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ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

**Mr. Bengoa, Mr. Decaux, Ms. Motoc, Ms. Warzazi and
Mr. Yokota: draft resolution**

**2005/... Implementation of existing human rights norms and standards
in the context of the fight against extreme poverty**

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

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 59/186 of 20 December 2004, reaffirmed (a) that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them; (b) that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty; and (c) that it is necessary to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2002/30 of 22 April 2002, the Commission on Human Rights emphasized that a better understanding is needed of what is endured by people

living in poverty, including women and children, and that thought must be given to the subject, drawing on the experience and ideas communicated by the poorest themselves and by those committed to working alongside them,

Recalling further that the Sub-Commission, in its resolution 2001/8 of 15 August 2001, requested an ad hoc expert group (a) to prepare a joint working paper on the need to develop guiding principles on the implementation of existing human rights norms and standards in the context of the fight against extreme poverty and (b) to submit recommendations to contribute to the formulation of a draft declaration on extreme poverty and human rights,

Taking into account, on the one hand, the report submitted by the ad hoc group of experts (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/20 and Add.1) on consultations with persons living in extreme poverty conducted at regional seminars organized at Bangkok and São Paulo, and, on the other hand, the report of the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty, Arjun Sengupta (E/CN.4/2005/49), which draws attention to the exclusion from society experienced in every country by persons in situations of extreme poverty,

Aware of the need to apply human rights norms and standards in the context of the fight against extreme poverty,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty places men, women, children and entire population groups in a situation involving denial of their fundamental rights and freedoms in both industrialized and developing countries, that it might, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, and that its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community;

2. *Requests* the ad hoc group of experts to prepare, without financial implications, a final report containing an assessment of the activities carried out during its work, to be submitted to the Sub-Commission at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Also requests* the ad hoc group to continue extensive consultations with regional and international intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, local associations, academics and other competent persons, and - through regional seminars - to ensure in particular the involvement of persons living in extreme poverty;

4. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to replace the ad hoc group by a new ad hoc group of the Sub-Commission comprising five of its members, with a specific mandate to continue consideration of the subject, taking into account the results already attained.
