***APPLICATION DEADLINE: 27 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 12:00 noon GREENWICH MEAN TIME***

* *The application process consists of two compulsory parts:****(1) online survey[[1]](#footnote-1)*** *(*[*https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/672471*](https://ohchr-survey.unog.ch/index.php/672471)*) and****(2) application form in Word format[[2]](#footnote-2)*** *(to be downloaded from* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC46.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/HRC46.aspx)*)*
* *Candidates should indicate in question 10 of Section I (Personal data) below for which indigenous sociocultural region they are applying and then* ***include in the motivation letter in Section III why they are applying for the specific indigenous sociocultural region.***
* *Once fully completed, the Word application form should be submitted by email to* [*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)
* *A maximum of three optional reference letters (in Word or PDF) may be attached to the email. For EMRIP candidates, preferably one of the three letters should be from an organization or entity representing indigenous peoples. No additional documents (e.g. CVs, resumes or additional reference letters) will be accepted.*
* *Applicants will receive an acknowledgment email when both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form, have been received by the Secretariat. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.*
* *Applications will only be considered if both parts and all sections of the Word application form have been completed and received by the Secretariat before the expiration of the deadline.* ***No incomplete or late applications will be accepted****.*
* *General description of the selection process and answers to frequently asked questions are available at* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx) *and* [*https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx*](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/BasicInformationSelectionIndependentExperts.aspx)
* *In case of technical difficulties or problems with accessing or completing the forms, you may contact the Secretariat by email (*[*hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org*](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)*) or fax (+41 22 917 9008).*

**I. PERSONAL DATA**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1. Family (last) name:** LOUNES | **5. Year of birth:** 1955 |
| **2. First (given) name:** Belkacem | **6. Place of birth:** Isser, Algeria |
| **3. Other name, if any:** | **7. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates):** Algerian |
| **4. Gender:** Male | **8. Any other nationality:** |
| **9. Indigenous origin:** Amazigh (indigenous people of Algeria and North Africa) | |
| **10. Please indicate for which indigenous sociocultural region you are applying (please tick a box):** | **Africa**  **North America** |

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

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

1. **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 six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)**

I hold a Doctorate in Economics and Social Sciences, I am a university professor for thirty years. I received high-level training in the area of human and peoples' rights (political, economic, social, cultural and linguistic rights).

I have more than twenty years of professional experience in the field of protection and promotion of human rights, particularly with regard to indigenous peoples. I have participated as a speaker or trainer in many seminars and international meetings concerning individual and collective human rights. I have written dozens of articles published in the press and I am the author and co-author of two studies on indigenous issues, conducted in partnership with the University of Pretoria and APMM (association of mountain peoples of the world).

In 2016, I was appointed as an expert member of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples in Africa, which reports to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. This position allowed me to enrich my knowledge on African national and regional legislations and the diversity of the issues of the indigenous peoples in this continent.

I have a very good command of French and Arabic and a fairly good knowledge of English and Spanish.

1. **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 and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state how this was acquired.)**

**Proven work experience in the field of human rights and particularly in the area of the mandate. (Please state years of experience.)**

I have acquired a very good knowledge of international human rights instruments, standards and principles as mentioned in the United Nations Charter, international conventions, declarations and programmes of action adopted by the United Nations and by the African Union and its Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. I have acquired this knowledge through my participation in academic training sessions as well as international seminars and conferences. I have also written and presented numerous reports on various human rights themes, to treaty bodies, working groups and international conferences.

My knowledge has been accompanied by the practice of the institutional mandates of the United Nations and the African Union. As a civil society actor or as an academic, I have participated in a large number of sessions of UN bodies such as the Human Rights Council, the Treaty Bodies, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism, the African Commission and others. I have been working on human rights issues since the early 1990s, first within NGOs such as the International Federation for Human Rights and Amnesty International, and then with UN and African Union bodies.

1. **ESTABLISHED** **COMPETENCE** (200 words)

**Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)**

My human rights expertise is built both through my continuous monitoring of human rights situations as experienced by individuals, peoples and communities, locally, regionally and internationally. I do this monitoring through my field visits, reading press releases and reports. This factual knowledge is complemented and compared with the national legislation of States and with international human rights law and its mechanisms. The constant confrontation between national, regional and international standards and the realities on the ground has been very enriching for the consolidation of my expertise. My position as a member of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples and Communities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights since 2016, has led me to discover the diverse realities of Africa and to meet state and non-state actors to whom I had no access until then. It has also given me the opportunity to learn and implement the principles and actions of mediation, dialogue and "human rights diplomacy" with the aim of advancing the effective respect of human rights and alleviating conflicts.

