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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
Ninth session
Agenda item 10

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

France (on behalf of the European Union)

9/... Advisory services and technical assistance for Burundi

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights treaties,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other applicable human rights instruments,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/82 of 21 April 2004 and Human Rights Council resolution 6/5 of 29 September 2007,

Recognizing the efforts made by the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, the Political Directorate, South Africa, in its capacity as facilitator, and the countries of the Regional Peace Initiative to help Burundi to fully re-establish peace and security in its national territory,

Cognizant of the commitment of the Government of Burundi to engage in dialogue with its political partners,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Burundi (A/HRC/9/14);

2. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the independent expert and the Government of Burundi;

3. *Calls upon* the Government and the Palipehutu-Forces nationales de libération (FNL) to continue to work through all the mechanisms established under the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement to ensure its full and immediate implementation, in accordance with the timetable established in the revised Programme of Action and the mutual commitments undertaken in June 2008 in Magaliesberg, South Africa;

4. *Welcomes* the launching of a project to support the national consultations on transitional justice mechanisms in the context of the peacebuilding process and of Burundi's international commitments to this end, and urges the Government to continue its efforts in this area in collaboration with the United Nations and civil society;

5. *Commends* the efforts of the Government of Burundi and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and expresses its support for the Peacebuilding Fund aimed at the establishment of a national human rights commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and calls for this national institution to be established as soon as possible;

6. *Urges* the international community to increase its technical and financial assistance to the Government of Burundi with a view to supporting its efforts to respect and promote human rights, in particular in the area of justice system reform, and to provide assistance in the preparation of elections;

7. *Invites* the independent expert to pursue his mission by assisting the Government of Burundi in its efforts to improve the human rights situation, focusing on the building of national capacities in this area through, inter alia, the establishment of the national human rights commission in accordance with the Paris Principles, and the establishment of transitional justice mechanisms in collaboration with the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the independent expert to report to the Council at its twelfth session.
