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Further Information on UA 50/06 (AMR 51/034/2006, 07 March 2006) - Impunity

USA **Victims of human rights abuses in all countries**

The US government is still blocking adoption of the draft resolution to establish the Human Rights Council put forward by the President of the UN General Assembly. According to sources within the UN, a vote or other action on the draft could take place as early as 14 March.

Diplomats in New York have made intense efforts to find ways to enable the USA to join the consensus for adopting the draft resolution. The USA has remained resolute in its demands for changes to the text. Thousands of appeals that have been delivered to US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice from the UA network, and these are providing a sound basis for AI USA's lobbying efforts with the US Administration and in the US Congress.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:
- urging the government of the USA to accept the adoption of the draft resolution to establish a Human Rights Council in its present form;
- emphasizing that the draft resolution provides a sound basis on which to create a better body than the Commission on Human Rights;
- making it clear that the draft resolution provides the USA with a historic opportunity to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights within the United Nations system.

APPEALS TO: diplomatic representatives of the USA accredited to your country.

(Pressure on US diplomatic representatives in your country is very important at this stage, as it will be reported to the US State Department in Washington)

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 March 2006.