



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Twenty-third special session of the Human Rights Council Geneva, 1 April 2015

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC and has the honour to inform them that on 26 March 2015 at 5.55 p.m., the President of the Human Rights Council received a letter signed by the Permanent Representative of Algeria containing a request, on behalf of the African Group in Geneva, to convene a special session of the Council “in light of the terrorist attacks and human rights abuses and violations committed by the terrorist group Boko Haram” on **Wednesday, 1 April 2015**.

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 supported by the following States Members of the Council: **Algeria, Botswana, Brazil, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)**. The request was also supported by the following observer States: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Djibouti and Mozambique.

Further to consultations with the President of the Human Rights Council, the 23rd special session shall be held on **Wednesday, 1 April 2015, at 9 a.m.**, in Room XX at the Palais des Nations.

Pursuant to paragraph 124 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, the President shall hold an open-ended informative consultation before the special session on its conduct and organization on **Monday, 30 March 2015, at 3 p.m.**, in Room XX at the Palais des Nations.

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

26 March 2015