



General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/HRC/Sub.1/58/L.9
21 August 2006

Original: ENGLISH

HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
Sub-Commission on the Promotion
and Protection of Human Rights
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 6 (b)

SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

**Mr. Cherif, Mr. Decaux, Mr. Kartashkin, Ms. Koufa, Ms. Mbonu, Ms. Motoc,
Ms. O'Connor, Ms. Rakotoarisoa, Mr. Salama, Mr. Sorabjee and Ms. Warzazi:
draft resolution**

2006/... Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

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

Recalling its resolution 2005/29 of 11 August 2005,

Taking note of Human Rights Council decision 2006/102 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming that slavery, in all its forms and practices, is a crime against humanity and that every woman, man and child has a fundamental right to be free from all forms of slavery and servitude,

Recalling that the priority theme of the thirty-first session was the human rights dimension of prostitution,

Taking note of the report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery on its thirty-first session (A/HRC/Sub.1/58/25) and in particular the recommendations contained in chapter VI,

Expressing its appreciation for the valuable contribution made by victims of slavery and slavery-like practices and their representatives, whose participation in the Working Group's session was facilitated by grants from the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, to authentic perspectives on the subsisting slavery and slavery-like practices,

Having focused on the mandate given to the Working Group by the Human Rights Council to contribute to the paper to be prepared by the Sub-Commission giving its vision and recommendations for future expert advice to the Council,

Recalling that the Working Group has played a leading role in focusing attention on the persistent need to ensure implementation of the slavery conventions, helped identify and compile new forms and manifestations of slavery and slavery-like practices, drawn attention to such practices as the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, forced marriage, violence against women, migrant workers and trafficking in persons, and drafted the Programme of Action for Prevention of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others which was adopted by the Commission on Human Rights,

Taking note of the consensus view expressed in the Working Group, particularly among the participating non-governmental organizations engaged in the study, investigation and eradication of slavery and slavery-like practices, on the maintenance of the Working Group,

1. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council recommend to the General Assembly to maintain and intensify efforts to persuade States to ratify the Slavery Convention of 1926, the Convention on the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 1949, the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery of 1956, the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (Convention No. 182) of the International Labour Organization and other treaties on slavery-related issues;

2. *Recommends* that the Human Rights Council request the General Assembly to appeal to Member States to contribute more generously to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery to enable it to facilitate the participation of a larger number of victims of slavery and slavery-like practices and their representatives in meetings of the Working Group and to provide grants for projects that assist victims of slavery and slavery-like practices, and recommends that a member of the Working Group, designated by it, be invited to participate in the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, in order to increase synergy between the two bodies;

3. *Commends* to the attention of the Human Rights Council the record of the Working Group's significant contribution to the identification of new forms and manifestations of slavery and slavery-like practices and to their eradication;

4. *Emphasizes* that the Working Group provides a unique platform for victims of slavery and slavery-like practices and non-governmental organizations to appear before an international forum attended by representatives of Governments and international organizations, and thus raises awareness of the persistent and new forms of slavery and slavery-like practices;

5. *Recommends* that the Working Group be maintained;

6. *Also recommends* that the Human Rights Council give consideration during the review of the system of expert advice to: (a) the possibility of entrusting a stronger mandate to the Working Group for monitoring the implementation of slavery-related treaties in a framework of cooperation with parties to these treaties; and (b) the possibility of establishing a special rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, or merging this mandate with that of another special rapporteur whose reports are discussed with the future expert advice mechanism, under a permanent agenda item and submitted, with the recommendations of the future expert advice mechanism, to the Human Rights Council for consideration.
