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**Subject: Applications for four vacancies of mandate holders to be appointed at the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council**

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, international organizations or their offices, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and other human rights bodies, and has the honour to inform them that the following four mandate holders are to be appointed at the forty-fourth session of the Council (15 June to 3 July 2020):

1. **Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes** (HRC resolution 36/15)
2. **Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression** (HRC resolution 34/18)<sup>1</sup>
3. **Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health** (HRC resolution 42/16)
4. **Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children** (HRC resolution 35/5)<sup>1</sup>

Individual applications, including a motivation letter, must be submitted and received by **15 April 2020 (12 noon Greenwich Mean Time / GMT)** through the on-line application procedure, which consists of (1) an online survey and (2) an application form in Word format. Updated information on the selection and appointment procedure is available at the following web page: <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

In case of technical difficulties, the Secretariat may be contacted by email at [hrespecialprocedures@ohchr.org](mailto:hrespecialprocedures@ohchr.org).

The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, international organizations or their offices, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and other human rights bodies the assurances of its highest consideration.

3 March 2020

<sup>1</sup> The appointment of these special procedure mandate holders will be made provided the mandates themselves are extended by the Human Rights Council.