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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 6

SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

**Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Chen, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Eide, Mr. Guissé, Ms. Hampson,
Mr. Kartashkin, Ms. Koufa, Mr. Park, Ms. Rakotoarisoa, Ms. Warzazi,
Mr. Weissbrodt, Mr. Yimer, Mr. Yokota and Ms. Zerrougui: draft resolution**

2002/... Tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights

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

A

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (A/CONF.157/23),
which were adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna
from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.4/2002/110) and Commission
on Human Rights resolution 2002/85 of 26 April 2002 on the effective implementation of
international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international
instruments on human rights,

Noting that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action strongly recommend that a concerted effort be made to encourage and facilitate the ratification of and accession or succession to international human rights treaties and protocols, with the aim of universal acceptance,

Considering that the progress achieved over the past 10 years in the effective implementation of this essential objective of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action is still insufficient,

Emphasizing that the cooperation among the various human rights organizations of the United Nations system constitutes significant progress towards harmonizing existing mechanisms and improving their effectiveness, particularly between chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies and between special rapporteurs and representatives, experts and chairpersons of working groups of the special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights,

Welcoming the recommendation made by the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies that those bodies should consider ways of strengthening cooperation with the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Emphasizing the importance of contacts and the exchange of information in order to promote better knowledge of the work undertaken by the respective treaty bodies, facilitate transparency, ensure greater consistency and improve the effectiveness of the organizations of the United Nations system responsible for promoting and protecting human rights,

1. *Recalls* that the universal ratification of international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as other basic instruments, must remain a priority objective for all States;

2. *Expresses the wish* that the tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, may constitute an important step towards the effective realization of the objective referred to in paragraph 1 of this resolution, and requests States to seize this opportunity to take stock of their commitment in this field and, if they have made any reservations when ratifying these instruments, to re-examine them with a view to determining whether they can withdraw them or limit their scope;

3. Welcomes the forthcoming entry into force of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and requests all States to take this opportunity to consider signing and ratifying the Convention in order to ensure its effective implementation.

B

Mindful of the main purposes of the United Nations Decade of International Law, which include the development and promotion of international law,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 51/158 of 16 December 1996, in which the Assembly endorsed the Secretary-General's decision that Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and other non-commercial users of the United Nations *Treaty Series* on the Internet should not be charged a user fee,

Noting the decision taken by the Secretary-General in his note on the United Nations Decade of International Law (A/52/363, para. 56) to charge a fee from users of the on-line version of the United Nations *Treaty Series*,

1. *Regrets* the Secretary-General's decision and invites him to ensure, particularly in the field of human rights, free access to all non-commercial users of the on-line version of the United Nations *Treaty Series*;

2. *Urges* the Secretary-General to allow members of the Sub-Commission and treaty bodies to have free access to the entire United Nations *Treaty Series* on the Internet;

3. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to consider practical means of ensuring that non-commercial users have effective and free access to the on-line version of the United Nations *Treaty Series*.
