



PALAIS DES NATIONS – 1211, GENEVA 10, SWITZERLAND

16 June 2025

Sir,

I wish to reiterate my appreciation for the confidence that the Human Rights Council continues to place in my Office to support the delivery of a broad range of crucial mandates, at this deeply troubling time for the international community and for human rights.

The Council is fully aware of the consequences of the worsening liquidity crisis for the United Nations Secretariat as a whole, and I note the extraordinary cost- and time-saving measures adopted by the Council itself at its organizational meeting of 2 June 2025.

In light of this situation, my Office has undertaken a review of the activities mandated to it by the Human Rights Council for 2025 against available resources. Despite intensive mitigation efforts, I regret that, for the second consecutive year, the Office will not be able to deliver all the activities mandated by the Council in full and on time.

While the remainder of the Council's mandated activities for 2025 will be delivered, almost all of them will be reduced in some form, for example through the holding of virtual rather than in-person events. Some activities mandated for 2026 will also be impacted as they will not be able to be initiated this year, as needed to ensure timely completion. Annex I provides a list of the activities that despite our best efforts we will not be able to deliver this year, even with such reductions. Annex II provides an update on the status of the 17 Council-mandated activities that were postponed in 2024 pursuant to Human Rights Council decision 55/115, further to my letter of 11 March 2025. My Office has engaged – and continues to engage – with the main sponsors of all resolutions that mandate activities impacted by the liquidity situation and is at the Council's disposal to provide any additional information or clarification needed.

His Excellency
Mr. Jürg Lauber
President of the Human Rights Council



As you are aware, Intergovernmental Working Groups, Expert Mechanisms and Special Procedures established by the Human Rights Council are also significantly affected by the liquidity crisis, including serious reductions in terms of sessions and meetings, which contribute to normative development and guide implementation of human rights standards along with vital country visits. Investigative mechanisms face financial and staffing limitations critically impeding their work. Resources to implement advisory and technical cooperation mandates, including to assist States at national and regional levels, have been reduced.

The situation is deeply regrettable, and I will not conceal my concern at the overall impact that this will have on the promotion and protection of human rights on the ground, even as we pursue efforts to strengthen and bring more effectiveness to the work of the United Nations human rights pillar through the Secretary-General's UN80 initiative. As you know, all entities of the United Nations Secretariat have been requested to reduce their regular budget [post and non-post costs] for 2026 by 20 per cent. I urge the Council to take this into consideration in the creation of future mandates, including through steps to minimize duplication and ensure cost efficient modalities where possible.

I am committed to keeping you and the Council informed of all efforts undertaken by my Office to support implementation of mandated activities, and more broadly to continued close cooperation to manage this difficult period while safeguarding, and indeed strengthening, the promotion and protection of human rights.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'V' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Volker Türk

ANNEX I

Human Rights Council-mandated activities that cannot be delivered in 2025 or 2026

| <i>Resolution and mandated activities</i> | <i>Status of implementation</i> |
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| <p>1. HRC resolution S-37/1: Situation of human rights in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - appointment of three experts in international human rights law and international humanitarian law for the Independent Commission of Inquiry on eastern DRC by the President of the Human Rights Council as soon as possible; - present an oral update on its activities at the sixty-first session of the Council, to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue; and - a comprehensive report on this topic at the Council's sixty-third session, also to be followed by an enhanced interactive dialogue. | <p>Presentation of oral update and comprehensive report cannot be delivered until and unless funding is made available.</p> |
| <p>2. HRC resolution 27/21: Human rights and unilateral coercive measures</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a biannual panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights; and - a report on the panel discussion. | <p>Biannual panel and report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>3. HRC resolution 55/8: Support systems to ensure community inclusion of persons with disabilities</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a study of the Secretary-General defining the administrative procedures and budget required to make all Council resolutions accessible, including in easy-to-understand language, as accessibility resources and tools for persons with disabilities, to be presented to the Human Rights Council, at its fifty-ninth session. | <p>Study of the Secretary-General cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>4. HRC resolution 56/6: Safety of the child in the digital environment</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - five regional workshops, to assess the risks to the safety of the child in the | <p>Five regional workshops and report cannot be delivered.</p> |

