paragraph 39 of Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011 on intersessional work between members, the Advisory Committee encouraged those members who had presented research proposals, referred to in action 9/1 (contained in A/HRC/AC/9/6), to engage, as from the date of the Council's decision to confer a mandate on the Committee, in a preliminary drafting process in respect of the relevant mandates, together with other interested members of the Committee.

The Advisory Committee also encouraged interested members of the Committee to engage in a preliminary drafting process as from the date of any decision by the Council to confer on the Committee new mandates on any other themes.

The Advisory Committee further encouraged those members concerned to share with the Committee at its eleventh session the results of their preliminary work on these mandates.

10/2. Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking

At its ninth meeting, held on 22 February 2013, recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 18/10 of 29 September 2011 and 21/18 of 27 September 2012, the Advisory Committee requested the drafting group to finalize the report on human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking and to submit it to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fourth session.

II. Officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, held its tenth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 18 to 22 February 2013. The session was opened by the Chairperson for its ninth session, Latif Hüseyinov.
2. The President of the Human Rights Council, Remigiusz Henczel, addressed the Advisory Committee at its first meeting, on 18 February 2013.
3. At the same meeting, Bacre Ndiaye, Director of the Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division, made a statement on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
4. Also at the same meeting, participants observed a minute of silence for the victims of human rights violations around the world.

B. Composition of the Advisory Committee

5. The names of the members are as follows:¹ Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani (Bahrain, 2015); José Antonio Bengoa Cabello (Chile, 2013); Laurence Boisson de Chazournes (France, 2014); Chung Chinsung (Republic of Korea, 2013); Mario L. Coriolano (Argentina, 2015); Wolfgang Stefan Heinz (Germany, 2013); Latif Hüseyinov (Azerbaijan, 2014); Alfred Ntunduguru Karokora (Uganda, 2013); Vladimir Kartashkin (Russian Federation, 2013); Obiora Chinedu Okafor (Nigeria, 2014); Katharina Pabel (Austria, 2015); Anantonia Reyes Prado (Guatemala, 2014); Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing (Philippines, 2014); Shigeki Sakamoto (Japan, 2013); Dheerujlall Seetulsingh (Mauritius, 2014); Ahmer Bilal Soofi (Pakistan, 2014); Imeru Tamrat Yigezu (Ethiopia, 2015); and Mona Zulficar (Egypt, 2013).

C. Attendance

6. The session was attended by members of the Advisory Committee, observers for Member States of the United Nations, observers for non-Member States and observers for intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, other organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations. Vladimir Kartashkin was unable to attend the session for medical reasons.

D. Meetings and documentation

7. In the course of the present session, the Advisory Committee held nine plenary meetings and seven closed meetings. For the action taken by the Advisory Committee at the present session, see chapter I above. For a list of documents, see Annex III below.

E. Officers

8. In accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the Advisory Committee, at the first meeting of the tenth session, held on 18 February 2013, the Advisory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson:	Wolfgang Stefan Heinz
Vice Chairpersons:	Saeed Mohamed Al Faihaini Latif Hüseyinov Anantonia Reyes Prado
Rapporteur:	Obiora Chinedu Okafor

F. Adoption of the agenda

9. At its first meeting, on 18 February 2013, the Advisory Committee adopted the provisional agenda A/HRC/AC/10/1 as orally revised (see Annex I).

¹ The year in parentheses indicates when the term of office of the member expires (terms of office end on 30 September).

G. Organization of work

10. Also at its first meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the draft programme of work prepared by the secretariat (document without a symbol circulated in the meeting room).

III. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions

A. Requests currently under consideration by the Committee

1. Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking

11. At its first and second meetings, on 18 February 2013, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 18/10 and 21/18, held discussions on human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking. The Rapporteur of the Drafting Group, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, introduced the draft final report submitted to Advisory Committee (A/HRC/AC/10/2). During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and Government observers (see Annex II). At the second meeting, the Rapporteur of the Drafting Group made concluding remarks.

