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19 August 2020

Dear signatories of the 3 August 2020 letter,

I wish to thank you for your letter regarding the implementation of Human Rights Council resolution A/HRC/43/1 on the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers.

At the outset, I wish to reiterate, once again, my deep sympathy to the family of Mr. George Floyd and the families of all other victims of excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and police brutality. I am pleased to inform you that I am establishing a dedicated team to work towards the effective implementation of resolution A/HRC/43/1, and I will provide more details on the developments thus far in my first oral update to the Human Rights Council during its upcoming 45th session in September.

I welcome the valuable recommendations included in your letter and assure you that my Office is committed to hearing directly from relevant stakeholders, including from victims, their families, and witnesses. In this context, the dedicated team in my Office will be seeking an opportunity for engagement with you and/or your representatives also. I also take note of your other recommendations, including that the report should build and expand upon previous research by regional and international human rights bodies.

Thank you again for reaching out to me, I sincerely appreciate your engagement. Please rest assured of my Office's full commitment to effectively implement resolution A/HRC/43/1.

Michelle Bachelet  
High Commissioner for Human Rights

To signatories of the 3rd August 2020 letter addressed to the  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights