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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 11

FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE
PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Australia, China, France, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of),
New Zealand*, Philippines*, Republic of Korea and
Sri Lanka: draft resolution

1993/... Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection
of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolutions 41/153 of
4 December 1986, 43/140 of 8 December 1988 and 45/168 of 18 December 1990,
affirmed the value of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection
of human rights in the Asian and Pacific region,

Recalling also its resolutions 1988/73 of 10 March 1988, 1989/50 of
7 March 1989, 1990/71 of 7 March 1990, 1991/28 of 5 March 1991 and 1992/40 of
28 February 1992,

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

Taking note of resolution 45/2 adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on 5 April 1989,

Bearing in mind that intergovernmental arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights have been established in other regions,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that could be made by national institutions in the field of human rights to the concept of regional arrangements,

Recognizing also that non-governmental organizations may have a valuable role to play in this process,

Taking note with interest of the report of the Asia-Pacific Workshop on Human Rights Issues, National Institutions and Regional Arrangements, held in Jakarta, from 26 to 28 January 1993 and particularly its Chairman's concluding remarks,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/1993/31) and the progress achieved in the implementation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/40;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to maintain a continuing flow of human rights materials to the library of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

3. Encourages all States members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other parties to make full use of the depositary centre of that organization;

4. Encourages once again United Nations development agencies in the Asian and Pacific region to coordinate with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in their efforts to promote the human rights dimension in their activities;

5. Welcomes the regional workshops on various human rights issues which have been held in the Asian and Pacific region, namely the "Seminar on National, Local and Regional Arrangements for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian Region", Colombo, 21 June-2 July 1982, "First Asia-Pacific Workshop on Human Rights", Manila, 7-11 May 1990, and "Second Asia-Pacific Workshop on Human Rights Issues", Jakarta, 26-28 January 1993, all of which focused on national institutions and regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights;

6. Takes note with particular interest of the decision and preparatory steps being taken towards the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights by the Governments of India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand;

7. Welcomes the interest of some Governments in the region to host an Asian-Pacific regional meeting in 1993/1994 to follow up discussion on the region's consultative mechanism and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to facilitate the realization of that activity under the regular budget for advisory services and technical cooperation;

8. Encourages all States in the Asian and Pacific region to consider further the establishment of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region, taking into account the various approaches and mechanisms identified in the Chairman's concluding remarks of the Second Asia-Pacific Workshop held in Jakarta;

9. Appeals to all Governments in the Asian and Pacific region to consider making use of the possibility offered by the United Nations to organize, under the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights, information and/or training courses at the national level for appropriate government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international organs;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to give adequate attention to the countries in the Asian and Pacific region in benefiting from all the activities under the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights, particularly in the light of interest in the region in developing national institutions and regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights;

11. Encourages all States in the Asian and Pacific region to consider ratifying or acceding to the various human rights instruments;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to consult the States in the Asian and Pacific region on the widest possible basis in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its fiftieth session a further report incorporating information on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution;

14. Decides to continue its consideration of the question at its fiftieth session under the agenda item entitled "Further promotion and encouragement of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the question of the programme and methods of work of the Commission".
