**Second Part: Word Format APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATE HOLDERS**

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

APPLICATION FORM SPECIAL PROCEDURES MANDATES

How to start the application process:

- The application process has been split into 2 parts, the first part is a Web-based application and the second part is an application form in word which can be downloaded, completed and returned by email. Both parts and all sections of the application form should be filled in for the application to be processed.

The **first part**, i.e. the [Web-based application](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WEB-BASED_APPLICATION_SPECIAL_PROCEDURES_MANDATE_HOLDER) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate/s applying for and nominating entity. **The web-based application should only be completed once**, i.e. multiple selection allowed to indicate if the candidate is applying for more than one mandates.

This is the **second part** of the application form in Word format which can be downloaded, completed and saved in word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form, includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words, will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will be made available to concerned parties, including through the Council extranet.

Once completed the application form in Word format should be submitted by email to [hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)

If the candidate is applying for more than one mandates, an application form needs to be completed and sent for each mandate.

* A maximum of 3 reference letters can be attached, in pdf format, to the application sent by email. No additional document is required.
* **Application Deadline: 31st July 2011 (midnight, GMT)**.
* Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.

Kindly contact us only by regular mail or fax (if encountering technical difficulties):   
Regular mail: The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council, OHCHR, Palais des Nations, 8-14 avenue de la Paix, CH-1211, Geneva 10, Switzerland  
or Fax: (+ 41 22 917 9011).

**PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Family Name: Guáqueta | Sex:  Male  Female |
| First Name: Alexandra | Date of birth ( d-MMM-yy): 30-Apr-72 |
| Maiden name (if any): | Place of birth: Bogotá, Colombia |
| Middle name: | Nationality(ies): Colombian (and US) |

**I. MANDATE**

Indicate the specific mandate applied for:

Note: **Please select ONE only**. If you are applying for more than one mandate, please submit a separate form for each mandate.

1. Working Group on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

2. Independent Expert on Cote d’Ivoire

3. Working Group on Mercenaries (candidates for this mandate must be nationals of a country from the Western European and Other group)

**II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE/QUALIFICATION/KNOWLEDGE**

**NOTE: Please describe why the candidate’s competence/qualifications/knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| QUALIFICATIONS (200 words)  Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.) | Trained in social sciences (B.A. Political Science, M.Phil./D.Phil. International Relations) with expertise on global governance. Knowledge on the diffusion of ideas on democracy and human rights in US-Latin American relations; the Inter American Human Rights system; civil-military relations; and Colombia’s conflict. Experience in facilitating policy-oriented multistakeholder dialogue, e.g. Dialogue on Business, Peace, Development and Human Rights, by Ideas para la Paz and IBLF, in Bogotá, London and Washington, 2006. Research on: 1) the implication of international human rights norms for peace-making, transitional justice, demobilization of combatants, and peace-building in Colombia; 2) business and human rights in conflict affected areas; and 3) the dynamics of multistakeholder initiatives, such as the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VPs) for extractives. Current project on the VPs implementation in Latin America and Asia. Knowledge on b&hr based on practical experience while advocating for policy changes (e.g. the adoption of a business code, Colombia Guidelines, to protect union leaders from violence and stop extortion payments to illegal armed groups) and while working for the oil and mining industry. More than 30 academic and policy publications in English and Spanish. More than 60 presentations and speeches at conferences and events. |
| RELEVANT EXPERTISE (200 words)  Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired).  Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations’ work in the area of human rights. (Please state how this was acquired).  Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience. | 11 years working on b&hr in a various institutions, non governmental and business. Trained more than 600 business employees on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Geneva Conventions and related protocols, collaboration with Red Cross. In the extractive industry in Colombia, implemented: the UN Global Compact’s 10 Principles; ILO Convention 169 and the IFC Sustainability Standards regarding Indigenous Peoples rights; IFC standards on resettlement and access to land; freedom of association norms; the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights; the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; UN SRSG Ruggie’s framework; and Extractive Industry Transparency (EITI) “plus-plus” practices. Participated in around 10 consultations and meetings related to the Ruggie mandate, co-hosted the 2007 Latin America consultation, lead in Cerrejon (Colombia) 1 of 5 pilots world-wide on the rights-compatible Grievance Mechanism guidelines. Participated in the creation of the Colombian UN Global Compact network and the Global Compact Latin American Regional Centre. Piloted International Alert’s Conflict-Sensitive Business Practice tool in 3 large oil and mining companies in Colombia. Expert participant at policy workshops on EITI, the Kimberley Process and the VPs. Facilitated negotiations between unions, NGOs and businesses involved in the Colombia Guidelines. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE (200 words)  Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired). | Work at Ideas para la Paz (2004-2008) used evidence-based lessons to encourage policy change on business and peace-building, see e.g. my texts “Doing Business Amidst Conflict: Emerging Best Practices in Colombia”, in Banfield, et al, Local Business, Local Peace, International Alert, 2006 or “Occidental Petroleum, Cerrejón and NGO Partnerships in Colombia: Lessons Learned”, in Williams, Peace Through Commerce, Notre Dame, 2008. Practical competences on b&hr, on multistakeholder dialogue facilitation and on multicultural interactions acquired through policy advocacy and management responsibilities in the private sector described above. Proven recognition as expert and willingness to uphold human rights norms: invited to become 2011-2012 member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Council on Human Rights, to be chaired by Ruggie. Led the Secretariat of the Colombian VPs in-country process (2006-2008) and became member of the Colombian Mining&Energy Human Rights Committee board (2010). Invited to the Stakeholder Advisory Group of Better Coal’s social standard setting process. Invited to represent Cerrejón at Global Business Initiative on HR. Invited in 2010 as only business member to pay tribute to Mary Robinson on b&hr work. Received funding from Canada, Switzerland, the UK, the US, USIP and the Swedish NIR to conduct research and policy processes on b&hr (2004-2008). |
| flexibility/readiness and AVAILABILITY of time (200 words)  to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approx. three months per year to the work of a mandate) | I have a permanent job in academia, at Flinders University, and can therefore engage in the Working Group with total independence. My main means of sustenance does not depend on corporate contracts. Academia is also an ideal environment from which the open exchange of ideas can be promoted.  My current job and Flinders University support allows for time flexibility as there are only 20 on- campus teaching weeks in the year and ample room for travel. Given my prior experience in policy advocacy and especially business, I am trained to perform in demanding work environments, managing high loads of direct responsibilities and being in on-call availability to deal with urgent risk and impact issues. Engaging stakeholders in various time zones has been part of my routine. |

