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COMMISSION DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
Sous-Commission de la promotion et de  
la protection des droits de l'homme  
Cinquante-troisième session  
Point 4 de l'ordre du jour

**DROITS ÉCONOMIQUES, SOCIAUX ET CULTURELS**

Note verbale datée du 10 août 2001 adressée au secrétariat de la Sous-Commission  
de la promotion et de la protection des droits de l'homme par la Mission  
permanente de l'Iraq auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies à Genève

La Mission permanente de la République d'Iraq auprès de l'Office des Nations Unies et des autres organisations internationales à Genève présente ses compliments au secrétariat de la cinquante-troisième session de la Sous-Commission de la promotion et de la protection des droits de l'homme et a l'honneur de lui communiquer ci-joint le texte de la déclaration de la délégation de la République d'Iraq intitulée «La mondialisation et ses effets sur la pleine jouissance de tous les droits de l'homme».

La Mission permanente de la République d'Iraq saurait gré au secrétariat de la Sous-Commission de bien vouloir faire distribuer cette déclaration\* comme document officiel de la cinquante-troisième session de la Sous-Commission au titre du point 4 de l'ordre du jour intitulé «Droits économiques, sociaux et culturels».

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\* La déclaration est reproduite telle quelle, en arabe et en anglais seulement.

**Annex**

**GLOBALIZATION AND ITS IMPACT ON THE FULL  
ENJOYMENT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS**

Mr. Chairman,

The worldwide concern that has been shown for the question of globalization during the last 10 years is possibly greater than that shown for any other issue at the international level. The protests staged against globalization in Seattle in 1999 and more recently in Genoa during the summit of the eight industrialized countries highlighted the multifaceted aspect of globalization and its potential impact on a wide range of social, economic, cultural and political relations and, in particular, on the promotion and protection of human rights.

Through the modern liberal policies on which it is based, globalization paints a bleak picture of the future. After a century in which socialist and democratic concepts and the principles of social justice predominated, a countermovement that is currently appearing on the horizon is undermining all the achievements made by the working and middle classes. Increasing unemployment, reduced wages, deteriorating standards of living, the lesser role that Governments are playing in the social security provided by the State, as well as the free rein that is being given to market mechanisms and the increasing disparity in the distribution of income, are among the most outstanding features that will characterize socio-economic life in most countries of the world in the age of globalization.

The challenges posed by globalization include a threat to the cultural identity of peoples through the modern communication media owned by the developed countries which are calling for the globalization of social values. This will obviously undermine the values of peoples by establishing a new system of Western standards based on the sociocultural environment to which they belong. In this way, globalization will eliminate the national borders of States and the cultures of peoples, particularly since it is those who own the modern means of communication who will impose their culture and values on others.

Mr. Chairman,

Human rights cannot develop in politically and economically unstable conditions. Insofar as globalization implies free trade, market liberalization, the removal of obstacles and barriers to the movement of capital, the imposition of structural adjustment programmes and privatization and increasing disparities between the rich and the poor, it will entail a deterioration in the socio-economic situation and the transfer of the economic sovereignty of States to dominant international economic institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and transnational corporations.

Taking an objective view of the present situation, we can say that the only available option to counter the challenges posed by globalization consists in joint endeavours to establish regional groupings that will ensure cooperation among their member States in economic and political fields in order to maintain the international balance and achieve peace, progress and freedom from the dependence and hegemony that globalization advocates.

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