

Thank President, Facilitators + UK co-facilitators for presence today.

Support EU Statement - UK ready to engage to find consensual outcome.

Wish to highlight some key areas.

### 1) Situations of concern - ~~will~~ be

Ability of HRC to respond in a timely manner to situations of concern will always be the yardstick by which its success is measured.

Therefore it is imperative that we use the review to do whatever we can

to enhance the Council's capacity to react to situations of concern,

whether these are thematic, or relate to specific countries. In that context,

Not able to accept any reduced ability to address HRC issues

during the year + therefore can not support the proposed reduction from

3 regular sessions to 2 sessions unless <sup>we</sup> you are able to provide

a safeguard in the proposed UPR sessions which would allow

to at least maintain the same level of focus as presently exist

### 2) On UPR

(a) - We note with some concern the inclusion of the current <sup>wording</sup> on technical assistance.

- While this an important element for states, the wording in the compilation disturbs the delicate balance in the 13 package

on what should form the basis for the review.

(b) As we have said before ~~we~~ we are not convinced of the need to extend the UPR cycle beyond 4 years. UPR

has to date been the Council's flagship innovation, and should be protected.

2) We also have some concern that the level of detail relating to the OHCHR+UN's overly prescriptive, whilst the wording relating to states does not go far, particularly on providing a written response to recommendations prior to adoption at the HRC.

3) We also wish to repeat our support for Category A status National Human Rights Institutions.

### On special procedures:

- we regret that the compilation did not go much further in requiring greater co-operation by States. We continue to believe that lack of co-operation is the main problem which affects the system of special procedures & believe ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> compilation should address this.

- The compilation document also does not propose good solutions for the weaknesses in the Advisory Committee or Complaints process, which are both in need of serious change if they are to be made effective.

For the Advisory Committee our minimum expectation is that the number of experts is reduced, while the complaints mechanism requires fundamental change.

Finally, we wish to request <sup>urgent</sup> clarification on the financial implications of the proposed changes, including those to U?

- We need to reserve our position on the ~~pro~~ suggestion ~~is~~ relating to the office of the president until we have clarity about the costs involved.

Thank you.