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Human Rights Council

Advisory Committee

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Agenda item 2 (b)

**Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee
stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions:
Right to food**

Mr. José Antonio Bengoa Cabello, Ms. Chinsung Chung, Mr. Jean Ziegler, Ms. Mona Zulficar: draft recommendation

4/... Preliminary report on discrimination in the context of the right to food

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

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

Taking note of the discussions of the drafting group established by the Advisory Committee at its first session regarding the structure and content of the study on discrimination in the context of the right to food,

Taking note of the preliminary background papers prepared by Mr. Ziegler entitled “The tragedy of Noma”¹ and “Peasant farmers and the right to food: a history of discrimination and exploitation”,² 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 Advisory Committee at its third and fourth sessions,

¹ A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.3.

² A/HRC/AC/3/CRP.5.

Expressing its deep concern that more than 1 billion people are suffering from undernourishment worldwide, and that the existing inequalities between the world's regions and the vulnerability of the poorest members of developing countries are deepening as a result of three concomitant crises, namely, the food, economic and environmental crises,

Expressing its concern also that many individuals and groups suffer from hunger and malnutrition as a result of political, legal, economic, social or cultural discrimination and exclusion, in particular peasants, the urban poor, women, children, refugees, indigenous people and minorities,

Welcoming the good practices and anti-discriminatory policies and strategies put forward by Governments and other actors in order to address discrimination in the context of the right to food of vulnerable individuals and groups,

Underlining the importance of multiplying and diversifying the positive steps undertaken,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and those of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights aimed at protecting the right to food,

Recalling also the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security to which States have committed themselves, notably with respect to the identification of vulnerable groups and the elimination of discrimination in the context of the right to food,

1. *Submits* herewith to the Human Rights Council a preliminary report on discrimination in the context of the right to food submitted by the drafting group on the right to food, as revised in the plenary discussions of the Advisory Committee;³

2. *Recommends* that the Council authorize the secretariat of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to request all relevant United Nations bodies, special agencies and programmes, Member States and non-governmental organizations to give their views and comments on the good practices and anti-discriminatory policies and strategies set out in the report to address discrimination in the context of the right to food of vulnerable individuals and groups, so that such views can be taken into account in the preparation of the final report;

3. *Also recommends* that the Council consider requesting the Advisory Committee to undertake a study on the rights of peasants and other people living in rural areas, including those engaged in traditional fishing, hunting and herding activities.

³ A/HRC/AC/4/2/Rev.1.