



Human Rights Council

Decision 1/103. The Universal Periodic Review

At its 22nd meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Human Rights Council adopted, without a vote, the following text:

“The Human Rights Council,

“Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 entitled “Human Rights Council” and in particular the decision of the Assembly that the Council shall undertake a universal periodic review, based on objective and reliable information, of the fulfilment by each State of its human rights obligations and commitments in a manner which ensures universality of coverage and equal treatment with respect to all States,

“Taking into consideration that the review shall be a cooperative mechanism, based on an interactive dialogue, with the full involvement of the country concerned and with consideration given to its capacity-building needs and that such a mechanism shall complement and not duplicate the work of treaty bodies,

“Bearing in mind that members of the Council shall be reviewed under the universal periodic review mechanism during their term of membership,

“Bearing in mind also that the General Assembly decided that the Council shall develop the modalities and necessary time allocation for the universal periodic review mechanism within one year after the holding of its first session, as called for in resolution 60/251,

“Underlining the importance of a comprehensive implementation of General Assembly resolution 60/251,

“1. Decides to establish an intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group to develop the modalities of the universal

periodic review mechanism;

“2. *Decides* that the Working Group shall have at its disposal ten days (or twenty 3-hour meetings) of fully serviced meetings and that it shall allow sufficient time and flexibility for the development of the universal periodic review mechanism;

“3. *Requests* the President of the Council to chair the Working Group with the assistance, if necessary, of one or more facilitators from among permanent missions in Geneva, to undertake these open-ended, intersessional, transparent, well-scheduled and inclusive consultations with the participation of all stakeholders;

“4. *Decides* that informal consultations could begin immediately through an open-ended consultative process in order to compile proposals and relevant information and experiences, to facilitate open-ended discussions appropriately scheduled by the Chairperson with the involvement of all stakeholders;

“5. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Working Group with background information on existing mechanisms for periodic review, for example, of the Council of Europe, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Labour Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Organization of American States and the World Trade Organization) and to compile the contributions of all stakeholders;

“6. *Requests* the Working Group to report regularly to the Council starting in September 2006 on progress made in the development of modalities and necessary time allocation for the universal periodic review, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraphs 5 (e) and 9 of its resolution 60/251.”