The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all United Nations Member States, specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC and has the honour to inform them that, on 21 December 2010 at 17:50, it received a request by Nigeria on behalf of the African Group and the United States of America, to convene a special session on "The situation of human rights in Cote d’Ivoire since the elections on 28 November 2010".

In order for a special session to be convened, in conformity with operative paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 60/251, the support of one-third of the membership of the Council (16 members or more) is required. The above-mentioned request was submitted by the following Member States of the Council: Belgium, Brazil, France, Hungary, Japan, Maldives, Mexico, Nigeria on behalf of the African Group, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

Further to consultations with the President of the Human Rights Council, the Secretariat also wishes to inform all Permanent Missions that the Special Session shall be held in Room XX of the Palais des Nations on Thursday, 23 December 2010 at 10:00.

Pursuant to paragraph 124 of the Annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 the President shall convene an open-ended informative consultation in relation to the Special Session. This consultation shall be held on Wednesday, 22 December at 15:00 in Room XX of the Palais des Nations.

21 December 2010