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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
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Agenda item 2

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Russian Federation: draft resolution

2006/... Hostage-taking

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees, inter alia, the right to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, freedom of movement and protection from arbitrary detention,

Taking into account the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/146 of 17 December 1979 as well as the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3166 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly,

Recognizing that hostage-taking calls for resolute, firm and concerted efforts on the part of the international community, in strict conformity with international human rights standards, in order to bring such abhorrent practices to an end,

1. *Reaffirms* that hostage-taking, wherever and by whomever committed, is a serious crime aimed at the destruction of human rights and that it is, under any circumstances, unjustifiable, including when committed under the pretext of achieving the goal of promoting and protecting human rights;

2. Strongly condemns all acts of hostage-taking anywhere in the world, in particular the most recent acts of hostage-taking and the murder of four diplomats of the embassy of the Russian Federation in Baghdad;

3. *Demands* that all hostages be released immediately and without any preconditions, and expresses its solidarity with the victims of hostage-taking;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures, in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, international humanitarian law and international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and punish acts of hostage-taking, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field.
