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REFERENCE: JC/cdp

1 December 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I have the pleasure to transmit to you a booklet on the Universal Human Rights Index (UHRI, [www.universalhumanrightsindex.org](http://www.universalhumanrightsindex.org)), for your attention and use. The UHRI is an on-line information tool designed to facilitate access to conclusions and recommendations made by United Nations human rights mechanisms. Since August 2007, the OHCHR has been responsible for updating and developing the UHRI.

This new website contains all the concluding observations issued by the treaty bodies from the year 2000, as well as conclusions and recommendations of the Human Rights Council's special procedures concerning specific countries adopted since 2006. The UHRI will soon provide access to recommendations made in the framework of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

So far, more than 1,000 documents have been indexed with each paragraph being classified by country, right, body and affected persons. The user is able to locate observations and recommendations by using these classifications as search criteria or by entering keywords.

The information compiled in the UHRI enables users to gain an international perspective on national and regional human rights developments, as well as an overview on cooperation between States and international institutions. It assists Governments and other stakeholders in the implementation of recommendations, and facilitates follow-up.

A CD-ROM containing limited search functions compared to the website is available upon request. For more information, please contact Ms. Jane Connors ([jconnors@ohchr.org](mailto:jconnors@ohchr.org)) or Ms. Catherine de Preux De Baets ([cdepreuxdebaets@ohchr.org](mailto:cdepreuxdebaets@ohchr.org)). Your feedback on the Index is most welcome.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Ndiaye".

Bacre Waly Ndiaye

Director

Human Rights Council and Treaties Division

To: Representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations