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Sixty-first session  
Agenda item 21 (b)

**REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ON  
THE SIXTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

**Draft report of the Commission**

**Rapporteur: Ms. Deirdre KENT (Canada)**

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\* Documents E/CN.4/2005/L.10 and addenda will contain the chapters of the report relating to the organization of the session and the various items on the agenda. Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission, as well as draft resolutions and decisions for action by, and other matters of concern to, the Economic and Social Council, will be contained in documents E/CN.4/2005/L.11 and addenda.

### **III. Organization of the work of the session**

#### **A. Opening and duration of the session**

1. The Commission on Human Rights held its sixty-first session at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 17 January and from 14 March to 22 April 2005. It held 63 meetings (see E/CN.4/2005/SR.1-63)<sup>1</sup> during the session.
2. The session was opened by Mr. Mike Smith, Chairperson of the Commission at its sixtieth session.
3. At the 1st meeting, on 17 January 2005, and at the 2nd meeting, on 14 March, Ms. Louise Arbour, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, made statements.

#### **B. Attendance**

4. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Commission, by observers for other States Members of the United Nations, by observers for non-member States and Palestine and by representatives of the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations, other entities, national human rights organizations and non-governmental organizations. An attendance list is given in annex II to the present report.

#### **C. Election of officers**

5. At its 1st meeting, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson:	Mr. Makarim Wibisono (Indonesia)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Mr. Hernán Escudero Martínez (Ecuador) Mr. Mohamed Saleck Ould Mohamed Lemine (Mauritania) Mr. Anatoliy Zlenko (Ukraine)
Rapporteur:	Ms. Deirdre Kent (Canada)

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<sup>1</sup> Summary records of each of the meetings are subject to correction. They are considered final with the issuance of a consolidated corrigendum (E/CN.4/2005/SR.1-63).

6. Statements in connection with the election of officers were made by the representatives of the Republic of Korea (on behalf of the Group of Asian States) as well as Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States).

7. At the 19th meeting, on 23 March 2005, the Commission elected by acclamation Mr. Volodymyr Vassylenko (Ukraine) as new Vice-Chairperson.

8. A statement in connection with the election of the new Vice-Chairperson was made by the representative of Armenia (on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States).

9. At the 2nd meeting, the Chairperson of the sixty-first session made his opening statement.

#### **D. Agenda**

10. Also at its 2nd meeting, the Commission had before it the provisional agenda for the sixty-first session (E/CN.4/2005/1 and Add.1-2) drawn up, in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, on the basis of the provisional agenda considered by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session in accordance with paragraph 3 of Council resolution 1894 (LVII) of 1 August 1974.

11. The agenda was adopted without a vote. For the text as adopted, see annex I to the present report.

#### **E. Organization of work**

12. The Commission considered the organization of its work at its 1st meeting on 17 January 2005, at its 2nd meeting on 14 March, at its 16th meeting on 22 March, at its 41st meeting on 8 April, at its 48th meeting on 13 April, at its 60th and 61st meetings on 21 April and at its 62nd and 63rd meetings on 22 April 2005.

13. For the documents of the sixty-first session issued under agenda item 3, see annex VI to the present report. For a list of all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and Chairperson's statements, by agenda item, see annex V to the present report.

14. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 March 2005, the Commission approved the timetable for the consideration of agenda items as proposed by its officers, with the understanding that it could be modified in accordance with decisions the Commission might adopt regarding the organization of its work.

15. At the same meeting, on the recommendation of its officers, the Commission decided to invite a number of experts, special rapporteurs, special representatives, chairpersons-rapporteurs of working groups, chairpersons of treaty bodies, if they so wished and were available, and other persons, to participate in the meetings at which their reports were to be considered.

16. The decision was adopted without a vote. For the text as adopted, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/101.

