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Agenda item 5

Report of the Advisory Committee on its third session

Report of the Advisory Committee on its third session

Geneva, 3–7 August 2009

Rapporteur: Latif Hüseyinov

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I. Recommendations adopted by the Advisory Committee at its third session

A. Recommendations adopted by the Advisory Committee for consideration by the Human Rights Council

3/1.

Draft principles and guidelines on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 8/13 of 18 June 2008 on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members,

Welcoming the open-ended consultation on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, held by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 15 January 2009,

Expressing its concern that millions of persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, suffer as a result of deep-rooted stigma and discrimination in society,

Expressing its concern also that millions of people affected by leprosy suffer not only from leprosy as a disease, which is scientifically and medically proven to be curable, but also from political, legal, economic or social discrimination and social exclusion as a result of misunderstanding and indifference, as well as a lack of legislative, judicial, administrative, educative and other appropriate measures to prohibit such discrimination and to protect persons affected by leprosy, and their family members,

1. *Welcomes* the study submitted by Shigeki Sakamoto (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.2) containing a draft set of principles and guidelines on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members;

2. *Endorses* the draft set of principles and guidelines contained in the annex to the present recommendation, as revised;

3. *Submits* the annexed draft set of principles and guidelines to the Council at its twelfth session for its consideration, as requested by the Council in its resolution 8/13;

4. *Recommends* that the Council request all relevant United Nations bodies, special agencies and programmes and Member States to give due consideration to the principles and guidelines in the formulation and implementation of their policies and measures for persons affected by leprosy and their family members;

5. *Also recommends* that the Council request all actors in society, including hospitals, schools, universities, religious groups and organizations, business enterprises, newspapers and broadcasting networks and non-governmental organizations, to give due consideration in the course of their activities to the principles and guidelines for the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons affected by leprosy and their family members.

*Adopted without a vote
8th meeting
7 August 2009*

Annex

Principles and guidelines for the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members

In formulating a draft set of principles and guidelines on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members, the Rapporteur enumerates firstly the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons affected by leprosy and their family members as principles, then guidelines for States to respect, ensure and achieve such rights and freedoms.

I. Principles

1. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should be treated as people, with dignity, and are entitled to all the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
2. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should not be discriminated against or deprived of their basic freedoms on the grounds of having or having had leprosy. Any isolation either before, during or after treatment should be temporary and should be conducted in the context of public health considerations.
3. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should have the same rights as everyone else with respect to marriage, family and parenthood. To this end:
 - (a) No one should be denied the right to marry on the grounds of leprosy;
 - (b) Leprosy should not constitute grounds for divorce;
 - (c) A child should not be separated from his or her parents on the grounds of leprosy.
4. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should have full citizenship and the right to obtain identity documents.
5. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should have an equal right to serve the public, including the right to stand for elections and to hold office at all levels of government.
6. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should have the right to work in an environment that is inclusive and to be treated equally in all policies and processes related to recruitment, hiring, salary, continuance of employment and career advancement.
7. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, should not be denied admission to or be expelled from schools or training programmes on the grounds of leprosy.
8. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, are entitled to develop their human potential to the fullest extent, and to realize their dignity and self-worth. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, who have been empowered and who have had the opportunity to develop their abilities can be powerful agents of social change.

9. Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, have the right to be actively involved in decision-making processes regarding policies and programmes that directly concern their lives.

II. Guidelines

1. General

1.1 States^a should promote the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, without discrimination on the grounds of leprosy. To this end, States should:

(a) Take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures to modify, repeal or abolish existing laws, rules, policies, regulations, customs and practices that discriminate directly or indirectly against persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, or that forcefully or compulsorily segregate and isolate persons on the grounds of leprosy in the context of such discrimination. Any isolation before, during or after treatment should be temporary and conducted in the context of public health considerations;

(b) Ensure that all authorities and institutions take measures to eliminate discrimination on the grounds of leprosy by any person, organization or private enterprise.

1.2 States should take measures to achieve for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, the full realization of all the rights enshrined in international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

1.3 In the development and implementation of legislation and policies and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, States should consult closely with and actively involve persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, individually or through their respective local and national organizations.

2. Equality and non-discrimination

2.1 States should recognize that all persons are equal before and under the law and are entitled without any discrimination, to the equal protection and benefit of the law.

2.2 States should prohibit all discrimination on the grounds of a person having or having had leprosy, and guarantee to persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, equal and effective legal protection.

3. Women, children and other vulnerable groups affected by leprosy

3.1 States should recognize that, in many societies, leprosy has a significantly adverse impact on women, children and other vulnerable groups who are already marginalized.

3.2 States should pay special attention to the promotion and protection of women, children and other vulnerable groups affected by leprosy.

3.3 States should promote the full development, advancement and empowerment of women, children and other vulnerable groups affected by leprosy.

^a In the present guidelines, "States" denotes both local and national levels of government.

4. Home and family

States should support the reunification of families separated in past decades owing to policies and practices relating to persons diagnosed with leprosy.

5. Living in the community and housing

5.1 States should promote the enjoyment of the same rights for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, as everyone else, allowing their full inclusion and participation in the community.

5.2 States should identify persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, living in isolation or segregated from their community owing to their disease, and give them social support.

5.3 States should enable persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, to choose their place of residence and ensure that they are not obliged to accept a particular living arrangement because of their disease.

5.4 States should allow any persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, who were once forcibly isolated by State policies then in effect to live out their lives in the hospitals/communities that have become their homes. In the event that relocation is unavoidable, the residents of these places should be active participants in decisions concerning their future.

6. Participation in political life

States are encouraged to ensure that persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, enjoy equal voting rights. Voting procedures must be accessible, easy to use and adapted to accommodate any individuals physically affected by leprosy.

