Human Rights Council
Eleventh cycle
Organizational meeting
20 October 2017
Agenda item 1
Organizational and procedural matters

Draft decision submitted by the President of the Human Rights Council

OM/11/... Organization of the work of the Human Rights Council

At its organizational meeting, on ... October 2017, the Human Rights Council decided to adopt the text below:

“The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, particularly paragraph 10 thereof, in which the Assembly decided that the Human Rights Council should meet regularly throughout the year and schedule no fewer than three sessions per year, including a main session, for a total duration of no less than 10 weeks, and should be able to hold special sessions, when needed, at the request of a member of the Council with the support of one third of the membership of the Council,

Noting the challenges reported by the United Nations Office at Geneva in providing services on a continuing basis for all of the meetings of the Human Rights Council during its three regular sessions,

Recognizing the proposals made by the Bureau of the Human Rights Council on 13 September 2017 for consideration by the Council to address these challenges,

Taking into account its heavy and increasing volume of work, and the need to give adequate consideration to all items on its agenda,

1. Decides to request the General Assembly exceptionally to authorize the Human Rights Council to hold 20 additional fully serviced meetings in 2018;

2. Also decides to continue its efforts to organize its work within the time previously allotted so that the additional meetings authorized by the General Assembly would be held only if absolutely indispensable.”