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Human Rights Council

Advisory Committee

Sixth session

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Agenda item 2

Requests addressed to the Advisory Committee stemming from Human Rights Council resolutions

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6/... Preliminary study on ways and means to further advance the rights of people working in rural areas

The Human Rights Council Advisory Committee,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 13/4 of 24 March 2010, which requested the Advisory Committee to undertake a preliminary study on ways and means to further advance the rights of people working in rural areas, including women, in particular smallholders engaged in the production of food and/or other agricultural products, including from directly working the land, traditional fishing, hunting and herding activities, and to report thereon to the Council at its sixteenth session,

Welcoming the report by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food presented to the General Assembly on 21 October 2010 (A/65/281) and the recommendations made therein,

Having due regard for the discussions and statements made at the third meeting of the Advisory Committee at its sixth session,

1. *Submits* herewith to the Human Rights Council the preliminary study on the advancement of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas;¹

2. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council authorize the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to request all Member States of the United Nations, all relevant United Nations bodies, special agencies and programmes, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization, and other international organizations, as well as national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, to give their

¹ To be issued as document A/HRC/16/63.

views and comments on the preliminary study on the advancement of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, so that such views can be taken into account in the preparation of the final study;

3. *Also recommends* that the Human Rights Council consider requesting the Advisory Committee to organize, as part of its broad consultations with Member States and other stakeholders on the advancement of the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, a seminar entitled “Rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas: the need for a new instrument”, to be held at the Palais de Nations in Geneva two days before the Committee’s seventh session, without financial implications for the United Nations (concept note annexed hereto).

Annex

Concept note

Seminar entitled “The rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas: the need for a new instrument”

5–6 August 2011

Palais des Nations, Geneva

The seminar is intended to offer a forum for feedback on the work of the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council on the advancement of the rights of people working in rural areas. The seminar will be an integral part of the consultation process on a new instrument on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas.

Attendance at the seminar will respect regional and gender balances. Representatives of the following will be invited to attend: States Members of the United Nations, United Nations special agencies and programmes, other international organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and movements of people working in rural areas, including women, smallholders, landless people and people involved in traditional fishing, hunting and herding activities.

The expected number of participants is 50.

The seminar will have no financial implications for the United Nations but will require the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Food First Information and Action Network (FIAN) International and Via Campesina will be responsible for raising funds to cover organizational costs.
