

ATTACHMENT

Paragraphs suggested by OHCHR in lieu of current para. 119 to the draft for the report of the Secretary-General on MINURSO

- i. The question of the right to self-determination, as enshrined in the United Nations Charter and the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, continues to impact on the enjoyment of all other rights of the people of Western Sahara. As detailed in this report, there were allegations of violations of human rights in the Territory and in the refugee camps during the reporting period.

- ii. Recent developments in the Middle East and North Africa region illustrate the importance of respect of human rights for peace and stability. The Security Council has increasingly recognized the central importance of human rights in the mandates of peace missions it creates. MINURSO does not have a specific human rights mandate and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has no presence in the Territory or in the refugee camps in Tindouf. Alleged violations of the spectrum of rights over the reporting period demonstrate the critical need for the establishment of an effective international mechanism for regular independent, impartial and sustained human rights monitoring and reporting within a clear mandate covering the entire Territory and the refugee camps. This could be achieved by providing for regular human rights reporting through a component within MINURSO.