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**UNITED NATIONS**  
**HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

**PROCEDURES SPECIALES ASSUMÉES PAR LE**  
**CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME**

**SPECIAL PROCEDURES ASSUMED BY THE HUMAN**  
**RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief**

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Ref. G/SO 214 (56-20)

15 September 2006

Re: Endorsement and Participation of UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1981 Declaration, Prague, November 2006

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to announce that the key international commemorative event marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1981 UN Declaration on the Elimination of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief will take place in Prague, Czech Republic, on Saturday 25 November 2006.

As my report to the United Nations General Assembly in 2005 (A/60/399) reminded the international community, 25 November 2006 marks this important anniversary. In that report I encouraged Governments and non-governmental organisations to “take advantage of this occasion to organize events that will highlight the importance of promoting freedom of religion or belief and challenging the rising tide of intolerance”.

The programme of the anniversary event in Prague will include substantive workshops for experts on some of the challenges facing freedom of religion or belief, an afternoon conference and an evening commemoration reflecting the ongoing violations to this area of international law, allowing us to recommit to the standards of the 1981 Declaration. The event is organised by Dr Nazila Ghanea of the Centre for International Human Rights, University of London and Mr Jan Tabrizi of Tolerance 95 and they will be happy to handle all enquiries in this regard.

I will be present in this event and look forward to the opportunity it offers us all to appreciate the significance of freedom of religion or belief to the wider corpus of international human rights law and its upholding of norms designed to respect some of the most cherished aspects of our very humanity.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Asma Jahangir".

**Asma Jahangir**  
**Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief**