



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
LIMITED

E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/L.10  
15 August 2002

Original: ENGLISH

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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Sub-Commission on the Promotion  
and Protection of Human Rights  
Fifty-fourth session  
Agenda item 7

**DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION**

**Draft report of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion  
and Protection of Human Rights\***

**Rapporteur: Mr. Emmanuel Decaux**

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\* E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/L.10 and Addenda contain the draft chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Sub-Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Commission on Human Rights will be contained in documents E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/L.11 and Addenda.

### **III. ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

#### **A. Opening and duration of the session and number of meetings**

1. The Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held its fifty-fourth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 July to 16 August 2002. It held 26 meetings (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/SR.1-26), 3 of which were held in closed session (see E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/SR.2, SR.17 and SR. 21).
2. The session was opened by Mr. David Weissbrodt, Chairperson of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-third session, who made a statement.
3. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Mary Robinson, addressed the Sub-Commission at its 1st meeting, on 29 July 2002.

#### **B. Attendance**

4. The session was attended by members of the Sub-Commission, by observers for States Members of the United Nations, by observers for non-member States and by observers for intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, other organizations and non-governmental organizations. The attendance list is given in annex III to the present report.

#### **C. Resolutions and documentation**

5. The Sub-Commission adopted 31 resolutions and took 18 decisions. The texts of these resolutions and decisions appear in chapter II, sections A and B, respectively. Draft decisions for action or consideration by the Commission on Human Rights are set out in chapter I. For a list of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Sub-Commission, see annex VIII to the present report.
6. Information concerning the administrative and programme budget implications of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Sub-Commission at its fifty-fourth session is provided in annex IV.
7. A list of the resolutions and decisions referring to matters drawn to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights is contained in annex V.
8. A list of studies completed at the fifty-fourth session, of ongoing studies, of working papers entrusted to members and of studies recommended for approval, drawn up in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/23, appears in annex VI.

9. A list of documents for the fifty-fourth session of the Sub-Commission appears in annex VII. Written communications submitted by non-governmental organizations for circulation at the session are also mentioned in annex VII.

#### **D. Election of officers**

10. At its 1st meeting, on 29 July 2002, the Sub-Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Chairperson:</u>       | Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro  |
| <u>Vice-Chairpersons:</u> | Mr. Vladimir A. Kartashkin |
|                           | Mr. Yozo Yokota            |
|                           | Ms. Leila Zerrougui        |
| <u>Rapporteur:</u>        | Mr. Emmanuel Decaux        |

#### **E. Adoption of the agenda**

11. At the same meeting, the Sub-Commission had before it a note by the Secretary-General containing the provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/1), drawn up in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the draft provisional agenda considered by the Sub-Commission at its fifty-second session in accordance with paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII).

12. At the 3rd meeting, on 30 July 2002, the agenda, as revised (see annex I), was adopted without a vote.

#### **F. Organization of work and conduct of business**

13. At the 1st meeting, the Chairperson of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Mr. Krzysztof Jakubowski, addressed the Sub-Commission, in accordance with Commission resolution 2002/66.

14. The Sub-Commission considered item 1 of the agenda at its 1st, 2nd (closed) and 3rd meetings, on 29 and 30 July, at part of its 17th (closed) meeting, on 12 August, and 21st (closed) meeting on 14 August, and at its 23rd meeting, on 15 August 2002.

15. In the general debate on agenda item 1, statements were made by members of the Sub-Commission. For a list of speakers, see annex II.

16. At its 2nd (closed) meeting, on 29 July 2002, and 3rd meeting, on 30 July 2002, the Sub-Commission considered the organization of its work and conduct of business.

17. Upon the recommendation of its officers, the Sub-Commission decided, without a vote, the following with respect to sessional working groups:

(a) To establish a sessional working group on the administration of justice under agenda item 3 and to nominate the following members of the Sub-Commission as members of the working group: Ms. Hampson, Ms. Motoc, Ms. O'Connor, Ms. Rokotoarisoa, and Mr. Sorabjee. For the text of the decision, see chapter II, section B, decision 2002/101.

(b) To establish a sessional working group to examine the working methods and activities of transnational corporations under agenda item 4 and to nominate the following members of the Sub-Commission as members of the working group: Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Guissé, Mr. Kartashkin, Mr. Park and Mr. Weissbrodt. For the text of the decision, see chapter II, section B, decision 2002/102.

18. The Sub-Commission accepted the recommendations of its officers regarding limitation of the frequency and duration of statements. Members of the Sub-Commission would be entitled to make one or more statements of 10 minutes per item. Observers for non-governmental organizations would be limited to one statement of seven minutes per item. With regard to joint statements by non-governmental organizations, the following timing was agreed upon: one or two non-governmental organizations: seven minutes; three to five non-governmental organizations: 10 minutes; 6 to 10 non-governmental organizations: 12 minutes; more than 10 non-governmental organizations: 15 minutes. Government observers would be limited to one statement of five minutes per item. That speaking time would also apply to observers for intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other organizations.

19. According to the special procedure for the allocation of speaking time and the closure of the list of speakers on the agenda item dealing with violations of human rights which was established by the Sub-Commission in its decision 1994/117, the maximum speaking time under agenda item 2 would be determined, for all observers, by dividing equally the time allocated to observers by the number of speakers who had signed up before the closure of the list. The closure of the list would be set at 6 p.m. on the day before the opening of the debate on that agenda item.

20. The Sub-Commission also accepted the recommendation that special rapporteurs should limit their statements to 20 minutes, to be divided between the introduction of the report and the concluding remarks.

21. It was also accepted that Sub-Commission members taking the floor on procedural matters should be as brief as possible and not exceed two minutes.

22. It was agreed that, with regard to statements by government observers equivalent to a right of reply, a limitation to two replies, of three minutes for the first and of two minutes for the second, at the end of the general debate on any particular item(s), would be observed. Under any agenda item, government observers should not address the human rights situations in countries other than their own, except when exercising the right of reply.

23. It was also agreed that the list of speakers would be opened at the beginning of the session for all participants to register to speak on any agenda item. If the list of speakers had not been exhausted during a particular meeting, the remaining speakers would be given the floor, in the same order, as the first speakers at the next meeting. The closure of the list of speakers on any item(s) would be announced by the Chairperson in advance, normally at the beginning of the consideration of that agenda item (except for item 2).

24. It was also agreed that if there were no more speakers on an agenda item at a particular meeting, the Sub-Commission would take up the next item on its calendar, if deemed necessary.

25. It was also agreed that, in order to respect editorial and other requirements, draft resolutions and decisions should be submitted at least three working days before the date on which they were scheduled to be considered. The deadlines for the submission of draft resolutions would be set by the Chairperson in consultation with the Bureau and announced sufficiently in advance.

26. Also at its 2nd (closed) meeting, the Sub-Commission approved the timetable for the consideration of agenda items proposed by the Bureau.

#### **G. Other matters**

27. At the 1st meeting, on 29 July 2002, in accordance with decision 1994/103 of the Sub-Commission and at the proposal of the Chairperson, the Sub-Commission observed a minute of silence in honour of the victims of all forms of violation of human rights in all regions of the world.

**Composition of the working groups of the Sub-Commission for 2003**

28. At the 23rd meeting, on 15 August 2002, the Sub-Commission considered a draft decision on the composition of the inter-sessional and pre-sessional working groups of the Sub-Commission introduced by the Chairperson on behalf of the Bureau of the Sub-Commission.

29. Mr. Yokota orally revised the draft decision.

30. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text of the decision, see chapter II, section B, decision 2002/117.

**Consideration of agenda items**

31. At the same meeting the Sub-Commission considered a draft decision on the consideration of agenda items introduced orally by the Chairperson of the Sub-Commission.

32. Statements in connection with the draft decision were made by Mr. Bengoa, Ms. Hampson, Mr. Rodriguez-Cuadros and Ms. Zerrougui.

33. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text of the decision, see chapter II, section B, decision 2002/118.

34. After the adoption of the draft resolution, Ms. Warzazi made a statement in explanation of her position.

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