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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 10 (a)

QUESTION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS SUBJECTED TO ANY FORM OF
DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT, IN PARTICULAR: TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL,
INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT

Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark*,
Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece*, Hungary*, Iceland*, Ireland*,
Italy*, Liechtenstein*, Luxembourg*, Netherlands, New Zealand*, Norway*,
Peru, Poland, Senegal*, Slovakia*, Spain*, Sweden*, Switzerland*,
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States
of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

1993/... United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and
article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which
state that no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or
degrading treatment or punishment,

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

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, in which the Assembly noted with deep concern that acts of torture took place in various countries, recognized the need to provide assistance to the victims in a purely humanitarian spirit and established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, and Assembly resolution 47/109 of 16 December 1992,

Reaffirming the importance of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

Bearing in mind its resolution 1992/27 of 28 February 1992,

Convinced that the struggle to eliminate torture includes the provision of assistance in a humanitarian spirit to the victims of torture and their families,

Taking note of the information provided by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (A/47/662),

Taking note also of the actions taken by the Secretary-General, through the staff of the Centre for Human Rights, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to increase public awareness of the Fund and its humanitarian work,

Taking note with appreciation of the consolidated report submitted by the Secretary-General entitled "Ten Years of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture" (E/CN.4/1993/23),

Recalling the statement by the Board of Trustees of the Fund on the need to receive contributions from Governments on a regular basis, which, inter alia, would prevent the interruption of programmes in the continuation of which the Fund plays an instrumental role,

Taking account of the fund-raising campaign launched on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees at its eleventh session, held from 22 April to 1 May 1992, to enhance the capacity of the Fund to respond more favourably to the increasing number of requests for assistance to victims of torture,

Taking account also of the repeated requests by the Board of Trustees of the Fund to receive for the operations of the Fund adequate staff, as well as computer equipment to process efficiently the increasing number of projects in the programme portfolio of the Fund,

Noting with satisfaction that international centres for the rehabilitation of torture victims have been established which play an

important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and noting the collaboration of the Fund with these centres,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture for the work it has carried out;
2. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to those Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the Fund;
3. Appeals to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund, on a regular basis if possible and to the fund-raising campaign launched in 1992;
4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of arranging a special pledging session for the Fund in the context of the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993;
5. Renews its request to the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the Commission on Human Rights for contributions to the Fund;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and computer equipment for the operations of the Fund;
7. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Commission informed of the operations of the Fund on an annual basis.
