



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
PALAIS DES NATIONS • 1211 GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND
www.ohchr.org • TEL: +41 22 917 9000 • FAX: +41 22 917 9008 • E-MAIL: registry@ohchr.org

REFERENCE:35th/SPM/2016

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Mission and has the honour to refer to the provisions of articles 28 to 34 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, relating to the election of the members of the Human Rights Committee, the text of which is reproduced in annex I attached.

The **thirty-fifth meeting** of States parties is scheduled to convene at United Nations Headquarters in New York on **Thursday, 23 June 2016, in Conference Building, Room 4 (145), from 10 am**, to elect nine members of the Human Rights Committee, to replace those whose terms are due to expire on 31 December 2016 (see annex II).

The Secretary-General, in accordance with article 30, paragraph 2, of the Covenant, has the honour to invite States parties to submit nomination(s) for membership of the Committee together with biographical information concerning the candidate drafted in accordance with the outline contained in annex III.

The nomination(s) should be sent through the Permanent Mission, electronically (Word format only), to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights registry@ohchr.org, copied to sthodiyil@ohchr.org, by 15 April 2016.

States parties should take account of the relevant provisions of articles 28, 29, 31 and 34 of the Covenant (see annex 1). The Secretary General would like to draw attention to article 28, paragraph 2, of the Covenant, according to which the Committee shall be composed of nationals of States parties “who shall be persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of some persons having legal experience”. Also note that, according to article 28, paragraph 3, the “members of the Committee shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity”.

In accordance with article 31, paragraph 2 of the Covenant, “consideration shall be given, in the election of the Committee, to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems.”

In addition the Secretary-General would also like to draw attention to General Assembly resolution 68/268, paragraph 13, adopted on 9 April 2014 entitled “Strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights



treaty body system” which “encourages States parties in the election of treaty body experts, to give due consideration....[to] balanced gender representation and the participation of experts with disabilities in the membership ...”. States parties will recall that the current composition of the Committee includes five women and thirteen men.

After the deadline for the submission of nominations (15 April 2016), the Secretary-General, in accordance with articles 30, paragraph 3, and 34, paragraph 2, of the Covenant, shall prepare a list of the persons thus nominated and shall submit the list to all States parties together with information concerning the thirty fifth meeting of the States parties to elect the nine members of the Committee.

Information on elections relating to the Human Rights Committee may be found on the following link:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CCPR/Pages/Elections35th.aspx>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RFB'.

18 January 2016