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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 5 (c)

PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION

**PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND
PROTECTION OF MINORITIES**

**Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Guissé, Ms. Hampson, Ms. Motoc
and Mr. Yokota: draft resolution**

**2003/... Human rights implications, particularly for indigenous people,
of the disappearance of States for environmental reasons**

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

Reaffirming the right not to be made stateless, as reflected, inter alia, in the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Reaffirming also the right to retain citizenship unless it is given up voluntarily, as reflected, inter alia, in article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/28 of 26 April 1999,

Reaffirming further the right of indigenous people to retain their character as indigenous people, as reflected in the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples,

Noting the environmental changes, whatever their cause, which threaten the very survival of certain island States,

Noting also the environmental changes, whatever their cause, which reduce significantly the surface area of other States, with very serious social, economic and cultural consequences,

Recalling the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change of 1992,

Recalling also the Global Conference on Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Declaration of Barbados of 1994,

Recalling further the work of the Commonwealth Secretariat/World Bank Joint Task Force on Small States,

1. *Urgently recommends* to the Commission on Human Rights the following decision for adoption:

“The Commission on Human Rights urgently calls upon the Secretary-General to prepare a report, with assistance from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights, on the legal implications of the disappearance of States for environmental reasons, including the implications for the human rights of their residents, with particular reference to the rights of indigenous people, and to submit the report to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and recommends that the Council recommend to the Assembly, upon receipt of the report, that it set up a working group to consider the issue and that its report be circulated to the Council, the Commission and the Sub-Commission.”

2. *Decides* to continue consideration of this matter at its fifty-sixth session under the same agenda item.
