Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and waste

REFERENCE: SPB/SHD/NF/ff

18 December 2018

Excellency,

I have the honor to address you in my capacity as Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 36/15.

I would like to thank States for the continued engagement with my mandate, including through contributions received in response to the questionnaire I circulated on 17 January 2018 requesting information on the rights of workers and exposure to toxic and otherwise hazardous substances. I also wish to thank States for participation in the consultations to support preparation of my report to the 39th Session of the Human Rights Council in September 2018 (A/HRC/39/48), and for the illustrative interventions during the Interactive Dialogue.

As noted in paragraph 75 of the report, I am gathering input from States and other stakeholders to present a final set of principles to the Human Rights Council to provide a framework for implementation by States, business enterprises and other actors. In line with this, I intend to submit to the Human Rights Council in September 2019 the above mentioned report containing principles for protecting workers rights from toxic exposures.

In this regard, I would be grateful to receive the views of your Excellency’s Government on the principles in the enclosed document, as well as relevant examples of existing challenges, solutions, and best practices, including legal, institutional and policy frameworks and initiatives that illustrate the principles. I respectfully request that available information be provided, by email to srtoxicwaste@ohchr.org, not later than 7 February 2019. Kindly use the email title “Submission on Principles on rights of workers and exposure to toxic and otherwise hazardous substances.”

All Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other international organizations at Geneva
I wish to thank your Excellency in advance for your cooperation and I hope to continue a constructive dialogue on issues related to my mandate.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Baskut Tuncak
Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

Annex enclosed