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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities

Thirty-sixth session

Agenda item 6

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS
INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF
APARTHEID; IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL
AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE
SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Written statement submitted by the International Federation
of Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in
consultative status (category II)

Keeping in mind that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted and proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948, "as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction". Article 2 of this Declaration sets out the basic principle of equality and non-discrimination, as regards the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Recalling that one of the United Nations objectives proclaimed in Article 55 of the Charter of the United Nations, which is on international economic and social co-operation, provides that the United Nations, shall promote "universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without any distinction as to race, sex, language or religion", was adopted "with a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples".

Recalling that the International Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights and the International Covenant on civil and political rights provide specifically, in article 1 of each, that "all peoples have the right of

self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development".

Recognizing that the IFHR estimates it is its responsibility to alert international opinion, particularly through United Nations bodies, about violations of human rights committed by the States of Turkey, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Iraq in colonizing Kurdistan, without any consideration as regards the dignity and the fundamental rights of the Kurdish people on its territory. The gravity of this situation allowed the IFHR to send several inquiry missions to Kurdistan, especially to Kurdistan of Turkey, and also to raise this question at several occasions, particularly at the thirty-fifth session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in 1982, at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights in 1983 (E/CN.4/1983/NGO/16), and at the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, 1-12 August 1983 (A/CONF.119/CRP.2) (see Appendix),

The IFHR respectfully requests the Members of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to take paragraphs 2, 4 and 6 of resolution 8 (XXIII) of the Commission on Human Rights into consideration and to appoint a special reporter who will submit to the Sub-Commission an elaborate and detailed study including information on situations revealing constant and systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Kurdistan of Turkey, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq.

The IFHR also requests of the Members of the Sub-Commission to take adequate measures in order that the Kurdish people enjoys its fundamental rights, in particular, its right of self-determination, proclaimed in article 1 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

APPENDIX

- I Report of the mission in Turkey effected by the IFHR from 30 April to 16 May 1983. (Fr)
- II Oral intervention of the IFHR at the thirty-fifth session of the Sub-Commission. (Eng/Fr)
- III Written declaration presented by the IFHR at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, document E/CN.4/1983/NGO/16. (Eng/Fr)
- IV Written statement submitted by the IFHR to the Second World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, 1-12 August 1983 (A/CONF.119/CRP.2). (Eng)
- V Signatures, ratifications, accessions etc. of the States of Turkey, Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq.
- VI Geo-political map of Kurdistan.
- VII Report of the Cultural Survival Inc. about racial discrimination in Kurdistan of Iraq, 7 July 1983 (34 pages). (Eng)
- VIII Resolution 794 (1983) of the Council of Europe, relating to the situation in Turkey. (Eng/Fr)
- IX Report of the Council of Europe on the situation in Turkey, 14 January 1983, document 5008 revised. (Fr)

The documents are available for consultation in the secretariat.