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Letter dated 23 September 1991 from the Permanent Representative
of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request that the resolutions adopted by the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference held at Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 29 April to 4 May 1991, be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 12, 33, 35, 37, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 67, 69, 92 and 98.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador

ANNEX

Resolutions adopted by the 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference held at Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from 29 April to 4 May 1991

ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO VITALIZE PEACE ACTIONS IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE PERSIAN GULF

(Resolution adopted by 889 votes to 29, with 37 abstentions)*

The 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling all the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council on the situation in the Near and Middle East including the Persian Gulf, which, according to the United Nations Charter, must be applied by all member States,

Also recalling all the resolutions adopted by the Conferences of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, especially the 77th Conference (Managua) and the 84th Conference (Punta del Este), which reaffirm in particular the right of all nations to safeguard their territorial integrity and the inviolability of international borders,

Affirming its commitment to a world order established under the authority of the United Nations and based on the principles of observance of international law, arbitration, respect for human rights, the sovereignty of States, the right of peoples to self-determination and the existence of democratic parliamentary institutions,

Bearing in mind the vital need to ensure just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the implementation of all Security Council resolutions concerning this region, and aware that the existing climate is propitious to the achievement of this goal,

Noting that the Middle East is a land of great spirituality as the birthplace of the great monotheistic religions, and the cradle of great civilizations, and that by reason of that unique situation the men and women of the region should be able to overcome their antagonisms and live in peace,

Deeply disturbed by the distressing situation of innumerable refugees in the region,

Concerned by the grave violations of human rights in the occupied territories of Palestine, which constitute a serious threat to peace and security in the Middle East, and stressing the need for effective monitoring of these violations by the United Nations, in conformity with paragraphs 7 and 8 of Security Council resolution 681,

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- *- The delegation of the United Arab Emirates expressed reservations on the eighth preambular paragraph.
- The delegation of Iraq expressed reservations on the eighth preambular paragraph and on operative paragraphs 10 and 16.
 - The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed reservations on operative paragraphs 3, 4 and 18.

Also concerned by the grave violations of the human rights of the Palestinians in Kuwait, the Kurds and Turkmens in Iraq and other oppressed minorities,

Deplores the disastrous damage to the environment caused by the Gulf war, which could very well have long-term, if not irreversible, effects,

1. Welcomes the re-establishment of Kuwait's sovereignty in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council;
2. Reiterates its belief that the convening of the international conference on peace in the Middle East, under United Nations auspices, provides a framework for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict;
3. Affirms the need to implement all UN Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);
4. Stresses the right of every State in the area, including Israel, to live in peace within secure and recognized borders, safe from threats or acts of force;
5. Urges Israel to implement the United Nations resolutions and to withdraw unconditionally from the occupied Arab territories of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and South Lebanon;
6. Calls for an end to the establishment, development and planning of settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and recommends that existing settlements be dismantled;
7. considers that the Palestinian people is entitled to national independence (resolution of the 1974 UN General Assembly), and that its legitimate rights must be recognized, namely, its right to a homeland, to self-determination and to create an independent State on its territory;
8. Supports the national reconciliation process in Lebanon as a means of re-establishing that State's sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity, and calls for the departure of all foreign troops from the country;
9. Invites each State to respect the personality and cultural, ethnic and linguistic identity of all minorities living on its territory;
10. Requests that the Kurdish, Turkmen and other populations that have been forced to leave their countries be able to return, under United Nations auspices, to their respective countries and live there in total security;
11. Calls on the United Nations to provide effective guarantees for the rights of all minorities;

12. Invites all parties involved to consider the possibility of setting up a mechanism similar to that of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in order to foster dialogue and détente in the region, thereby facilitating the settlement of unresolved questions in the Middle East that relate to the fields covered by the three CSCE "baskets";
13. Supports the Executive Committee's initiative to organize a conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on co-operation and security in the Mediterranean, which would contribute to the elimination of hotbeds of tension in the region;
14. Invites Governments to refuse authorization for arms exports to dictatorial régimes and to all countries that fail to respect human rights, and to adopt stringent regulations concerning products that may be used for both civilian and military purposes;
15. Calls on the Parliaments and Governments of the world to provide aid to the populations that are the victims of the events in the Middle East;
16. Urges the Security Council to decide without delay to lift the embargo against Iraq, in accordance with Security Council resolution 687, and to take effective measures to assist the Iraqi populations living in distressing circumstances, excluding the provision of arms and all materials which can be used for military purposes;
17. Invites all States in the area to facilitate efforts by the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as well as by relief agencies, to assist prisoners of war, refugees and the victims of hostilities;
18. Requests all Parliaments and Governments to use their influence to secure the immediate and unconditional release of the hostages still held in Lebanon and elsewhere;
19. Considers that parliamentarians have a role to play in bringing together the peoples of the region and their cultures so as to foster mutual acknowledgement of the value and diversity of each one of them;
20. Calls on all nations to co-operate in repairing the damage to the environment caused by the Gulf war, and urges the international community to seek measures to prevent the recurrence of acts that may cause serious damage to the environment;
21. Recommends that the Union's Committee on Middle East Questions should continue its work and report at the next session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council on steps taken under this resolution and, to this end, invites all countries to co-operate with this Committee.

**ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO VITALIZE PEACE ACTIONS
 IN THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE PERSIAN GULF**

Vote on the resolution

Results of the vote

Affirmative votes889
 Negative votes 29
 Abstentions 37

	YES	NO	ABS		YES	NO	ABS		YES	NO	ABS
Algeria	14	-	-	Greece	12	-	-	Peru	10	-	-
Angola	10	-	-	Guatemala	absent			Philippines	absent		
Argentina	15	-	-	Hungary	13	-	-	Poland	15	-	-
Australia	13	-	-	India	20	-	-	Portugal	absent		
Austria	-	-	12	Indonesia	21	-	-	Rep. of Korea	16	-	-
Bangladesh	19	-	-	Iran (Islamic Rep)	10	6	-	Romania	14	-	-
Belgium	absent			Iraq	13	-	-	San Marino	10	-	-
Bolivia	absent			Ireland	11	-	-	Senegal	absent		
Brazil	absent			Israel	-	11	-	Spain	15	-	-
Bulgaria	absent			Italy	17	-	-	Sri Lanka	13	-	-
Cameroon	13	-	-	Jamaica	11	-	-	Sweden	12	-	-
Canada	11	1	2	Japan	20	-	-	Switzerland	12	-	-
Cape Verde	10	-	-	Jordan	11	-	-	Syrian Arab Rep.	13	-	-
Chile	10	-	-	Lao Peo.Dem.Rep.	11	-	-	Thailand	17	-	-
China	23	-	-	Libyan Ar.Jamahir.	absent			Tunisia	absent		
Côte d'Ivoire	12	-	-	Luxembourg	10	-	-	Turkey	17	-	-
Cuba	13	-	-	Malawi	-	-	12	Un.Arab Emirates	6	4	-
Cyprus	10	-	-	Malaysia	13	-	-	United Kingdom	13	4	-
Czechoslovakia	10	3	-	Malta	10	-	-	Un.Rep.Tanzania	14	-	-
Dem.Peo.Rep.Korea	13	-	-	Mexico	13	-	-	Uruguay	absent		
Denmark	12	-	-	Mongolia	11	-	-	USSR	22	-	-
Djibouti	10	-	-	Morocco	14	-	-	Venezuela	13	-	-
Ecuador	absent			Namibia	11	-	-	Viet Nam	10	-	-
Egypt	17	-	-	Netherlands	-	-	10	Yemen	13	-	-
Ethiopia	10	-	-	New Zealand	11	-	-	Yugoslavia	14	-	-
Finland	12	-	-	Nicaragua	11	-	-	Zaire	15	-	-
France	17	-	-	Norway	10	-	1	Zambia	12	-	-
Germany	18	-	-	Pakistan	absent			Zimbabwe	12	-	-

NB. This list does not include certain delegations present at the Conference which were not entitled to vote by virtue of the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes.

**NEED TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND OTHER
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF ALL
STATES AND TO STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES IN
THE CONTEXT OF THE PROCESS OF DISARMAMENT**

(Resolution adopted without a vote)

The 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Convinced that Parliaments and parliamentarians make a significant contribution to efforts to prevent vertical and horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, to ensure the security of all States and to strengthen confidence-building measures in the context of the disarmament process,

Also convinced that the security of all States is determined by political, military, economic, social, ecological and civic education factors,

Mindful that peace is a prerequisite for the survival of mankind, the establishment of relations of understanding and friendship between peoples and the fulfilment of fundamental human rights,

Recognizing that the arms race leads to waste and destruction of significant material and intellectual resources and is therefore detrimental to social progress and the achievement of better living conditions for the world's population,

Believing that all nations have a fundamental interest in eliminating nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction because the existence of such weapons jeopardizes the vital security interests of all States,

Recalling that the arms race contradicts the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter, in particular respect for the sovereignty, the independence and territorial integrity of States, the prohibition of the threat or use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of States,

Reaffirming that protecting human and civil rights, guaranteeing basic freedoms and shaping societies in accordance with the principles of democracy, the rule of law and social well-being can contribute significantly towards internal and hence international peace,