12. At its ninth meeting, held on 22 February 2013, the Rapporteur of the Drafting Group introduced the draft text contained in document A/HRC/AC/10/L.2, sponsored by all the Committee members. The draft text was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chapter I, action 10/2).

2. Integration of a gender perspective

13. At its third meeting, on 19 February 2013, the Advisory Committee held a discussion on the integration of a gender perspective into the implementation of its mandate in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 6/30 of 14 December 2007. In this context, Violeta Neubauer, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), made a presentation on the work of the CEDAW. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and a Government observer (see Annex II).

3. Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities

14. Also at its third meeting, on 19 February 2013, the Advisory Committee held a discussion on the integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities in carrying out its work in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 7/9 of 27 March 2008. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and an observer for an intergovernmental organization (see Annex II).

B. Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council

1. Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

15. At the third and eighth meetings, on 19 and 21 February 2013 respectively, Mona Zulficar, Chairperson of the Drafting Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Right to Peace, made a presentation about the discussion at the first session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Right to Peace held from 18 to 21 February 2013. At the third meeting, the Rapporteur of

the Drafting Group, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, also briefed the Committee about related activities.

2. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

16. At the third meeting, on 19 February 2013, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Chairperson of the Drafting Group of the report on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, made a presentation about the discussions held on 15 February 2013 at the seminar organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 19/33 of 23 March 2012. During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members (see Annex II).

IV. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011

A. Review of methods of work

17. At the fourth meeting, on 19 February 2013, representatives of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights made presentations on the work and modalities of other subsidiary bodies of the Human Rights Council, namely the Social Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Forum on Minority Issues, and the Forum on Business and Human Rights. During the ensuing discussion, members and an observer for a non-governmental organization made statements (see Annex II).

B. Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities

18. At the fifth meeting, on 20 February 2013, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes made a presentation on the concept paper on access to justice and the fight against corruption contained in action 9/1 (see A/HRC/AC/9/6). During the ensuing discussion, Committee members and an observer for an intergovernmental organization made statements (see Annex II).

19. At the sixth meeting, on 20 February 2013, Chung Chinsung made a presentation on the concept paper on local government and human rights contained in action 9/1 (see A/HRC/AC/9/6). During the ensuing discussion, members made statements (see Annex II).

20. At the same meeting, Anantonia Reyes Prado made a presentation on the concept paper on globalization, human rights and youth contained in action 9/1 (see A/HRC/AC/9/6). During the ensuing discussion, members made statements (see Annex II).

21. At the seventh meeting, on 21 February 2013, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing made a presentation on the concept paper on human rights and humanitarian action contained in action 9/1 (see A/HRC/AC/9/6). During the ensuing discussion, members and Government observers made statements (see Annex II).

22. At the same meeting, Mona Zulficar made a presentation on the concept paper on a model law on equal opportunities and non-discrimination contained in action 9/1 (see A/HRC/AC/9/6). During the ensuing discussion, members made statements (see Annex II).

23. At its eighth meeting, the Committee considered new priorities. Mario L. Coriolano made a presentation on a possible new study on citizen safety and human rights. During the ensuing discussion, members made statements (see Annex II).

24. At its ninth meeting, on 22 February 2013, the Rapporteur introduced oral revisions to the draft text contained in document A/HRC/AC/10/L.1, sponsored by all the Committee members. The draft text was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chapter I, action 10/1).

V. Report of the Advisory Committee on its tenth session

25. At its ninth meeting, held on 22 February 2013, the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee presented the draft report on the Committee's tenth session (document without a symbol circulated in the meeting room). The Advisory Committee adopted the draft report *ad referendum* and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with its finalization.

26. At the same meeting, Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Mario L. Coriolano, Katharina Pabel, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing and Imeru Tamrat Yigezu made statements. Giuliano Comba made closing remarks on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

27. After Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Latif Hüseyinov, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, and Ahmer Bilal Soofi had made valedictory statements, and following the usual exchange of courtesies, the Chairperson made closing remarks and declared the tenth session of the Advisory Committee closed.

