21 May 2024

Excellencies,

I have the honour to transmit to you the report of the Consultative Group dated 20 May 2024, with its recommendations of candidates for consideration for the appointment to the following two, out of three, vacancies of mandate holders that are to be filled at the fifty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council:

1. **Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran** (Human Rights Council resolution 55/19)
2. **Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, member from Eastern European States** (Human Rights Council resolution 53/3)

I have been informed that the Consultative Group will send an addendum to the enclosed report, which will include the recommendations of candidates for the vacancy of member from Western European and other States of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, once the remaining members of the Consultative Group have been appointed by their respective regional groups and the minimum quorum required for decision-making has been reached.[[1]](#footnote-1)

I take this opportunity to recall that, according to paragraph 52 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, “on the basis of the recommendations of the Consultative Group and following broad consultations, in particular through the regional coordinators, the President of the Council will identify an appropriate candidate for each vacancy.”

In line with this paragraph, I will be holding broad consultations, based on this report, with a view to identifying appropriate candidates for the above-mentioned vacancies.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Omar ZNIBER

President of the Human Rights Council

Enclosure

To all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Office at Geneva

1. In this respect, see letter of the Consultative Group of 30 April 2024, available on [Human Rights Council Extranet](https://hrcmeetings.ohchr.org/PresidencyBureau/BureauRegionalGroupsCorrespondence/Correspondence/Letter%20from%20the%20Consultative%20Group%20to%20the%20President%20of%20the%20Human%20Rights%20Council%20on%20the%20selection%20of%20the%20member%20from%20Western%20European%20and%20other%20States%20in%20the%20Working%20Group%20on%20the%20use%20of%20mercenaries%20.pdf). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)