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Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Prepared by the Secretary-General

* See paragraph 1 of the present annotations.

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Item 1 - Organizational and procedural matters

Date and venue of the session

1. On 22 June 2007, at the first organizational meeting, the Council decided that its sixth session be held from 10 to 28 September 2007 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. Subsequently, the Council is expected to resume its sixth session from 10 to 14 December 2007.
2. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure of the Council, as contained in part VII of the annex of resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, the organizational meeting for the sixth session was held on 24 August 2007.

Agenda of the session

3. The agenda, as contained in part V of the annex of Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, is reproduced in document A/HRC/6/1. The Council will have before it the present annotations for the first part of its sixth session relating to items included in the provisional agenda.

Composition of the Human Rights Council

4. The composition of the Council at its sixth session is the following. The term of membership of each State expires in the year indicated in brackets: Angola (2010); Azerbaijan (2009); Bangladesh (2009); Bolivia (2010); Bosnia and Herzegovina (2010); Brazil (2008); Cameroon (2009); Canada (2009); China (2009); Cuba (2009); Djibouti (2009); Egypt (2010); France (2008); Gabon (2008); Germany (2009); Ghana (2008); Guatemala (2008); India (2010); Indonesia (2010); Italy (2010); Japan (2008); Jordan (2009); Madagascar (2010); Malaysia (2009); Mali (2008); Mauritius (2009); Mexico (2009); Netherlands (2010); Nicaragua (2010); Nigeria (2009); Pakistan (2008); Peru (2008); Philippines (2010); Qatar (2010); Republic of Korea (2008); Romania (2008); Russian Federation (2009); Saudi Arabia (2009); Senegal (2009); Slovenia (2010); South Africa (2010); Sri Lanka (2008); Switzerland (2009); Ukraine (2008); United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2008); Uruguay (2009); Zambia (2008).

Bureau of the Human Rights Council

5. Rule 8 (a) of the rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council as contained in part VII of the annex of Council resolution 5/1, provides that “at the beginning of each Council-year the Council shall hold an organizational meeting to elect its Bureau”.
6. On 19 June 2007, at its first organizational meeting held from 19 to 22 June, the Council elected its President and Vice-Presidents, who, in accordance with rule 9 (a) of the rules of procedure of the Council, shall constitute the Bureau.
7. The composition of the Bureau of the Council is as follows: President of the Council: Mr. Doru Costea (Romania); Vice-Presidents: Mr. Mohamed-Siad Doualeh (Djibouti), Mr. Boudewijn Van Eenennaam (Netherlands), and Mr. Dayan Jayatilake (Sri Lanka); and Vice-President and Rapporteur: Mr. Alejandro Artucio (Uruguay).

Annual programme of work

8. The annual programme of work for the Council's second year will be considered at the sixth session.

Programme of work for the session, including other business

9. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that each committee "shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item" (A/520/Rev.16). Accordingly, the Council will have before it for approval a draft programme of work for the session, showing the order and distribution of meeting time for each agenda item/segment.

10. In its decision 4/105 of 30 March 2007, the Council decided to take note of the deferral of the draft resolutions and decisions contained in documents A/HRC/2/L.33/Rev.1, A/HRC/2/L.37, A/HRC/2/L.38/Rev.1, A/HRC/2/L.42/Rev.1, and A/HRC/2/L.43 to one of its coming sessions.

11. At its organizational meeting, on 20 June 2007, the Council by decision OM/1/101, decided to postpone action on the draft resolutions and decisions contained in documents A/HRC/4/L.3, A/HRC/2/L.19, and A/HRC/2/L.30, deferred from previous sessions pursuant to Council decision 4/105, to its September session.

Selection and appointment of mandate-holders

12. In accordance with paragraph 62 of the annex of Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, current mandate-holders may continue serving, provided they have not exceeded the six-year term limit. On an exceptional basis, the term of those mandate-holders who have served more than six years may be extended until the relevant mandate is considered by the Council and the selection and appointment process is concluded. Mandates included in appendix I of Council resolution 5/1, as applicable, will be renewed until the date on which they are considered by the Council according to the programme of work.

