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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Fifty-eighth session  
Agenda item 4

**REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD  
CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Algeria, Bangladesh\*, Bhutan\*, China, Cuba, Egypt\*, India, Indonesia,  
Iran (Islamic Republic of)\*, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar\*, Nepal\*,  
Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka\*, Sudan, Viet Nam: draft decision**

**2002/... Strengthening of the Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights**

*The Commission on Human Rights,*

*Recalling* all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993 and Commission resolutions 1998/83 of 24 April 1998, 1999/54 of 27 April 1999 and 2000/1 of 7 April 2000,

*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

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

*Reaffirming also* the importance of ensuring universality, objectivity and non-selectivity in the consideration of human rights issues and, in this context, underlining the need for continuing to ensure the implementation of these principles by the High Commissioner in the fulfilment of her mandate and the activities of her Office,

*Recalling* that the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights includes promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights,

*Recalling also* that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993 at the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF.157/23) recognized the necessity for an adaptation and strengthening of United Nations human rights machinery in accordance with current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Encouraging* the High Commissioner, within her mandate as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141, to continue to play an active role in promoting and protecting all human rights,

*Convinced* of the need for further and continued support and consideration of the programmes and activities of the Office of the High Commissioner,

1. *Emphasizes* that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is a common office for all and should therefore reflect a diversity of backgrounds and, in this context recalls that the Office of the High Commissioner, as part of the United Nations Secretariat, is governed by Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning staffing policies, which is essential for ensuring the implementation of the principles of universality, objectivity and non-selectivity in the consideration of human rights issues;

2. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue the current practice of making the best use of available human rights expertise relevant to and, as appropriate, from the regions where activities are undertaken;

3. *Also encourages* the Office to ensure transparency in its activities and operation through a process of continued dialogue and consultations with Member States through monthly briefings and taking into account relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

4. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to take into account all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights in planning the activities of the Office and requests her to reflect them appropriately in her annual reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

5. *Reiterates* the need to ensure that all necessary financial, material and personnel resources are provided from the regular budget of the United Nations without delay to the United Nations human rights programme to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to carry out its mandates efficiently, effectively and expeditiously;

6. *Takes note* of the voluntary contributions to the Office of the High Commissioner and welcomes in particular those from developing countries, and in this context calls upon donors to take into account the High Commissioner's call for unearmarked contributions in order to give the Office flexibility in the allocation of resources for its operational activities in accordance with the resolutions of the Commission and with a view to treating all human rights in a fair and equal manner;

7. *Reaffirms* that the tasks of the High Commissioner include promoting and protecting the realization of the right to development and that the Office of the High Commissioner should devote adequate resources and staff to its follow-up, with a view to mainstreaming it in the activities of the Office;

8. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to continue to emphasize the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights in the activities of her Office and, in that regard, encourages the High Commissioner to continue to strengthen her relationship with the appropriate bodies, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations;

9. *Also calls upon* the High Commissioner to continue to strengthen the management structure of her Office, including human resource management, and to improve the responsiveness of her Office in all priority areas, especially economic, social and cultural rights, which require particular research and analytical capacity;

10. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly provide the Office of the High Commissioner with ways and means commensurate to its increasing tasks, as well as more resources for special rapporteurs;

11. *Declares* that advisory services and technical cooperation provided at the request of Governments with a view to developing national capacities in the field of human rights constitute one of the most efficient and effective means of promoting and protecting all human rights and democracy;

12. *Emphasizes* the need for an increase in the allocation of resources from within the United Nations regular budget for advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

13. *Invites* the High Commissioner to continue to provide information on cooperation with other United Nations bodies and with Governments and invites her to make available information concerning agreements with States and other United Nations bodies and their implementation, in an open and transparent manner, as appropriate;

14. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to provide States with information as well as to hold informal briefings on voluntary contributions, including their share of the overall budget of the human rights programme and their allocation;

15. *Takes note* of the practice of publishing an annual appeal and annual report which provide Member States with information on the activities of the Office, and calls upon the High Commissioner to include detailed information on the status and use of all voluntary, in particular earmarked, contributions to the budget of the Office in her next Annual Appeal and Annual Report;

16. *Invites* the High Commissioner to inform Member States, as appropriate, on all aspects of follow-up to, and preparation of, annual appeals, including through the periodic information meeting, and looks forward to the publication of the Annual Appeal 2002 and the next Annual Report;

17. *Again invites* the High Commissioner to submit information pursuant to the present resolution in her annual report to the Commission;

18. *Decides* to consider the implementation of the present resolution at its sixtieth session under the relevant agenda item.

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