1. **PUBLICATIONS OR PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**Please list significant and relevant published books, articles, journals and reports that the candidate has written or public statements, or pronouncements that the candidate has made or events participated in relation to the mandate.**

* 1. **Enter three publications in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Title of publication:** The rights of indigenous peoples to their lands and natural resources

**Journal/Publisher:** Congres Mondial Amazigh

**Date of publication:** International conference on the rights of indigenous peoples, Rabat, Morocco, November, 2019

**Web link, if available:** www.congres-mondial-amazigh.org

**2. Title of publication:** The indigenous world in 2020

**Journal/Publisher:** IWGIA Editions (International Working Group on Indigenous Issues)

**Date of publication:** Indigenous world, January, 2020

**Web link, if available:** www.iwgia.org

**3. Title of publication:** The Issue of repatriation of sacred and historic objects of indigenous peoples in Africa, communication at Emrip-University of British Columbia seminar in Vancouver, Canada, February 2020

**Journal/Publisher:** University of British Columbia

**Date of publication:** march, 2020

**Web link, if available:** www.ubc.ca

**If more than three publications, kindly summarize** (200 words):

- Participation and presentation of papers on indigenous issues to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, since 2008 and EMRIP, Geneva, since 2010

- Participation and presentation of alternative reports on behalf of the NGO AWC, in several sessions of Treaty bodies of the UN and the WGIP of the African Commission on Human and peoples’s Rights since 2007, Geneva, Banjul, Gambia.

- Participation and communication in the "Global Consultation Workshop with indigenous peoples on the Review for a Strengthened European Union (EU) Policy on Indigenous Peoples", New York, April, 2015

- Participation on behalf of the Amazigh World Congress (AWC) to the COP21, COP22, COP24 and COP25, organizing and conducting conferences on the threats of climate change on indigenous peoples of Africa, Lyon, Paris, Marrakech, Katowice, Madrid, 2016/2019.

- Presentation of the synthesis of the WGIP study on extractive industries and their impact on Indigenous Peoples rights in Africa, Dialogue Seminar of Uganda, Kampala, November 2018.

- Publication of a study on “indigenous peoples of north africa in the context of covid-19”, July, 2020.

* 1. **Enter three public statements or pronouncements made or events that the candidate may have participated in relation to the mandate applied for, in the order of relevance:**

**1. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** UN Permanent Forum on indigenous issues

**Event organizer:** UNDESA, New-York

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** , 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2018

**Web link, if available:** https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions

**2. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Expert Mechanism on the rights of indigenous peoples

**Event organizer:** Human Rights Council, Geneva

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

**Web link, if available:** www.congres-mondial-amazigh.org, www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IPeoples/EMRIP/Pages/EMRIPIndex.aspx

**3. Platform/occasion/event on which public statement/pronouncement made:** Working Group on indigenous peoples of Africa

**Event organizer:** African Commission on the Human and Peoples's Rights, Banjul

**Date on which public statement/pronouncement made:** 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

**Web link, if available:** http://www.achpr.org/news/

**If more than three, kindly summarize** (200 words):

Since my appointment as a member of the Working Group of the African Commission (2016) and as a member of the Expert Mechanism (2019), my interventions, communications and contributions have been made mainly in the context of one or the other of my functions as a member of the WG of the African Commission and as a member of the Expert Mechanism.

I have been invited on a large number of occasions to participate in seminars and conferences organized by universities in Africa but also outside Africa, by indigenous organizations or NGOs, on themes related to indigenous issues and/or more generally on human rights.

In my presentations, I have always drawn public attention to the mandate of the Expert Mechanism, particularly since its extension in 2016, encouraging States, indigenous peoples and private economic actors to make greater use of our mechanism to help find fair and mutually satisfactory solutions based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Within the Expert Mechanism, my colleagues did me the honour of appointing me last June as Vice-President of Emrip and entrusted me with the direction of the study on the rights of indigenous children that we will submit to the Human Rights Council in 2021.

