

30 September 2010

Excellency,

In pursuance of General Assembly resolution 60/251 entitled "Human Rights Council", the review of the status of the Human Rights Council is to be completed during the sixty-fifth session. During the sixty-fourth session a process of open, inclusive and transparent consultations led by two distinguished Co-Facilitators has already begun in close cooperation with the Human Rights Council.

I have the honour to inform you that I have reappointed H.E. Mr. Christian Wenaweser, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein, and H.E. Mr. Mohammed Loulichki, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco, to serve as Co-Facilitators and to continue these consultations and to work closely with the Human Rights Council.

In order to further clarify the complementarity of the review process in New York and in Geneva, a Joint Understanding is attached to this letter.

I thank Ambassador Wenaweser and Ambassador Loulichki for accepting this responsibility and trust that you continue to extend your full cooperation and support to the process.

Joseph Deiss

President of the General Assembly

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

Coordination between the HRC Review Processes in New York and Geneva

General Assembly Resolution 60/251 provides for two processes, one in Geneva and one in New York, as part of the review of the Human Rights Council: The Council itself is mandated to review its work and functioning, while the General Assembly is given the mandate to review the status of the Human Rights Council. It is understood that these two processes will be conducted in accordance with Resolution 60/251 and in a manner that fully reflects the authority of the two bodies in their respective areas of work.

Given the complementarity of these areas of work and the thematic overlap of some of the topics under discussion, it is of the utmost importance to ensure close coordination and coherence between the review processes in Geneva and New York. In order to align the two processes and to facilitate both formal and informal channels of communication between Geneva and New York, we intend to keep each other informed of the ongoing discussions and to contribute to each other's work.

It is understood that the formal process in Geneva will commence first and that the discussions in New York will build on the progress made in Geneva. The review process in New York will be finalized only after the review process in Geneva is concluded and should be brought to a conclusion by July 2011.