17. At the same meeting, the Chairperson of the sixtieth session, Mr. Mike Smith, made a statement.

18. At the same meeting, the Commission accepted the recommendations of its officers that:

(a) The speaking-time limits for the sixty-first session of the Commission would be 6 minutes per statement per agenda item for member States and 3 minutes for all observers;

(b) The speaking time for joint statements by member or observer States should not exceed 15 minutes and if they did so, the individual States that participated in the joint statement could speak for only half the time allotted under the agenda item;

(c) The speaking-time limits for joint statements by non-governmental organizations would be as follows: 1 to 2 non-governmental organizations: 3 minutes; 3 to 5 non-governmental organizations: 4 minutes; 6 to 10 non-governmental organizations: 5 minutes; more than 10 non-governmental organizations: 6 minutes; concerned countries would have an additional 5 minutes added to their normal speaking time;

(d) Special procedures would have 7 minutes to introduce their reports, with 2 additional minutes for each mission report or complementary document; the interactive dialogue with special procedures should not exceed 40 minutes in total for each mandate;

(e) The Chairperson of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights would be allocated 15 minutes;

(f) The national institutions would speak for 7 minutes under agenda item 18 (b);

(g) Chairpersons of treaty bodies, if they so wished and were available, would be invited to address the Commission and speak for 7 minutes.

19. At the 24th meeting, on 29 March 2005, on the recommendation of its officers, the Commission decided exceptionally to enable a number of non-governmental organizations who could not speak under item 9 due to its opening earlier than scheduled, to speak for 5 minutes instead of 3 minutes under either agenda item 10 or 11.

20. The 5th meeting on 15 March, the 10th meeting on 17 March, the 19th meeting on 23 March, the 40th meeting on 8 April, the 44th meeting on 12 April, the 47th meeting on 13 April, the 56th meeting on 19 April and the 61st meeting on 21 April 2005 were additional meetings, without additional financial implications.

21. At its 2nd meeting, on 19 March 2005, on the recommendation of its officers, the Commission endorsed the recommendation that document E/CN.4/2003/118 and Corr.1 and the agreed provisions of E/CN.4/2002/16 would continue to govern the organization of work and conduct of business of the sixty-first session.

22. At the 16th meeting, Mr. Soren Jessen-Petersen, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Kosovo addressed the Commission on Human Rights. Statements were made by the observers of Albania and Serbia and Montenegro, as concerned countries.

23. At the 41st meeting, on 8 April 2005, Mr. Emmanuel Akwei Addo, the independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, introduced his report (E/CN.4/2005/11). During the ensuing interactive dialogue, the representative of the Sudan made a statement, as a

concerned country, on the report. The representatives of Cuba, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union), Sudan, Switzerland and the United States of America also addressed questions to the independent expert, to which he responded.

24. At the 31st meeting, on 4 April 2005, the Commission observed one minute of silence in connection with the death of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Louise Arbour, as well as the observers for the Holy See and Poland made statements.

### **Situation of human rights in Colombia**

25. At the 48th meeting on 13 April 2005, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Louise Arbour, introduced the report on the situation of human rights in Colombia (E/CN.4/2005/10). The observer for Colombia made a statement, as a concerned country, on the report.

26. At the same meeting, statements were made by members of the Commission, observers and representatives of non-governmental organizations. The list of speakers appears in annex III to the present report.

27. At the 62nd meeting, on 22 April 2005, the Chairperson made a statement on the situation of human rights in Colombia. For the text, see below.

### **“Situation of human rights in Colombia**

“1. The Commission on Human Rights strongly supports the activities of the office in Colombia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, whose mandate was extended in September 2002 at the initiative of the President of the Republic of Colombia for a four-year period until October 2006. This office plays an important role in the work against ongoing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Colombia, through monitoring, advice, technical cooperation, and informational and promotional activities. The Commission welcomes the proposed visit to Colombia in May 2005 of the High Commissioner, at the invitation of the Government of Colombia.

“2. The Commission trusts that the Government of Colombia, through close cooperation, will continue to actively support and promote the office in Colombia of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in carrying out its full mandate, and calls upon the Government of Colombia to make full use of the advisory services and technical cooperation of the office. The Commission encourages continued financial support for the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia.