13. Paragraph 47 of the annex of the same resolution provides that a consultative group would be established to propose to the President, at least one month before the beginning of the session in which the Council would consider the selection of mandate-holders, a list of candidates who possess the highest qualifications for the mandates in question and meet the general criteria and particular requirements. At the beginning of the annual cycle of the Council, Regional Groups would be invited to appoint a member of the consultative group, who would serve in his/her personal capacity. The Group will be assisted by OHCHR (paragraph 49 of Council resolution 5/1).

Election of members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

14. Paragraph 70 of the annex of Council resolution 5/1 provides that the Council shall elect the members of the Advisory Committee, in secret ballot, from the list of candidates whose

names have been presented in accordance with the agreed requirements (in connection with these requirements see also paragraph 44 of the present annotations). Elections of the members of the Advisory Committee shall be undertaken at a future session.

Report of the session

15. At the end of its session, the Council will have before it for adoption a draft report prepared by the Rapporteur. The report will include resolutions and decisions taken by the Council as well as President's statements, if any, and a technical summary of the proceedings held during the sixth session.

Item 2 - Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General

(a) Presentation of the annual report and updates¹

Reports prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Human rights and extreme poverty

16. In its resolution 2/2 of 27 November 2006, the Council took note of the draft guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights: the rights of the poor, annexed to Sub-Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights resolution 2006/9 of 24 August 2006. In the same resolution, the Council requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to circulate the draft guiding principles, in order to obtain the views of States, relevant United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations treaty bodies, special procedures including the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, especially those in which people in situations of extreme poverty express their views, and other relevant stakeholders, and to report to the Council at its seventh session.

Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights

17. In its resolution 2/5 of 28 November 2006, the Council encouraged the High Commissioner for Human Rights to undertake a study on various options for reforming the treaty body system, and to seek the views of States and other stakeholders in this regard and to report thereon to the Council. This will be reported on at a later session.

¹ While all reports attributed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR or the Secretary-General are listed under item 2 of the present annotations to the agenda, the Council may wish to consider them under another item of its agenda.

Human rights and access to water

18. In its decision 2/104 of 27 November 2006, the Council requested the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, taking into account the views of States and other stakeholders, to conduct, within existing resources, a detailed study on the scope and content of the relevant human rights obligations related to equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation under international human rights instruments, which includes relevant conclusions and recommendations thereon, to be submitted prior to the sixth session of the Council. At its present session, the Council will have before it the report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/6/3).

Technical cooperation in the field of human rights in Afghanistan

19. In its decision 2/113 of 27 November 2006, the Council requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue, in cooperation with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, to monitor the human rights situation in Afghanistan, provide and expand advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights and the rule of law, and report regularly to the Council on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, paying special attention to the rights of women, and on the achievements of technical assistance in the field of human rights. This will be reported on at a later session.

Combating defamation of religions

20. In its resolution 4/9 of 30 March 2007, the Council requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to report to the Council on the implementation of the aforementioned resolution at its sixth session. The Council will have before it the report of the High Commissioner (A/HRC/6/4).

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

21. In its decision 4/104 of 30 March 2007, the Council requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to consult States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means to enhance the international cooperation and dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council, as recognized in the ninth preambular paragraph of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006. It also requested the High Commissioner to present a report on the basis of her findings to the Council before the end of 2007.

Reports prepared by the Secretary-General*Access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria*

22. In its decision 2/107 of 27 November 2006, the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to solicit comments from Governments, United Nations organs, programmes and specialized agencies and international and non-governmental organizations on the steps they have taken to improve access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and to submit a report thereon to the Council at any session after its

fourth session. In the same decision, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to include, when submitting his report to the Council at any session after its fourth session, a study on the exploration of new and innovative financing mechanisms, bearing in mind the existing ones, which can help improve access to medication that fight those pandemics, from the perspective of human rights. It also requested the Secretary-General to include an assessment of the impacts of intellectual property rights on access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria from the perspective of human rights, taking into consideration the discussions carried out in the WHO Intergovernmental Working Group on Public Health, Innovation, Essential Health Research and Intellectual Property Rights and in consultations with Governments, United Nations organs, programmes, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector. The report of the Secretary-General will be considered at a future session.

Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights

23. In its resolution 4/1 of 23 March 2007, the Council took note with interest of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights submitted pursuant to Council decision 2/102 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/22. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit an annual report on its implementation and decided to remain seized of this issue and to consider taking further action in order to implement the resolution. This report shall be provided at a future session.

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

24. In its decision 4/103 of 30 March 2007, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring this decision to the attention of all States and to seek their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations, and to submit a report thereon to the Council at its sixth session. The Council will have before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/HRC/6/2).

Item 3 - Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

(a) Economic, social and cultural rights

Open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

25. In its resolution 1/3 of 29 June 2006, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a period of two years and requested the Chairperson of the Working Group to prepare a first draft optional protocol. In the same resolution, the Council requested the Working Group to meet for 10 working days each year and to report to the Council. The fourth session of the Working Group was held from 16 to 27 July 2007. The Council will have before it the report of the Working Group (A/HRC/6/8).

Right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

26. In its decision 2/108 of 27 November 2006, the Council requested the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, within his existing mandate, when presenting his report to the Council at any session after its fourth session, to include the possibility of identifying and exploring, bearing in mind the level of development of countries and from the perspective of the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the key features of an effective, integrated and accessible health system. The report of the Special Rapporteur will be considered by the Council at one of its future sessions.

Rectification of the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

27. In its resolution 4/7 of 30 March 2007, the Council decided to initiate a process to rectify, in accordance with international law, the legal status of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, with the aim of placing the Committee on a par with all other treaty monitoring bodies. The Council requested the Committee, in this context, to present a report outlining views, proposals and recommendations on this issue to its last session in 2007. The Council also requested the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to seek the views of States and those of all stakeholders on this issue, and to prepare a report containing these views, as well as an input from the Office of Legal Affairs in this regard, for submission to the last session of the Council in 2007.

28. In the same resolution, the Council decided to convene at its last session in 2007 an interactive dialogue highlighting the importance of the principles of universality and indivisibility and the primacy of all human rights, with a view to deciding on the future direction of this process.

29. The Council will consider this process, together with the two reports, during the resumed sixth session in December 2007.

(b) Civil and political rights

Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion and belief

30. In its resolution 4/10 of 30 March 2007, the Council decided to continue substantive consideration of this matter at its sixth session. It also requested the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief to report on this issue to the Council at its sixth session. The Council will have before it the report of the Special Rapporteur, Asma Jahangir (A/HRC/6/5).

(c) Rights of peoples, and specific groups and individuals

31. This heading is included pursuant to the framework for the programme of work as contained in part V of the annex of Council resolution 5/1.

(d) Right to development

Working Group on the Right to Development

32. In its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007, the Council decided to renew the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development for a period of two years, and that the Working Group shall convene annual sessions of five working days and present its reports to the Council. In the same resolution, the Council also decided to renew the mandate of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development for a period of two years, and that the task force will convene annual sessions of seven working days and present its reports to the Working Group. The ninth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development is scheduled to be held in February 2008.

33. In the same resolution, the Council also decided to review the progress of the implementation of this resolution as a matter of priority in its future sessions.

(e) Interrelation of human rights and human rights thematic issues

Human rights and international solidarity

34. The independent expert on human rights and international solidarity, Rudi Muhammad Rizki, could not attend the fifth session of the Council at which the consideration of the report of the independent expert (A/HRC/4/8), followed by an interactive dialogue to be held with him, was scheduled. The Council will consider the report of the independent expert at its present session.

Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

35. As announced by the President of the Council at the fifth session on 11 June 2007, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Sigma Huda, was not able to attend the session. Her reports will be considered by the Council at a future session (A/HRC/4/23 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1).

Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

36. In its resolution 4/5 of 30 March 2007, the Council decided to consider this issue at its future session.

Item 4 - Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Follow-up to Council resolution OM/1/1

37. In connection with the present item, the attention of the Council is drawn to the follow-up to Council resolution S-2/1 of 11 August 2006, adopted at its second special session. In this resolution, the Council decided to establish and dispatch a Commission of Inquiry on Lebanon. At its third session, in resolution 3/3, the Council requested the High Commissioner for Human

Rights to consult with the Government of Lebanon on the report of the Commission of Inquiry and to report thereon to the Council. Taking note with satisfaction of this factual report, the Council in its resolution OM/1/1, adopted at its first organizational meeting on 20 June 2007, requested the High Commissioner to extend support to the activities and programmes of the Government of Lebanon, in particular those consistent with her report (A/HRC/5/9).