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| <p>digital environment and best practices to address these risks in different geographical areas, bearing in mind current and emerging business models; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a report containing a summary of those consultations, in an accessible and child-friendly format, which includes recommendations from the different stakeholders for options for a framework on the safety of children. | |
| <p>5. HRC resolution 56/10: The promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a global consultation on the role of different stakeholders in promoting the application of the technical and practical toolkit developed pursuant to Council resolution 50/21, to be convened by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, before the sixty-second session of the Human Rights Council. | <p>Global consultation to be convened by the Special Rapporteur cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>6. HRC resolution 56/11: Menstrual hygiene management, human rights and gender equality</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a report on good practices identified and problems encountered on menstrual hygiene management to be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session. | <p>Report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>7. HRC resolution 56/21: Accelerating progress towards preventing adolescent girls' pregnancy</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a comprehensive report on how to accelerate progress towards preventing adolescent girls' pregnancy, to be presented in a child-friendly format and accessible to persons with disabilities, to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-two session. | <p>Report cannot be delivered.</p> |

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| <p>8. HRC resolution 56/22: Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and girls</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report A/HRC/47/51 on “Current levels of representation of women in human rights organs and mechanisms: ensuring gender balance”, to be published in an easy-to-read version and accessible format, to be presented to the Council at its sixty-second session. | <p>Report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>9. HRC resolution 57/6: Countering cyberbullying</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a report on countering cyberbullying against older persons, identifying recent trends and challenges, as well as applicable human rights principles, safeguards and best practices, available in an accessible and easy-to-read format, and to present the report to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session. | <p>Report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>10. HRC resolution 57/12: Local government and human rights</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a one-day panel discussion, in a hybrid format and fully accessible to persons with disabilities, to be held prior to the sixtieth session of the Human Rights Council; and - a report to compile and analyze best practices, to be presented to the Council at its sixty-third session, including in an accessible and easy-to-read format. | <p>One-day panel discussion and report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>11. HRC resolution 57/18: Elimination of domestic violence</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an intersessional panel discussion on the intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate domestic violence, to be held before its sixty-first session; and - a comprehensive report, in an accessible and easy-to-read format, to be presented to the Council at its sixty-second session. | <p>Intersessional panel discussion and report cannot be delivered.</p> |

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| <p>12. HRC resolution 57/24: Education as a tool to prevent racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a comprehensive report analysing relevant education-related practices and measures to prevent racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, accessible to persons with disabilities, including in an accessible and easy to read format, to be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-third session. | <p>Report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>13. HRC resolution 57/29: Promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a written report on a human rights approach to meaningful connectivity and to overcoming digital divides, including by addressing threats to an individuals' access to the Internet, to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session, followed by an interactive dialogue. | <p>Report and interactive dialogue cannot be delivered.</p> |

Human Rights Council-mandated activities that can only be partially delivered in 2025 or 2026

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| <p>14. HRC resolution 52/14 (and 37/24): Promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an Intersessional meeting to be held in advance of the 2026 meeting of the high-level political forum, and a summary report to be presented to sixty-second session of the Human Rights Council; and - a report on best practices, challenges and lessons learned concerning integrated approaches to the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session. | <p>Report on best practices to be submitted in 2025, but after the sixtieth session of the Human Rights Council.</p> <p>The 2025 Intersessional meeting was held in January 2025. However, the 2026 Intersessional meeting (planned to be held in January or February 2026) cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>15. HRC resolution 55/9: Right to work</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> | <p>Panel discussion was held at the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council.</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a panel discussion on the realization of the rights to work and to social security in the informal economy, in the context of sustainable and inclusive economies, to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council; and - an analytical report on the realization of the rights to work and to social security in the informal economy, based on the panel discussion, to be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session. | <p>However, the analytical report cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>16. HRC resolution 56/7: Freedom of opinion and expression</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a half-day expert workshop on the impact of the use of strategic lawsuits against public participation on the enjoyment and realization of human rights to be convened before the fifty-ninth session of the Council, with webcasting and fully accessible to persons with disabilities; and - a report on the impact of the use of strategic lawsuits against public participation on the enjoyment and realization of human rights, in particular the right to freedom of opinion and expression, published in formats accessible to persons with disabilities, and to present it to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-third session. | <p>The half-day expert workshop was held online (in May 2025), without interpretation or accessibility.</p> <p>However, the report (due to be prepared in 2025) cannot be delivered.</p> |
| <p>17. HRC resolution 56/20: Human rights in the context of HIV and AIDS</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a panel discussion, accessible to persons with disabilities, to discuss the realization of human rights in sustaining and increasing the gains made in the HIV response and leaving no one behind, to be convened at the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council; and - a report, on a sustainable HIV response with regard to the human rights of persons living with, at risk of or affected by HIV, taking into consideration the outcomes of the panel discussion, to be submitted to the Human Rights Council, in formats | <p>Panel discussion was held at the fifty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council.</p> <p>However, the report cannot be delivered.</p> |

