

Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Office of the United Nations and to the other International Organizations Geneva

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Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living

by

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Mister President, Madame Special Rapporteur,

Germany wishes to warmly thank Ms. Raquel Rolnik for her highly interesting presentation and for the report she presented to the 22th Human Rights Council.

Security of Tenure indeed matters. The right to be free from the fear of forced eviction is a vital dimension of adequate housing. The obligation to confer legal security while considering various forms of tenure and the relevance of non-discrimination remains an enormous challenge for international human rights bodies. Further clarification is needed to provide concrete guidance on the issue. Germany is therefore particularly thankful for the ongoing work on the Special Rapporteur to conduct a comprehensive study on the issue that will be presented in 2014.

We have studied the report of the Special Rapporteur very carefully and would like to address the following questions:

- 1. Madame Special Rapporteur, from your country visits and the public consultations undertaken so far: Could you list examples of good practice where States where able to reduce tenure insecurity and could you elaborate more on the human rights challenges with regard to informal tenure rights?
- 2. Madame Special Rapporteur, the application of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Govenance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (adopted by the UN CFS) is not restricted to agricultural land, since they do not contain any definition of "land". Do you see any added value of the document for tenure security with respect to housing?

Thank you!