The Permanent Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the United Nations Office in Geneva and to the international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to all the Permanent Missions and has the honor to send them a copy of Algeria's voluntary pledges and commitments in relation to its candidacy to the Human Rights Council, for the 2023 - 2025 mandate, under the African region.

The Algerian Government hopes to count on the support of the Member States during the elections that will be held in New York on October 11, 2022.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the United Nations Office in Geneva and to the international organizations in Switzerland, takes this opportunity to renew to all the permanent missions, the assurances of its full consideration.

Geneva, 06 October 2022

All Permanent Missions

Geneva
Algeria's candidature to the United Nations

Human Rights Council - Term 2023 - 2025

Voluntary pledges and commitments made in application of the

Resolution 60/251 of the United Nations General Assembly

October 2022
1. The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria is pleased to present its candidature to the Human Rights Council for the period 2023-2025, which is endorsed by the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the African Union.

2. This candidature illustrates Algeria's constant and resolute commitment to the respect, the promotion and the protection of all human rights, which are a priority for the Algerian Government. It is in line with the foundations of democracy, the rule of law and social justice, enshrined and reinforced by the revision of the Constitution by referendum in November 2020.

3. Algeria made significant progress in the promotion and protection of human rights, underpinned by the strengthening of the rule of law, the independence of the judiciary and the balance and independence of powers, as well as the consolidation of public rights and freedoms and participatory democracy. These achievements are notably the outcome of:

   ➢ The constitutional consecration of the National Council for Human Rights, created under Articles 198 and 199 as an independent consultative body tasked with a mission of monitoring, early warning and evaluation with regard to the respect of human rights;

   ➢ The strengthening of participatory democracy through the establishment of the National Observatory of Civil Society and the National Youth Council, which are consultative bodies that formulate opinions and recommendations to the President of the Republic in their respective fields of competence;

   ➢ The establishment of the Constitutional Court, which succeeds to the Constitutional Council, with the view to responding to the expansion of its prerogatives, which besides the traditional missions of controlling the conformity of laws with the Constitution, now include arbitration and consultation;
➢ The continuation of the process of updating and strengthening the legislative framework on rights and freedoms;

➢ The adoption, in April 2020, of the Law on the prevention and fight against discrimination and hate speech;

➢ The promulgation of the Organic Law on the Electoral Regime to provide a framework for elections by introducing substantial innovations, particularly in the area of control of the electoral process by an independent authority, rigorous control of finances throughout the electoral process, gender parity as well as an increase in the quota of young people on the electoral lists.

Commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level:

4. Algeria has always worked for the promotion and protection of human rights, which are enshrined as a priority in the various national constitutions and reinforced, on the ground, through a proactive implementation policy which takes into account the requirements of authenticity, modernity and development of the Algerian society.

5. In this respect, Algeria is animated by a strong will to take advantage of its mandate in the Human Rights Council to further strengthen its own performance in terms of promotion of human rights at the national level.

6. To this end, Algeria intends to pursue the implementation of a national plan aimed at consolidating the respect of constitutionally guaranteed human rights through a serene policy. It reaffirms its determination to consolidate the individual and collective freedoms of citizens and to promote the values of equality, solidarity, sharing and tolerance.

7. Algeria will also continue to work towards the realization of the reform of projects initiated under the constitutional revision, through the progressive consolidation of the institutional and legal framework, the completion of the reform of the judiciary system and
the evaluation of the measures adopted so far in the sectors of education, health and social protection.

8. In compliance with the provisions of the Constitution which endow an important place for the protection of people living in vulnerable conditions, Algeria will spare no effort to ensure the respect, promotion and protection of the rights of women, children, the sick, the disabled and the elderly.

9. Convinced of the need to further strengthen the place of women in public life and society, Algeria will continue to consolidate the status of women as a priority in public authorities. It will be a question of capitalizing on the recorded achievements, particularly with regard to gender parity on job market, an increased institutional representation, both within the elected assemblies and the positions of responsibility in public institutions and companies, as well as the repression of all the forms of violence towards women, in all places and under all circumstances (private and public and work sphere, world etc.)

10. Algeria devotes a large part of its budget to children's education and guarantees free and compulsory access to education until the age of 16. It will pursue the development of programs and action plans to further modernize the education system and adapt in order to respond to current challenges. In this regard, it presented its letter of commitment at the Education Transformation Summit (ETS), held in New York, on 19 September 2022.

