



***The Geneva based Human Rights Mechanisms,  
the Way Forward***

**A Retreat for Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives of Arab States in  
Geneva (November 8<sup>th</sup> – November 9<sup>th</sup>)**

**Programme**

**1<sup>st</sup> day, Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

<b>9:30</b>	<b>Departure from the Geneva Centre to the Château de Lucens (Lucens, rue du Château 12)</b>
<b>11:00</b>	<b>Arrival at the Château de Lucens &amp; logistic information</b>
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:00 – 14:15</b>	<b>Mr. Imad Zuhairi, General Presentation of the Geneva Centre</b>
<b>14:15 – 15:00</b>	<b>Opening session</b>  H.E. Dr. Hanif Al-Qassim, Welcome Address / Opening Statement  H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Khamlichi, Arab League Statement  H.E. Ambassador Obaid Salem Saeed Al Zaabi, the Arab Council of Ambassadors Presidency Statement  Hon. Judge Fatsah Ouguerouz, General Introduction
<b>15:00 – 16:45</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> session: Charter Based Mechanisms</b>  H.E. former Ambassador Idriss Jazairy, Presentation of his study <i>“In Defence of Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council: An Alternative Narrative from the South”</i>
<b>16:45 – 17:15</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>17:15 – 19:00</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> session: Treaty Based Mechanisms</b>  Dr. Ahmed Aoued, Presentation on Treaty Bodies’s work- relation with states: <i>“Between obligations, culture and sovereignty”</i>

<b>19:00 – 19:45</b>	<b>Optional Activities:</b> Guided tour of the medieval Château at moonlight
<b>19:45 – 20:30</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>20:30 – 22:00</b>	<b>Dinner</b> hosted by H.E. Dr. Hanif Al-Qassim, Chairman of the Board of the Geneva Centre
<b>22:00</b>	<b>Informal discussions</b>

**2<sup>nd</sup> day, Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

<b>7:30 – 8:45</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>9:00 – 11:00</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> session : Ways forward</b>  Mr. Imad Zuhairi , Wrap-up of discussions from the first day and opening discussion  Interactive session for Ambassadors (in Camera) <sup>1</sup>
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11:30 – 13:00</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> session: Conclusions</b>  Final discussion and conclusions, Mr. Imad Zuhairi, Rapporteur  H.E. Dr. Hanif Al-Qassim, Concluding Statement
<b>13:00 –13:15</b>	<b>Group Photography</b>
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>15:00 – 16:00</b>	<b>Final discussion and conclusion:</b> Resuming of the session if needed
<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>Check out</b>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>Departure to Geneva</b>

<sup>1</sup> The outcome of the meeting will be summarised in an informal document (which will also respect the 'Chatham House' spirit of the meeting) presenting some of the key messages, ideas and recommendations.