TO: Mr. Eric Tistounet

DATE: 6 December 2006

A: Secretary of the Human Rights Council

FROM: Ms. Sharon Van Buerle, Director

DE: Programme Planning and Budget Division, OPPBA

SUBJECT: Oral Statement of programme budget implications arising from draft

OBJET: resolution A/HRC/3/L.6 of the Human Rights Council

I would be grateful if the text of the attached oral statement could be read prior to the adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/3/L.6, entitled "Implementation of the General Assembly resolution 60/251: Agenda, Annual programme of work, methods of work and rules of procedure of the Human Rights Council."

CC: Mr. Ward Mr. Rousak ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION A/HRC/3/L.6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 60/251: AGENDA, ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF WORK, METHODS OF WORK AND RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

- 1. This oral statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
- 2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 of draft resolution A/HRC/3/L.6, the Human Rights Council would:
- (i) decide to establish an open-ended intergovernmental, intersessional working group to formulate concrete recommendations on its agenda, its annual programme of work, its methods of work as well as its rules of procedure in accordance with the General Assembly resolution 60/251, to undertake transparent, well scheduled and inclusive consultations, with the participation of all stakeholders;
- (ii) further decide that the working group shall have at its disposal 10 days of fully serviced meetings, half of them to be scheduled before the fourth session of the Human Rights Council and half of them- before its fifth session which shall allow sufficient time and flexibility for the fulfillment of its mandate;
- (iii) request the working group to report to the Council at its fourth session on progress made.
- 3. Should the draft resolution be adopted by the Human Rights Council, total full costs for conference servicing of the Working Group are estimated in the amount \$241,400\$ for the biennium 2006-2007 as follows:

US dollars

Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management Section 28E, Administration, Geneva Total

\$235,000 \$6,400 \$241,400

- 4. Provisions have not been made under the 2006-2007 programme budget for the above mentioned activity, under sections 2 nor 28E. Should the draft resolution be adopted, additional resources would be required as reflected in paragraph 3 above.
- 5. It will be recalled that under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions

41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned can be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities must be deferred to a later biennium.

6. The additional provisions cannot be met from the contingency fund as other activities in the biennium 2006-2007 charged against the fund will have exhausted the fund during the main part of the 61st session of the General Assembly. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities under sections 2 and 28E of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 that could be curtailed, deferred, terminated or modified in order to meet the additional requirements of \$241,400. The Secretariat will seek to identify areas from which resources can be redeployed to meet the requirements arising from the draft resolution in the biennium 2006-2007. At the time the General Assembly reviews at its 61st session the question of the revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Human Rights Council it is anticipated that the Secretariat would be in a position to inform the General Assembly on how to meet the additional requirements.