



## A NEW CHAPTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

A handbook on issues of transition  
from the Commission on Human Rights  
to the Human Rights Council



### Annex 3.1

#### Independent Expert on minority issues

**Current mandate holder:** Gay McDougall  
**Mandate started:** 2005

**Term of mandate holder:** 2005-2007  
**Mandate up for renewal:** 2007

#### Areas of focus

- Elaborate a working definition of the term minority;
- Identify best practices and possibilities for technical cooperation by the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights at the request of Governments;
- Address the protection gap for minorities in the existing international legal framework.
- Identify key areas of concern relating to minorities;
- The legal framework includes *The Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities*.

#### Country visit

None.

#### Outstanding visit requests

None.

#### Pending reports

Annual report (E/CN.4/2006/74).

#### Thematic research

None.

#### Communications (2005)

- Two communications to two Governments;
- Two letters of allegation;
- No responses.