7. Occupation

States should encourage opportunities for self-employment, forming cooperatives and vocational training.

8. Education

States should promote equal access to education for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members.

9. Discriminatory language

States should remove discriminatory language from any governmental publications and revise existing publication containing such language as expeditiously as possible.

10. Participation in public life, cultural life and recreation

10.1 States should promote the rights and freedoms of persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, as enshrined in international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, indispensable for their dignity.

10.2 States should promote equal access to public places, including hotels, restaurants and buses, trains and other forms of public transport for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members.

10.3 States should promote equal access to cultural and recreational facilities for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members.

10.4 States should promote equal access to places of worship for persons affected by leprosy, and their family members.

11. Health care

11.1 States should provide persons affected by leprosy at least with the same range, quality and standard of free or affordable health care as provided for persons with other diseases. In addition, States should provide for early detection programmes to ensure that treatment is provided promptly and that stigmatic consequences are avoided. States are also urged to set national targets to reduce the rate of new leprosy cases.^b

11.2 States should include psychological counselling as standard care offered to persons affected by leprosy who are undergoing diagnosis and treatment, and as needed after the completion of treatment.

11.3 States should ensure that persons affected by leprosy have access to free medication for leprosy, as well as appropriate health care.

12. Standard of living

12.1 States should recognize the right of persons affected by leprosy, their family members, to an adequate standard of living, and take appropriate steps to safeguard and promote that right, without discrimination on the grounds of leprosy, with regard to food, clothing, housing, drinking water, sewage systems and other living conditions. States should:

(a) Promote collaborative programmes involving the government, civil society and private institutions to raise funds and develop programmes to improve the standard of living;

(b) Provide or ensure the provision of education to children whose families fall below the poverty line by means of scholarships and other programmes sponsored by the government and/or civil society;

(c) Ensure that persons below the poverty line have access to vocational training programmes, microcredit and other means to improve their standard of living.

12.2 States should promote the realization of this right through financial measures, such as the following:

(a) Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, who are not able to work because of their age, illness or disability should be provided with a government pension;

(b) Persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, who fall below the poverty line should be provided with financial assistance for housing and health care.

^b Recently, the World Health Organization urged member States to focus on reducing the rate of new leprosy cases with grade 2 disabilities per 100,000 population by at least 35 per cent of the 2010 level by the end of 2015. Such a reduction would indicate that leprosy is being detected early before nerve damage can develop. "Enhanced global strategy for further reducing the disease burden due to leprosy (plan period: 2011–2015)", WHO, Regional Office for South-East Asia, pp. 11–14.

13. Awareness-raising

States, working with human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society and media, should formulate policies and plans of action to raise awareness throughout society and to foster respect for the rights and dignity of persons affected by leprosy, and their family members. To those ends, they should:

- (a) Provide information about leprosy at all levels of the education system, beginning with early childhood education;
- (b) Promote the production and dissemination of “know your rights” material to give to all persons recently diagnosed with leprosy;
- (c) Encourage the media to portray persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, with dignified images and terminology;
- (d) Recognize the skills, merits and abilities of persons affected by leprosy and their contribution to society and, where possible, support exhibitions of their artistic, cultural and scientific talents;
- (e) Involve artists, poets, musicians and writers, particularly those who have personally faced the challenges of leprosy, in reaching society;
- (f) Provide information to social leaders, including religious leaders, on how leprosy in their teachings or written materials may contribute to the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by the disease, and their family members;
- (g) Encourage higher education institutions, including medical schools and nursing schools, to include information about leprosy in their curricula, and develop and implement a “train the trainer” programme and targeted educational materials;
- (h) Promote collaboration with the World Programme for Human Rights Education to incorporate the human rights of persons affected by leprosy and their family members, into the national human rights education programme of each State;
- (i) Identify ways to recognize, honour and learn from the lives of individuals forcibly isolated by their governments for having been diagnosed with leprosy, including oral history programmes, museums, monuments and publications;
- (j) Support grass-roots awareness efforts to reach communities without access to traditional media.

14. Development, implementation and follow-up to States’ activities

States should create or designate a committee to address activities relating to the human rights of persons affected by leprosy and their family members. The committee should include individuals affected by leprosy, human rights experts, representatives from human rights and related fields, representatives of organizations of persons affected by leprosy, and their family members, and representatives from government.

3/2.

Missing persons

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council decision 9/101 of 24 September 2008, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to prepare a study on the best practices in the matter of missing persons and to submit it to the Council at its twelfth session,

Taking note of the results of the panel discussion held by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 22 September 2008,

Noting the considerable difficulties of finding the necessary information and research resources and the complexity of the issue,

Noting also that the Advisory Committee, at its third session, continued its deliberations on the issue of missing persons,

1. *Requested* its drafting group to continue its work on a study on best practices in the matter of missing persons in situations of armed conflict;

2. *Designates* the Committee members Miguel Alfonso Martínez, Ansar Burney, Chinsung Chung, Wolfgang Stefan Heinz, Latif Hüseyinov and Bernards Mudho as members of the drafting group;

3. *Notes* that the drafting group elected Mr. Heinz as chairperson and Mr. Hüseyinov as rapporteur of the drafting group;

4. *Requests* the drafting group to submit the results of its work on the study to the Advisory Committee at its fourth session with a view to submitting them to the Council at its fourteenth session;

5. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council consider adopting the following decision:

“The Human Rights Council,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the progress of work on missing persons, and encourages the Committee to pursue this collective undertaking with a view to finalizing the study on the best practices in the matter of missing persons;

2. *Requests* the Advisory Committee to submit the study to the Council at its fourteenth session.”

*Adopted without a vote
8th meeting
7 August 2009*

B. Other recommendations

3/3.