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| accessible to persons with disabilities, at its sixtieth session, under agenda item 3. | |
| <p>18. HRC resolution 57/13: The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation</p> <p>Mandated activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a panel discussion to be convened, at the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council, on the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, with a particular focus on mainstreaming the human rights of safe drinking water and sanitation into the upcoming 2026 United Nations Water Conference; and - a summary report on the panel discussion to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-first session. | <p>Panel to be convened at the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council.</p> <p>Summary report cannot be delivered.</p> |

ANNEX II

Update on activities postponed by HRC decision 55/115 of 15 April 2024

June 2025

There were 17 activities postponed by HRC decision 55/115 of 15 April 2024. The update provided below on the status of implementation of these postponed activities should be read in conjunction with the update provided on 11 March 2025. In relation to activities postponed and due to take place in 2025, the information below is indicative of what is planned for 2025, but implementation remains subject to availability of funds.

1. Human Rights Council resolution 33/25 on the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The Expert Mechanism annual inter-sessional seminar was not held in 2024. The 2025 annual inter-sessional seminar will be held from 1 to 5 December 2025.

2. Human Rights Council resolution 52/31 on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

The report mandated under resolution 52/31 was cancelled and pertinent information was integrated in the report presented under resolution 50/31 also on Myanmar. There are no activities pending under resolution 52/31 and therefore this activity is **completed**. (Information in letter of 11 March 2025).

3. Human Rights Council resolution 51/33 on promoting international cooperation to support national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up

The one-day seminar originally planned for 2024 and postponed through Council decision 55/115 is being held on 30 June in room XVII with accessible services and simultaneous interpretation in English, French, Russian and Spanish as well as International Sign Language. Due to the liquidity situation, OHCHR will not be able to support the travel of participants as originally foreseen in the resolution programme budget implication. To ensure some form of remote participation to the seminar, webcasting will be provided, using available resources.

The virtual knowledge hub for national mechanisms foreseen in operative paragraph 5 of the resolution is scheduled to be launched with minimum content in September 2025. Due to the liquidity situation, OHCHR was unable to recruit a developer to build the full infrastructure of the hub. However, OHCHR is making efforts to enable the launch of the hub with minimum content in September 2025, using available resources. The hub will consist of one landing page with access to the three hubs mandated by the Human Rights Council pursuant to resolutions 51/33, 57/32 and 54/22.

4. Human Rights Council resolution 52/11 on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights

The preparation of a practical information note compiling best practices on social protection with regard to human rights was prepared before the 57th session of the Human Rights Council (instead of before the 55th session of the Human Rights Council) and is available here:

<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/socialsecurity/Social-Security-Practical-Information-Note.pdf>. The mandate was **completed** albeit with some delay. (Information in letter of 11 March 2025).

5. Human Rights Council resolutions 28/14 and 52/22 on human rights, democracy and the rule of law

The fifth session of the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law will be held in 2025. Delivery of this mandate is, however, expected to be reduced, due to the RB liquidity situation, including the holding of the Forum with a reduced number of participants funded with RB.

6. Human Rights Council resolution 53/11 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

Of the five regional seminars to be organized, four were postponed to 2025 and one to 2026. Delivery of this mandate is expected to be modified, due to the RB liquidity situation, including the holding of only one in-person regional seminar. OHCHR is exploring the possibility of holding the other three meetings online or holding other forms of virtual consultations to produce a summary report, due to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-third session. Due to the end of the “business continuity”, Conference Services no longer provide interpretation for online meetings. The organization of the regional seminar planned in 2026 is subject to availability of resources.

7. Human Rights Council resolution 53/13 on civil society space

Mandated activities included the preparation of a thematic report that identifies challenges and best practices in regularly assessing civic space trends and contains recommendations with a view to enhancing information-gathering on civic space, and presentation of the report to the Human Rights Council at its 56th session. The report was presented to the Human Rights Council at its 57th session (A/HRC/57/31). The mandate was **completed** in 2024 albeit with a slight delay. (Information in letter of 11 March 2025).

