

United Nations  Nations Unies
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR

TO: Ms. Hui Lu
A: Secretary of the Human Rights Council

29/3/2026

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:
S/C DE:

FROM: Mr. Christophe Monier, Director
DE: Programme Planning and Budget Division, OPPFB

Monier

SUBJECT: **Orals Statement of programme budget implications arising from**
OBJET: **draft resolution A/HRC/61/L.29/Rev.1 of the Human Rights Council**

I would be grateful if the text of the attached oral statement could be read and distributed prior to adoption of draft resolution A/HRC/61/L.29/Rev.1, entitled "Mandate of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders".

CC:

Mr. Ramanathan
Ms. Al-Chikh
Ms. Kruglikova
Ms. Alirzaeva
Ms. Taylor
Ms. Veaudour

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT
RESOLUTION A/HRC/61/L.29/Rev.1 ENTITLED "Mandate of Special
Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders".

1. This statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the Rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 5 and 7 of draft resolution **A/HRC/61/L.29/Rev.1**, the Human Rights Council would:

(a) Decide to extend the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders for a period of three years in the same terms as provided for by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 16/5 (OP. 2);

(b) Request the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary for the effective fulfilment of his or her mandate (OP. 5);

(c) Request the Special Rapporteur to continue to report on an annual basis to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its eighty-first and eighty-third session, and strongly encourages that any financial efficiency savings made in relation to this change in reporting frequency be used to support the wider activities of the mandate (OP. 7).

3. In order to implement the mandate contained in paragraphs 2, 5 and 7 of the draft resolution, the following activities and resources would be required from 2026 to 2029:

4. Under Section 24, Human Rights:

(a) Travel of Representatives:

- Three trips by the Special Rapporteur to Geneva, to report to the Human Rights Council, to hold an annual consultation with States, OHCHR and relevant stakeholders and to attend the annual meeting of special rapporteurs/representatives, independent experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Council (OP.2);
- One trip of five working days by the Special Rapporteur to New York, to report to the 81st Session of the General Assembly (2026) and one trip of five working

days to New York to report to the 83rd Session of the General Assembly (2028) (OP.2, 7);

- Two country visits per year of 10 working days (OP.2);

(b) Travel of staff:

- Travel of one staff to accompany the Special Rapporteur during the two country visits per year of 10 working day (OP.2);

(c) General Operating Expenses

- Local transportation, security, communications and other miscellaneous expenses during field missions (OP.2);

5. Conference Services under: **Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for:**

- (a) Translation of annual reports and government replies to communications, and interpretation during field missions;
- (b) Documentation services in 2026 and 2028.

6. The activities referred to above relate to **Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management and Section 24, Human rights** of the programme budget for the years 2026 to 2029

7. The adoption of the draft resolution **A/HRC/61/L.29/Rev.1** would give rise to total requirements as follows:

(United States Dollars)

<i>Budget section / Object of expenditure</i>	<i>Estimated amount included in the Budget (Annually)</i>	<i>Reduced resources 2027 (non-recurrent)</i>	<i>Total requirements for 2026-2029 Recurrent</i>
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Simultaneous interpretation	52 200	-	156 600
Documentation	123 900	(29 400)	342 300
Subtotal, Section 2	176 100	(29 400)	498 900
Section 24, Human rights*			
Travel of representatives	45 800	(8 000)	129 400
Travel of staff	5 800	-	17 400

General Operating Expenses	12 000	-	36 000
Subtotal, Section 24*	63 600	(8 000)	182 800
Total	239 700	(37 400)	681 700

8. As reflected in the table above, requirements would arise as follows:

- a. Annual requirements of \$239,700, which have already been included in the programme budget for 2026 and the proposed programme budget for 2027, owing to the perennial nature of the mandate.
- b. Reduced non-recurrent requirements of \$37,400 for 2027. These requirements, in accordance with established procedures, would be brought to the attention of the General Assembly, at its 81st session in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council during 2026.

9. With regard to operative paragraph 5, the attention of the Human Rights Council is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248B of 21 December 1990, and subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 80/242 of 30 December 2025, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with the responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.