

Swiss Confederation

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Human Rights Bodies and Mechanisms

Genève, le 24 mars 2021

Joint Statement on behalf of the Human Rights / Conflict Prevention Caucus

Mr. President,

I am delivering this statement on behalf of the Human Rights/Conflict Prevention Caucus Geneva, co-chaired by Germany and Switzerland.

We welcome the Secretary General's report on technical assistance and capacity-building and support the report's recommendations on strengthening capacities in the field of human rights.

Human rights violations are often a root cause of crisis and violent conflict. They are also a signal for early warning. The promotion, protection and fulfilment of human rights is therefore an indispensable foundation for a more peaceful world and a cornerstone of societies' resilience to crisis. The report highlights the need for better prevention of human rights violations and abuses. To achieve that, the report suggests the Human Rights Council and other human rights actors collaborate more effectively across all UN pillars. The Caucus joins the Secretary General in this call. We recognize the importance of close cooperation between different UN actors and encourage effective cooperation across all UN pillars. To that effect we join the SGs appeal for the United Nations peace and security and development pillars to make better use of the existing human rights mechanisms and their recommendations in support of Member States. For example, through the exchange of information between the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and the Peacebuilding Commission. We also highlight the important role played by Special Procedures for early warning. The Caucus would also like to

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echo the need to systematically integrating human rights in UN analysis and programming. Technical assistance programs can play a key role in supporting the implementation by States of their international human rights obligations and commitments. To be effective, these programs need to be adapted to each context they are applied in. To fulfill its role and respond positively to the various requests for assistance, we also call on States to strengthen financial support to the UN human rights pillar.

I thank you.

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