

## Human Rights Council

Resolution 14/L.5/Rev. 1

### Freedom of religion or belief: Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

*The Human Rights Council,*

*PP1. Recalling* General Assembly resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, in which the Assembly proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

*PP2. Recalling also* article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 2 (2) of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and other relevant human rights provisions,

*PP3. Recalling further* its resolution 6/37 of 14 December 2007 and the resolutions on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief adopted by the General Assembly and by the former Commission on Human Rights,

*PP4. Recalling* its resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council of 18 June 2007 and stressing that the mandate-holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and their annexes,

1. **Condemns** all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as well as violations of the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief,
2. **Stresses** that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance,
3. **Condemns** any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence,
4. **Deplores** the overall rise in instances of intolerance and violence directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world,
5. **Deplores also** the global rise and number of incidents of religious hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence, which may be manifested by the derogatory stereotyping as well as stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief,
6. **Expresses serious concern** at all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights and humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,
7. **Emphasizes** that, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,
8. **Emphasizes** the important role of media in the creation and promotion of an atmosphere of respect and tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, as well as multiculturalism,
9. **Welcomes** the report presented by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (A/HRC/13/40),

10. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief and concludes that there is a need for the continued contribution of the Special Rapporteur to the protection, promotion and universal implementation of the right to freedom of religion or belief;
11. *Decides* therefore to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief for a further period of three years;
12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to enable her/him to discharge her/his mandate fully;
13. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur and to respond favorably to her/his requests to visit their countries and to provide her/him with all necessary information so as to enable her/him to fulfill her/his mandate even more effectively;
14. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit her/his reports to the Council in accordance with its annual programme of work and the next annual report in 2011;
15. *Decides* to remain seized of this question under the same agenda item and to continue consideration of measures to implement the Declaration.