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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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QUESTION OF THE REALIZATION IN ALL COUNTRIES OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS CONTAINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, AND STUDY OF SPECIAL PROBLEMS WHICH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FACE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THESE HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING: PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE RIGHT TO ENJOY AN ADEQUATE STANDARD OF LIVING; FOREIGN DEBT, ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT POLICIES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE FULL ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND, IN PARTICULAR, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Human rights and the environment

The Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 43/196 of 20 December 1988, 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, 44/228 of 22 December 1989, 45/211 of 21 December 1990, 46/168 of 19 December 1991 and 47/190 of 22 December 1992,

Recalling also its resolutions 1993/90 of 10 March 1993 and 1994/65 of 9 March 1994,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (A/CONF.151/26, vol. I) and Agenda 21 (A/CONF.151/26, vol. II), adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on 14 June 1992,

Noting the need to adopt an integrated and balanced approach to the issues related to sustainable development, democracy and human rights,

Taking note of the reports submitted to the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities by its Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment, Mrs. Fatma Zohra Ksentini (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1992/7 and Add.1, E/CN.4/Sub.2/1993/7 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/9 and Corr.1),

Conscious of the important work undertaken on environment and development issues by the Commission on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant forums,

Considering that the promotion of an environmentally healthy world contributes to protection of the human rights to life and health of everyone, and reaffirming that in this connection States shall act in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,

Recognizing that illicit dumping of toxic and dangerous substances and waste potentially constitute a serious threat to the human rights to life and health of everyone, bearing especially in mind the vulnerability and concern of developing countries, and that States should adopt and vigorously implement existing conventions relating to the dumping of toxic and dangerous products and waste, and cooperate in the prevention of illicit dumping,

Reaffirming that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and developmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Reaffirming also the importance of promoting, facilitating and financing, as appropriate, the access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries,

1. Recognizes that many existing human rights and environmental instruments mentioned in the final report of the Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/9 and Corr.1) can be useful tools to ensure a healthy environment for all;

2. Calls upon States to implement effectively the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21 and those international environmental and human rights instruments to which they are parties;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its fifty-second session a report analysing which United Nations bodies, including the Commission on Sustainable Development, are addressing and would be best suited to address the issues raised in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission and the follow-up to that report, including the resource implications.
