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Seventeenth meeting of chairpersons  
of the human rights treaty bodies  
Geneva, 23-24 June 2005

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

1. The seventeenth meeting of chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies will be held from 23 to 24 June 2005, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/178 of 23 December 1994.
2. The present document contains the provisional agenda and annotations for the seventeenth meeting.

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening of the meeting and election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organizational matters.
4. Follow-up to the recommendations of the sixteenth meeting of chairpersons.
5. Enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty bodies: a coordinated approach to the work of the treaty bodies.
6. Enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty bodies: streamlining reporting requirements.

7. Joint meeting of the twelfth meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives, experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights with chairpersons of treaty bodies.
8. Cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.
9. Co-operation with the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the field of Human Rights
10. Informal consultation with States.
11. Adoption of the report and setting of dates for the eighteenth meeting of chairpersons.

## ANNOTATIONS

### **Item 1. Opening of the meeting and election of officers**

The meeting will convene at the United Nations Office at Geneva (Palais Wilson) on Thursday, 23 June 2005, at 10 a.m. The meeting will elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

### **Item 2. Adoption of the agenda**

The meeting will adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda contained in the present document.

### **Item 3. Organizational matters**

Under this agenda item, the meeting will consider and adopt a programme of work.

### **Item 4. Follow-up to the recommendations of the fifteenth meeting of chairpersons**

The chairpersons will consider follow-up to the recommendations of the sixteenth meeting of chairpersons of human rights bodies, held in June 2004. A report by the secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations of the third Inter-Committee meeting of human rights treaty bodies chairpersons (HRI/MC/2005/2), which provides information on the follow-up actions taken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Division for the Advancement of Women and the treaty bodies with regard to these recommendations, will be provided to participants.

### **Item 5. Enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty bodies: a coordinated approach to the work of the treaty bodies**

Under this agenda item, the chairpersons will discuss the working methods of treaty bodies, including coordination and possibilities for harmonization. A report prepared by the secretariat providing an overview of the current working methods of the human rights treaty bodies relating to the State party reporting process (HRI/MC/2005/4) and a comparative analysis of reservations (HRI/MC/2005/5) will be available to the meeting.

**Item 6. Enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty bodies: streamlining reporting requirements**

Under this agenda item, strengthening support to, and enhancing the effectiveness of, the treaty bodies and streamlining treaty body reporting procedures and requirements will be considered. The meeting will consider a report (HRI/MC/2005/6) prepared by Mr Filali, rapporteur of the third Inter-Committee Meeting, on the discussions that have taken place during the past year in each treaty body regarding the document on provisional guidelines for reporting with an expanded core document and treaty-specific targeted reports (HRI/MC/2004/3) as well as the revised draft of the guidelines (HRI/MC/2005/3) prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of comments and suggestions made by each committee during the course of the year, as well as those received from States parties, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, will be before the meeting. The recommendations of the fourth Inter-Committee Meeting, to be held from 20 to 22 June 2005, will also be available to participants. The meeting will also have before it a report on the working methods of the human rights treaty bodies (HRI/MC/2005/4) and a report on reservations to human rights treaties (HRI/MC/2005/5).

**Item 7. Joint meeting of the twelfth meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives, experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights with chairpersons of treaty bodies on human security**

The chairpersons will meet with the special rapporteurs/representatives, experts and chairpersons of working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, who have convened for their twelfth meeting. The topic of discussion will be human security.

**Item 8. Cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights**

Under this agenda item, and in accordance with the established practice at previous meetings, the chairpersons will engage in a discussion with the members of the expanded Bureau of the sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights and members of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on issues of common concern and interest.

**Item 9. Cooperation with the Board of Trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights**

Under this agenda item, the chairpersons will meet with a member of the Board of Trustees of the **Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights**.

**Item 10. Informal consultation with States**

Under this agenda item, the chairpersons will meet with representatives of States. It is proposed that the topic of discussion during this informal consultation be the strengthening of support to and enhancing the effectiveness of the treaty bodies of the human rights treaty system, and in particular the streamlining of reporting procedures and harmonization of working methods among treaty bodies (see items 5 and 6 above).

**Item 11. Adoption of the report and setting of dates for the eighteenth meeting of chairpersons**

The chairpersons will adopt a report on their meeting, including conclusions and recommendations, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, in accordance with Assembly resolution 55/90 of 4 December 2000.

In addition, the chairpersons will determine the dates of their eighteenth meeting, to be held in 2006.

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