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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
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Agenda item 8

FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Armenia*, Belgium*, Mexico and Senegal: draft resolution

6/... Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

Recalling General Assembly resolution 32/127 of 16 December 1977 and the subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, the latest being 61/167 of 19 December 2006,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/51 of 9 March 1993 and its subsequent resolutions in this regard,

Bearing in mind paragraph 5 (h) of General Assembly resolution 60/251 in which it was decided that the Council shall work in close cooperation with regional organizations,

* Non-member States of the Human Rights Council.

Bearing in mind also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, which reiterates, inter alia, the need to consider the possibility of establishing regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights where they do not already exist,

Reaffirming that regional arrangements play an important role in promoting and protecting human rights and should reinforce universal human rights standards, as contained in international human rights instruments,

1. *Welcomes* progress made by Governments in the establishment of regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights as well as their achievements in all regions of the world;

2. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene in 2008 a workshop for an exchange of views on good practices, added value and challenges for such regional arrangements, with the participation of representatives of the relevant regional and subregional arrangements from different regions, experts as well as all interested United Nations Member States, observers, national human rights institutions and representatives of non-governmental organizations;

3. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to report to the Council on the results of the workshop as well as other relevant elements on the implementation of the current resolution at a moment in conformity with the programme of work of the Council.