Recalling the significance of the principles of international law, in particular respect for sovereignty, equality, political independence, territorial integrity and the right of peoples to self-determination,

Also recalling that the arms race is incompatible with the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes peacefully, that it is a negation of the principles of peaceful coexistence and détente among States and a rejection of international co-operation and understanding, and constitutes yet another barrier to the edification of a just and equitable new international order,

Noting with satisfaction that in recent years, a major breakthrough has occurred in disarmament owing to the establishment of a climate of détente between the great powers,

Deeply concerned that great powers, by taking certain initiatives with regard to disarmament, are in fact seeking to replace obsolete weapons with more sophisticated and powerful ones,

Deeply concerned also that some other States are devoting significant resources to acquiring nuclear, chemical or other weapons of mass destruction,

Convinced of the vital need to step up efforts made in the context of bilateral and multilateral negotiations, with a view to reaching concrete disarmament agreements and promoting the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that the elimination of the arms race and the achievement of any progress in disarmament and in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction presuppose rejection of all policies aimed at global or regional dominance by military force,

Reaffirming the view expressed in the Final Document of the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development that this relationship is close and multidimensional,

Recalling the recommendations of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Disarmament (Bonn, 21-25 May 1990) which stress the urgent need to consolidate disarmament efforts, reduce military spending and earmark the funds thus released for economic and social development,

Realizing that negotiations on conventional armed forces are an important aspect of arms control,

Calling for full adherence to the relevant international arms control agreements,

Recognizing the benefits of strictly peaceful and responsible uses of nuclear energy (generation of electricity, nuclear applications in medicine, agriculture, sciences), as well as the right of all States, without discrimination, to develop research on and the production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

1. Urges nuclear-weapon-States to meet their obligations to achieve complete nuclear disarmament;
2. Urges States to abstain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction;
3. Recognizes the need for improved security assurances by nuclear-weapon States to non-nuclear-weapon States regarding the non-use of nuclear weapons;
4. Urges all States not parties to the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to accede to it and to conclude the required safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA);

5. Reminds all States parties to the NPT which have not yet concluded IAEA safeguards agreements that the timely conclusion of safeguards agreements is an unqualified obligation of States parties, and urges them to conclude such agreements and put them into force as soon as possible;
6. Considers that the unsafeguarded nuclear programmes of States represent a threat to international peace and security, and urges all States which have not yet acceded to the NPT to do so;
7. Urges all States to ensure that their exports of nuclear material, equipment and technology to non-nuclear-weapon States do not assist any nuclear weapon programmes, and further urges the nuclear supplier States to require IAEA full-scope safeguards as a necessary condition for such exports;
8. Welcomes the continued improvements in the effectiveness and efficiency of IAEA safeguards, and urges that this process be maintained;
9. Recognizes that attacks on nuclear facilities could result in large releases of radioactivity with potentially grave consequences, and urges States participating in the Conference on Disarmament to co-operate with a view to finding a successful solution to this issue in the near future;
10. Calls on all States to become parties to the 1977 first Additional Protocol to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which forbids attacks on nuclear electrical generating facilities;
11. Welcomes the fact that international co-operation to strengthen nuclear safety and radiological protection has been stepped up since the Chernobyl accident, mainly under the auspices of the IAEA;
12. Urges all States with nuclear programmes to maintain the highest possible standards of nuclear safety and radiological protection and to strengthen international co-operation in assisting individual nations to establish the necessary policies and regulatory arrangements to ensure the safe use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;
13. Also urges the United Nations to continue its role in co-ordinating measures designed to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation, build confidence among States and further the entire disarmament process;
14. Welcomes regional approaches to non-proliferation, in particular the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones such as those established by the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco for Latin America and by the 1985 Treaty of Rarotonga for the South Pacific;
15. Expresses the hope that further initiatives will be forthcoming, in particular to turn the Mediterranean and the Near and Middle East into a denuclearized zone;