Drafting group on human rights education and training: progress of work

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Bearing in mind Human Rights Council resolution 10/28 of 27 March 2009 on a United Nations declaration on human rights education and training, as a follow-up to Council resolution 6/10 of 28 September 2007,

Recalling its recommendations 1/1 of 14 August 2008 and 2/1 of 30 January 2009 on the initial work of the drafting group on human rights education and training, as well as the preparatory documents A/HRC/AC/2/CRP.1, A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.4 and A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.4/Corr.1 submitted by the rapporteur of the drafting group,

Noting with satisfaction the drafting group’s pursuance of its activities during the third session of the Advisory Committee,

1. *Takes note* of the additional responses to the questionnaires received after the extension of the deadline, and expresses its appreciation to all the stakeholders that took part in the consultations;

2. *Welcomes* the initiative taken by members of the Platform for Human Rights Education and Training to hold a seminar on the United Nations declaration on human rights education and training in Marrakech, Morocco, on 16 and 17 July 2009, which was attended by the chairperson and rapporteur of the drafting group, and acknowledges with appreciation the successful outcome of those informal discussions;

3. *Also welcomes* the other initiatives taken to foster a collective debate, in particular the working session on the formulation of a United Nations declaration organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its headquarters in Paris on 8 July 2009;

4. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the progress made by the drafting group in its work and the substantive discussion, based on the revised draft prepared by the rapporteur, held during the plenary meeting of the session with the participation of numerous stakeholders;

5. *Underscores* the importance of the contributions made by national human rights institutions through, in particular, the organization of a parallel event in the course of the current session;

6. *Requests* the drafting group to continue its consultations with all stakeholders regarding the preliminary text with a view to submitting a draft version of the declaration to the Advisory Committee at its fourth session;

7. *Considers it essential* that a meeting between the Special Rapporteur on the right to education and the members of the drafting group be hosted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at the earliest possible opportunity, financial resources permitting;

8. *Urges* the Office of the High Commissioner to facilitate formal consultations on the project being developed with the human rights treaty bodies, in particular and within available financial resources, during the meeting of treaty bodies to be held in December 2009;

9. *Encourages* the various stakeholders to continue their efforts to enrich the collective debate concerning the work under way.

*Adopted without a vote
8th meeting
7 August 2009*

3/4.

Study on discrimination in the context of the right to food

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling the resolutions of the Human Rights Council on the right to food for all, particularly its resolution 7/14 of 27 March 2008, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to consider potential recommendations, for approval by the Council, on possible further measures to enhance the realization of the right to food, bearing in mind the priority importance of promoting the implementation of existing standards,

Recalling also Council resolution 10/12 of 26 March 2009, in which the Council requested the Advisory Committee to undertake a study on discrimination in the context of the right to food, including the identification of good practices of anti-discrimination policies and strategies, and to report thereon to the Council at its thirteenth session,

Taking into account the decision adopted by the Advisory Committee at its first session to establish a drafting group consisting of José Bengoa Cabello, Chinsung Chung,

Latif Hüseyinov, Jean Ziegler and Mona Zulficar in relation to the Committee's work on the right to food,

Taking note of the preliminary background papers prepared by Mr. Ziegler entitled "The tragedy of Noma" (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.3) and "Peasant farmers and the right to food: a history of discrimination and exploitation" (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.5), on certain aspects of discrimination to be addressed in the context of Council resolution 10/12,

Having due regard for the discussions and statements made at the plenary session of the Committee and the conceptual framework of the proposed study presented by the drafting group,

Assigns the task of the preparation of the study on discrimination in the context of the right to food, as mandated by the Council in its resolution 10/12, to the existing drafting group on the right to food, and requests the drafting group to present a preliminary report to the Advisory Committee at its fourth session.

Adopted without a vote
8th meeting
7 August 2009

3/5.

Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

At its 8th meeting, on 7 August 2009, the Advisory Committee, recalling Human Rights Council resolution 11/4 of 17 June 2009 and all previous resolutions adopted by the Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights on the promotion of the right of peoples to peace, designated Miguel Alfonso Martínez, a member of the Advisory Committee, to prepare an initial working paper on the need to initiate a study with the purpose of, inter alia: (a) clarifying further the content and scope of this right; (b) proposing measures to raise awareness of the importance of realizing this right; (c) suggesting concrete actions to mobilize States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the promotion of the right of peoples to peace. The paper is to be submitted to the consideration of the Advisory Committee no later than its fifth session.

The Advisory Committee also requested Mr. Alfonso Martínez to take duly into account, when preparing his initial working paper, the conclusions and recommendations that may be reached at the workshop on this issue, to which the Council makes reference in its resolution 11/4, paragraph 11.

Adopted without a vote
8th meeting
7 August 2009

3/6.

Human rights of elderly people

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Considering that the number of elderly people is rapidly increasing, and that the human rights of elderly people are at risk of violation in various economic, institutional, community and family settings,

Reflecting on the fact that, in the framework of the work of the United Nations, the situation of elderly people has been dealt with mostly under a social development agenda, and that there is an urgent need to consider the human rights of elderly people in an integrated manner in the work of the United Nations human rights mechanisms,

Designates Chinsung Chung to prepare an initial working paper on the need to study the human rights of elderly people, including by making practical recommendations, with a view to promoting and protecting these rights, to be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its fourth session.

Adopted without a vote
9th meeting
7 August 2009

II. Officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its third session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 3 to 7 August 2009. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the second session of the Advisory Committee, Miguel Alfonso Martínez.
2. Bacre Waly Ndiaye made a statement on behalf of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the 1st meeting of the third session of the Advisory Committee, on 3 August 2009.
3. At the same meeting, the President of the Human Rights Council addressed the Advisory Committee.

B. Composition of the Advisory Committee

4. In accordance with Council resolution 5/1 and Council decision 6/102, 18 members of the Advisory Committee were elected at the seventh session of the Council on 26 March 2008. At the tenth session of the Council, four members of the Advisory Committee were re-elected. The names of the members are as follows (the year in brackets indicates when the term of office of the members expires): Miguel Alfonso Martínez (Cuba, 2012); José Antonio Bengoa Cabello (Chile, 2010); Ansar Ahmed Burney (Pakistan, 2011); Shiqiu Chen (China, 2012); Chinsung Chung (Republic of Korea, 2010); Emmanuel Decaux (France, 2011); Héctor Felipe Fix Fierro (Mexico, 2011); Wolfgang Stefan Heinz (Germany, 2010); Latif Hüseyinov (Azerbaijan, 2011); Baba Kura Kaigama (Nigeria, 2011); Vladimir Kartashkin (Russian Federation, 2010); Bernard Andrews Nyamwaya Mudho (Kenya, 2010); Purificacion V. Quisumbing (Philippines, 2011); Shigeki Sakamoto (Japan, 2010); Dheerujlall Seetulsingh (Mauritius, 2011); Mrs. Halima Embarek Warzazi (Morocco, 2012); Jean Ziegler (Switzerland, 2012); and Mona Zulficar (Egypt, 2010).

C. Attendance

5. The session was attended by all members of the Advisory Committee, observers for States Members of the United Nations, observers for non-Member States and for intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, other organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations.

D. Meetings and documentation

6. The Advisory Committee held nine plenary meetings, and seven meetings of drafting groups. The Advisory Committee adopted six recommendations (see chap. I).

E. Officers

7. In accordance with rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, at its 1st meeting, on 3 August 2009, the Advisory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

<i>Chairperson:</i>	Halima Embarek Warzazi (Morocco)
<i>Vice Chairpersons:</i>	José Antonio Bengoa Cabello (Chile) Purificacion V. Quisumbing (Philippines) Jean Ziegler (Switzerland)
<i>Rapporteur:</i>	Latif Hüseyinov (Azerbaijan)

F. Adoption of the agenda

8. At its 1st meeting, on 3 August, before the adoption of the agenda, the Advisory Committee observed a minute of silence for the victims of human rights violations around the world, at the suggestion of the Chairperson.
9. At the same meeting, on 3 August 2009, the Advisory Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General containing the provisional agenda for the third session (A/HRC/AC/3/1 and Corr.1). The annotations to the provisional agenda are contained in document A/HRC/AC/3/1/Add.1.
10. Also at the same meeting, the agenda was adopted without a vote (see annex I).

G. Organization of work and conduct of business

11. The Advisory Committee considered item 2 of the agenda at its 1st meeting, on 3 August.
12. At the same meeting, the modalities with respect to the organization of work and conduct of business were recalled by the Chairperson on the basis of the modalities applied at the previous sessions of the Committee.
13. The modalities of the third session of the Advisory Committee followed the practice of its two previous sessions: members of the Advisory Committee would be entitled to make one or more statements of 10 minutes maximum for each item or sub-item. Statements on procedural matters should not exceed two minutes. Experts entrusted with the preparation of any report or working paper could speak for a maximum of 20 minutes, to be divided between the introduction of the report and concluding remarks.
14. Government observers and observers for intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, national human rights institutions and other organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations' observers would be limited to one statement of seven minutes for each item or sub-item.
15. It was agreed that the deadline for submitting draft recommendations was 5 August.
16. At the 9th meeting, on 7 August, general comments were made by the Chairperson, Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Zulficar. Statements were also made by the representatives of Morocco, Pakistan and the Philippines, and by the representative of the Secretariat of the Advisory Committee.
17. At the same meeting, the Chairperson made concluding remarks.

III. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions

18. The Advisory Committee considered agenda item 3 at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 3 August; at its 3rd and 4th meetings, on 4 August; at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 5 August; and at its 7th meeting, on 6 August.

A. Human rights education and training

19. At its 3rd meeting, on 4 August, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Council resolutions 6/10 and 10/28, held a discussion on the draft declaration on human rights education and training.

20. At the same meeting, Mr. Decaux made a presentation (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.4). During the ensuing discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and by observers for Governments, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations (see annex II). Following the discussion, a corrigendum (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.4/Corr.1) was issued to take into account the discussion held.

21. The drafting group on human rights education and training, consisting of Mr. Decaux, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Kartashkin, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh and Mrs. Warzazi, held one meeting on 3 August.

Drafting group on human rights education and training: progress of work

22. At the 8th meeting, on 7 August, Mr. Decaux introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.2, sponsored by Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Burney, Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh and Ms. Zulficar.

23. At the same meeting, Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Decaux and Mr. Mudho made statements in relation to the draft recommendation.

24. Also at the same meeting, the draft recommendation, as revised, was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. B, recommendation 3/3).

B. Right to food

25. At its 5th meeting, on 5 August, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Council resolutions 7/14 and 10/12, held a discussion on the right to food. Mr. Ziegler made a presentation (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.3 and A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.5). Mr. Bengoa and Ms. Zulficar, as members of the drafting group, also took the floor. During the discussion, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and by a Government observer and observers for non-governmental organizations (see annex II).

26. At its 7th meeting, on 6 August, the Advisory Committee continued its discussion on the right to food. Mr. Bengoa and Mr. Ziegler made presentations. Statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee and by a Government observer (see annex II).

27. The drafting group on the right to food, consisting of Mr. Bengoa, Ms. Chung, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Zulficar, held one meeting on 5 August.

Study on discrimination in the context of the right to food

28. At the 8th meeting, on 7 August, Ms. Zulficar introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.3, sponsored by Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Burney, Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Ziegler and Ms. Zulficar. Subsequently, Mr. Alfonso Martínez joined the sponsors.

