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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PREVENTION OF
DISCRIMINATION AND THE PROTECTION
OF MINORITIES

Third session

Revised text of the draft resolution on genocide submitted by Mr. Spanien

The Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection
of Minorities,

Considering that the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the
Crime of Genocide, whilst open to desirable improvements, constitutes an important
instrument for the defence of the rights and freedoms which it is designed to
safeguard;

Whereas it is desirable that the Convention should enter into force as soon
as possible;

Considering that, although it is not for the Sub-Commission to promote or
accelerate the ratifications and accessions provided for under the terms of the
Convention, it is entitled to recommend that, after a reasonable period has
elapsed, a list of the States which have ratified the Convention should be
published in order to keep world opinion informed;

Expresses the hope that the Economic and Social Council will take all
necessary steps to enable the International Law Commission to fulfil in the
shortest possible time the task entrusted to it of laying the foundations for an
international judicial organ;

And considering that, while various States Members have removed a certain
number of guarantees from the Convention, they did so in the belief that these
guarantees concerned the defence of human rights, the prevention of discrimination
and the protection of minorities, and should properly be included in instruments
dealing with these particular fields;

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Requests the Commission on Human Rights to take these circumstances into account when deciding upon the measures of implementation and the procedure for appeal to be adopted, in order that rights eminently deserving of respect should be in no danger of omission from the various documents which may concern them;

And in conclusion, being anxious not to leave completely unprotected political groups not covered by the specific purpose of the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the Sub-Commission decides to include the definition and protection of political groups in its programme of future work.

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