

1 September 2022

Dear Ms. Conway,

On behalf of the Secretary-General, I would like to thank you for your letter dated 10 August 2022, regarding the selection process for the next United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

As noted during my meeting on 25 August 2022 with civil society organizations representing and working with human rights defenders, victims of violations and affected communities, the Secretary-General exercises with great care the discretionary authority entrusted to him by the United Nations General Assembly to ensure transparency and to maintain the institutional safeguards of the recruitment and selection process, while protecting the privacy of the applicants.

In this regard, the Secretary-General is following the established process for the selection and appointment of the next High Commissioner for Human Rights in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/141 which stipulates that the High Commissioner for Human Rights shall be appointed by the Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly, with due regard for geographical rotation, and have a fixed term of four years with the possibility of one renewal for another fixed term of four years.

I wish to reassure you that the welcomed and constructive points raised by you and by other civil society representatives, during the meeting and in your respective letters, have been duly taken into consideration throughout the on-going selection process.

In selecting the most suitable candidate for his senior management team, the Secretary-General strives to ensure that the candidate fully meets the profile for the position and that the selection decision enhances the objectives of the Organization for gender parity and geographic diversity.

Ms. Marissa Conway
Chief Executive Officer
United Nations Association – UK
London

I would like to express my appreciation for your continued interest and engagement with the United Nations, in particular in supporting the efforts of the Secretary-General to promote the core principle of merit, as outlined in the Charter of the United Nations, for the selection of the next High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A J M', positioned below the closing of the letter.

Amina J. Mohammed
Deputy Secretary-General