29. At the same meeting, Mr. Alfonso Martínez and Ms. Zulficar made statements in relation to the draft recommendation.

30. Also at the same meeting, the draft recommendation, as revised, was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. B, recommendation 3/4).

C. Missing persons

31. At its 6th meeting, on 5 August, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Council resolution 7/28 and Council decision 9/101, held a discussion on missing persons. Mr. Heinz and Mr. Hüseyinov made presentations. During the discussion at the same meeting, statements were made by observers for Governments (see annex II).

32. The drafting group on missing persons, consisting of Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Burney, Ms. Chung, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, and Mr. Mudho, held two meetings, on 3 and 4 August.

33. At the 8th meeting, on 7 August, Mr. Heinz introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.6, sponsored by Mr. Burney, Ms. Chung, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov and Mr. Mudho. Subsequently, Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Kartashkin and Ms. Quisumbing joined the sponsors.

34. At the same meeting, the draft recommendation was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. A, recommendation 3/2).

D. Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members

35. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 3 August, the Advisory Committee, pursuant to Council resolution 8/13, held a discussion on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family. Mr. Sakamoto made a presentation on the draft principles and guidelines to eliminate discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.2). Statements were also made by members of the Advisory Committee and a Government observer (see annex II).

36. At the 4th meeting, on 4 August, Mr. Sakamoto made a presentation on the revised draft principles and guidelines. Statements were also made by members of the Advisory Committee (see annex II).

Draft principles and guidelines on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members

37. At the 8th meeting, on 7 August, Mr. Sakamoto introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.1, sponsored by Mr. Burney, Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh and Ms. Zulficar.

38. At the same meeting, Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Mudho and Mr. Seetulsingh made statements in relation to the draft recommendation.

39. Also at the same meeting, the draft recommendation was adopted without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. A, recommendation 3/1).

IV. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007

40. The Advisory Committee considered agenda item 4 at its 2nd meeting, on 3 August, its 4th meeting, on 4 August, its 6th meeting, on 5 August, its 7th meeting, on 6 August, and its 8th meeting, on 7 August.

A. Rules of procedure and methods of work

41. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 August, its 4th meeting, on 4 August, its 6th meeting, on 5 August, and its 7th meeting, on 6 August, the Advisory Committee discussed its rules of procedure and methods of work. Mr. Hüseyinov made a presentation (A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.1). During the discussion at the same meetings, statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee (see annex II).

42. The open-ended drafting group on the rules of procedure, composed of Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Burney, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov and Ms. Zulficar, held three meetings, on 3, 5 and 6 August.

43. At its 7th meeting, on 6 August 2009, the Advisory Committee adopted the rules of procedure, as revised, without a vote (see annex III). At the same meeting, two members of the Advisory Committee expressed a different opinion on the follow-up to be given to the text adopted.

B. Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities

44. At its 7th meeting, on 6 August, the Advisory Committee discussed its agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities. Ms. Chung made a presentation. A member of the Advisory Committee made a statement (see annex II).

45. At its 8th meeting, on 7 August, the Advisory Committee continued the discussion on its agenda and annual programme of work, including its new priorities. Mr. Alfonso Martínez made a presentation. Statements were made by members of the Advisory Committee, a Government observer and observers for non-governmental organizations (see annex II).

1. Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

46. At the 8th meeting, on 7 August, Mr. Zulficar introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.4, sponsored by Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin and Ms. Zulficar. Subsequently, Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Burney, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing and Mr. Sakamoto joined the sponsors.

47. At the same meeting, statements in relation to the draft recommendation were made by Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Burney, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quigumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh and Ms. Zulficar, and by the representative of the secretariat of the Advisory Committee.

48. Also at the same meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the draft recommendation, as revised, without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. B, recommendation 3/5).

2. Human rights of elderly people

49. At the 9th meeting, on 7 August, Ms. Zulficar introduced draft recommendation A/HRC/AC/3/L.5, sponsored by Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Burney, Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Fix Fierro, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto and Mr. Seetulsingh. Subsequently, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Mudho and Ms. Zulficar joined the sponsors.

50. At the same meeting, Ms. Chung and Mr. Hüseyinov made statements in relation to the draft recommendation.

51. Also at the same meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the draft recommendation, as revised, without a vote (for the text as adopted, see chap. I, sect. B, recommendation 3/6).

V. Report of the Advisory Committee on its third session

52. At its 9th meeting, on 7 August, the Advisory Committee considered agenda item 5.

53. At that meeting, on 7 August, the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee presented a draft report on its third session (A/HRC/AC/3/L.7)

54. At the same meeting, statements in relation to the draft report were made by Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mrs. Warzazi and Ms. Zulficar.

55. Also at the same meeting, the Advisory Committee adopted the draft report ad referendum and decided to entrust the Rapporteur with its finalization.

Annex I

Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions:
 - (a) Human rights education and training;
 - (b) Right to food;
 - (c) Human rights of women;
 - (d) Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;
 - (e) Missing persons;
 - (f) Human rights of persons with disabilities;
 - (g) Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members.
4. Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007:
 - (a) Rules of procedures and methods of work;
 - (b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities;
 - (c) Follow-up to Advisory Committee recommendation 1/11.
5. Report of the Advisory Committee on its third session.

Annex II

List of speakers

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
1 Election of Officers	1st meeting 3 August 2009	Members: Ms. Chung, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Seetulsingh, Ms. Zulficar
2 Adoption of the agenda and organization of work	1st meeting 3 August 2009	Members: Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh
3 Request to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions	3 (a) Human rights education and training 3rd meeting 4 August 2009	<p>Members: Mr. Bengoa, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh, Ms. Zulficar</p> <p>Government observers: Algeria, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines (also on behalf of Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, Slovenia and Switzerland), Russian Federation, United States of America</p> <p>Observer for national human rights institutions: International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights</p> <p>Observers for non-governmental organizations: Amnesty International, Association mondiale pour l'école instrument de paix, Indian Council of South America, Indian Movement Tupaj Amaru, Soka Gakkai International (also on behalf of Human Rights Education Associates)</p>

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
3 (b) Right to food	5th meeting 5 August 2009	Members: Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Chen, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mrs. Warzazi, Mr. Ziegler, Ms. Zulficar Government observer: Brazil Observers for non-governmental organizations: Centre Europe-Tiers Monde (also on behalf of International Federation of Rural Adult), Indian Movement Tupaj Amaru
	7th meeting 6 August 2009	Members: Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Ziegler Government observers: Argentina
	3 (e) Missing persons	6th meeting 5 August 2009 Members: Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mrs. Warzazi Government observers: Argentina, Azerbaijan
	3 (g) Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family	1st meeting 3 August 2009 Members: Mr. Chen, Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh, Ms. Zulficar 2nd meeting 3 August 2009 Members: Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Martínez, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh, Ms. Zulficar Government Observer: Japan 4th meeting 4 August 2009 Members: Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Martínez, Ms. Quigumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mrs. Warzazi, Ms. Zulficar

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
4 Implementation of sections III and IV of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007	4 (a) Rules of procedures and methods of work	2nd meeting 3 August 2009 Members: Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mrs. Warzazi, Ms. Zulficar
		4th meeting 4 August 2009 Members: Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mrs. Warzazi
		6th meeting 5 August 2009 Members: Mr. Chen, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Mudho, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mrs. Warzazi, Ms. Zulficar
		Secretariat of the Advisory Committee
		7th meeting 6 August 2009 Members: Mr. Chen, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Hüseyinov, Mr. Kaigama, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh, Mrs. Warzazi, Ms. Zulficar
	4 (b) Agenda and annual programme of work, including new priorities	7th meeting 6 August 2009 Members: Ms. Chung, Mr. Decaux
		8th meeting 7 August 2009 Members: Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Heinz, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Martínez, Mr. Mudho, Ms. Quisumbing, Mr. Sakamoto, Mr. Seetulsingh, Ms. Zulficar
		Government observer: Slovenia
		Observers for non-governmental organizations: Indian Council of South America, Indian Movement Tupaj Amaru

Annex III

Rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

[Adopted by the Advisory Committee on 6 August 2009]

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee (hereinafter “the Advisory Committee”),

With regard to resolution 5/1 of the Human Rights Council entitled “Institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council”,

Adopts the present rules:

I. Members of the Advisory Committee

Rule 1

Duties of members of the Advisory Committee

The members of the Advisory Committee shall perform their duties with the requirements of independence and impartiality inherent to their office.

Rule 2

Incompatibility

During their term of office, members of the Advisory Committee shall not perform any function that is incompatible with the requirements of independence and impartiality and which might give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate.

Rule 3

Calculation of term of office

The duration of the term of office of a member of the Advisory Committee shall be calculated as from the first meeting of the Advisory Committee following the election of the member.

Rule 4

Resignation

The resignation of a member of the Advisory Committee shall be notified by that member in writing directly to the Chairperson or to the secretariat, and action shall be taken to declare the seat of that member vacant only after such notification has been received.

II. Chairperson and Bureau of the Advisory Committee

Rule 5

Election of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteur

1. The Advisory Committee shall elect a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur from among its members, for a period of one year.
2. The election of the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall be conducted on the basis of equitable geographical rotation of this office among the following regional

groups: African States; Asian States; Eastern European States; Latin American and Caribbean States; and Western European and other States. The three Vice-Chairpersons shall be elected also on the basis of equitable geographical rotation from the regional groups other than the one to which the Chairperson belongs. The selection of the Rapporteur shall also be based on geographical rotation.

3. If any of the officers referred to in paragraph 1 above ceases to be a member of the Advisory Committee or resigns his/her respective office before its normal expiry or ceases to be able to carry out his/her functions, the Advisory Committee shall elect from the regional group to which that officer belonged a successor for the remainder of the term of that office in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4.

4. Elections for a position in the Bureau shall require no balloting, if there is a regional consensus on the candidacy, unless any member from other regional groups requests such a ballot; in that case, the election shall be conducted by secret ballot. The member who has obtained an absolute majority of the votes cast shall be elected. If no member receives such a majority, a second ballot shall be held. The member receiving the most votes shall then be elected.

5. Elections shall be held at the first meeting of the first session of each Advisory Committee cycle, except in the case of a vacancy arising, in which case an election shall be held as soon as possible and the above rules shall be applied accordingly.

Rule 6

Functions

1. The Chairperson shall chair the meetings of the Advisory Committee and perform all other functions conferred upon him/her by the present rules of procedure. During his/her tenure, the Chairperson shall represent the Committee as a whole unless he/she delegates this function to one of the Vice-Chairpersons.

2. In the exercise of his/her functions, the Chairperson shall remain under the authority of the Advisory Committee.

3. The Chairperson shall retain the right to participate in the discussions of the Advisory Committee and to vote, unless he/she decides otherwise.

Rule 7

Acting Chairperson

1. If, during a session, the Chairperson is unable to be present at a meeting or any part thereof, he/she shall designate one of the Vice-Chairpersons to take his/her place.

2. A Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

Rule 8

Bureau of the Advisory Committee

1. The Bureau of the Advisory Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons and the Rapporteur.

2. The Bureau shall deal with procedural and organizational matters.

3. The Bureau shall hold such meetings as are required for the exercise of its functions. It shall inform the plenary in a timely manner of the Advisory Committee of the contents of each such meeting.

4. The Bureau shall be entitled to invite other members of the Advisory Committee to its meetings for the discussion of specific items.

