



**Twenty-second special session of the Human Rights Council
Geneva, 1 September 2014**

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 August 2014 at 5.10 p.m., the President of the Human Rights Council received a letter signed by the Permanent Representative of Iraq containing a request to convene a special session of the Council on the human rights situation in Iraq in light of abuses committed by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and associated groups, on **Monday, 1 September 2014, at 10.00 a.m.**, in Room XX at the Palais des Nations, as well as a letter signed jointly by the Permanent Representative of Egypt on behalf of the Group of Arab States, the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Permanent Observer of the European Union, expressing support for the above-mentioned request.

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: **Austria, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, the Congo, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Gabon, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.** The request was also supported by the following observer States: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, and the State of Palestine.

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 **Friday, 29 August 2014, at 11.00 a.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 August 2014