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REFERENCE: 11th meeting

30 June 2004

Your Excellency,

In my capacity as Chairperson of the 11th meeting of Special Rapporteurs/Representatives, experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights and on the advisory services programme, I have the honour to draw your attention to the contents of the attached Statement which was issued by the participants of the meeting which took place in Geneva from 21 to 25 June 2004.

The meeting of Special Procedures mandate-holders is convened annually since 1994 as a follow-up to the World Conference on Human Rights, pursuant to a recommendation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action which underlined the importance of preserving and strengthening the system of special procedures and specified that these procedures should be enabled to harmonize and rationalize their work through periodic meetings.

Yours sincerely

Theo van Boven
Chairperson of the Eleventh Meeting of Mandate Holders

H. E. Mr. Colin Powell
Secretary of State
Washington D.C
United States of America

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