

REVISED NON-PAPER ON EXPERT ADVICE (14 March 2007)

The HRC decides to establish a human right [body, system] of a [standing] nature to be composed of [5 to 25] impartial, independent, specialized and highly qualified experts. This [body] will be a subsidiary organ of the HRC and work at its direction solely. The term of office for these experts will be three years renewable only once, while it is envisaged as implementation-oriented think-tank [it can perform certain role as standard-setting].

The function of the [body] is to provide advice to the HRC on thematic issues and per request by the parent body. Further, its mandate is mainly promotion of human rights [but it may provide advice on other aspects of human rights if so requested by the Council].

Experts serving on this [body] should be chosen on purely meritorious basis in a transparent process in which the HRC should take the leading role, whether in their [election, appointment] and management. Prior to their [election], candidate's C.V.'s must be fully assessed by their respective sponsors to ensure that requirements of professionalism, competence, expertise and independence are met. At the same time the final composition of this entity will reflect the principle of equitable geographic representation in identical proportion observed in the composition of the HRC. Gender balance and diversity of legal systems as well as traditions are to be taken into consideration. Candidates may be proposed by [states, OHCHR, NGO's], presented by [all stakeholders] prior to their [election, appointment, confirmation].

Methods of work:

- Agenda to be approved by the Council.
- Duration of meetings to be determined in consultation with the Council and should not exceed a maximum of 2 weeks each calendar year.
- They can meet individually and in teams, and can hold one annual meeting or convene a number of small meetings.
- Informal links with NGO's are encouraged.
- Free to take initiative within the clearly delimited scope of their work and upon request by the HRC.

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