

- ▶ peace dividend resources be allocated to comprehensive development in developing countries;
- ▶ international cooperation be enhanced to fight drug-trafficking, trafficking in women and children, sexual exploitation and prostitution;
- ▶ international cooperation be enhanced to eliminate child labour;
- ▶ appropriate three-party mechanisms be established and developed to ensure the active participation of the entire population in the process of consultation, drafting and implementation of development programs;
- ▶ national coordinating committees for human rights be established;
- ▶ national institutions be established and/or strengthened for the promotion and protection of all human rights and especially the core human rights;
- ▶ national judges be obliged to apply international human rights law; and
- ▶ corruption be made punishable in national law.

The question of the renewal of the mandate of the Group of Experts, or the establishment of a different mechanism, was considered at the 1998 session of the Commission.

At its 1997 session, the Commission adopted a resolution on the right to development (1997/72) by consensus. The Commission, *inter alia*: notes the reaffirmation at the World Conference on Human Rights of the right to development as a universal and inalienable human right; noted that the human person is the central subject of development; emphasized that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated; underlined the fact that realization of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level; affirmed the need to apply a gender perspective in implementation of the right to development, including by ensuring that women play an active role in the development process; reaffirmed the importance of the right to development for every person and all peoples in all countries as an integral part of fundamental human rights; recognized that the Declaration on the Right to Development is an integral link between the Universal Declaration and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action through a holistic view integrating economic, social and cultural rights with civil and political rights; urged states to eliminate obstacles to development at all levels; urged all states to promote the right to development as a vital element in a balanced human rights program; requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Declaration on the Right to Development with a profile commensurate with its importance; called on the High Commissioner to continue to give priority to the right to development and provide necessary staff, services and resources for programmatic follow-up; recommended that activities associated with the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration project the role and importance of the right to development; noted the dialogue initiated by the High Commissioner for Human Rights with the World Bank and stressed that the dialogue should identify obstacles to

realization of the right to development, contribute to initiatives to promote the right and focus on mainstreaming a gender perspective in implementation of the Declaration; welcomed the High Commissioner's initiative to organize regional seminars on all aspects of the right to development; called on the Group of Experts to encourage participation in the work by states, international institutions and non-governmental organizations, continue elaboration of a strategy for the implementation and promotion of the right to development, continue to explore ways to promote international cooperation, dialogue and partnership for realization of the right to development, and, give due consideration to the possibility of establishing a follow-up mechanism, or enhance existing ones.

The Working Group held its second session in Geneva, 29 September–10 October 1997, focussing on the need for a global approach to the right to development and for a follow-up mechanism. Its report will be considered at the 1998 session of the CHR.

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DISABILITIES

The Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities were adopted by the General Assembly in 1993. The Rules stipulated that they would be monitored within the framework of the sessions of the Commission for Social Development (CSD). In March 1994, the Secretary-General appointed a Special Rapporteur (SR) for a period of three years to monitor implementation of the Standard Rules. The Rules also stipulated that, at the end of the SR's mandate, the CSD should examine the possibility of either renewing that mandate, appointing a new SR or considering another monitoring mechanism. The SR's mandate was renewed by the CSD at its 1997 session.

The SR's report, transmitted to the General Assembly with a note by the Secretary-General (A/52/56), includes commentary on, *inter alia*: activities in the UN system related to human rights and disability, and surveys undertaken by the SR in such areas as general policy, legislation, accessibility, organizations of persons with disabilities, education, legal regulation of the right to special education, the role of parents, education and the issue of integration and employment.

There is no specific mechanism at the Commission on Human Rights to address the issue of the human rights of persons with disabilities. Nonetheless, the CHR has, for a number of years, adopted a resolution on this subject. At the 1997 session, however, the Commission adopted by consensus a draft decision (1997/107) through which the question was biannualized. The text was not substantive in that it did not address violations of the human rights of persons with disabilities. The Commission simply took note of the report of the CSD's Special Rapporteur, invited the SR to present his report to the 1998 session of the CHR and decided to renew consideration of the question at the 1998 session.

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