Decision 17/… Follow up to the Human Rights Council Resolution 16/21 with regard to the Universal Periodic Review

At its … meeting, on … June 2011, the Human Rights Council decided to [adopt without vote]:

I. Order of for the review in the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

1. The order of the review established for the first cycle of the review, as appears in Annex I, shall be maintained for the second and subsequent cycles, whereby 14 States shall be reviewed during each session of the Working Group.

II. General Guidelines for the Preparation of Information under the Universal Periodic Review

[Quoted from the Council decision 6/102 with changes in bold]

2. Reaffirming the relevant provisions, related to the universal periodic review, of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, and of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007 containing the institution-building package and resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011 containing the outcome of the review of the work and functioning,

Emphasizing that the second and subsequent cycles of the review should focus on, inter alia, the implementation of the accepted recommendations and the development of human rights situations in the State under review,

The Council adopts the following General Guidelines:

A. Description of the methodology and the broad consultation process followed for the preparation of information provided under the universal periodic review;

B. New developments since the previous review in background of the country under review and framework, particularly normative and institutional framework, for the promotion and protection of human rights: constitution, legislation, policy measures, national jurisprudence, human rights infrastructure including national human rights institutions and scope of international obligations identified in the “basis of review” in resolution 5/1, annex, section IA;

C. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground: implementation of international human rights obligations identified in the “basis of review” in resolution 5/1, annex, section IA, national legislation and voluntary commitments, national human rights institutions activities, public awareness of human rights, cooperation with human rights mechanisms …;

C. bis Presentation by the State concerned of the follow-up to the previous review.
D. Identification of achievements, best practices, challenges and constraints;

E. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments that the State concerned has undertaken and intends to undertake to overcome those challenges and constraints and improve human rights situations on the ground;

F. Expectations of the State concerned in terms of capacity-building and requests, if any, for technical assistance and support received;

G. Presentation by the State concerned of the follow-up to the previous review.

III. Duration of the review in the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

3. The duration of the review shall be extended to [three hours and thirty minutes] for each country in the working group. [during which the State under review shall be given up to 60 minutes to be used for initial presentation, replies and concluding comments in line with PRST/8/1.]

4. The allocation of time during the working group shall be in accordance with Annex 2.

IV. List of Speakers in the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

5. The established procedures, which allow 3 minutes speaking time for Member States and 2 minutes for Observer States, will continue to apply when all speakers can be accommodated within [three hours and thirty minutes] available to Member and Observer States.

6. Should it be impossible to accommodate all speakers within [three hours and thirty minutes] based on 3 minutes speaking time for Member States and 2 minutes for Observer States, the speaking time will be reduced to 2 minutes for all.

7. If all speakers still cannot be accommodated, the speaking time will be divided among all delegations inscribed so as to enable each and every speaker to take the floor.

8. Steps for drawing up the list of speakers

a. The list of speakers will open at 10:00 on the Monday of the week preceding the beginning of the UPR working group session and remain open for a period of four days. It will close on the Thursday at 18:00. A registration desk will be set up at the Palais des Nations. The exact location will be communicated to all permanent missions by the Secretariat.

b. In all cases, regardless of speaking times, the delegations inscribed on the list of speakers will be arranged by alphabetical order of the county names in English. On the Friday morning preceding the beginning of the session, the President, in the presence of the Bureau, will draw by lot the first speaker on the list. The list of speakers will continue from the State drawn onward. On Friday afternoon, all
delegations will be informed of the speaking order and of the speaking time available to delegations.

c. Speaking time limits during the review will be strictly enforced. Speakers who exceed speaking time will have their microphones cut off. Speakers may therefore wish to deliver the essential part at the beginning of their statements.

d. All speakers will retain the possibility of swapping place on the speakers list under bilateral arrangement between speakers

V. Voluntary funds

9. The Secretariat is requested to revised the terms of reference of the Voluntary Fund for participation in the universal periodic review and to provide a written update to the 18th session of the Council on the operations of the fund and the resources available to it

10. The Secretariat is requested to revised the terms of reference of the Voluntary Fund for financial and technical assistance in the implementation of the universal periodic review, to establish a board of trustees in accordance with the rules of the United Nations and to provide a written update to the 18th session of the Council on the operations of the fund and the resources available to it

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