HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Thirty-second special session of the Human Rights Council Geneva, 5 November 2021

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 the Economic and Social Council and has the honour to inform them that on 1 November 2021 at 4 p.m., the President of the Human Rights Council received a letter from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, containing a request, submitted jointly with the United States of America, Norway, Germany and the Sudan, to convene a special session of the Council on the human rights implications of the ongoing situation in the Sudan.

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. According to the above-mentioned letter, the request was supported by the following 18 States Members of the Council: Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Libya, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Sudan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Uruguay. The request was also supported by the following 30 observer States: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America. Subsequently, the Secretariat has been informed that Malawi and Portugal have joined the list of States supporting the session.

The Permanent Mission of the Sudan, in its note verbale dated 2 November 2021, informed the President of the Human Rights Council that with reference to the abovementioned letter the Sudan has disassociated itself from that initiative and requested to withdraw the Sudan from the list of the States calling for the holding of the special session.

Further to consultations with the President of the Human Rights Council, the 32nd special session shall be held on Friday, 5 November 2021, at 12.30 p.m.

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 Wednesday, 3 November 2021, at 5.30 p.m.

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 the Economic and Social Council the assurances of its highest consideration.