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DRAFT INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND MEASURES OF IMPLEMENTATION

Observations by the Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees

The following is the text of a note transmitted by the Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees in his letter of 20 March 1952.

1. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees would appreciate it if the Commission on Human Rights would, in its deliberations at its eighth session, consider the observations on the draft International Covenant on Human Rights contained in document E/2085/Add.1.
2. Among the questions referred to in those observations, the question of the right of asylum is of particular importance to refugees. The High Commissioner for Refugees expresses the hope that the Commission on Human Rights will consider this question at its eighth session, and will in these considerations take account of the observations made in the document referred to above and in document E/1880/Annex F, containing the observations of the Director-General of the International Refugee Organization, with which the High Commissioner for Refugees associated himself (document E/CN.4/256). In addition, reference is made to a communication from the Director-General of the International Refugee Organization which was submitted to the sixth session of the Commission (document E/CN.4/392 and E/CN.4/392/Corr.1). This communication, too, referred to the question of the right of asylum which, however, was not considered by the Commission at that nor at its following session.
3. With regard to measures of implementation of the Covenant on Human Rights, and in particular with regard to the reporting system, the High

Commissioner for Refugees expresses the hope that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or any other agency of the United Nations which may succeed it in the exercise of its functions, will be included in the system of implementation and reporting developed by the Commission as regards those provisions of the Covenant (Covenants) which are of special concern for the agency entrusted with the international protection of refugees. This refers particularly to the right of asylum, which the High Commissioner for Refugees hopes will be embodied in the Covenant.
