



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

4 March 2019

Excellency,

I am writing to provide you with a letter further to 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”.

I kindly request for the attached letter to be placed on the Human Rights Council’s Extranet, for information of the members of the Council.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Bachelet".

Michelle Bachelet
High Commissioner for Human Rights

H. E. Mr. Coly SECK
President of the Human Rights Council
Geneva, Switzerland



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4 March 2019

Excellency,

I write further to 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".

In a letter dated 25 January 2017 to the then President of the Human Rights Council, my predecessor as High Commissioner, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, recommended a deferment of the report requested in resolution 31/36, based on the need to consider inputs submitted and ensure that due process was fully respected.¹ In a report to the Council dated 1 February 2018 (A/HRC/37/39), my predecessor described the state of progress made, and advanced a preliminary analysis. On 7 August 2018, by way of letter to the then President of the Human Rights Council, further detail was provided as to process as it stood at that time, with indication that OHCHR expected to provide the Council with an update on the matter in the future.²

Since my assumption of functions as High Commissioner in September 2018, I have been engaged in a process of consideration and assessment of the steps undertaken to date. The steps taken pursuant to resolution 31/36 have led to important, and welcome, engagement with Member States, business entities, civil society and other stakeholders, which is ongoing. I am committed to discharging the mandate of the Human Rights Council set out in its resolution 31/36, and intend to report to the Council accordingly. Given the novelty of the mandate and its legal, methodological and factual complexity, further consideration is necessary to fully respond to the Council's request.

.../...

H. E. Mr. Coly SECK
President of the Human Rights Council
Geneva, Switzerland

¹ Available online on the Extranet of the Human Rights Council, at the following link:
<https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/PresidencyBureau/BureauRegionalGroupsCorrespondence/Corresp2014DL/HCLetterOPT25Jan2017.pdf>

² Available online on the Extranet of the Human Rights Council, at the following link:
<https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/hrc/PresidencyBureau/BureauRegionalGroupsCorrespondence/Corresp2014DL/180807LetterfromHCdatabase.pdf>



My Office shall continue to devote requisite attention to the matter, with a view to finalizing this mandated activity in coming months, and I look forward to engagement with the Council in that regard.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Bachelet".

Michelle Bachelet
High Commissioner for Human Rights