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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mali to the United Nations presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions and Offices of the Permanent Observers of the Member States to the United Nations and, in its capacity as chair of the Community of Democracies, has the honor to transmit herewith the **Statement by the Community of Democracies regarding the elections of the membership of the Human Rights Council.**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mali to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions and Offices of the Permanent Observers of the Member States to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.



New York, May 9, 2006

All Permanent Missions and Offices  
of the Permanent Observers of the Member States  
to the United Nations

NEW YORK



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## Statement by the Community of Democracies to the United Nations



- 1- We, the Participating Members of the Community of Democracies to the United Nations, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, entitled "Human Rights Council", have agreed to reiterate the 2005 Santiago Ministerial Commitment to "Give serious consideration to the candidacy of countries contributing effectively to the promotion and protection of democracy and human rights worldwide in bodies which focus on elements of democratic governance."
- 2- We acknowledge that the composition of the Council and the quality of its membership will clearly have an impact on the functioning of the Council and the credibility of its work. While recognizing that the membership of the Council is open to all Member States, it is also the responsibility of all of us to elect those candidates that are genuinely committed to fulfilling the mandate of promoting and protecting human rights.
- 3- Thus, in elections to the Human Rights Council, we call on the membership of the United Nations to favor those States that have demonstrated a genuine commitment to human rights, both in practice and in their pledges. *uk*