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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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Agenda item 11

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF
WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Burundi, Canada, Costa Rica,
Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark*, Finland, France, Gambia,
Hungary*, Italy*, Lebanon*, Lesotho, Nigeria, Norway, Poland,
Russian Federation, Sudan, Sweden* Switzerland*, United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America,
Venezuela and Zambia: draft resolution

1993/... Internally displaced persons

The Commission on Human Rights,

Mindful of its responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations to
promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments as
well as of international humanitarian law,

Deeply disturbed by the large number of internally displaced persons
throughout the world and conscious of the serious problem this is creating for
the international community,

Recognizing that internally displaced persons are in need of relief
assistance and of protection,

* In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of
the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Conscious of the human rights as well as the humanitarian dimensions of internally displaced persons,

Aware of the absence of a focal point within the United Nations system to gather information on the situation of the internally displaced persons and also of the absence of a funding mechanism,

Recalling its resolution 1992/73 of 5 March 1992, in which it requested the Secretary-General to designate a representative to seek again views and information from all Governments on the human rights issues related to internally displaced persons, including an examination of existing international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law and standards and their applicability to the protection of and relief assistance to internally displaced persons,

Noting with appreciation the efforts undertaken by the Representative of the Secretary-General to prepare the study, in implementation of his mandate in the short time available to him,

Welcoming the active participation of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the missions of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the former Yugoslavia,

Noting that the Representative of the Secretary-General has identified a number of tasks requiring further attention and study including the compilation of existing rules and norms and the question of general guiding principles to govern the treatment of internally displaced persons, in particular their protection and the provision of relief assistance, and also noting his suggestions and recommendations including those relating to vulnerable groups, particularly women and children,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the comprehensive study contained in the annex to the note by the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1993/35) and of the useful suggestions and recommendations contained therein;

2. Commends the Representative of the Secretary-General for his study and for the way he has started to discharge his mandate;

3. Expresses its appreciation to Governments, in particular those which enabled the Representative to undertake on-site visits, as well as to bodies, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, and to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the cooperation extended to the Representative of the Secretary-General;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to mandate his Representative for a period of two years to continue his work aimed at a better understanding of the general problems faced by internally displaced persons and their possible long-term solutions, with a view to identify, where required, ways and means for improved protection for and assistance to internally displaced persons;

5. Encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General to intensify in this regard his dialogue with governments and to cooperate and coordinate with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

6. Welcomes the cooperation already established between the Representative of the Secretary-General and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights, and encourages the continuation of this cooperation;

7. Calls upon all Governments, regional intergovernmental organizations, the Department for Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organization for Migration, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to continue to cooperate with the Representative and assist him in his tasks and activities;

8. Further calls upon all Governments to continue to facilitate the tasks and activities of the Representative, including, where appropriate, through extending invitations for country visits;

9. Requests the Representative of the Secretary-General to submit annual reports on his activities to the Commission on Human Rights and to the General Assembly and to make any suggestions and recommendations enabling him to better carry out his tasks and activities;

10. Decides to continue consideration of the question on internally displaced persons at its fiftieth session.
