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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

Bangladesh, Bhutan*, China, India, Indonesia, Iran
(Islamic Republic of), Jordan*, Malaysia,
Myanmar*, Nepal*, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sudan,
Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen*: draft resolution

1993/... Documentation and appointments

A

Documentation

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/14 C dated 16 November 1982 and
47/202 B dated 22 December 1992,

Aware of increasingly severe difficulties regarding timely distribution
of Commission on Human Rights documents,

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

Noting that pre-session distribution of substantive reports, including in particular those of the special representatives, special rapporteurs, independent experts and thematic working groups, is necessary to allow thorough, meaningful and reliable consideration by members of the Commission,

Bearing in mind that excessive length of reports is a significant problem in the timely distribution of documents as they generally exceed the desirable 32-page limit established by the relevant United Nations resolutions,

1. Decides that all reports to the Commission should follow the General Assembly standards and guidelines and that they should, as much as possible, not exceed the desirable 32-page limit;

2. Requests the secretariat to do its utmost to ensure that substantive documents, in particular the reports of the special representatives, special rapporteurs, independent experts and thematic working groups, are distributed in all official languages no less than six weeks before the consideration of the respective agenda item by the Commission;

3. Requests the special representatives, special rapporteurs and independent experts of the Commission to do their utmost to submit their reports in time to enable the secretariat to meet the objectives set out in this resolution;

4. Encourages countries which extend invitations to special representatives, special rapporteurs, independent experts and thematic working groups to take into account the contents of this resolution;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to enable the Centre for Human Rights to undertake these functions by ensuring that sufficient resources be accorded to the Centre for Human Rights;

6. Decides, in order to facilitate the timely distribution of documents, to authorize all special representatives, special rapporteurs, independent experts and thematic working groups to begin work immediately upon the initiation or extension of their mandates by the Commission, on the understanding that if the Economic and Social Council does not approve the Commission's initiation or extension of a mandate, work on that particular mandate shall cease;

7. Decides to keep the matter under review at its fiftieth session.

B

Appointments of special representatives, special rapporteurs
and independent experts

The Commission on Human Rights,

Affirming that the paramount consideration in the appointment of special representatives, special rapporteurs and independent experts of the Commission shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of making such appointments on as wide a geographical basis as possible;

Noting the present geographical imbalance in the appointments of special representatives, special rapporteurs and independent experts of the Commission and the desirability of addressing that situation;

1. Requests the Chairman of the Commission, in consultation with the Bureau, to do the utmost to ensure that while considering appointments of special representatives, special rapporteurs and independent experts of the Commission on the basis of the above-mentioned considerations due regard is paid to the appointments being made on as wide a geographical basis as possible, so that the present geographical imbalance is addressed.

2. Decides to review the implementation of this resolution at its fiftieth session on the basis of a report of the Chairman of the Commission.