1. **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 (HRC) sessions in Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of stakeholders. Kindly indicate whether the candidate can dedicate an estimated total of approximately three months per year to the work of a mandate.**

**Please note that the work of mandate holders is unpaid. Those appointed as mandate holders serve in their personal capacities. They are not United Nations staff members, they are not based in United Nations offices in Geneva or at another United Nations location, and they do not receive salary or other financial compensation, except for travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance of “experts on mission”.**

Even before my experience as an Expert Mechanism member, I already imagined the large amount of work that an EMRIP member has to do, which requires a lot of time to be freed up to carry out the various tasks such as participating in meetings with colleagues, doing research, responding to requests from indigenous peoples, States and other stakeholders, participating in the drafting of studies and reports, participating in visits and meetings with stakeholders, etc. I was also aware that the work of the Expert Mechanism is very demanding and that it requires a lot of time to be able to carry out the various tasks. As a university professor, I had planned to free up time and organise myself to carry out my mission within Emrip in the best possible way. After two years of experience as a member of Emrip, I recommit myself to continue to devote more than three months of my time to the tasks related to my mission within EMRIP.

I have also noted that my work for EMRIP is unpaid. In this regard, I confirm that my current income is totally sufficient for me and that I am not seeking paid employment. My activity at EMRIP is much more a personal commitment to human rights than a search for remuneration.

1. **NOMINATION FOR THE MANDATE**

**Indicate whether the candidate has been nominated by (check all that apply):**

**Individual nominations (indicate this if the candidate is self-nominating)**

**Governments**

**Regional groups operating within the United Nations human rights systems**

**International organizations or their offices**

**Non-governmental organizations**

**National human rights institutions**

**Other human rights bodies**

**Name of the nominating entity and additional information about the nomination (use if applicable, for third-party nominations only)** (200 words)**:**

My candidacy for the renewal of my mandate with Emrip is a self-nominating but it is supported by three major regional indigenous organisations: Congres Mondial Amazigh (CMA), African Indigenous Peoples Network (AIPN) and Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee(IPACC), and by my Emrip colleagues.

Their letters of support are attached to my application file.

**III. Motivation Letter, INCLUDING WHY YOU ARE APPLYING FOR THE SPECIFIC INDIGENOUS SOCIOCULTURAL REGION**(600 word limit. Must be typed in the space below and not sent in a separate email or as an attachment. To be drafted and signed (i.e. with a typed signature) by the candidate himself/herself even if nominated by another entity.)

I was born in an Amazigh family in the Amazigh region of Kabylia, in Algeria during the French colonial period. In this context and from my early age, I witnessed and also suffered various forms of discrimination and injustice. This has left a deep impression on my mind and has greatly influenced my commitment to all victims and to the weakest in general.

I very quickly realised that in order to effectively defend the rights of victims and the most vulnerable, I needed to equip myself with the necessary skills. So I started to train myself first on an academic level, up to a PhD degree. In parallel to my university studies in Economics, I followed training courses in human rights in general and in the law of indigenous peoples. In order to be able to live concrete experiences, I voluntarily committed myself in NGOs working in the fields of solidarity and the protection and promotion of human rights. My voluntary work in NGOs has helped me a lot to consolidate my capacities, especially in observing, listening and analysing complex situations.

Over time, my interest in human rights has grown and extended to the international level where I have discovered new actors, instruments and mechanisms, as well as the virtues of collaborative work with specialised NGOs and indigenous organisations from all regions of the world. In the 1990s and early 2000s, as Amazigh, President of the NGO Amazigh World Congress, I participated, together with other indigenous and state representatives, in the drafting of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In parallel to my professional activity as a university professor, I was passionate about the mission I chose: to protect the most vulnerable (persons and peoples) by defending their rights. This has brought me to know a wide variety of situations on all continents and particularly in Africa and to discover new partners and tools for the protection of human rights.

In 2016, I joined the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (WGIP) of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights as an indigenous expert. Together with my colleagues in the WGIP, we have conducted studies, country visits, conferences, training seminars and dialogues with different stakeholders (governments, indigenous representatives, companies) to seek and find with them equitable and sustainable solutions to ensure the existence and future of indigenous peoples.

The world is still faced with the real and permanent challenge posed by the risk of the disappearance of indigenous peoples and communities, which would be a catastrophe for humanity. Indeed, indigenous peoples have the particularity of living as close as possible to nature and in symbiosis with it. They ensure cultural, linguistic and biological diversity and are the bearers of adapted solutions, including in the fight against climate change, thanks to their traditional knowledge and know-how.