“3. The Commission on Human Rights welcomes the report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Colombia (E/CN.4/2005/10 and Corr.1) and takes note of the document containing the observations of the Government of Colombia on that report. The Commission welcomes the ongoing dialogue between the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia and the Government of Colombia, especially the Office of the Vice-President, and the national and regional authorities. The Commission highlights the efforts of the Government and State institutions to work towards the implementation of the recommendations of the High Commissioner and recognizes the progress made so far. The Commission calls on the Government of Colombia to continue its efforts to obtain further results promptly and to ensure that the recommendations are integrated fully and in a coherent manner in all areas of public policy. It calls on the international community to continue to support the prompt implementation by all relevant parties of the recommendations of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

“4. The Commission welcomes the cooperation of the Government of Colombia with United Nations bodies and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights. The Commission welcomes the ratification of ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The Commission also welcomes the ongoing debate with regard to the ratification by Colombia of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It calls upon the Government of Colombia to consider ratifying pending international treaties and to proceed with the formal ratification of those that have been approved. The Commission urges the Government

and Congress to comply fully with the obligations assumed by Colombia as a State party to international human rights and international humanitarian law instruments. The Commission calls upon the Government of Colombia to make use of the advice and technical services of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the implementation of the recommendations of the special procedures and mechanisms.

“5. The Commission expresses grave concern at the situation of human rights and international humanitarian law, in particular with regard to vulnerable groups. The Commission is particularly alarmed at reported violations of the rights to life, personal integrity, freedom and security, due process, privacy and intimacy, and is concerned at reported breaches of the fundamental freedoms of movement, residence, opinion and expression. The Commission recognizes the efforts of the Government of Colombia to strengthen respect for civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and takes note of the efforts of State institutions to investigate violations of human rights. The Commission also notes that, in 2004, illegal armed groups were responsible for a vast majority of the breaches of international humanitarian law and criminal acts.

“6. The Commission urges that dialogue and negotiations be pursued between the Government of Colombia and all illegal armed groups, aimed at overcoming the situation of violence stemming from the conflict with illegal armed groups and at reaching a lasting peace. The Commission emphasizes the importance of truth, justice and reparation in a comprehensive peace strategy that should lead to reconciliation and lasting peace.

“7. The Commission reiterates its support to the Government of Colombia in its search for a negotiated solution to the internal armed conflict, including through direct engagement with those illegal armed groups that may be prepared to cease all hostilities and undertake a constructive and significant peace process, and welcomes the efforts and achievements to date of the Government in this regard. The Commission also underlines the role played by the Secretary-General, and welcomes the engagement of the Organization of American States, the Government of Mexico, the group of friendly



countries and other countries, as well as the efforts of the Catholic Church in the processes towards peace in Colombia. The Commission also calls for greater involvement of civil society as an important contribution to the establishment of a dialogue towards peace.

“8. The Commission reaffirms its support for the London Declaration of 10 July 2003 and its recommendations, as well as the Cartagena Declaration adopted on 3 February 2005. The Commission recognizes the efforts and achievements of the Government of Colombia in carrying forward the spirit of the London Declaration, and encourages it to continue the process. The Commission welcomes the efforts of the Government of Colombia to engage in a constructive dialogue with civil society, and the recognition of the important role of civil society.

“9. The Commission stresses its full support to the Government of Colombia in its efforts to establish the rule of law throughout the country, to fight against impunity, and to fight against terrorism and illicit drug production and trafficking in the framework of the rule of law and respect for human rights. The Commission welcomes the fact that relevant authorities are now able to exercise their powers in nearly all municipalities; it also welcomes the fact that an increased presence of the State has enabled the latter to adopt measures for the prevention and protection of the civilian population in the municipal centres.

“10. The Commission notes the ongoing process of disarmament and demobilization. The Commission urges the Government and Congress of Colombia to establish, as soon as possible a comprehensive legal framework for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process of the illegal armed groups that fully recognize and guarantee the rights to truth, justice and reparations. Such a comprehensive legal framework would bring about a lasting peace in the framework of good governance, democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights, and lead towards national reconciliation. It should also recognize the principle that persons charged with human rights violations and abuses cannot be granted impunity from prosecution.

