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**SPECIFIC GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS: MASS EXODUSES AND
DISPLACED PERSONS**

**Afghanistan*, Albania*, Angola*, Armenia*, Australia*, Austria*,
Azerbaijan*, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Bulgaria*,
Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus*, Democratic Republic of the Congo,
Denmark*, Finland*, Georgia*, Germany, Greece*, Hungary*,
Iceland, Ireland*, Italy, Liechtenstein*, Lithuania*, Luxembourg,
Malta*, Mexico, Netherlands*, Norway, Poland, Portugal,
Slovak Republic*, Slovenia*, South Africa, Spain, Sweden*,
Switzerland*, Thailand, United States of America:
draft resolution**

2001/... Internally displaced persons

The Commission on Human Rights,

Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world who do not receive adequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenge this is creating for the international community,

* 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 and humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address their specific protection and assistance needs,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex),

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 2000/53 of 25 April 2000, and General Assembly resolution 54/167 of 17 December 1999, as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights, regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

Recalling further the statement by the President of the Security Council of 13 January 2000 (S/PRST/2000/1) which emphasized that national authorities have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction,

Noting the growing awareness of the international community of the issue of internally displaced persons worldwide and of the urgency of addressing the root causes of their displacement and of finding durable solutions, including voluntary return in safety and with dignity or local integration,

Noting with appreciation the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General in developing a normative framework, in particular the compilation and analysis of legal norms and the development of guiding principles; analysing institutional arrangements; undertaking dialogue with Governments; and issuing a series of reports on particular country situations together with proposals for remedial measures,

Welcoming the cooperation established between the Representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations as well as other international and regional organizations, in particular the participation of the Representative in the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better assistance, protection and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons (E/CN.4/2001/5 and Add.1-3);
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, despite the limited resources available to him, and for the catalytic role he continues to play to raise the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons;
3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have provided assistance and protection to internally displaced persons and have supported the work of the Representative of the Secretary-General;
4. *Commends* the Representative of the Secretary-General for his efforts to promote a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention, as well as better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;
5. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to strengthen protection, assistance and solutions for the internally displaced, taking into account specific situations, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;
6. *Welcomes* the fact that the Representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard;
7. *Notes with appreciation* that an increasing number of States, United Nations agencies, and regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles, encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles, expresses its appreciation for the dissemination and promotion of the Guiding Principles at regional and other seminars on displacement, and encourages the Representative to continue to initiate or support such seminars in consultation with regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions, and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and use of the Guiding Principles;
8. *Welcomes* the specific attention paid by the Representative of the Secretary-General to the special assistance, protection and development needs of internally

displaced women and children and his commitment to pay more systematic and in-depth attention to women, children and other groups with specific needs among the internally displaced, and to the strategies for addressing such concerns;

9. *Thanks* Governments which have invited the Representative of the Secretary-General to visit their countries and encourages them to follow up on his recommendations and suggestions and to make available information on measures taken thereon;

10. *Calls upon* all Governments to facilitate the activities of the Representative of the Secretary-General, in particular those Governments with situations of internal displacement which have not yet extended invitations or responded positively to requests for information from the Representative;

11. *Also calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons, and to facilitate the efforts of relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in these respects, including by further improving access to internally displaced persons;

12. *Stresses* the importance of appropriate follow-up to the recommendations of the Representative by Governments as well as by the relevant parts of the United Nations system in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, including at the country level;

13. *Also stresses* the need to further strengthen inter-agency arrangements and the capacities of relevant United Nations agencies to meet the immense humanitarian challenge of internal displacement, and calls upon States to provide adequate resources for programmes to assist and protect internally displaced persons;

14. *Encourages* the Representative of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the International Committee of the Red Cross and all other relevant humanitarian assistance and development organizations, including non-governmental organizations, further to enhance their collaboration and coordination;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to internally displaced persons in the consolidated inter-agency appeals process and encourages further efforts to improve the integration of the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons in consolidated appeals;

16. *Welcomes* the establishment of the global internally displaced persons database, as advocated by the Representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Governments to continue to collaborate on and support this effort, including by providing financial resources;

17. *Also welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, to address the assistance, protection and development needs of internally displaced persons and encourages them and other regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Representative of the Secretary-General;

18. *Further welcomes* the attention paid by relevant special rapporteurs, working groups, experts and treaty bodies to issues of internal displacement, and calls upon them to continue to seek information on situations which have already created or could create internal displacement and to include relevant information and recommendations thereon in their reports and make them available to the Representative of the Secretary-General;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop projects, in cooperation with Governments, relevant international organizations and the Representative of the Secretary-General, to promote the human rights of internally displaced persons, as part of the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation, and to include in her report to the Commission information on their implementation;

20. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Representative of the Secretary-General for a further three years;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide his Representative, from within existing resources, with all necessary assistance to carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to seek the contribution of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to put the work of the Representative on a more stable basis;

22. *Requests* the Representative of the Secretary-General to continue to report on his activities to the General Assembly and to the Commission on Human Rights;

23. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of internal displacement at its fifty-eighth session.

24. *Recommends* the following draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption:

The Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/... of ... April 2001, endorses the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons for a further three years.
