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REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON THE
FIFTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

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* Documents E/CN.4/1996/L.10 and addenda will contain the chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Economic and Social Council will be contained in documents E/CN.4/1996/L.11 and addenda.

XVII. ADVISORY SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS

1. The Commission considered agenda item 17 concurrently with item 8 (see chap. VIII) at its 31st to 41st meetings, from 10 to 11 April 1996, at its 39th to 41st meetings, on 15 April 1996, at its 53rd meeting, on 19 April 1996, and at its 58th meeting, on 23 April 1996. 1/
2. For the documents issued for the fifty-second session of the Commission under item 17, see annex IV to the present report.
3. At the 20th meeting, on 1 April 1996, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for human rights in Cambodia, Mr. Michael Kirby, introduced his report (E/CN.4/1996/93 and Add.1).
4. At the 32nd meeting, on 10 April 1996, statements were made by:
 - (a) Ms. Anne-Marie Lizin, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights;
 - (b) Mr. Adama Dieng, independent expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti, in introduction of his report (E/CN.4/1996/94);
 - (c) Ms. Mónica Pinto, independent expert on the situation of human rights in Guatemala, in introduction of her report (E/CN.4/1996/15);
 - (d) Mr. Mohammed Charfi, independent expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia, in introduction of his report (E/CN.4/1996/14).
5. In the general debate on agenda item 17, statements 3/ were made by the following members of the Commission: Australia (36th), Chile (36th), Colombia (32nd), India (32nd), Italy (on behalf of the European Union) (36th), Japan (31st), Malaysia (31st), Malta (33rd).
6. The Commission heard a statement by the observer for Togo (40th). Statements were also made by the observers for the International Committee of the Red Cross (33rd) and the United Nations Verification Mission for Human Rights in Guatemala (MINUGUA)(36th).
7. The Commission heard statements by the following non-governmental organizations: International Indian Treaty Council (41st), Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees (36th), World Federation of Democratic Youth (36th), World Peace Council (41st).
8. At its 53rd meeting, on 19 April 1996, the Commission took up consideration of the draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 17.

Situation of human rights in Cambodia

9. The representative of Australia introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.46, sponsored by Australia, Japan, Sweden and the United States of America. Austria, Belgium, Canada, El Salvador, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland subsequently joined the sponsors.

10. In accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the administrative and programme budget implications 2/ of the draft resolution.

11. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/54.

Advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights

12. The representative of Germany introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.67, sponsored by Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Ukraine. Benin, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Greece, Hungary, India, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America subsequently joined the sponsors.

13. The representative of Germany orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 1, after the words "inter alia," the following text was replaced with a new text: "assistance in the form of expert advice, fellowships and scholarships, seminars and training courses at the regional and national levels and the drafting of basic legal texts in conformity with international conventions on human rights, with a view to enhancing equality, the rule of law and democracy";

(b) In operative paragraph 2, after the words "for the effective management of the", replace the words "technical cooperation programme" by the words "programme of advisory services and technical cooperation";

(c) In operative paragraph 4, delete the words "including exchange of staff";

(d) In operative paragraph 5, replace the text after the words "United Nations Development Programme", reading "country programmes and in order to prepare and execute jointly individual projects benefiting from the opportunities offered by resident representatives of the Programme", by a new text;

(e) In operative paragraph 11, immediately after the words "the High Commissioner for Human Rights", add the words "/the Centre for Human Rights".

14. The draft resolution, as orally revised, was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/55.

Strengthening the rule of law

15. The representative of Brazil introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.68, sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Guatemala, Israel, Italy, Peru, Portugal, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Uruguay and Venezuela. Benin, Canada, Greece, Honduras, India, Madagascar, Mali, Togo and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland subsequently joined the sponsors.

16. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/56.

Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights

17. The representative of Italy introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.71, sponsored by Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania and Spain. Australia, Denmark, France, Finland, Japan and Sweden subsequently joined the sponsors.

18. In accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the administrative and programme budget implications 2/ of the draft resolution.

19. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/57.

Situation of human rights in Haiti

20. The representative of Venezuela introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.80, sponsored by Canada, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Haiti,

Mexico and Venezuela. Australia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Peru, Spain, the United States of America and Uruguay subsequently joined the sponsors.

21. The representative of Venezuela orally revised the draft resolution by adding, in operative paragraph 9, after the words "to ensure", the words "within existing resources".

22. In accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the administrative and programme budget implications 2/ of the draft resolution.

23. The draft resolution, as orally revised, was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/58.

Assistance to Guatemala in the field of human rights

24. The representative of Mexico introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.81, sponsored by Colombia, Denmark, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Spain, the United States of America and Venezuela. Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece and Uruguay subsequently joined the sponsors.

25. Statements were made by the representatives of Mexico and the Netherlands.

26. In accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the administrative and programme budget implications 2/ of the draft resolution.

27. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/59.

Situation of human rights in Togo

28. The Commission decided to postpone the voting on the draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.54 and Corr.1.

29. At the 58th meeting, on 23 April 1996, the representative of Gabon (on behalf of the African Group of States) introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/1996/L.54 and Corr.1, sponsored by Gabon (on behalf of the Group of African States). France, the Netherlands and Spain subsequently joined the sponsors.

30. The draft resolution was adopted without a vote. For the text of the resolution as adopted, see chapter II, section A, resolution 1996/67.