“11. The Commission is concerned about continuing cases of problems relating to access to justice, judicial independence and impartiality, judicial guarantees and presumption of innocence. The Commission appeals to the Government of Colombia increasingly to address the issue of impunity and to take action to improve the capacity and effectiveness of the judicial system. In this context the Commission acknowledges the adoption of a new oral procedure that expedites criminal processes. The Commission underlines the important role of the Constitutional Court in the defence of human rights - civil and political as well as economic, social and cultural rights - democracy and rule of law. The Commission also notes the work of the Office of the Ombudsman and other State institutions in the defence of human rights.

“12. The Commission urges the Government and Congress of Colombia to take into account international human rights law and international humanitarian law in the process of reform of the justice system, so as to guarantee judicial control over actions by the State, ensure judicial guarantees for its citizens and ensure that the military is not granted judicial powers in a manner inconsistent with international obligations. The Commission acknowledges the reforms introduced in the Prosecutor-General's Office using the advisory services of the office of the High Commissioner in Colombia and financial support of the international community. The Commission also calls upon the Office of the Vice-President to continue its activities within its Programme to Combat Impunity. The Commission suggests that the Government of Colombia continue using the advisory services and technical cooperation of the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia regarding an appropriate framework for judicial reform that could contribute to strengthening the rule of law.

“13. The Commission encourages the Government of Colombia to pursue its commendable intention to adopt the National Action Plan on Human Rights and International Humanitarian law, encourages it also to adopt this action plan by December 2005 and notes with appreciation its ongoing efforts to prepare it following full and transparent consultations with representatives of civil society. In this regard,

the Commission welcomes the Agreement for Technical Cooperation signed by the Office of the Vice-President and the office in Colombia of the High Commissioner of Human Rights.

“14. The Commission encourages the Government of Colombia to further develop, according to international parameters, its statistical system in order to cover adequately violations of human rights and breaches of international humanitarian law, by making use of the advice of the Office of the High Commissioner.

“15. The Commission also welcomes the decrease for indicators of violence such as homicides, massacres and kidnappings as compared to those of 2003. It shares the Government concern that the level and frequency of such crimes remain extremely high.

“16. The Commission reiterates the need for all security measures taken under the Democratic Security Policy to comply with the obligations of Colombia under international law and international humanitarian law. The Commission takes into account that controls for detention procedures and the right of habeas corpus exist in Colombia. However, it also expresses its gravest concern at reports of extrajudicial executions attributed to members of the security forces or other public servants and at reports of arrests and mass searches carried out without appropriate legal foundations and the practice of individual or massive arrests as well as individual or mass detentions. It also expresses grave concern at reports of widespread use of torture and continuing enforced disappearances. The Commission acknowledges that the Government submits such reports to competent authorities for investigation.

“17. The Commission expresses concern at the role of unverified information from informants. The Commission appeals to the Government of Colombia not to use information that has not been adequately verified. The Commission takes note that the Government of Colombia has set up a system that submits information provided by informants to procedures for further verification.

“18. The Commission expresses grave concern at reports that members of the security forces were responsible for breaches of international humanitarian law. The

Commission expresses serious concern at reports of cases of support, collusion or complicity on the part of State agents with paramilitary groups, and encourages the Government of Colombia to strengthen its policy to sever all links between paramilitary groups and civil servants at regional and national levels in administrations and institutions and takes note of the increasing number of investigations carried out by the State. It calls upon the Government of Colombia to increase its efforts to investigate such reports and to prosecute the personnel concerned under civil law and calls on the Government to make full use of the legal powers at its disposal to ensure that measures of suspension are taken when the investigation reveals significant evidence of collusion with the paramilitary forces.

“19. The Commission requests that the Government of Colombia implement firmly its commitment to foster investigations of complaints in relation to forced disappearances, mainly perpetrated by paramilitary groups but also sometimes attributed to the security forces. The Commission expresses its concern at reports about the growing number of arbitrary detentions that can lead to stigmatization of and threats towards the members of civil society that have been detained.

“20. The Commission welcomes the invitation by the Government of Colombia extended to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to visit Colombia next June. The Commission also notes the work undertaken by the Office of the Ombudsman, together with other institutions, to set up a mechanism to investigate cases of disappearance.

