



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE:

25 January 2017

Excellency,

I am writing regarding Human Rights Council resolution 31/36 of 24 March 2016, entitled "Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, [and in the occupied Syrian Golan]".

Operative paragraph 17 "[r]equests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in close consultation with the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises [...] to produce a database of all business enterprises involved in the activities detailed in paragraph 96 of the afore-mentioned report [A/HRC/22/63, concerning settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory], to be updated annually, and to transmit the data therein in the form of a report to the Council at its thirty-fourth session".

Let me assure you that my Office is doing its utmost to prepare this report. All interested persons, entities and organisations were invited by an open call to submit their contributions by 31 December 2016. We have also undertaken close consultations with the members of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises as requested by the resolution. Finally, we have held a number of meetings with parties concerned.

Bearing in mind the complexity of the requested report, I would like to recommend that the Council defers for one time only its consideration of my report under paragraph 17 of resolution 31/36 to allow for the submission of the report as soon as possible but no later than the end of December 2017. My request is based on the need for more time to carefully consider the inputs submitted in relation to the open call for submissions, and to ensure that due process with respect to the concerned stakeholders is fully respected prior to the compilation and transmission of the aforementioned database in a report to the Council.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein  
High Commissioner for Human Rights

H.E. Amb. Joaquin Alexander Maza Martell  
President of the Human Rights Council, Eleventh Cycle (2017)