11. Algeria also intends to strengthen its already rich and varied cooperation with the funds, programs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system that work in the field of child protection.

12. Algeria will continue its commitment to the rights of persons with disabilities guaranteed by the Constitution, particularly access to health care, education and training with the view to ensuring them a dignified life. Persons with disabilities who have no remunerated activity will continue to benefit from social security regime with a contribution paid by the State.
13. Algeria will reinforce its policy aimed at strengthening the participation of young people in public life in light of their abilities and potential, in order to enable them to contribute effectively to the country's development process. The institution of an unemployment assistance for first-time job seekers is a fundamental achievement that Algeria will continue to build on.

14. Furthermore, Algeria will continue its awareness-raising action to promote a culture of human rights and respect for fundamental and universal values of human dignity. In this perspective it intends to further strengthen the teaching of human rights in the educational system and the dissemination of popularization documents. It will also seize the opportunity of the annual celebration of the International Day of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other thematic days to inform the public at large about the various international and regional human rights instruments to which it adheres and, in so doing, to draw lessons on how to improve the effectiveness of their implementation.

Algeria's international and regional commitment to human rights:

15. Algeria has subscribed to most international and regional human rights instruments. Under the Constitution, the treaties and conventions to which Algeria is a party take precedence over domestic law. Algeria has accordingly enacted and adapted all its laws to implement the international instruments it has ratified.

16. Algeria maintains cooperative relations with the organizations of the United Nations system, the international humanitarian movement and the community of non-governmental organizations. It submits regular reports to the United Nations bodies on the ways in which it fulfills its international obligations in this area. It keeps, in good faith, a permanent cooperation with all the special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

17. It is in this spirit that it has issued invitations to seven (07) thematic mandate holders for fact-finding visits to Algeria since 2010. In 2017, invitations were extended to six (06) other mandate holders.
18. Algeria which is among the first countries examined under the three cycles of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), is ready to submit its 4th national report on 11 November 2022.

19. As a member of the Human Rights Council, Algeria will contribute to ensuring a balanced and responsible treatment of the issues discussed in this body, and will ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in the UN agenda and in regional organizations.

20. In this regard, Algeria intends to:

➢ Work to ensure that human rights issues, the third pillar of the UN action, are examined in a coherent manner, within the authorized UN bodies, far from any selectivity, politicization and double standards.

➢ Advocate for the respect of the sovereign choice of States for their political, economic, social and cultural systems.

➢ Continue cooperation with the special procedures, both in terms of visits and in terms of activities to implement their respective mandates.

➢ Continue to participate actively in the UPR and its acknowledgement as a universal framework for the review of country situations, ensuring the effective implementation of the accepted recommendations.

➢ Work for the strengthening of international solidarity with colonial countries and peoples and for the effective realization of the inalienable right of peoples under foreign occupation to self-determination.

➢ Safeguard the right to development and work towards the full realization of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.
➢ Pursue its efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism and violent extremism, as a complement to the protection of human rights, and to support consensual initiatives, particularly in favor of the victims of terrorism.

➢ Continue its commitment to peace and living in harmony with all nations worldwide in the spirit of its initiative launched in 2017 to achieving the adoption, by consensus, of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 72/130, which declared May 16 of each year "International Day of Living Together in Peace."

21. At the regional level, Algeria attaches great importance to cooperation on human rights with its African and Arab partners. It will continue to pay particular attention to the African Peer Review Mechanism and other human rights mechanisms in these two regions, while ensuring the sharing of experiences and capacity building in developing countries.

22. In short, Algeria's commitments stem from its firm commitment to use its presence in the Human Rights Council to defend and promote human rights at the national, regional and international levels. As a founding member of the Human Rights Council, Algeria intends to continue and strengthen the work carried out during its previous mandates, during which it had the privilege of coordinating the African Group and sitting on the "Situation Analysis Group" and the "Selection Group for Special Rapporteurs".

23. Algeria's election to the Human Rights Council will provide it the opportunity to reinvigorate its commitment and its constructive spirit while participating in the deliberations of this body. Algeria therefore commits itself to making its term of office an opportunity to give new impetus to its cooperation with all States and stakeholders concerned, the Office of the High Commissioner and other UN bodies, and to help the Council fulfill adequately its mandate to protect human rights throughout the world and leave no one behind.

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