



MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU MALI
AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES
111 East 69th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021
Tel: (212) 737-4150 • Fax: (212) 472-3778
E-mail: malionu@aol.com

**Statement by the Community of Democracies regarding the
elections of the membership of the Human Rights Council
(New York, May 15, 2007)**

1. We, as members of the Convening Group of the Community of Democracies, take this opportunity **on the eve of the second elections to the UN Human Rights Council**, to reiterate the commitment made at the Community of Democracies III Ministerial Meeting in Santiago to "Give serious consideration to the candidacy of countries contributing effectively to the promotion and protection of democracy and human rights worldwide in bodies which focus on elements of democratic governance."
2. We reiterate our belief that the composition of the Council and the quality of membership will determine the credibility and effectiveness of its work. We further recognize that Resolution 60/251 establishing the Council intended for UN member states to have a real choice in selecting its members.
3. We call on all Member States to take note of Resolution 60/251 to "take into account the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights and their voluntary pledges and commitments" when electing members to the Council. Thus, in the elections to the Human Rights Council, we **reiterate our call on the membership of the United Nations to favor those States which have demonstrated a genuine commitment to human rights, both in practice and in their pledges.**
4. Therefore, we **urge all candidates to make voluntary pledges in accordance with Paragraph 8 of the resolution 60/251.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a long, sweeping horizontal stroke with a small vertical tick at the end, and a shorter, curved stroke below it.