



COORDINATION COMMITTEE OF SPECIAL PROCEDURES
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

7 January 2022

Dear Members of the Consultative Group,

On behalf of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures, I am writing to you once again in connection with the selection of new mandate holders, in particular the selection of several of our future colleagues at the upcoming session of the Human Rights Council in March.

Following my letter dated 9 December 2021, I am pleased to share with you the contributions received from the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the rights of peoples to self-determination.

I trust that you will find these suggestions useful as you undertake the selection process. I am at your disposal to discuss this matter further if you have additional questions or require additional feedback. I wish you success in your deliberations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victor Madrigal-Borloz". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey rectangular background.

Victor Madrigal-Borloz
Chair of the Coordination Committee of Special Procedures

cc: His Excellency Mr. Federico Villegas
President of the Human Rights Council

**CONTRIBUTION FROM THE WORKING GROUP ON THE USE OF
MERCENARIES AS A MEANS OF VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMPEDING
THE EXERCISE OF THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION**

The Working Group on the use of mercenaries appreciates the careful attention of the Consultative Group and the Human Rights Council in selecting a new member for the Latin American and Caribbean states group.

In accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, paragraph 51 “the Consultative Group should take into account, as appropriate, the views of stakeholders, including the current or outgoing mandate-holders, in determining the necessary expertise, experience, skills, and other relevant requirements for each mandate”.

It is the view of the Working Group that the new member should comply with the following pre-requisites:

- Enthusiastic and collegiate candidate, with an explicit expertise on issues related to mercenaries, mercenary-related activities or private military and security companies. Knowledge and experience of human rights and International Humanitarian Law.
- An understanding of the nature of the private military and security industry, conflict and post-conflict settings and transitional justice is desirable, beyond broad security topics. Knowledge of issues relating to business and human rights, would be welcome but is not essential.
- A commitment to a victims-centred and intersectional approach in the work undertaken. Familiarity with the recent thematic priorities and work of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries including issues related to natural resources and extractive industry, new manifestation of mercenaries, gender, migration, cyber-security, and PMSC in humanitarian context. A strong network of contacts regionally and internationally is desirable.

The Working Group welcomes the Human Rights Council and the Consultative Group's consideration of their inputs and remains available to offer additional specific and candidate-based information for this selection process.