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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 4 (b)

THE REALIZATION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS:
THE REALIZATION OF THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Attah, Mrs. Daes, Mr. Eide, Mr. El-Hajjé, Mrs. Forero Ucros,
Mr. Guissé, Mr. Mehedi and Mrs. Warzazi: draft resolution

1997/... Promotion of the realization of the right of access of
all to drinking water supply and sanitation services

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

Reaffirming the indivisibility, interdependence and interrelated nature
of economic, social and cultural rights and civil and political rights,

Mindful that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and a wide
range of additional texts provide unequivocally that all persons are entitled
to the full realization of economic, social and cultural rights,

Taking note of the Declaration on the Right to Development (General
Assembly resolution 41/128 dated 4 December 1986, annex),

Recalling section I, paragraph 10, of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (A/CONF.157/23), in which the World Conference on Human Rights, inter alia, reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of human rights, and urged States and the international community to promote effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of obstacles to development,

Taking account of the results of the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, especially the recommendations of its Programme of Action concerning the United Nations system (A/CONF.166/9), inter alia, the need to strengthen United Nations operational activities for development in order to implement the World Summit outcome, and the United Nations system's capacity for gathering and analysing information and developing indicators of social development, taking into account the work carried out by different countries, particularly by developing countries (para. 99 (e)),

Taking particular account of the provisions of chapter 18 of Agenda 21 on the protection of the quality and supply of fresh-water resources, the programme adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Aware that all States have legally binding obligations to respect, protect and fulfil economic, social and cultural rights,

Deeply concerned to note that 1.4 billion people in the world are still deprived of access to drinking water supply and that some 4 billion lack decent conditions of sanitation,

Affirming the right of each woman, man and child to access to drinking water supply and sanitation services in order to live in dignity, security and peace,

Taking into consideration the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990), and the celebration, on 22 March of each year, of the World Day for Water (General Assembly resolution 45/181 of 21 December 1990 and resolution 47/193 of 22 December 1992 respectively),

Bearing in mind the objectives of a "20-20" type compact concerning in particular the access of all to drinking water supply and sanitation services, as expressed in the UNDP "Human Development Report 1994",

Reiterating the fundamental principles of equality of opportunity, human dignity, equity and justice,

Reaffirming also the inherent link between the enjoyment of all human rights, in particular economic, social and cultural rights, and the right of each woman, man and child to have access to drinking water supply,

1. Reaffirms the Declaration on the Right to Development, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, where stress is laid on the multidimensional, integrated and dynamic character of this right which promotes partnership for development and constitutes a relevant framework for international cooperation and national action aimed at universal and effective observance of all human rights in their universality, indivisibility and interdependence;

2. Affirms that the global and multidimensional approach, as defined in the Declaration on the Right to Development, should constitute a basis for work to be carried on on the promotion of the realization of the right of access of all to drinking water supply and sanitation services;

3. Decides to entrust to Mr. El Hadji Guissé the task of drafting, without financial implications, a working paper on the question of the promotion of the realization of the right of access of all to drinking water supply and sanitation services;

4. Requests Mr. El Hadji Guissé to submit his working paper to it at its fiftieth session;

5. Decides to consider the question of the promotion of the realization of the right of access of all to drinking water supply and sanitation services under the agenda item entitled "The realization of economic, social and cultural rights", and to determine the most effective way of continuing consideration of the question of the promotion of the realization of this right.