III. Secretariat of the Advisory Committee

Rule 9

Secretariat

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights shall act as secretariat for the Advisory Committee. It shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Advisory Committee.

IV. Functioning of the Advisory Committee

Rule 10

Languages

1. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages, English, French and Spanish shall be the working languages of the Advisory Committee.
2. Any speaker addressing the Advisory Committee and using a language other than one of the official languages shall provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.

Rule 11

Circulation of documents

As soon as studies, working papers and any other documents become ready for circulation in one of the working languages, the secretariat shall send them immediately to the members of the Advisory Committee. No document will be voted upon by the Advisory Committee until it has been circulated in all official languages 24 hours prior to the beginning of the vote, unless such time requirement is waived by the Advisory Committee.

Rule 12

Sessions

1. The Advisory Committee shall convene up to two sessions for a maximum of 10 working days per year. The Advisory Committee may hold additional meetings or sessions at the request of one third of its members, with prior approval of the Council.
2. The sessions of the Advisory Committee shall be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva, unless another place is designated by the Council.
3. The sessions of the Advisory Committee shall be convened at dates decided on by the Council, upon proposals submitted by the secretariat following consultations with the Bureau of the Advisory Committee.
4. The secretariat shall notify the members of the Advisory Committee of the date and place of the first meeting of each session. Such notifications shall be sent, in the case of regular sessions, at least six weeks in advance and, in the case of an additional session, at least three weeks in advance, of the first meeting.

Rule 13**Agenda**

1. The secretariat shall send to the members a provisional agenda and the working documents relating to agenda items as well as relevant Council resolutions and decisions at least four weeks before the opening of the session. In the case of an additional session, the provisional agenda shall be sent simultaneously with the notification of the meeting under rule 12, paragraph 4.
2. The agenda shall be adopted by the Advisory Committee at the beginning of the session.
3. During a session, the Advisory Committee may revise the agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending items. Only important and urgent items shall be added to the agenda during the session.

Rule 14**Drafting groups and other arrangements**

The Advisory Committee may set up drafting groups comprising a limited number of its members and other arrangements. The terms of reference of such groups shall be defined by the Advisory Committee.

V. Preparation of studies and submission of documents**Rule 15****Preparation of studies requested by the Council**

1. On receipt of a request from the Council on providing expertise, the Advisory Committee shall entrust an individual member or group of its members with the task of preparing a study or other relevant document.
2. The specialized knowledge of the members of the Advisory Committee shall be taken into account when appointing such members or groups, due regard being paid in the case of appointing groups to equitable geographical distribution.

Rule 16**Duration of studies**

1. Unless the specific deadline is indicated by the Council, the Advisory Committee shall decide on the period for carrying out the study based on the proposal of the member or group of members carrying out the study.
2. As a general rule, each study shall comprise three phases — a preliminary report, a progress report and a final report — unless otherwise specified by the Council.

Rule 17**Submission of research proposals for the Council's consideration and approval**

1. Any member of the Advisory Committee may submit to the Committee a research proposal within the scope of the work set out by the Council. Upon approval by the Committee, such a proposal shall be referred to the Council for its consideration and approval.
2. A research proposal shall take the form of a working paper, and indicate, inter alia, the relevance of the study, including its being within the scope of the work set out by the Council, timeliness, object and the general outlines envisaged, as well as a draft timetable.

Rule 18

Time limit for the submission of documents

1. Drafting groups and individual members who have been entrusted with the task of preparing studies, working papers and any other documents for submission to the Advisory Committee shall submit them to the secretariat 10 weeks prior to the session, at the latest.
2. Studies, working papers and any other documents not submitted by the time limit indicated in paragraph 1 may not be considered at the next session, unless the Advisory Committee decides otherwise.

VI. Participation of and consultation with observers

Rule 19

Participation of and consultation with observers

In accordance with paragraph 83 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1, participation of and consultation with observers, including States that are not members of the Council, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations shall be based on arrangements, including Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, and practices observed by the Commission on Human Rights and the Council, while ensuring the most effective contribution of these entities.

VII. Public and private meetings

Rule 20

General principle

The meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be held in public, unless the Advisory Committee decides otherwise pursuant to rule 40 below.

Rule 21

Private meetings

All decisions taken by the Advisory Committee at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the Advisory Committee.

Rule 22

Hearings

The Advisory Committee may hear any person whom it considers to be in a position to assist in the performance of its functions.

VIII. Records and reports

Rule 23

Records of public and private meetings

1. Summary records of public meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be prepared by the secretariat. They shall be distributed in provisional form as soon as possible to the members of the Advisory Committee and to any other persons participating in the meeting. All such participants may, within 15 working days after receipt of the provisional record of the meeting, submit corrections to the secretariat. Any disagreement concerning such

corrections shall be settled by the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee in accordance with the recordings of the meetings available to this effect.

2. The summary records of public meetings of the Advisory Committee in their final form shall be documents of general distribution.

Rule 24

Report to the Council

The Advisory Committee shall submit to the Council a report on the work of each session containing a compilation of its recommendations and a summary of the proceedings.

IX. Conduct of business

Rule 25

Quorum

The quorum of the Advisory Committee shall be the majority of its members.

Rule 26

General powers of the Chairperson

In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by the present rules, the Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Advisory Committee, direct the discussions, ensure observance of the rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. The Chairperson, subject to the rules, shall have control over the proceedings of the Advisory Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings. The Chairperson may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Advisory Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each speaker may speak on any question and the closure of the list of speakers. The Chairperson shall rule on points of order and have the power to propose adjournment or closure of the debate or adjournment or suspension of a meeting. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Advisory Committee, and the Chairperson may call a speaker to order if that speaker's remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Rule 27

Points of order

1. During the discussion of any matter, a member may at any time raise a point of order, which shall immediately be decided on by the Chairperson in accordance with these rules. Any appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson shall be put to the vote immediately, and the ruling of the Chairperson shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

2. A member may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Rule 28

List of speakers

1. A list of speakers shall be opened at the beginning of a session for all participants for the inscription on all agenda items. The closure of the list on any particular item shall be announced by the Chairperson in good time, as the work proceeds.

