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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 4

REVIEW OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN FIELDS WITH WHICH THE
SUB-COMMISSION HAS BEEN CONCERNED

Mrs. Attah, Mr. Bossuyt, Mrs. Daes, Mr. Despouy, Mr. Eide,
Mrs. Forero Ucros, Mr. Muksum-Ul-Hakim, Mr. Khalil and
Mr. Yimer: draft resolution

1993/... Traditional practices affecting the health of women and children

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of
Minorities,

Recalling its resolution 1991/23 of 29 August 1991, in which it recommended that the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Halima Embarek Warzazi, be extended for two years so as to enable her to submit to the Sub-Commission at its forty-fifth session a plan of action for the elimination of harmful traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, and a report on the regional seminar which will take place in Asia,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights decision 1992/109 of 28 February 1992 approving the above recommendations,

Considering that traditional practices adversely affecting the health of women and children, such as female genital mutilation, preference for male children and nutritional taboos, represent a gross violation of human rights,

Recognizing the important work accomplished in this domain by concerned non-governmental organizations,

Noting that States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child are enjoined to take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children,

Convinced that the work to promote and advance the principles contained in the International Bill of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments cannot succeed without the full enjoyment by women of all the human rights enshrined therein and full respect for those rights,

Noting that it was only in April 1993 that the Centre for Human Rights received a favourable reply from Sri Lanka on hosting the regional seminar for Asia,

1. Welcomes the offer of the Government of Sri Lanka;
2. Recommends the following draft decision to the Commission on Human Rights for adoption:

At its ... meeting, on ... 1993, the Commission on Human Rights, noting resolution 1993/... of ... August 1993 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, endorsed the recommendation of the Sub-Commission that:

(a) The subject of harmful traditional practices affecting the health of women and children be maintained on the agenda of the Sub-Commission in so far as they constitute violations of human rights within the meaning of the relevant provisions of the International Bill of Human Rights and many other international instruments, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(b) The mandate of the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Halima Embarek Warzazi, be extended for one year so as to enable her to submit to the Sub-Commission at its forty-sixth session a plan of action for the elimination of harmful traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, and a report on the regional seminar to take place in Asia;

(c) The Centre for Human Rights provide all the assistance that the Special Rapporteur might require in the exercise of the mandate entrusted to her in Sub-Commission resolution 1993/... .