16. Urges Governments to make substantial reductions in their military budgets and to rechannel a significant proportion of the resources thus saved to social and economic development programmes, especially in Third World countries;
17. Invites all States to report military spending in accordance with the UN's international system for the standard reporting of military expenditures;
18. Calls for a meeting of the major arms exporters to encourage them to make a formal commitment to increased transparency and greater restraint in arms exports;
19. Welcomes the signing in November 1990 by 22 States of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, and calls for stronger conventional arms control measures to be implemented;
20. Encourages all Parliaments and Governments actively to promote the early conclusion of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) prohibiting nuclear testing by all countries in all environments for all times to achieve the ultimate objective of ridding the world of nuclear weapons and preventing nuclear proliferation;
21. Requests States which have not yet done so to accede to the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925 on the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Toxic or Similar Gases and Bacteriological Methods of Warfare and to the Convention of 10 April 1972 on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) Weapons and on their Destruction;
22. Stresses the urgent need for the speedy conclusion, in conformity with the recommendations of the Paris Conference (January 1989) on the prohibition of chemical weapons, of a convention banning the development, manufacturing, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons that is truly comprehensive, universal and verifiable;
23. Urges all States to make the broadest possible use of confidence-building measures and to display maximum transparency in their security arrangements, especially in times of political tension and crisis;
24. Recommends that States refrain from using the high seas or Third World countries as a dumping ground for their nuclear or toxic waste;
25. Calls for the provision of the necessary guarantees that outer space will be used only for peaceful purposes;
26. Urges Parliaments to give positive consideration to the Recommendations for Parliamentary Action adopted at the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Disarmament (Bonn, 21-25 May 1990), and to take action accordingly;
27. Requests the National Groups of all IPU member Parliaments to exert influence on their respective Governments to support the principles contained in this resolution.

POLICIES TO PUT AN END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND WOMEN

(Resolution adopted by acclamation)

The 85th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling the resolution of the 72nd Inter-Parliamentary Conference concerning the need for parliamentary and other action to formulate initiatives that will achieve equal rights and responsibilities for men and women,

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in which it was stated that violence against women was a major obstacle to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children,

Recalling that the United Nations has proclaimed 1994 as the International Year of the Family, and that family violence is a serious abuse of power within the family and of relationships of trust or dependency,

Recognizing that throughout the world, women and children constitute an enormous human resource potential for the political, economic and socio-cultural life of a nation,

Recognizing that violence and the threat of violence reflect and reinforce the unequal status of women, jeopardize their opportunities for full and equal participation in economic, social, cultural and political development, and are in direct contradiction to development and equality goals,

Recognizing that the continuing inequality between men and women perpetuates the economic and social dependency of women on men and limits women's full participation in society, thereby undermining the process of human development,

Recognizing that violence against women and children in both developed and developing countries is a serious and persistent worldwide problem which includes physical, psychological and sexual assault and abuse and affects all segments of society, regardless of class, income, culture, gender, age or religion,

Noting that exposure to family violence, especially during childhood, may produce long-term effects on attitudes and behaviour, including increased tolerance to violence in society as a whole,

Recognizing that family violence is often a recurring phenomenon, and aware that many offenders and victims were themselves abused as children and that the problem demands an early response to prevent recurrence,

Convinced that failure to take appropriate measures to put an end to violence in the family is tantamount to denying or condoning the practice and contributes to its persistence,

Noting that this grave problem largely occurs in domestic life, is a matter of public concern requiring a co-ordinated response, and therefore needs to be tackled openly,

Bearing in mind the need for information, research and standard definitions relating to violence against women and children,

Recognizing the need for common policies to focus on all victims, conscious that some forms of violence are systematic, continuous, may not be perceived as offences and may even be protected by social custom, religion or legislation, and aware that the complex problem of family violence is viewed differently by various cultures and must therefore be addressed with sensitivity to the cultural context in each country, bearing in mind that the protection of women and children must be paramount,

Deeply concerned about the plight of children and women subjected to the violence of war, especially indiscriminate attacks on civilian populations, attacks on refugee camps, mass killings and the recruitment of children as combat troops,

Deeply concerned by the gross imbalance between arms and aid expenditure and by the fact that the United Nations target for official development assistance of 0.7 percent of gross national product has not been attained,

1. Affirms that women and children are entitled to live in a safe environment;
2. Condemns the practice of violence in the family as a grave violation of the rights of women and children and a threat to their physical and mental well-being;
3. Declares that violence against children and women is a crime and that offenders should be held accountable for their behaviour;
4. Acknowledges that the elimination of violence requires a co-ordinated, multifaceted approach to dealing with attitudes towards violence and its causes and consequences;
5. Calls on Parliaments to enact and Governments to enforce legislation prohibiting all forms of violence against children and women, and to review its provisions and monitor their application on a regular basis in order to assess their impact on the problem of violence against children and women;
6. Calls on Parliaments to enact and Governments to enforce appropriate legal measures to protect children from violence while in the care of parents, legal guardians or any other care-givers;
7. Calls on all institutions to draft and apply urgently suitable codes of practice to eliminate sexual harassment;