Follow-up to Council resolution OM/1/3

38. In decision S-4/101 adopted on 13 December 2006 by the Council at its fourth special session, the Council decided to dispatch a High-level Mission to assess the human rights situation in Darfur and the needs of the Sudan in this regard, comprising five highly qualified persons, to be appointed by the President of the Human Rights Council following consultation with the members of the Council, as well as the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan. In its resolution 4/8, the Council took note of the report of the High-level Mission on the situation of human rights in Darfur.

39. The Council, in its resolution 4/8, also decided to convene a group to be presided over by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, composed of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for children and armed conflict, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders, the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons, the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. The Council requested this group to work with the Government of the Sudan, the appropriate human rights mechanisms of the African Union, and to closely consult with the Chairman of the Darfur-Darfur Dialogue and Consultation, to ensure effective follow-up and to foster the implementation of resolutions and recommendations on Darfur, as adopted by the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and other United Nations human rights institutions as well as to promote the implementation of relevant recommendations of other United Nations human rights mechanism, taking into account the needs of the Sudan in this regard, to safeguard the consistency of these recommendations and to contribute to monitoring the human rights situation on the ground. The Council also requested the group to report to its fifth session.

40. In resolution OM/1/3 adopted on 20 June 2007, at its first organizational meeting, the Council welcomed the report of the group of experts and requested the group to continue its work for six months and to submit an update to its session in September 2007 and a final report to the following one. During the 10-28 September session, the Council will have before it the update of the group of experts (A/HRC/6/7).

Item 5 - Human rights bodies and mechanisms

41. Paragraph 41 of the annex of Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007 provides that technical and objective requirements for eligible candidates for mandate-holders will be approved by the Council at its sixth session, in order to ensure that eligible candidates are highly qualified individuals who possess established competence, relevant expertise and extensive professional experience in the field of human rights.

42. Paragraph 55 of the annex of the same resolution provides that the review, rationalization and improvement of each mandate would take place in the context of the negotiations of the relevant resolutions, and that an assessment of the mandate may take place in a separate segment of the interactive dialogues between the Council and the special procedures mandate-holders.

(a) Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

43. By its resolution 5/1, the Council, in compliance with the mandate entrusted to it by General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, established the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee as contained in part III of the annex of that resolution. Paragraph 84 of the annex of the resolution provides that the Council will decide at its sixth session on the most appropriate mechanisms to continue the work of the Working Groups on Indigenous Populations; on Contemporary Forms of Slavery; on Minorities; as well as the Social Forum.

44. Pursuant to paragraph 67 of its resolution 5/1, the Council decided to establish and approve technical and objective requirements for the submission of candidatures for members of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee at its sixth session.

(b) Complaint procedure

45. By its resolution 5/1, the Council, in compliance with the mandate entrusted to it by General Assembly resolution 60/251, established the complaint procedure as contained in part IV of the annex of that resolution. In accordance with paragraph 98 of the annex of this resolution, the Working Group on Situations is requested, on the basis of the information and recommendations provided by the Working Group on Communications, to present the Council with a report on consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and to make recommendations to the Council on the course of action to take, normally in the form of a draft resolution or decision with respect to the situations referred to it. Paragraph 103 provides that the Council shall consider consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms brought to its attention by the Working Group on Situations as frequently as needed, but at least once a year. The report of the Working Group on Situations will be considered by the Council at a future session.

Item 6 - Universal periodic review

46. By its resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007, the Council, in compliance with the mandate entrusted to it by General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, established the universal periodic review mechanism as contained in part I of the annex of that resolution. Paragraph 15 (a) of the annex of this resolution provides that general guidelines for the information prepared by the State concerned will be adopted by the Council at its sixth session.

47. At its present session, the Council is also expected to select the countries to be reviewed in 2008, in accordance with the provisions contained in the annex of resolution 5/1.

