
Advance Edited Version

Distr.: General
9 August 2019

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Forty-first session

24 June–12 July 2019

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights,
civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Letter dated 12 July 2019 from the representatives of Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, the Islamic State of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

We, the undersigned, have the honour to transmit herewith a joint letter on behalf of the undersigned countries (see annex).

We would be highly appreciative if you could kindly circulate the present letter and the annex thereto,* record it as a document of the forty-first session of the Human Rights Council, and publish it on the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights under agenda item 3.

(Signed) Boudjemâa **Delmi**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Algeria

(Signed) Margarida Rosa Da Silva **Izata**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Angola

(Signed) Yusuf Abdulkarim **Bucheeri**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Bahrain

(Signed) Shameem **Ahsan**

* Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Bangladesh

(Signed) Yury **Ambrazevich**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Belarus

(Signed) Ruddy José **Flores Monterrey**

Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Plurinational State of Bolivia

(Signed) Dieudonné W. Désiré **Sougouri**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso

(Signed) Rénovat **Tabu**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Burundi

(Signed) Ney **Samol**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cambodia

(Signed) Anatole Fabien **Nkou**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cameroon

(Signed) Sultan **Chouzour**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Comoros

(Signed) Aimé Clovis **Guillond**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Congo

(Signed) Pedro Luis **Pedroso Cuesta**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cuba

(Signed) Tae Song **Han**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

(Signed) Zénon **Mukongo Ngay**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

(Signed) Alaa **Youssef**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Egypt

(Signed) Mahmoud Ali **Youssef**

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Djibouti

(Signed) Adem Osman **Idris**

Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Eritrea

(Signed) Làzaro **Ekua Avomo**

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea

(Signed) Edwige **Koumby Missambo**

Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Gabon

(Signed) Esmaeil **Baghaei Hamaneh**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran

(Signed) Hussain Mahmood **Alkhateeb**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Iraq

(Signed) Jamal M.I. **Alghunaim**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Kuwait

(Signed) Kham-Inh **Khitchadeth**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic

(Signed) Amadeu Paulo Samuel **Da Conceição**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mozambique

(Signed) Kyaw Moe **Tun**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Myanmar

(Signed) Mani Prasad **Bhattarai**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Nepal

(Signed) Audu Ayinla **Kadiri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Nigeria

(Signed) Abdulla Nasser **Al Rahbi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Oman

(Signed) Tahir Hussain **Andrabi**
Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of Pakistan

(Signed) Evan P. **Garcia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Philippines

(Signed) Gennady **Gatilov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation

(Signed) Abdulaziz **Alwasil**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia

(Signed) Dejan **Zlatanović**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Serbia

(Signed) Faduma **Abdullahi Mohamud**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Somalia

(Signed) Akech Chol **Ahou Ayok**
Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of South Sudan

(Signed) Aliyar Lebbe Abdul **Azeez**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka

(Signed) Osman Abufatima Adam **Mohammed**
Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Sudan

(Signed) Hussam Edin **Aala**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic

(Signed) Jamshed **Khamidov**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Tajikistan

(Signed) Yackoley Kokou **Johnson**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Togo

(Signed) Atageldi **Haljanov**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan

(Signed) Christopher **Onyanga Aparr**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Uganda

(Signed) Obaid Salem Saeed **Al Zaabi**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates

(Signed) Ulugbek **Lapasov**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan

(Signed) Jorge **Valero**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

(Signed) Ali Mohamed Saeed **Majawar**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Yemen

(Signed) Martha Lungu **Mwitumwa**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Zambia

(Signed) Taonga **Mushayavanhu**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe

(Signed) Ibrahim **Khraishi**
Ambassador

Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine

Annex to the letter dated 12 July 2019 from the representatives of Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Comoros, the Congo, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and the State of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the President of the Human Rights Council

Mr. President, Madam High Commissioner,

We, the co-signatories to this letter, reiterate that the work of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) should be conducted in an objective, transparent, non-selective, constructive, non-confrontational and non-politicized manner. We express our firm opposition to relevant countries' practice of politicizing human rights issues, by naming and shaming, and publicly exerting pressures on other countries.

We commend China's remarkable achievements in the field of human rights by adhering to the people-centered development philosophy and protecting and promoting human rights through development. We also appreciate China's contributions to the international human rights cause.

We take note that terrorism, separatism and religious extremism has caused enormous damage to people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang, which has seriously infringed upon human rights, including right to life, health and development. Faced with the grave challenge of terrorism and extremism, China has undertaken a series of counter-terrorism and deradicalization measures in Xinjiang, including setting up vocational education and training centers. Now safety and security has returned to Xinjiang and the fundamental human rights of people of all ethnic groups there are safeguarded. The past three consecutive years has seen not a single terrorist attack in Xinjiang and people there enjoy a stronger sense of happiness, fulfillment and security. We note with appreciation that human rights are respected and protected in China in the process of counter-terrorism and deradicalization.

We appreciate China's commitment to openness and transparency. China has invited a number of diplomats, international organizations officials and journalist to Xinjiang to witness the progress of the human rights cause and the outcomes of counter-terrorism and deradicalization there. What they saw and heard in Xinjiang completely contradicted what was reported in the media. We call on relevant countries to refrain from employing unfounded charges against China based on unconfirmed information before they visit Xinjiang. We urge the OHCHR, Treaty Bodies and relevant Special Procedures mandate holders to conduct their work in an objective and impartial manner according to their mandate and with true and genuinely credible information, and value the communication with member states.

We request that this letter be recorded as an official document of the 41st session of the Human Rights Council and that it be published on the OHCHR website.