This is why, after two years of experience at Emrip, I wish to continue this work with my colleagues, in favour of the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, within the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

My two years as a member of Emrip have been very rich and exciting and have gone by too quickly, and the last year has been heavily impacted by the covid-19 pandemic.

Last June my colleagues honoured me with appointing me as Vice President of Emrip and entrusted me with the leadership of the 2021 study on "Indigenous Children's Rights". I therefore wish to serve a second term as a member of Emrip so that I can continue the tasks entrusted to me and put more of my commitment, experience, skills and energy at the service of Emrip's missions.

LOUNES Belkacem

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

**Please indicate all language skills below.**

**1. Mother tongue:** **Amazigh**

**2. Knowledge of the official languages of the United Nations:**

**Arabic:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily orNot easily: **easily**  
**Write:** Easily or Not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or Not easily: **easily**

**Chinese:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**English:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **not easily**

**French:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **easily**

**Russian:** Yes or no: **no** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **Write:** Easily or not easily: **Speak:** Easily or not easily:

**Spanish:** Yes or no: **yes** If yes,

**Read:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Write:** Easily or not easily: **easily  
Speak:** Easily or not easily: **not easily**

**V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD**

**NOTE: Please list the candidate’s academic qualifications (university level and higher, indicating the type of degree and field of study, and whether full- or part-time; for example, *Masters in Law, University of XXX, part-time, 1975-1977, city and country)*. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one degree may be listed in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of degree, field of study and name of academic institution, full or part-time:** | **Years of attendance**  (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003;  for ongoing education, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place and country:** |
| Doctorate on Economics and Social Sciences | 1981-1984 | Grenoble Alpes University, France |
| Graduate and advanced studies on Economic Prospective | 1979-1981 | Grenoble Alpes University, France |
| Engeneering Diploma in Statistics | 1975-1979 | National Institute of Statistics, Algiers, Algeria |
| Training courses on human rights | 1999-2000 | OHCHR, Geneva |
| Training courses on human rights | 2006-2007 | UNITAR, Geneva |

**VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD**

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held in the area of human rights, beginning with the candidate’s current (most recent) occupation.** **Also indicate whether positions held were full-time or part-time. If space in the table is insufficient, more than one position may be listed in a single row below, separating them by a blank line.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of employer,**  **functional title,**  **main functions of position, full- or part-time:** | **Years of work** (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005;  for ongoing activities, please put e.g. 2018-present): | **Place  and country:** |
| Professor of Economics and social sciences | 1993-Present | Reginal Institute for Economic and social studies, Grenoble, France |
| Professor of Economics | 1988-1993 | Higher Institute of Management and Planning, Algiers, Algeria |
| Statistics Engeener | 1986-1988 | Ministry of Housing, Algiers, Algeria |
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**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS   
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf.***

**1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause the candidate to limit the extent of 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 the mandate? If yes, please explain:**

No

**3. Is there any reason, currently or in the 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 the candidate discharges the 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? (Please answer YES if the candidate complies, NO if the candidate does not comply, together with an explanation.)**

***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, the candidate 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.**

Yes

**VIII. CERTIFY AND SUBMIT APPLICATION  
*To be completed by the candidate or by the nominating entity on the candidate’s behalf. The candidate’s name below should match how it is entered on the first page of the form and in the online survey.***

**I hereby certify that all of the statements made in this application are true, complete and are made in good faith. I understand that falsifying or intentionally withholding information will be grounds for not being selected or appointed or the withdrawal of any proposed appointment or, if an appointment has been made and accepted, for its immediate cancellation or termination.  
  
Kindly note that whilst no changes can be made after this application form has been submitted and the deadline for applications has expired, any relevant change of current occupation, employment, or position, or any other relevant fact or circumstance should be brought to the attention of the secretariat by   
email (**[**hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org**](mailto:hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org)**).**

**Please review the application before you insert your name and date to indicate your agreement.**

**Name:** LOUNES Belkacem

**Date:** 20/11/2020

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1. The short **online survey** is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and, if appropriate, nominating entity. The same name, gender and nationality must be used both in the online survey and in the Word application form. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The **application form in Word format** includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words (section III of the form). The application form should be completed in English or French only, the two working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. The application form will be used as received to prepare the public list of eligible candidates who applied for the vacancy. The application forms of eligible candidates will also be posted as received on the OHCHR public web page for the selection process. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)