**III. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)**

**Please indicate all language skills**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Languages** | **Read** | | **Write** | | **Speak** | |
|  | **Easily** | **Not Easily** | **Easily** | **Not Easily** | **Easily** | **Not Easily** |
| **Arabic** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Chinese** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **English** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **French** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Russian** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Spanish** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Mother tongue:**  **Spanish** |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**IV. Motivation Letter (600 word limit)**

|  |
| --- |
| I am writing to submit my name for the UN Working Group on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.  The world is undergoing deep changes. We need to harness businesses’ contact with society and its ability to innovate in order to move through globalization and take care of people, especially the most vulnerable. Not all negative impacts caused by growing markets and political change will be avoided, but they can be reduced and must be managed. Businesses have unique strengths and the international society needs to take advantage of that by pushing corporations in the direction of respecting human rights.  I only fully grasped the absolute relevance of the role of companies beyond job creation when I entered the business world. When I returned to Colombia in 2002 after my D.Phil. in International Relations at Oxford, I specifically chose to work for an oil company in a remote rural war-torn area of my country in order to understand better private sector risks, impacts and dilemmas. Back then, the issue of business operations in conflict zones and how they potentially affected human rights had gained policy momentum leading to multistakeholder governance experiments such as the Kimberley Process, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights for extractives and their security practices and the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative. Still very little information on corporate decision-making on the issues of human rights and peace-building was available. Speculations abounded. Very bad conduct was expected. When I entered the corporate world, I saw daily the type of business risks alluded to in key NGO reports. But most importantly I also found concrete tools and opportunities to shape the ideas and conduct of employees. Risk registers, yearly strategic plans and key performance indicators were at my reach to induce corporate culture change and to go “beyond the fence” to promote societal change.  Almost a decade later, the business and human rights agenda has gone a long way. We know now that “sticks and carrots” embedded in international regimes, national legislation and the market are indispensable to shape business conduct more systematically and at a global scale. I was an active participant in this process (e.g. I road-tested UN SRSG Ruggie’s Grievance Mechanism guidelines). Today, the UN’s “Protect, Respect and Remedy framework” as well as the Guiding Principles provide much needed clarity on the division of labour between states and corporations on the issue of business and human rights. And we also understand better how companies can affect societies from below, through their daily operations, and from above, when they shape socio-economic structures. The next phase will be about the global dissemination of business and human rights norms; paying greater attention to domestic medium and small enterprises; capacity building of local communities and NGOs; learning within and amongst governments including working towards greater policy coherence on the issue of business and human rights; and agreeing on legitimate forms of corporate accountability. I believe that especially the operationalization of the “Remedy” component will pose challenges and offer solutions.  Sustained and open dialogue, sensitive to cultural and gender differences, is pivotal. Moreover, state and non state actors should not lose what makes them unique or blur their roles. NGOs need to be independent watchdogs, companies exist to do business, states must balance their own needs while meeting their international obligations. But commonality of purpose is key: treating humans with dignity.  My integrity and moral commitment to human rights and transparency are broadly recognized and I believe I can bring to thegroup the best of different worlds and key knowledge. I would be delighted to be part of a committed team. |

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications: (university level and higher)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree and name of academic institution** | **Years of Attendance** | **Place and Country** |
| D.Phil. International Relations, Somerville College, Oxford University | 1998-2002 | Oxford, UK |
| M.Phil. International Relations, Somerville College, Oxford University | 1996-1998 | Oxford, UK |
| B.A. Political Science, Universidad de los Andes | 1990-1995 | Bogotá, Colombia |
|  |  |  |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held, beginning with the most recent one:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Employer  Functional Title  Main functions of position | Years of Attendance/Work | Place and Country |
| Flinders University, School of International Studies Lecturer in International Relations  -Design of "new security agenda" program  -Undergraduate and postdraduate teaching  -Research  -Participation in local and international community life to help informed decision making and policy change for the benefit of communities | Jan 2011-present | Adelaide, Australia |
| Cerrejón (mining), Head for Social Standards and International Engagement  -Oversee the implementation of the Third Party Review process, which called for a change in corporate culture change with regards to the management of social impacts and risks, and wide consultation processes with local communities, as well as national and international NGOs, stakeholder and business clients in the US and Europe  -Oversee the integrity, transparency and materiality of the Third Party process public reporting  -Update company policies and practices in line with emerging business and human rights standards, design assurance mechanism on compliance with social standards  -Set up and manage a corporate rights-compatible Grievance Mechanism to process complaints by employees and communities on labour, environmental, cultural, land, social and security issues using the Ruggie guidelines and the ICMM guidelines  -Manage the implementation of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, including the promotion of human rights and international humanitarian law among public and private security forces associated to the operation  -Support the formulation of an ILO and IFC- compatible free prior informed consultion process, taking into account ongoing changes in the national legal framework, international debates and social expectations on the issue  -Engage with national and international NGOs, international insitutions, academics and governments, including bodies such as the UN Global Compact, the EITI, the VPs plenary, among others.  -Liase with energy companies (clients) to conduct credible auditing processes on social, environmental, labour and health and safety issues | 2008-2011 | Bogotá and La Guajira, Colombia |
| Academic Director, Fundación Ideas para la Paz (FIP)  -Design and implement the institution's strategic plan  -Fundraise  -Guide overall research strategy and methodology  -Design and carry out specific research projects on conflict dynamics, peace-building and transitional justice in Colombia  -Launch and manage the Business and Conflict Programme  -Oversee quality of publications | 2004-2008 | Bogotá, Colombia |
| Government Affairs Analyst, Occidental de Colombia.  -Design and implement human rights policy.  -Guide security risk in accordance to the VPs. | 2002-2004 | Bogotá and Arauca, Colombia |

**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS (of Council Resolution 5/1)**

1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.

|  |
| --- |
| No. To honour transparency, however, I must make the following disclosure: Since my departure from Cerrejón in 2011, I have maintaned with them a consultant status through The Social Bridge S.A.S. (owned by Carlo Tognato). Consultancy delivery is done by me and Carlo Tognato, contract ends in June 2012. Scope includes briefs on human rights norms and stakeholder engagement. Documenting on going experience with the new grievance mechanism from an academic perspective and delivery of relevant training are activities committed for early 2012. I hold no decision-making capabilities in regards to Cerrejon's actions and neither Carlo or myself engage on behalf of Cerrejón. Our independence is declared contractually and openly. If I am chosen for the Working Group, Carlo Tognato could deliver contract commitments with limited support on my part. In 2011 I have provided ocassional consultancy to Xstrata coal on human rights standards and stakeholder engagement. |

2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate’s ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate’s moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the Annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?

*Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.*

*Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate-holders will act in their personal capacity*

yes

5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the Annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.

I am not a member of any human rights mechanism.

You will receive an acknowledgment when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the information through the Web-based application and the Word application form by email.  
  
Thank you for your interest.