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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sixtieth session
Agenda item 16

**REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION ON THE PROMOTION AND
PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Australia, Belgium*, Czech Republic*, Ethiopia, Ghana*, Hungary, Ireland
Japan, Mexico, Norway*, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom of
Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft decision**

**2004/... Responsibilities of transnational corporations and related
business enterprises with regard to human rights**

At its ... meeting, on ... April 2004, the Commission on Human Rights, taking note of resolution 2003/16 of 13 August 2003 of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, taking note also of Sub-Commission document E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/12/Rev.2 and expressing its appreciation to the Sub-Commission for the work it has undertaken in preparing the draft norms on the responsibilities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises with regard to human rights, which contain useful elements and ideas for consideration by the Commission, decides to recommend that the Economic and Social Council:

(a) *Confirm* the importance and priority it accords to the question of the responsibilities of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights;

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

(b) *Request* the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to compile a report setting out the scope and legal status of existing initiatives and standards relating to the responsibility of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights and identifying outstanding issues, inter alia, the draft norms contained in the above-mentioned document; to consult with all relevant stakeholders in compiling the report, including States, transnational corporations, employers' and employees' associations, relevant international organizations and agencies, treaty monitoring bodies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit the report to the Commission at its sixty-first session in order for it to identify options for strengthening standards on the responsibilities of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights and possible means of implementation;

(c) *Affirm* that document E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/12/Rev.2 has not been mandated by the Commission and has no legal standing, and that the Sub-Commission should not perform any monitoring function in this regard.
