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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-second session
Agenda item 2

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND
SEGREGATION IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE
TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES:
REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN
RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Mr. Bengoa, Ms. Daes, Mr. Eide, Mr. Fan Guoxiang, Mr. Fix-Zamudio,
Mr. Goonesekere, Mr. Guissé, Ms. Hampson, Mr. van Hoof, Mr. Kartashkin,
Ms. Mbonu, Mr. Oloka-Onyango, Mr. Pinheiro, Mr. Sik Yuen, Mr. Sorabjee,
Mr. Weissbrodt, Mr. Yimer, Mr. Yokota, Ms. Zerrougui: draft resolution

2000/.. Human rights and humanitarian consequences of sanctions, including
embargoes

The Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Recalling the principles and the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, the
International Bill of Human Rights and other relevant international and regional human rights
instruments,

Affirming the humanitarian principles contained in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and
to the two Additional Protocols thereto,

Recalling the principles established in the Declaration on Minimum Humanitarian
Standards (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/55, annex),

Noting General Comment 8 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the relationship between economic sanctions and respect for economic, social and cultural rights (E/C.12/1997/8), in which the Committee maintained that when a State is the target of sanctions, the international community must do everything possible to protect at least the core content of the economic, social and cultural rights of the affected people of that State,

Deeply concerned at reports from human rights and humanitarian organizations, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross, which refer to deteriorating humanitarian conditions in countries which have been affected by heavy sanctions, including embargoes, particularly as evidenced in increasing rates of child malnutrition and mortality and deteriorating health indicators,

Gravely disturbed at reports and reliable information from non-governmental organizations and other reliable sources concerning the serious consequences of embargoes, in particular for vulnerable groups, including children, elderly people, women, persons belonging to minorities and indigenous peoples,

1. Appeals to the Commission on Human Rights to consider recommending:

(a) To all competent organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, including the Security Council, that they observe and implement all relevant provisions of human rights and international humanitarian law;

(b) To the Security Council that it consider restructuring sanctions regimes so as to minimize their impact on the civilian population by permitting the import of civilian goods, in particular to ensure adequate access to food and medical and pharmaceutical supplies in all cases;

2. Encourages the international community to take appropriate and immediate measures to alleviate the suffering of people who are adversely affected by sanctions imposed upon their countries, in particular by facilitating the delivery of food and medical and pharmaceutical supplies and providing educational material in order to reduce the isolation of health-care professionals and educators;

3. Urges Governments targeted by sanctions to respect their human rights and international peace and security obligations and to facilitate, by all available means, the alleviation of the humanitarian crisis in their countries.
