



MISSION PERMANENTE
DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU
BELARUS AUPRES DE
L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
ET DES AUTRES
ORGANISATIONS
INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE

OHCHR REGISTRY

31 OCT 2012

Recipients : SPB
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No 02-15/1290

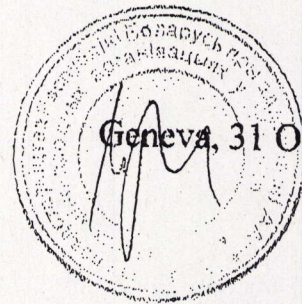
The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to the communication of 18 October 2012 by the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, has the honour to enclose the Mission's request.

The Permanent Mission also urges the Office and Special Procedures to formulate their requests/ appeals to the Government **in short and precise manner**, especially taking into account, that such communications they send to the Belarusian side in the English language, one of the working languages of the Secretariat. However, this language *is not the working language for the competent authorities at the national level.*

Moreover, the Permanent Mission reiterates its request contained in the Note Verbale No02-15/1204 of 10 October 2012.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure: 1 page



Geneva, 31 October 2012

Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva



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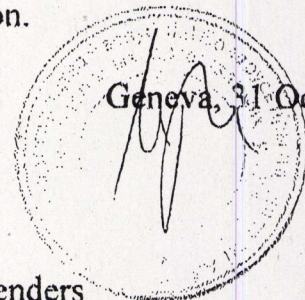
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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations at Geneva presents its compliments to the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and has the honour to refer to their communication of 18 October 2012.

The Permanent Mission again draws the attention of the Special Procedures to the fact that the practice of sending of joint communications undermines *the principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time* and therefore it contradicts the institution-building package of the Human Rights Council (paragraph 44, A/HRC/RES/5/1). The Permanent Mission also recalls Article 3 (d) of the Code of Conduct, which obliges every mandate-holder "to focus exclusively on the implementation of their mandate" (A/HRC/RES/5/2).

Based on the aforementioned legal explanations the Permanent Mission invites the Special Rapporteurs to individualize points they wish to address to the Government in terms of their respective mandates. Such individualized communications will assist the competent authorities in providing comprehensive responses to the questions in line with the specific mandate of every Special Procedure.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 31 October 2012

- Mr. Maina Kiai
Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
 - Ms. Margaret Sekaggya
Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
 - Mr. Frank William La Rue
Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- Geneva

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