Item 7 - Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

(a) Human rights violations and implications of the Israeli occupation of Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

48. In resolution S-1/1 adopted on 6 July 2006 at its first special session, the Council decided to dispatch an urgent fact-finding mission headed by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967. At its third special session, in its resolution S-3/1 of 15 November 2006, the Council decided to dispatch urgently a high-level fact-finding mission, to be appointed by the President of the Human Rights Council, to travel to Beit Hanoun.

49. In resolution OM/1/2 adopted at its first organizational meeting on 20 June 2007, the Council called for the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions, including the dispatching of the urgent fact-finding mission. In the same resolution, the Council requested the President and the High Commissioner “to report to the Council at the next session to be held in September 2007, on their efforts for the implementation of Council resolutions S-1/1 and S-3/1 and on the compliance of Israel, the occupying power, with these two resolutions”.

50. The President and the High Commissioner are scheduled to report to the present session.

(b) Right to self-determination of the Palestinian people

51. This heading is included pursuant to the framework for the programme of work as contained in part V of the annex of Council resolution 5/1.

Item 8 - Follow-up to and implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

52. This heading is included pursuant to the agenda as contained in part V of the annex of Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007.

Item 9 - Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance: follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

53. In its decision 2/106 of 27 November 2006, the Council requested the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, within his mandate, when submitting his report to the Council at any session after its fourth session, to include the issue of political participation and representation of groups that are vulnerable to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the decision-making process in national Governments, parties, parliaments and civil society in general, taking into consideration their possible contribution to reinforcing the anti-discrimination perspective in political and social life with a view to strengthening democracy. The report of the Special Rapporteur will be considered by the Council at a future session.

54. In resolution 4/9, the Council invited the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance to report on all manifestations of defamation of religions and in particular on the serious implications of Islamophobia on the enjoyment of all rights at its sixth session. The Council will have before it the report of the Special Rapporteur, Doudou Diène (A/HRC/6/6).

Follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

55. In its resolution 1/5 of 30 June 2006, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action for a further period of three years. In its decision 3/103, the Council decided to recommend that the Working Group convene the second part of its fifth session in September 2007 and that this session mark the conclusion and closure of the Working Group's debates and deliberations on the question of complementary standards. The second part of the fifth session of the Working Group will be held from 3 to 7 September 2007. The Chairperson of the Working Group will report orally to the Council.

56. In its resolution 1/5, the Council also requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to select, in close consultations with the regional groups, five highly qualified experts to study the content and scope of the substantive gaps in the existing international instruments to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. In its decision 3/103, the Council welcomed the appointment by the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Five Experts on Complementary Standards and requested them to finalize their report before the end of June 2007. The following personalities were appointed by the High Commissioner: Syafi'I Anwar, Jenny Goldschmidt, Tiya Maluwa, Dimitrina Petrova, and Luis Waldo Villalpando.

57. In its decision 3/103 of 8 December 2006, the Council decided to establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards and recommended that the Ad Hoc Committee shall convene annual sessions of 10 working days to draw up the requisite legal instruments and hold its first session before the end of 2007 subject to the Working Group having completed its task on complementary standards by that date, and to report regularly to the Council on progress in the actual progress of the elaboration of complementary standards. The report of the Ad Hoc Committee will be considered at a future session.

Durban Review Conference

58. In resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006, the Council noted that the Preparatory Committee shall elect at its organizational sessions, on the basis of equitable geographic representation, a bureau for the Preparatory Committee and that, at the same session, the Preparatory Committee shall decide on all the relevant modalities for the Conference in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly, including deciding on the objectives of the Review Conference, the level at which the Review Conference shall be convened, regional preparatory activities, date and venue. The Council further decided that the review will concentrate on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, including further actions, initiatives and practical solutions for combating all the contemporary scourges of racism.

The Council decided to retain this priority issue on its programme of work. At its sixth session, an oral presentation shall be made by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference.

Item 10 - Technical assistance and capacity-building

Technical cooperation and advisory services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

59. In accordance with Council decision 1/105 of 30 June 2006, entitled “Draft framework for a programme of work of the Human Rights Council for the first year”, the consideration of the report of the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Titinga Frédéric Pacéré, including an interactive dialogue with the mandate-holder, was scheduled for the fourth session. As the independent expert was unable to attend the fourth and the fifth sessions of the Council, the consideration of his report (A/HRC/4/7) is scheduled for the present session.
