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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
Fifty-ninth session  
Agenda item 17

**PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic\*\*, Denmark\*\*, Finland\*\*,  
France, Germany, Greece\*\*, Ireland, Italy\*\*, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg\*\*,  
Netherlands\*\*, Norway\*\*, Portugal\*\*, Spain\*\*, Sweden and United Kingdom  
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution**

**2003/... Human rights and sexual orientation**

*The Commission on Human Rights,*

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

*Recalling* that recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

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\* Reissued for technical reasons.

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

*Reaffirming* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms the principle of the inadmissibility of discrimination and proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein without distinction of any kind,

*Affirming* that human rights education is a key to changing attitudes and behaviour and to promoting respect for diversity in societies,

1. *Expresses deep concern* at the occurrence of violations of human rights in the world against persons on the grounds of their sexual orientation;
2. *Stresses* that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, that the universal nature of these rights and freedoms is beyond question and that the enjoyment of such rights and freedoms should not be hindered in any way on the grounds of sexual orientation;
3. *Calls upon* all States to promote and protect the human rights of all persons regardless of their sexual orientation;
4. *Notes* the attention given to human rights violations on the grounds of sexual orientation by the special procedures in their reports to the Commission on Human Rights, as well as by the treaty monitoring bodies, and encourages all special procedures of the Commission, within their mandates, to give due attention to the subject;
5. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to pay due attention to the violation of human rights on the grounds of sexual orientation;
6. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its sixtieth session under the same agenda item.

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