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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND REPORTS OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**Efforts by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human
Rights for universal ratification of the International Convention on the
Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**

Note by the Secretariat*

In its decision 2/102, the Human Rights Council requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue with the fulfilment of her activities, in accordance with all previous decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and to update the relevant reports and studies. The present note is submitted pursuant to resolution 2005/64, in which the Commission on Human Rights requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to publish a list of countries that had not yet ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to initiate a reinvigorated campaign for universal ratification of the Convention, and to report on its efforts in that regard.

In accordance with resolution 2005/64, OHCHR has published the list of countries which have not yet ratified the Convention on its website at the address: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/index.htm.

* Late submission.

The following six States have signed but not ratified the Convention: Bhutan (26 March 1973), Djibouti (14 June 2006), Grenada (17 December 1981), Guinea Bissau (12 September 2000), Nauru (12 November 2001), Sao Tome and Principe (6 September 2000). The following 16 States have neither signed nor ratified the Convention: Angola, Brunei Darussalam, Cook Islands, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Kiribati, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Singapore, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

On 24 April 2008, the High Commissioner addressed a letter to the above-mentioned States, encouraging them to take the necessary action. In the light of the fact that most of the States are small island developing nations or least developed countries, OHCHR has also made contact with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States with a view to enlisting the support of the High Representative in reaching out to these States.
