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## 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council

### Interactive Dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi

23 September 2021

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger,  
Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Madam President,

Liechtenstein thanks the *Commission of Inquiry on Burundi* for the presentation of its report and for its indispensable work.

While we welcome some steps taken recently, we remain concerned over the human rights situation in Burundi, and in this regard particularly want to refer to the risk assessment included in the Commission's report.

Independent and genuine truth and reconciliation processes need to be pursued, and the environment of impunity, both, for violations of human rights and for economic malfeasance, must come to an immediate halt. Truth and accountability will not only provide justice to victims and survivors of the numerous and grave violations committed, but will also serve as an important step towards preventing on-going violence. Judicial reforms as well as the assurance of judicial independence are crucial in this regard. We

take note of some positive steps taken by Burundi in this respect but must stress that there is still a long way to go.

Moreover, meaningful steps need to be taken in order to ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society, the political opposition and the independent media, as well as international actors, to conduct their work.

Liechtenstein strongly calls on Burundi to fully cooperate with regional and international human rights mechanisms in a constructive and meaningful manner. In this regard, we want to highlight the important work of the *Commission of Inquiry* on the country situation and urge Burundi to fully implement the list of recommendations previously issued by the Commission.

I thank you.