Annex I

Agenda

1. Elections of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions:
 - (a) Requests currently under consideration by the Committee:
 - (i) Integration of a gender perspective;
 - (ii) Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;
 - (iii) Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities;
 - (iv) Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking.
 - (b) Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council:
 - (i) Right to food;
 - (ii) Promotion of the right of peoples to peace;
 - (iii) Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;
 - (iv) Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms through a better understanding of traditional values of humankind.
4. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011:
 - (a) Review of methods of work;
 - (b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities.
5. Report of the Advisory Committee on its tenth session.

Annex II

[English only]

List of speakers

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
3. Requests to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions		
(a) Requests currently under consideration by the Committee	(i) Integration of a gender perspective	Third meeting 19 February 2013
	(iii) Integration of the perspective of persons with disabilities	Third meeting 19 February 2013
	(iv) Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking	First and second meetings 18 February 2013
(b) Follow-up to reports of the Committee submitted to the Human Rights Council	(iii) Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights	Third meeting 19 February 2013

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Shigeki Sakamoto, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Mona Zulficar

Government observer: Algeria

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing

Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Laurence Boisson de Charzournes, Shigeki Sakamoto, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Ahmer Bilal Soofi

Government observers: Algeria, Gabon, United States of America

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing

4. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, and of section III of the annex to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011

(a) Review of methods of work

Fourth meeting
19 February 2013

Members: José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Chung Chinsung, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Ahmer Bilal Soofi, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing

Observer for a non governmental organization: North–South XXI

(b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities

Access to justice and the fight against corruption

Fourth meeting
20 February 2013

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Chung Chinsung, Latif Hüseyinov, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh

Observer for an intergovernmental organization: Council of Europe

Local government and human rights

Sixth meeting
20 February 2013

Members: Mario L. Coriolano, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Latif Hüseyinov, Obiora Chinedu Okafor, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Anantonia Reyes Prado, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Imeru Tamrat Yigezu

Globalization, human rights and youth

Sixth meeting
20 February 2013

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al Faihani, José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Cecilia Rachel V. Quisumbing, Dheerujlall Seetulsingh, Imeru

Human rights and humanitarian
action

Seventh meeting
21 February 2013

Tamrat Yigezu

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al
Faihani, Laurence Boisson de
Chazournes, Wolfgang Stefan
Heinz, Obiora Chinedu Okafor,
Anantonia Reyes Prado, Shigeki
Sakamoto, Ahmer Bilal Soofi

Government observers: United
States of America, Uruguay

A model law on equal opportunities
and non discrimination

Seventh meeting
21 February 2013

Members: Saeed Mohamed Al
Faihani, Chung Chinsung, Cecilia
Rachel V. Quisumbing, Wolfgang
Stefan Heinz, Dheerujlall
Seetulsingh

New priorities

Eighth meeting
21 February 2013

Members: José Antonio Bengoa
Cabello, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz,
Anantonia Reyes Prado, Imeru
Tamrat Yigezu

Annex III

[English only]

List of documents issued for the tenth session of the Advisory Committee*Documents issued in the general series*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/AC/10/1	2	Provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/10/1/Add.1	2	Annotations to the provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/10/1/Add.1/Corr.1	2	Annotations to the provisional agenda, corrigendum (English only)
A/HRC/AC/10/2	3	Draft final report on human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking
A/HRC/AC/10/3	5	Report of the Advisory Committee on its tenth session

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/AC/10/L.1	4	New mandates
A/HRC/AC/10/L.2	3	Human rights and issues related to terrorist hostage-taking

