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| REFERENCE: SPB/SHD/UH |

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC and has the honour to refer to Human Rights Council resolutions 17/4 of 16 June 2011 and 26/22 of 27 June 2014 entitled “Human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.”

In paragraph 12 of resolution 17/4, the Council established the Forum on Business and Human Rights under the guidance of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, and to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights.

In paragraph 15 of resolution 17/4, the Council requested the President of the Council to appoint for each session of the Forum, on the basis of regional rotation, and in consultation with regional groups, a chairperson of the Forum serving in his/her personal capacity. The chairperson is nominated by members and observers of the Council and shall be responsible for the preparation of a summary of the Forum discussions. The 2012 and 2013 Fora were chaired by Professor John Ruggie (USA) and Mr. Makarim Wibisono (Indonesia) respectively.

In resolution 26/22, paragraph 8, the Council welcomed the role of the Working Group in guiding the first two annual Fora on Business and Human Rights, encouraged all stakeholders to continue to attend the Forum, and decided that the two-day Forum should continue to be held on an annual basis, with the addition of one meeting day to allow for the preparation and sharing of new tools and experiences.

Preparations are underway for the third annual Forum which is due to be held from 1 to 3 December 2014. Delegations wishing to submit nominations for the position of chairperson of the Forum are invited to send these to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Council, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva, CH-1201 Geneva 10, Fax: +41 22 917 90 11, no **later than 10 October 2013**.

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council avails itself of this opportunity to present to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC the assurances of its highest consideration.

9 September 2014