The Secretary-General of the United Nations has the honour to refer to the provisions of articles 5 to 9 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Optional Protocol) relating to the election of members of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Subcommittee on Prevention), and to the Note Verbale dated 12 May 2010, by which the Secretary-General invited Your Excellency’s Government to submit its nomination(s) of candidate(s) for membership in the Subcommittee on Prevention, pursuant to articles 6 and 7 of the Optional Protocol.

In the Note Verbale dated 12 May 2010, the Secretary-General indicated the deadline for nominations of candidates to be no later than 11 August 2010. Due to the expansion of the Subcommittee on Prevention to twenty-five members following the fiftieth ratification, in accordance with article 5(1) of the Optional Protocol, and due to the insufficient number of nominations for the expansion, the Secretary-General strongly encourages Your Excellency’s Government to submit nominations of candidates to expand the Subcommittee on Prevention to twenty-five members. The Secretary-General would appreciate receiving nominations as soon as possible and no later than 11 September 2010.

The Secretary-General wishes to draw attention to the fact that the absence of sufficient nominations from the States parties within the original deadline may affect the availability of the documents in the working languages of the meeting.

The third meeting of the States parties to the Optional Protocol will be convened by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Office at Geneva on Thursday, 28 October 2010. States parties will elect five members to the Subcommittee on Prevention to fill the vacancies of those members whose terms of office will expire on 31 December 2010, and will elect fifteen additional members in compliance with article 5(1) of the Optional Protocol.

All documents relating to the elections will be made available on the website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cat/opcat/elections2010.htm. Nominations and biographical data should be submitted, using the indicated Word document form, to the Secretary-General, c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, and in electronic Word document version to mkierruf@ohchr.org, with copy to evaldiviadefyfs@ohchr.org. The biographical data of nominated candidates should not exceed 38 lines.

In accordance with article 6(3) of the Optional Protocol, the Secretary-General shall prepare a list, in alphabetical order, of all the persons nominated, with an indication of the States parties which have nominated them, and shall submit the list to Your Excellency’s Government, together with further information concerning the third meeting of the States parties.

12 August 2010