Documents issued in the non-governmental organizations series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	
A/HRC/AC/10/NGO/1	3	Written statement* submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/AC/10/NGO/2	3	Joint written statement* submitted by the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches (CCIA/WCC), the International Association of Soldiers for Peace, Zonta International, the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS), the International Council Of Women (ICW-CIF), the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN), the Brahma Kumaris University (BKU), Soroptimist International (SI), International Institute for Non-aligned Studies (IINAS), Make Mothers Matter International (MMM), non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, the World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA), Buddha's Light International Association (BLIA), the Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (España), Pax Romana (International the Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and the International Movement of Catholic Students), the Temple of Understanding (TOU), the Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF), the Worldwide Organization for Women (WOW), the Union of Arab Jurists (UAJ), Rencontre Africaine pour la Defense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO), the Foundation for the Refugee Education Trust (RET), the International Bridges to Justice (IBJ), the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC), the American Association of Jurists (AAJ), Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, the Lassalle-Institut, the UNESCO Centre of Catalonia (UNESCO CAT), the Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA), the International Movement for Fraternal Union Among Races and Peoples (UFER), the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers (FIFCJ), the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), the International Women's Year Liaison Group (IWYLG), the Institute of International Social Development, the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS), the Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation (LGWPF), Pax Christi International, International Catholic Peace Movement, the Tandem Project, the Solar Cookers International (SCI), the United States Federation for Middle East Peace

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

(USFMEP), the Network Women in Development Europe (KULU, Denmark), North–South XXI, the United Towns Agency for North–South Cooperation, the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD), Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, the International Forum for Child Welfare, the BADIL Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, the Arab Lawyers Union, the General Federation of Iraqi Women, the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities (IAPMC), the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, the Comite International pour le Respect et l'Application de la Charte Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples (CIRAC), the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS), the World for World Organisation (WFWO), the Universal Esperanto Association (UEA), the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), the General Arab Women Federation (GAWF), the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), the Centre Independent de Recherches et d'Initiatives pour le Dialogue (CIRID), the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), Peace Boat, the Comision Colombiana de Juristas (CCJ), the Association of African Women for Research and Development (AAWORD), the Center for Migration Studies of New York (CMS) (member of the Scalabrini International Migration Network), the World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation (WAPR), the Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research, the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), the Planetary Association for Clean Energy (PACE), Initiatives of Change International, Associazione Comunita Papa Giovanni XXIII, the Action internationale pour la paix et le développement dans la région des Grands Lacs, the General Arab Women Federation, the African Peace Network (APNET), Right to Energy Sos Future, the Fondation Idole, IUS PRIMI VIRI International Association, the African Women Association (AWA), the Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), African Services Committee (ASC), Guild of Services, European Women's Lobby (EWL), European Union of Women (EUW), Women's Union of Russia (WUR), Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (APDH), International Islamic Relief Organization (IIROSA), Japanese Association of International Women's Rights, Japanese Worker's Committee for Human Rights, Organisation pour la Communication en Afrique et de Promotion de la Cooperation Economique Internationale (OCAPROCE), United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders), United Religions Initiative (URI), Nonviolent Peaceforce, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Bangwe et Dialogue, Prison Fellowship International (PFI), Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (IIMA), Center for Global Community and World Law, Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l'homme, Syriac Universal Alliance (the Federation Syriaque

International), non-governmental organizations in special consultative status, the Association of World Citizens, the Federation for Peace and Conciliation (IFPC), the World Association for the School as an Instrument of Peace, the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR), the Institute for Planetary Synthesis (IPS), the International Peace Bureau (IPB), the 3HO Foundation, Inc. (Healthy, Happy, Holy Organization), the Dzeno Association, the Country Women Association of Nigeria (COWAN), the Association Nigerienne des Scouts de l'Environnement (ANSEN), the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, the Law and Development (APWLD), the International Progress Organization (IPO), European Federation of Road Traffic Crash Victims, Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples, non-governmental organizations on the roster [*sic*]

A/HRC/AC/10/NGO/3	3	Written statement* submitted by Focus on the Family, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/AC/10/NGO/4	3	Joint written statement* submitted by the Alliance Defense Fund, Mujer para la Mujer A.C., Priests for Life, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).