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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

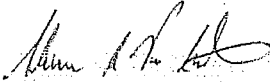
TO: Mr. Eric Tistounet
A: Secretary of the Human Rights Council

DATE: 13 December 2007

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:

S/C DE:


FROM: Sharon Van Buerle, Director
DE: Programme Planning and Budget Division, OPPBA

SUBJECT: Oral Statement of programme budget implications arising from
OBJET: draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.15/Rev. **1** of the Human Rights
Council

I would be grateful if the text of the attached oral statement could be read and distributed prior to the adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.15/Rev.3, entitled "Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief". The statement replaces my earlier oral statement of 24 September 2007 on draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.15 due to revisions made.

cc: Ms. Matsuura-Mueller
Mr. Ward

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT
RESOLUTION A/HRC/6/L.15/Rev.3 ENTITLED "ELIMINATION OF ALL
FORMS OF INTOLERANCE AND OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RELIGION
OR BELIEF"

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 18, 19, 21 and 22 of draft resolution A/HRC/6/L.15/Rev.3, the Human Rights Council, would:

- (i) decide to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief for a further period of three years;
- (ii) request the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to enable her/him to discharge her/his mandate fully;
- (iii) request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session;
- (iv) request the Special Rapporteur to submit the outstanding reports to the Council in accordance with its annual Programme of Work and the next annual report in 2009.

3. Should the draft resolution be adopted by the Human Rights Council, a total amount of \$61,300 per year will be required to implement the activities called for in operative paragraphs 18, 21 and 22, as follows:

- (i) travel of the Special Rapporteur for consultations/to attend the annual meeting of special procedures and to present a report to the Human Rights Council, for 2 field missions per year and 1 trip to New York each year to present a report to the General Assembly (\$44,300);
- (ii) travel of staff to accompany the Special Rapporteur during field missions (\$9,800); and
- (iii) local transportation, security, communication and other miscellaneous expenses during field missions (\$7,200).

4. The requirements to implement the activities for the mandate of the Special Rapporteur have been included under Section 23, Human Rights, of the proposed programme budget for

the biennium 2008-2009. Since the period for renewal of the mandate extends into the biennium 2010-2011 the requirements for that period will be considered in the context of the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. No additional appropriations would be required as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution.

5. With regard to operative paragraph 19, attention is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The attention of the Human Rights Council is also drawn to paragraph 67 of the first report of the Advisory Committee on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001, in which the Committee noted that the use of the phrase "within existing resources" or similar language in resolutions had a negative impact on the implementation of activities; therefore, efforts should be made to avoid the use of this phrase in resolutions and decisions.