8. Human Rights Council resolution 53/16, entitled “The right to a nationality: equality in nationality rights in law and in practice”

The half-day expert workshop was held before the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council, on 6 May 2025 (<https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/issues/ruleoflaw/22042025-conceptnote-expert-workshop-r.pdf>). The summary report on the workshop will be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session.

9. Human Rights Council resolution 53/21 on the incompatibility between democracy and racism

The intersessional high-level panel discussion was due before the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council. The mandate will be completed in 2025, albeit with a slight delay. The summary report on the panel discussion, which was due to be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session, will also be completed in 2025, albeit with a slight delay.

10. Human Rights Council resolution 53/23, entitled “Child, early and forced marriage: ending and preventing forced marriage”

The mandate includes the elaboration of guidelines, to be presented in a comprehensive report, to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session. The mandate also requested the holding of consultations to facilitate the open, transparent and inclusive elaboration of the guidelines. Of the five consultations that were planned, four are due to be held in 2025 and one in 2026. Delivery of this mandate is expected to be modified, due to the RB liquidity situation, including the holding of only one in-person consultation. OHCHR is exploring the possibility to hold the other three meetings online or hold other forms of virtual consultations to produce the guidelines, due to be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session. Due to the end of the “business continuity”, Conference Services no longer provide interpretation for online meetings. The guidelines will be presented, in a comprehensive report, to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-second session.

11. Human Rights Council resolution 53/28 on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights

Mandated activities included the preparation of a compilation of best practices in the contribution of development to the promotion and protection of all human rights in the context of recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and submission of the document, including in an accessible and easy-to-read format, to the Human Rights Council at its 56th session. The compilation of best practices was submitted to the Human Rights Council at its 57th session (A/HRC/57/33). The mandate was **completed** in 2024 albeit with a slight delay. (Information in letter of 11 March 2025).

12. Human Rights Council resolution 54/21 on the right to privacy in the digital age

Mandated activities included the preparation of a report on challenges and risks with regard to discrimination and unequal enjoyment of the right to privacy associated with data, identification and clarification of related

human rights principles, safeguards and best practices. The report will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session, to be followed by an interactive dialogue.

13. Human Rights Council resolution 54/23 on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation

The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Russian Federation will travel to Geneva to hold the annual consultation with States, OHCHR and relevant stakeholders at the margin of the 59th session of the Council.

In addition, she will present her annual report to the Council at its 60th session and to the General Assembly at its 80th session.

Two consultations with stakeholders are planned to take place in September 2025 in Geneva and in October 2025 in New York, in the margins of the presentations of her report. The number of participants in the consultations will be reduced due to limited resources available.

14. Human Rights Council resolution 54/25 on a world of sports free from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Two regional consultations have already been held in 2025.

15. Human Rights Council resolution 54/27, entitled “From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance”

The expert study will be presented to the Human Rights Council at its sixtieth session.

The communications strategy will continue in 2025 and include the delivery of communications outputs for social media and web-based platforms. The delivery of this mandate is expected to be slightly reduced, due to the RB liquidity situation, including fewer digital products and activities to be held in 2025.

16. Human Rights Council resolution 54/28 on enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building in the field of human rights

Using limited available resources, OHCHR made progress to develop the UPR Hub, in collaboration with other Human Rights Council-mandated hubs (the NMIRF Hub pursuant to resolution 51/33; the UPR online repository pursuant to resolution 57/32; and the ESR Hub pursuant to resolution 54/22). Efforts resulted in the advancement of the development of the OHCHR Human Rights Knowledge Gateway, which will host the three mandated knowledge hubs. Interdivisional teams have been mapping business and technical requirements and conducting broad consultations to ensure coherence, relevance and successful integration. Progress was made in developing common criteria for documenting promising and good human rights practices, and in establishing a unified taxonomy to ensure coherence across all hubs.

17. Human Rights Council resolution 54/30, entitled “Penitentiary system, security and justice: enhancement of technical cooperation and capacity-building to protect human rights in Honduras”

Due to limited resources available, fewer workshops and with less participants can be organized. This will impact progress on establishing an inter-institutional agreement between the Judicial Power, the Attorney General’s Office, and the Security Secretariat to improve the investigation and sanction of crimes committed against women.

Fewer workshops will result in reduced opportunities for authorities to learn about and choose other models for prison management based on international human rights standards.

Key outputs, including a human rights-focused prison management plan; a complaints protocol; a guide on police procedures with a human rights perspective; and a detention protocol with a human rights perspective, will not be fully delivered.