



HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL - 47th SESSION

Overview of Week 1 (21-27 June 2021)

During the first week of the 47th session, the High Commissioner will present to the Council her annual report on the work of her Office; and another one on the role of States in responding to pandemic. Human rights situations in Iran, Nicaragua and Eritrea will be addressed under Item 2. Nine thematic reports by Special Procedures mandate holders will be considered under item 3, including on issues such as adequate housing, right to health, rights of migrants and IDPs, right to education, international solidarity, sexual orientation and gender identity, discrimination against women and girls, as well as prevention of genocide. The report of Independent Expert on international solidarity will focus on the realization of human in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Another report will examine the impact of coloniality and racism on the right to health. Special Rapporteur on migrants will focus on the pushbacks of migrants on land and at sea. Two Special Rapporteurs will present the reports on country visits: to New Zealand (adequate housing) and Fiji (health). No general debates will take place during the 47th session, but Interactive Dialogues will follow each report presentation made by Special Procedures mandate holders and selected reports presented by other distinguished speakers. The first out of nine panel discussions will also take place during Week 1 and will focus on prevention of FGM.

Panel Discussions

High-level panel discussion on the multisectoral prevention of and response to female genital mutilation (23 June, 10:00 – 12:00). **H.E. Mr. Roch Marc Christian Kaboré**, President of Burkina Faso, will deliver an Opening Statement by video. Concept Note is available on [HRC Extranet](#) in English and French.

High Commissioner's Reports

Ms. Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, will present the following reports:

[Annual report](#) which outlines the **activities of the Office of the High Commissioner** at headquarters and in the field, conducted between 1 July 2020 to 15 March 2021.

[Report](#) on a central role of the State in **responding to pandemics**, in which the High Commissioner focuses on the situation of economic, social and cultural rights; persisting democratic deficit; protecting the right to health; data; people on the margins; and equality and non-discrimination, as well as provides key actions in all the above-mentioned fields.

Country Reports – Submitted under Agenda Item 2

[Report](#) of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the **Islamic Republic of Iran**. The failure to establish a mechanism in accordance with international law for accountability and remedy for violations committed in the context of protests in November 2019 is emblematic. Protesters, human rights defenders, lawyers and civil society actors continue to be subject to intimidation, arbitrary detention and criminal prosecution, including the death penalty.

Oral update by the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in **Nicaragua**.

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in **Eritrea, Mr. Mohamed Abdelsalam Babiker**. The Special Rapporteur outlines recent developments and human rights challenges in Eritrea, including incommunicado detention, arbitrary arrest and detention, inhumane prison conditions, indefinite national/military service, lack of freedom of expression, opinion, association, religious belief and movement, lack of the rule of law and the serious human rights violations in the Tigray region of Ethiopia committed by Eritrean troops. In the light of the five benchmarks for progress set out in the report of his predecessor, the Special Rapporteur addresses a number of recommendations to the Government of Eritrea and to the international community.



Reports by Thematic Special Procedures Mandate Holders – Submitted under Agenda Item 3

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on **adequate housing** as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, **Mr. Balakrishnan Rajagopal: “20 Years Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing: Taking stock – moving forward”**. The report outlines core contributions of the mandate since its establishment in 2000: more than 30 thematic reports, 34 country visits, more than 380 communications that led to the prevention of violations and increased public scrutiny of forced evictions, homelessness, and inadequate housing conditions. Multiple challenges remain, including the impact of COVID-19; insecure land tenure; the climate crisis; conflict, disaster hazard and development-induced displacement and forced evictions.

[Report](#) of the former Special Rapporteur on **adequate housing** [...], **Ms. Leilani Farha** on her **visit to New Zealand** will also be presented. The Special Rapporteur is concerned that the country has not yet enshrined the right to housing in its legal order in a manner that allows individuals to seek effective remedies for violations of this right. [Comments](#) by the State of New Zealand are available.

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of **physical and mental health**, **Ms. Tlaleng Mofokeng**. The main approach of the Special Rapporteur will be to examine the understanding of **coloniality and racism**, their impact on the right to health and how to move forward to substantive equality. The report includes seven priority themes that will be elaborated throughout the tenure of the mandate holder.

[Report](#) of the former Special Rapporteur on [...] **health**, **Mr. Dainius Pūras**, on his **visit to Fiji** will also be presented. Among other topics, it will tackle the impact of **climate change** on the right to health. [Comments](#) to this report by the State of Fiji are available.

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of **migrants**, **Mr. Felipe González Morales**: “Report on means to address the human rights impact of **pushbacks of migrants on land and at sea**”. The report argues that, in the absence of an individualized assessment for each migrant concerned and other procedural safeguards, pushbacks result in human rights violations incompatible with States’ obligations under international human rights law, in particular, the prohibition of collective expulsion and refoulement.

[Report](#) of the Independent Expert on human rights and **international solidarity**, **Mr. Obiora Chinedu Okafor**: “International solidarity in aid of the realization of human rights during and after the **COVID-19 pandemic**”. The Special Rapporteur articulates the ethical and legal rationale for an international solidarity obligation, including in the context of the pandemic, discusses examples of gaps and highlights best practices of such solidarity by States and non-State actors.

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the **right to education**, **Ms. Koumbou Boly Barry**: “Right to education: the cultural dimensions of the right to education, or the right to education as a **cultural right**”.

Report of the Independent Expert on protection against **violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity**, **Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz**: focuses on how particular narratives on gender may be used to fuel violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. [report unavailable on [OHCHR website](#) as of 20 June 2021].

[Report](#) of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of **internally displaced persons**, **Ms. Cecilia Jimenez-Damary**. In the thematic section of the report, the Special Rapporteur examines housing, land and property issues in the context of internal displacement.

[Report](#) of the Working Group on **discrimination against women and girls**: “Women’s and girls’ **sexual and reproductive health rights in crisis**”.

The Council will likewise hold an Interactive Dialogue with Special Adviser on **Prevention of Genocide**, **Ms. Alice Wairimu Nderitu**.

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