The Secretariat of the Human Rights Council presents its compliments to the State Members of the Human Rights Council, other Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations departments and bodies, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and other organizations and has the honour to inform them that, with reference to its Note Verbale dated 2 June 2006 concerning the convening of the first session of the Council, the schedule of Council meetings on Monday, 19 June 2006, has been revised to include extended meetings both in the morning and in the afternoon, with the morning meeting starting at 9 a.m. and the afternoon meeting continuing past 6 p.m. The meetings will be held in the Assembly Hall of the Palais des Nations.

The attention of the State Members of the Human Rights Council, other Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations departments and bodies, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and other organizations is also drawn to the expected high attendance of the meetings on 19 June 2006. In view of this and to ensure that the meetings begin on time and proceed in a smooth manner, it is important for all participants to arrive at the Palais des Nations by 8.30 a.m. at the latest.

It is also recommended that participants proceed with accreditation well before the beginning of the session, at their earliest convenience. The accreditation office of the Human Rights Council at “Pregny Gate” (Palais des Nations, 8-14 avenue de la Paix) will be open as from Thursday, 15 June 2006, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m. Exceptionally, the office will open at 7 a.m. on Monday, 19 June 2006.

In this connection, the Secretariat wishes to remind the State Members of the Human Rights Council, other Permanent Missions, the United Nations departments and bodies, specialized agencies, intergovernmental and other organizations of the rules and practices regarding the accreditation and the issuance of badges for the delegates they wish to designate to attend the first session of the Council:

1. Requests for accreditation should be sent to the Secretariat of the Council, for the attention of Ms. Kate Hardie (Mailing address: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Room PW 1-036, Palais des Nations, 8-14 avenue de la Paix, CH-1211 Geneva 10; Tel.: +41 (0)22 917 92 56; Fax: +41 (0)22 917 90 11) at short notice.

2. Representatives in possession of an identity badge issued by the Security and Safety Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) or the United Nations Organization in New York (UNO), will have unrestricted access to the conference rooms. However, they should announce themselves to the Secretariat through a correspondence addressed to Ms. Hardie (see above).

3. Representatives without a UNOG or UNO identity badge should apply in person to the security entrance at “Pregny Gate” during above-mentioned opening hours; on presentation of an identity document and a copy of the request for accreditation, a badge valid for the Council’s session will be issued.

9 June 2006