

Advance unedited version

COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION  
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Eighty-fifth session  
11–29 August 2014

**PREVENTION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING EARLY WARNING AND  
URGENT ACTION PROCEDURES**

**Decision 1 (85)**

**Iraq**

*The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination*, meeting in Geneva at its eighty-fifth session from 11 to 29 August 2014,

*Acting* under its Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedures and taking into account its Declaration on Genocide (2005),

*Alarmed* by information and testimonies from various sources and having also considered the 15th to 21st periodic report of Iraq, a State party to the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD),

*Appalled* by the massacres, atrocities and other human rights abuses against civilian populations, inter alia on ethnic and ethno-religious grounds, committed by the terrorist armed group calling itself the “Islamic State (IS),”

*Deeply concerned* by the mass killings, the ethnic cleansing, the massive forced displacement of populations, the violence against women and children and the other crimes against humanity, which constitute blatant violations of the ICERD and increase the risk of genocide,

*Mindful* of the need to encourage the ongoing humanitarian responses required from the international community to preserve life and dignity of the populations affected,

*Fully aware* of the serious long-term consequences of the conflict in Iraq for peace and security in the Middle East and in the World:

1. Requests the Human Rights Council to convene a special session on the human rights situation in Iraq, with the view to consider establishing a commission of inquiry to examine the causes of the conflict, the origins and actions of the “IS,” the forces and problems involved, and to present its findings and recommendations, including with regard to those responsible for crimes against humanity and the ways to prosecute and punish them,
2. Urges the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the Security Council the suggestion to set up a UN peace force as a temporary emergency measure, in order to create a safe zone in the plain of Niniveh, enabling the free return of the displaced persons and the protection of the communities traditionally living in the area.

2313<sup>th</sup> meeting  
22 August 2014