2. When there are no more speakers on the agenda item during a particular meeting, the Advisory Committee shall take up the next item on its calendar without closing the discussion on the preceding item, if deemed necessary.

3. During the course of a debate, the Chairperson may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Advisory Committee, declare the list closed. When there are no more speakers, the Chairperson shall, with the consent of the Advisory Committee, declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by decision of the Advisory Committee.

Rule 29

Time limit on speeches

The Advisory Committee may limit the time allowed to each speaker on any question. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the Chairperson shall call that speaker to order without delay.

Rule 30

Adjournment of debate

A member may, at any time, move for the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two members favouring and two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately.

Rule 31

Closure of debate

A member may, at any time, move for the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other member has indicated the wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two members opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately.

Rule 32

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

During the discussion of any matter, a member may, at any time, move for the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted, and they shall be put to the vote immediately.

Rule 33

Order of motions

Subject to rule 27 above, the motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

- (a) To suspend the meeting;
- (b) To adjourn the meeting;
- (c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;
- (d) For the closure of the debate on the item under discussion.

Rule 34

Submission of proposals and amendments

Unless otherwise decided by the Advisory Committee, proposals and substantive amendments or motions submitted by members shall be introduced in writing and handed

to the secretariat, and shall be put to the vote no earlier than 24 hours after copies in all official languages have been circulated to the members.

Rule 35**Withdrawal of proposals and motions**

A proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion which has thus been withdrawn may be reintroduced by another member.

Rule 36**Decisions on competence**

Subject to rule 33 above, any motion by a member calling for a decision on the competence of the Advisory Committee to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 37**Reconsideration of proposals**

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Advisory Committee so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers opposing the motion, after which it shall be put to the vote immediately.

X. Voting**Rule 38****Voting rights**

Each member of the Advisory Committee shall have one vote.

Rule 39**Taking of decisions**

Subject to the provisions of rule 5 above and rule 47 below, decisions shall be taken without a vote, unless a member of the Advisory Committee calls for a vote.

Rule 40**Majority required**

1. Except as provided for in rule 47 below, the decisions of the Advisory Committee shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.
2. If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 41**Method of voting**

1. Subject to the provisions of rule 5 above, the Advisory Committee shall normally vote by a show of hands. Any member may, however, request a roll-call, which shall be taken in alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairperson.
2. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call shall be inserted in the record.

Rule 42**Explanation of vote**

Members may make brief statements consisting solely of the explanation of their votes before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The member sponsoring a proposal or a motion may not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

Rule 43**Conduct during voting**

After the voting has commenced, it shall not be interrupted unless a member raises a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.

Rule 44**Division of proposals and amendments**

Parts of a proposal or an amendment shall be voted on separately if a member requests that the proposal be divided. Those parts of the proposal or the amendment that have been approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole. If all the operative parts of a proposal or an amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendments shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Rule 45**Voting on proposals**

1. If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Advisory Committee shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they were submitted.
2. The Advisory Committee may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.
3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall have priority over the voting on that proposal.

Rule 46**Voting on amendments**

1. When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Advisory Committee shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal, and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter should not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.
2. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.

XI. Amendments**Rule 47****Amendments to the rules of procedure**

Any amendment to the present rules proposed by any member of the Advisory Committee shall require a decision taken by a two-third majority of votes cast.

Annex IV

List of documents issued for the third session of the Advisory Committee

Documents issued in the general series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/AC/3/1 and Corr.1	2 Provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/3/1/Add.1	2 Annotations to the provisional agenda
A/HRC/AC/3/2	5 Report of the Advisory Committee on its third session

Documents issued as conference room papers

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.1	4 Draft rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.2	3 Draft of principles and guidelines on elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy, and their family members
A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.3	3 The tragedy of Noma
A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.4 and Corr.1	3 Document de travail sur le projet de déclaration sur l'éducation et la formation aux droits de l'homme
A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.5	3 Peasant farmers and the right to food: a history of discrimination and exploitation

Documents issued in the limited series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/AC/3/L.1	3 Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy, and their family members
A/HRC/AC/3/L.2	3 Drafting group on human rights education and training
A/HRC/AC/3/L.3	3 Study on discrimination in the context of the right to food
A/HRC/AC/3/L.4	4 Promotion of the right of peoples to peace
A/HRC/AC/3/L.5	4 Human rights of elderly people
A/HRC/AC/3/L.6	3 Missing persons
A/HRC/AC/3/L.7	5 Draft report of the Advisory Committee on its third session
A/HRC/AC/3/L.8	5 Draft report of the Advisory Committee on its third session

Documents issued in the non-governmental organizations series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/AC/3/NGO/1	3 Joint written statement by the World Blind Union, the European Disability Forum, Inclusion International, the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People, Rehabilitation International, the World Federation of the Deaf, the World Federation of the Deafblind, the World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status
A/HRC/AC/3/NGO/2	3 Written statement submitted by the Human Rights Education Associates, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/AC/3/NGO/3	3 Written statement submitted by Amnesty International, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
A/HRC/AC/3/NGO/4	3 Exposé écrit par l'Organisation pour la communication en afrique et de promotion de la cooperation économique internationale, organisation non gouvernementale dotée du statut consultatif spécial

Documents issued in the national institutions series

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
A/HRC/AC/3/NI/1	3 Information submitted by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (ICC)
