

Permanent Mission of The Arab Republic of Egypt – Geneva

CHAIR OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT CHAN.2010.



To: Permanent Missions of Member and Observer States of the Non-Aligned Movement

From: Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, in its capacity as Chair of the NAM

Subject: NAM Letter sent to the President of the Human Rights Council on the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council

The Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, in its capacity as Chair of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM), presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions of Member and Observer States of NAM to the United Nations in Geneva, and in reference to the ongoing NAM coordination process on the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council, has the honour to bring to the attention of all Permanent Missions of Member and Observer States of NAM the attached letter co-signed by the President of the General Assembly and the previous President of the Human Rights council on the result of their discussions of the issue of the review of the Human Rights Council.

In light of the content of this letter and the position of NAM on the modalities of the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council, we have the honour to attach herewith the letter sent today by the delegation of Egypt, in its capacity as the coordinator of the NAM, to the new President of the Human Rights Council inviting him to call for an urgent meeting with the coordinators of the various regional groups in Geneva in order to discuss the matter.

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New Movement for the Independence
of Puerto Rico

Mali Mauritenia

Organization of the Islamic Conference United Nations

The Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, in its capacity as Chair of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM), avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions of NAM Member and Observer States to the United Nations in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 22 June 2010

No. of pages (incl. this page): 5

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President of the Human Rights Council

President of the General Assembly

15 June 2010

Excellency

We have the honour to inform you of the exchanges of views we have held on the issue of the review of the Human Rights Council as mandated by General Assembly resolution 60/251. We would like to inform you about our position on some procedural issues.

We have discussed the modalities of the two distinct processes set out in General Assembly resolution 60/251 to be conducted in New York and Geneva. While OP1 of the resolution says that "the General Assembly shall review the status of the Council within five years", OP16 states that "the Human Rights Council shall review its work and functioning five years after its establishment and report to the General Assembly". The two processes may be different in time, place and scope, but we consider them to be complementary and mutually reinforcing. Regular and interactive coordination and cooperation between the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council should be ensured throughout the review process. In particular where thematic overlap could exist in the present division of labour, a working relationship will be necessary to assure an effective review of the Human Rights Council,

In this regard, we found that the review process would benefit from continued contacts between the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Human Rights Council. We are confident that an exchange of information with the facilitators recently nominated by the President of the General. Assembly could contribute to the ongoing efforts to ensure coordination. We are also convinced that both the Geneva and New York processes could benefit from the presence of their counterparts at their respective consultations.

We noted discussions regarding the sequence and link between the processes in New York and Geneva. In the absence of any new decision by the General Assembly, the provisions of resolution 60/251 should be respected. The two processes could develop in parallel and the results should be assembled to be adopted simultaneously by the General Assembly.

On a more substantive issue, we share the sense of urgency to clarify the relationship between the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council. The Council review process offers a unique opportunity to make the reporting line between the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly more regular, clear and transparent, in full respect of the role of the General Assembly and the mandate of the Human Rights Council.

We trust that all Member States will collaborate constructively in Geneva and New York to ensure a successful and comprehensive review of the Human Rights Council.

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

Alex Van Meerwen

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

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بعثة هـ محمدة لحى الأمم المتحدة جنيـ هم

SE.2010.059

22 June 2010.

Excellency

On behalf of the Non Aligned Movement, I would like to draw your attention to the joint letter dated 15 June 2010 co-signed by the President of the General Assembly and the former President of the Human Rights Council on the result of their discussions of the issue of the review of the Human Rights Council as mandated by General Assembly resolution 60/251.

In this regard, I would like to inform you that the NAM is deeply surprised as to the content of the said letter. In this regard, we would like to remind that during the consultations held by the former President of the Council, delegations and regional groups in Geneva expressed the view that the review by the General Assembly of the status of the Human Rights Council should await the completion of the review by the Council of its own work and functioning.

It is in this light, that the NAM regrets that the content of the above mentioned joint letter was never shared with the membership of the Council let alone with the members of the former bureau. I would like on this occasion to draw your kind attention to my letter dated 6 June 2010 addressed in the name of the Movement to the President of the Council informing him of the position of the NAM on the modalities of the review. In that letter, the NAM emphasized that 'since the Council is a subsidiary body of the General assembly, and since the latter will in any case have

before it the result of the review undertaken in Geneva, hence it is important that the GA review follow the review of work and functioning of the Council in Geneva, in order to avoid any overlap or duplication of work between the reviews in Geneva and NY'.

Therefore, in my capacity as coordinator of the NAM, I would like to invite you to kindly call for an urgent meeting with the coordinators of the various regional groups in Geneva in order to discuss the matter with a view to determine, under your leadership, the best way forward to ensure a successful review of the Human Rights Council both in New York and in Geneva, respecting GA resolution 60/251 and the proper sequencing of both reviews.

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

Congrabilation

Ambassador Hisham Badr

Permanent Representative

And coordinator of the Non Aligned Movement

H.E. Ambassador Sihasak Phuangketkeow Permanent Representative of Thailand To the United Nations President of the Human Rights Council

