



General Assembly

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Agenda item 1

Organizational and procedural matters

Note verbale dated 16 June 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva addressed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, on the occasion of the appointment of the second holder of the mandate of independent expert on minority issues by the Human Rights Council at its seventeenth session, has the honour to convey herewith the statement by Turkey.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Turkey kindly requests that the enclosed statement* be circulated as a document of the seventeenth session of the Human Rights Council.

* Reproduced in the annex, as received and in the language of submission only.

Annex

The statement made by Turkey

The appointment of the UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues

17th session of the Human Rights Council

“According to the Turkish constitutional system, the word “minorities” encompasses only Turkish citizens defined and recognized as such on the basis of multilateral or bilateral instruments to which Turkey is party.

Our cooperation with the UN Independent Expert on Minority issues concerning Turkey will continue in relation to the minorities recognized in line with the afore-mentioned understanding.”