8. Calls on Governments to adopt measures to improve the capacity of the criminal justice system to investigate and prosecute cases of violence, including:
- (a) Establishment, enforcement and monitoring of charging policies which require police to lay charges in all cases of family violence where reasonable and probable grounds exist for believing that an offence has been committed;
 - (b) Training programmes for members of the legal profession and the police to sensitize them to the unique circumstances of such cases;
 - (c) Raising awareness of the need to recruit more women in professions such as the police, the law, the judiciary and medicine, to work with female victims;
 - (d) Development of programmes in communities and/or institutions for male abusers and sex offenders, in order to make men accountable for their behaviour and prevent them from using violence against women and children;
 - (e) Amendment of Penal Codes in such a way as to classify physical and mental ill-treatment of women and children as offences, and sexual violence as a violation of the liberty and dignity of the person;
 - (f) Empowering the courts to impose appropriate sentences, which may include treatment and supervision, on those convicted of sexual and violent offences, including those who commit family violence;
9. Calls on Governments to provide adequate support services, mainly staffed by women, for assaulted women and children, to deal with the immediate crisis as well as the longer term impact created by the violence perpetrated against them, including:
- (a) Emergency and transition shelters designed to provide emergency accommodation and crisis services for battered women and their children;
 - (b) Health care, personal counselling, legal advice, access to financial services, social services and employment counselling for women who have left abusive situations;
 - (c) Development of housing initiatives to provide housing options for assaulted women who have left their abusive partners;
 - (d) Production of guidelines for professional workers providing appropriate assistance to victims of family violence;
10. Calls on Governments to establish services to intervene in situations of violence, in particular:

- (a) Support and counselling for families, in order to improve their ability to create a non-violent environment, with an emphasis on the principles of education, equality of rights and responsibilities between men and women as well as non-violent resolution of conflicts;
 - (b) Information for women about their legal rights and the resources available to them;
 - (c) Identification, reporting, referral, investigation, treatment and follow-up of instances of child maltreatment as well as appropriate facilities for the counselling and guidance of abandoned and physically and sexually abused children with a view to their rehabilitation;
11. Calls on Governments to adopt measures aimed at the prevention of family violence, including:
- (a) Use of the media to inform about violence against women and children, discouragement of sensational reporting of such crimes of violence, and public education campaigns to raise awareness and strengthen attitudes against violence and to encourage a positive image of the role of women;
 - (b) School curricula which foster positive gender roles and teach non-violent conflict resolution;
 - (c) Training and sensitizing of professionals, particularly those working in the fields of health, justice, education and social services, who come into contact with children and women who have experienced violence;
 - (d) Research into the causes, extent, effects and prevention of family violence and the effectiveness of intervention and treatment strategies;
 - (e) Development of accurate reporting systems including statistics illustrating gender and the relationship between victim and offender;
 - (f) Educating parents in responsible parenthood;
 - (g) Organization of marriage counselling services, in order to prepare couples to cope better with the responsibilities involved in marriage;
12. Calls on Governments and national and international organizations to develop standard definitions and terminology to facilitate the collection of data and exchange of information;
13. Calls on all Governments and national and international organizations and non-governmental organizations to take into account, in their development policies and programmes, the particular needs of all disadvantaged and vulnerable people;

14. Calls on all Governments to continue to implement measures to reduce the continuing inequality between men and women and the economic and social dependency of women on men;
15. Calls on Governments to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to examine the possibility of adding a protocol thereto in order to address the issue of violence against women;
16. Calls on all Governments, at the earliest possible date, to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and ensure that the necessary implementing legislation is adopted; to implement the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action from the World Summit for Children, to ensure that adequate financial resources are available for these purposes and to monitor the implementation of the Convention and the Summit Plan of Action;
17. Demands that Governments take effective steps to protect women and children against forced prostitution, drug trafficking, sex tourism, trafficking in women and any other form of criminal exploitation;
18. Calls on Governments and international relief agencies to distribute humanitarian aid in a manner which ensures that children and women receive food, medical care, housing and other basic services essential to their survival;
19. Condemns war, political persecution and terrorism, which are particularly fertile ground for violence against women and children, and urges Governments and international organizations to seek a consensus on strengthening international conventions and protocols to prohibit the recruitment of children into armed forces;
20. Calls on Governments and international organizations to give priority to extending international protection to refugee women and children, and encourages them to increase their capacity to respond to the needs of refugee and displaced women and children by stepping up and co-ordinating efforts;
21. Calls on Governments to take steps to resolve conflicts and disputes peacefully and to negotiate terms of settlement to protect children and women which ensure their continuing access to the necessities of life;
22. Invites Parliaments to adopt laws in conformity with the measures contained in this resolution, and calls on Governments to take practical measures to implement them.