



**Middlesex
University
London**

**Middlesex University London | School of Law
The Burroughs | London NW4 4BT | United Kingdom**

William Schabas OC MRIA
Professor of international law
Director, Doctoral Institute

w.schabas@mdx.ac.uk
☎ +44 (0) 2084 114314 📠 +44 (0) 2082 038728

HE Joachim R  cker
President, Human Rights Council

Your excellency,

I understand that you will be meeting with the Bureau of the Human Rights Council later today in order to consider the complaint by Israel calling for my removal from the Commission of Inquiry. Would you be kind enough to draw the following to the attention of the members of the Bureau.

In late-October 2012, the 'Negotiations Affairs Department/Palestinian Negotiations Support Project' of the Palestine Liberation Organisation asked me to provide a legal opinion on issues concerning accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. The legal opinion was to consider the consequences of a UN General Assembly resolution upgrading Palestine's status to that of a non-member state on the declaration that was lodged by Palestine with the International Criminal Court in January 2009 as well as whether accession should include acceptance of the amendments to the Statute adopted at Kampala and how the territorial jurisdiction of the Court might be applied. These are matters on which, as one of the academic specialists on the subject of the Rome Statute, I have frequently expressed myself in lectures and in publications. A 7-page opinion was provided on 28 October 2012 and I received remuneration of \$1,300, as previously agreed. I have done no other consultation and provided no other opinions for the State of Palestine, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation or any other related body, either before or after.

If you decide to proceed to an examination of the merits of Israel's complaint, I would like to reserve my right to make additional submissions.

Yours sincerely,

William Schabas OC MRIA

c.c. HE High Commissioner for Human Rights