**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

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: Rona  | Sex: [x]  Male [ ]  Female |
| First Name: Gabor  | Date of birth ( d-MMM-yy): 7-May-51 |
| Maiden name (if any):        | Place of birth: Budapest, Hungary |
| Middle name:        | Nationality(ies): USA, Hungary |

**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

[x]  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.) | I have studied, participated in, written about, and advocated for the development of accountability measures for private military and security contractors (PM/SCs) for over a decade, first as a legal advisor in the ICRC legal division, then as international legal director of Human Rights First (HRF). Specifically, I participated in the development of the Montreux Document and Code of Conduct and represented HRF at the recent Intergovernmental Working Group Consultation, at which I wrote and delivered an intervention. I also teach PM/SC accountability under international human rights and humanitarian law in my Columbia Law School IHL class and addressed the topic when I taught international criminal law at the Graduate Institute in Geneva. I have written numerous articles on a variety of human rights, humanitarian law and international criminal law-related topics; have drafted and delivered interventions in countless governmental, academic and professional for a (including the recent relevant Inter-Governmental Working Group meeting in Geneva); and have appeared in print media, radio and television on various human rights-related issues. |
| 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. | I have developed intimate knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms, principles and mechanisms, starting with study in the Columbia Law School LLM program, then as legal advisor in the ICRC legal division, then as international legal director of Human Rights First. I have worked closely on human rights issues with UN mandate holders, with governments in all regions of the world, with civil society, and with regional organizations such as OSCE, CoE, as well as in the inter-American and African systems. I also have experience working within the United Nations as interim head of Protection of Civilians at OCHA. This experience spans 20 years. In addition, my 15 years of experience in private legal practice provides me with a wealth of knowledge concerning real-life application of law to individuals, businesses and governments. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE (200 words)Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired). | I am recognized as an expert in international human rights and humanitarian law by colleagues in U.S. and international Academia, in other human rights organizations, in policy-making branches of the US government, and within the ICRC. I am frequently asked to speak at international conferences, on TV and radio and have written articles on a variety of matters in human rights, humanitarian law and international criminal law. My competence in this realm was acquired through academic study in the Columbia Law School LLM program, during my 5 years as a legal advisor in the ICRC legal division, during my brief stint as interim head of Protection of Civilians at OCHA, during 6 years as international legal director at Human Rights First and as an instructor of IHL and human rights at Columbia Law School for the last 3 years. |
| 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 am already engaged in these tasks, both in connection with matters relevant to the mandate, as well as other matters involving human rights. Because the work required of the mandate holder is already part of the agenda of Human Rights First, I would have no difficulty devoting sufficient time to sessions in New York and Geneva, to special procedures visits, to drafting reports and otherwise engaging with stakeholders. I would be able to devote approximately three months per year to the work of the mandate.  |

**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** | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  |
| **French** | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  |
| **Russian** | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| **Spanish** | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| **Mother tongue:** **Hungarian** | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [x]  |

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

|  |
| --- |
| The privatization of inherently governmental functions is a challenge to accountability for human rights violations. Whether in the operation of prisons, of targeting technology, or in the performance of military and security functions, outsourcing tends to insulate governments and at the same time, takes advantage of a relatively underdeveloped legal framework for criminal and civil liability of private enterprise. The Working Group performs a valuable function by studying, reporting on, and making practical recommendations for the closure of this accountabiity gap in the context of private military and security operations.I can bring four important elements to the Working Group. First, I can bring a needed degree of expertise in IHL as well as IHRL. In my decade of work on these issues, I have found insufficient understanding of the scope of application of international and domestic legal frameworks, and of their applicable rules. This is especially so as concerns the complementarity between IHL and IHRL. Second, having worked on these issues from Europe and from within the U.S., I believe I can bring to bear an important understanding of how different participants in the relevant debates approach these issues. For example, I have an intimate understanding of how U.S. jurisprudence that protects contractors from accountability and the pursuit of remedies by victims is incompatible with applicable international law. Third, the Working Group can benefit from my close working relationships with various elements of the U.N, the ICRC and with various governments interested in these issues (especially within higher levels of the U.S. Department of Defense, State Department and National Security Council and within the U.S. Congress), as well as my relations and contacts with DCAF and with various international NGOs working on these issues. Fourth, I would bring with me the institutional knowledge of Human Rights First, including its long-standing interest in the development of the Montreux Document, the Code of Conduct, and domestic measures to ensure contractor accountability, as well as its related knowledge and expertise in the realm of business and human rights. |

**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** |
| Bachelor of Arts, Brandeis University | 1969-73 | Waltham, MA, USA |
| Juris Doctor, Vermont Law School | 1976-78 | South Royalton, VT, USA |
| LL.M, Columbia Law School | 1996-7 | New York, NY, USA |
|       |       |       |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of EmployerFunctional TitleMain functions of position | Years of Attendance/Work | Place and Country |
| Human Rights First, International Legal Director; Interim Crimes against Humanity Program Director (2007); Interim Law and Security Program Director (2008-9).• Advise Human Rights First programs on questions of international law and coordinate international human rights litigation. • Represent Human Rights First with governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the media and the public on matters of international human rights and international humanitarian law, particularly on matters of human rights and counter-terrorism.• Oversaw development of Crimes against Humanity Program and supervised its staff pending hiring of permanent program director (2007).• Oversaw program planning and directed Law and Security Program (program on human rights and counter-terrorism).• Observe and report on Guantanamo Military Commissions, Bagram (Afghanistan) Detainee Review Boards, Afghan trials, conduct interviews with former detainees, meet with officials of high-level U.S. and other governments, U.N., I.O. and other NGOs on human rights and counter-terrorism policies, practices and applicable law. | 2005-present | New York, NY, USA |
| Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations, Chief, ad interim, Protection of Civilians Section, Policy Development and Studies Branch.• Brief Security Council Working Group on Protection of Civilians in connection with Peacekeeping Mission mandates.• Draft Undersecretary General’s and Secretary General’s periodic reports to Security Council on Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict.• Plan and deliver agenda items for Inter-Agency Working Group• Plan and execute program and budget, supervise staff.• Provide and coordinate legal and policy advice for OCHA operations and other UN agencies on matters pertaining to protection of civilians in armed conflict.• Participate in field mission and report on implementation of UN “conditionality policy” in DRC. | 2010 | New York, NY, USA |
| International Committee of the Red Cross, Legal Advisor, Legal Division.• Draft and negotiate diplomatic privilege and immunity agreements between ICRC and States/ International Organizations (Headquarters and Cooperation Agreements/ Memoranda of Understanding). Represent institution in resolution of disputes arising under those Agreements.• Represent ICRC positions on humanitarian law in the development of international criminal tribunals. Follow international criminal jurisprudence pertaining to armed conflict. Represent ICRC in relations with international judicial bodies. • Develop and represent institutional positions on relationship between international humanitarian law and "war on terror".• Represent ICRC on use of and protection for name and emblem, including domain name issues.• Field missions to Rwanda, Tajikistan, China. | 1999-2005 | Geneva, Switzerland |
| Center for Constitutional Rights. Senior Staff Attorney. International human rights litigation and advocacy. | 1996-1999 | New York, NY, USA |

**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 |

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.

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.