

Minutes of the Human Rights Council Bureau

13 March 2015

On 13 March 2015, the Bureau held a meeting to discuss and conduct: (1) the request by the Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza conflict to postpone the presentation of its report to the Council at a later session; (2) the drawing by lots of the list of speakers for the adoption of UPR reports under agenda item 6 during the 28th session of the HRC; (3) AOB.

(1) The request by the Commission of Inquiry on the 2014 Gaza conflict to postpone the presentation of its report to the Council at a later session

With regard to the request by the COI on the 2014 Gaza conflict, the President informed the Bureau that, after consultations with concerned parties, he intends to propose on Monday 16 March, that the Council request the Commissioners to present a short oral update on the status of the report to the Council on 23 March 2015 without any interactive dialogue as no report will be presented at this session. The consideration of the report of the COI, as mandated in Council resolution A/HRC/RES/S-21/1, will be postponed to the 29th session, in June 2015. The President also informed the Bureau that the secretariat will be requested to make a statement to the Council on the programme budgetary implications, if any, of the postponement of the consideration of the report of the COI to the next session with the aim of ensuring that the necessary funds are indeed available to the COI.

(2) Drawing by lots of the list of speakers for the adoption of UPR reports under agenda item 6 during the 28th session of the HRC

In conformity with the modalities set forth in Council decision 17/119, the Bureau proceeded to the drawing by lots of the list of speakers for the adoption of UPR outcomes under agenda item 6. The list has been circulated to all Permanent Missions by the Secretariat and has been posted on HRC Extranet.

(3) AOB

a. Appointment of Special Procedures mandate holders to be made at the 28th session of the Council: The President informed the Bureau that consultations were ongoing thereon. The President further indicated that he was inclined to follow the recommendations made by the Consultative Group.

b. Allegations of reprisals in connection with the 28th session of the Council: The President informed the Bureau that he has received information on three cases of alleged reprisals against civil society representatives attending or having planned to

attend the on-going session. In reference to one of the cases, concerning South Sudan, the President informed the Bureau of a meeting he convened with the Permanent Representative of South Sudan in order to seek for clarification on the case. He further referred to a letter he received from the State concerned providing information on the current situation of the individual alleging reprisals in relation to his planned visit to the 28th session of the Council. The President informed the Bureau of his intention to continue following it, including through continuous engagement with the State concerned. The President reiterated his deep concern about the repeated cases of alleged reprisals against individuals engaging with the Council and its mechanisms and stated his commitment to ensure that the work of the Council proceed without any act of intimidation or reprisal against individuals and groups who cooperate or have cooperated with the United Nations in the field of human rights.

- c. *In-session meeting with civil society representatives:* The President informed the Bureau of the meeting with civil society representatives scheduled to take place on Wednesday 18 March.
- d. *Correspondence:* The President referred to correspondence he has received recently, including on the outcome recommendations of the international conference on “Challenges to security and human rights in the Arab region”, held in November 2014 which are available on the Extranet.
- e. *Upcoming mission of the President to UN Headquarters in New York:* The President informed the Bureau of his upcoming mission to UN Headquarters, scheduled to take place in April, when he will have the opportunity to brief New York based delegations, civil society and senior UN officials on the outcome of the 28th session of the Council.
- f. *Mission of the Deputy Secretary-General to Geneva in April:* The President informed the Bureau of the Deputy Secretary-General scheduled mission to Geneva on 28 April. The President stated that he was currently in consultations with the Office of the UNOG Director General for the modalities of an address to the Council.
