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WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Vienna, 14-25 June 1993
Item 12 of the provisional agenda

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR:

- (a) STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS;
- (b) ENSURING THE UNIVERSALITY, OBJECTIVITY AND NON-SELECTIVITY OF THE CONSIDERATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES;
- (c) ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES AND MECHANISMS;
- (d) SECURING THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Message dated 7 June 1993 from Mr. B.N. Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation, addressed to the World Conference on Human Rights

I send greetings to participants in the World Conference on Human Rights.

The world community has at this time a unique opportunity to make a reality of the solemn promise given by the founders of the United Nations in its Charter - to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights and in the worth of the human person. This task is especially urgent in circumstances where there continue to be massive violations of human rights in the course of armed conflicts or as a result of discrimination against national minorities. Experience shows that without reliable protection of human rights there can be no lasting international peace.

Russia, having freed itself from communist totalitarianism, has made protection of human rights one of the fundamental goals of its domestic and foreign policy. The people of Russia confirmed this historic choice in the recent referendum. Today our country is about to adopt a new Constitution, which will provide guarantees of the rights of the individual meeting the highest international standards.

I hope that your Conference will promote further strengthening and universalization of the generally accepted principles of respect for human rights in all regions and contribute to the development of a general strategy of international humanitarian cooperation as we move towards the twenty-first century.

I wish you every success in your work.

B. Yeltsin
