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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 14

SPECIFIC GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS:

MIGRANT WORKERS

Afghanistan*, Albania*, Bangladesh, Chile, El Salvador, Indonesia, Ireland*,
Madagascar, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Nicaragua*, Peru, Philippines, Portugal
and Sri Lanka: draft resolution

2000/... Violence against women migrant workers

Recalling all previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Human Rights, as well as the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,

Affirming the outcomes of the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, specifically as they pertain to women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for accurate, objective, comprehensive and comparable information, as well as for a wide and systematic exchange of experiences and lessons learned by individual countries in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers for policy formulation and joint action,

* In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of, inter alia, poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of sending States to work for conditions that provide employment and security to their citizens,

Deeply concerned over the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against the persons of women migrant workers by some employers in some host countries,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some receiving States to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Recognizing the importance of continued cooperation at the bilateral, regional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (E/CN.4/2000/76);
2. Welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (E/CN.4/2000/82), particularly the observations made on violence against women migrant workers, and encourages her to continue addressing the issue of violence against women migrant workers, in particular the problem of gender-based violence and of discrimination;
3. Takes note with appreciation of the workshop-seminar on “Migrant women, boys and girls” held in San Salvador on 25 and 26 February 2000 as part of the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference on Migration;
4. Calls upon concerned Governments, particularly those of countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide the victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelters and other measures that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, to safeguard their dignified return to the country of origin as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers;

5. Invites the States concerned, specifically countries of origin and destination, to consider adopting appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers in violation of their human dignity;

6. Encourages States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session a comprehensive follow-up report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers, taking into account the views of States and based on all available information from authorities and bodies within the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and other sources, including non-governmental organizations;

8. Decides to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session under the appropriate agenda item.