“21. The Commission condemns all breaches of international humanitarian law in Colombia and calls on all parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law, including the humanitarian principles of distinction, limitation, proportionality and immunity of the civilian population.

“22. The Commission condemns the massacres and cruel violence, in particular the murder of eight members of the Community of Peace of San José de Apartadó,

including four children, on 21 February 2005, and calls on the Government of Colombia to ensure that a full investigation is carried out into this massacre, and that its perpetrators are brought to justice.

“23. The Commission strongly condemns continuous breaches by the paramilitary groups of the cessation of hostilities, and the fact that all illegal armed groups continue to use violent means and to commit serious and numerous breaches such as attacks on the civilian population, indiscriminate attacks, homicides, massacres, hostage-taking, or forced displacements, recruitment of minors and violence against women and girls.

“24. The Commission strongly condemns all acts of terrorism and other criminal attacks, such as attacks against life, physical integrity and personal liberty and safety, committed by the illegal armed groups. It strongly urges all illegal armed groups to comply with international humanitarian law and to respect the legitimate exercise by the population of their human rights.

“25. The Commission welcomes the very positive actions taken by the Government to comply with the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (the Ottawa Convention), especially the recent destruction of the stocked mines by the Army. It encourages the Government to continue the process of de-mining, as well as to continue its efforts to prevent and limit risks to the population - especially to displaced and returned persons - and to strengthen mechanisms for assisting victims of anti-personnel landmines. The Commission calls on the international community to continue supporting the programmes set up by the Government of Colombia to comply with the Ottawa Convention. The Commission condemns frequent indiscriminate attacks committed by the illegal armed groups with anti-personnel landmines, which have maimed or killed hundreds of Colombians, including women and children. The Commission strongly urges all illegal armed groups to comply with the Convention and immediately stop using anti-personnel landmines and destroy all stockpiles.

“26. The Commission also condemns the recruitment of a large number of children by illegal armed groups and urges those groups to stop such recruitment and to demobilize immediately those children currently in their ranks, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1539 (2004) of 22 April 2004. The Commission encourages the Government of Colombia to intensify its efforts to ensure the reintegration of all child soldiers into society.

“27. In this regard, the Commission notes that some progress has been made in ending the recruitment and use of children by illegal armed groups. It acknowledges that the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme of the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare has assisted over 800 children from November 2003 to December 2004, and that another 550 children were assisted by the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme for indigenous and Afro-Colombian children by the International Organization for Migration during the last two years, as documented in the report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict (A/59/695-S/2005/72).

“28. The Commission firmly condemns the practice of kidnapping, whether for political or economic reasons. The Commission expresses deep concern at the still high number of kidnapped persons, and deplores the consequences that kidnappings have on victims, their families and society as a whole. The Commission urges the immediate and unconditional release of all the kidnapped persons. In this context, the Commission emphasizes the importance of reaching a humanitarian agreement that can lead to the rapid release of those kidnapped and to ending the practice of kidnapping. The Commission also condemns the fact that illegal armed groups continue to fund their activities through kidnapping, and through involvement in the production and trafficking of illegal drugs.

“29. The Commission welcomes the efforts of the Government to ensure a presence of security forces over the territory and to develop preventive responses to the risks faced by vulnerable groups through the Inter-Institutional Early Warning Committee (CIAT), and acknowledges the progress made so far in this regard. The Commission encourages the Government to further strengthen and improve CIAT,

especially by reviewing the risk-evaluation mechanisms it has adopted. It further encourages CIAT to analyse carefully the risk reports involving the paramilitaries as well as guerrilla groups.

“30. The Commission deplores the fact that human rights defenders, including trade unionists, women’s organizations, social leaders, as well as journalists, opinion makers and local officials including members of political parties, community leaders, judicial officers and business people continue to be particularly affected by the armed conflict and to be the victims of homicides and threats by the illegal armed groups. The Commission encourages the Government to ensure that the programmes for the protection of human rights defenders and other vulnerable groups are comprehensive and effective. Reaffirming its particular concerns regarding the climate of hostility existing around the work of human rights defenders, the Commission also encourages the Government to ensure that all public servants at all levels show due respect to the individual and collective work carried out by human rights defenders. The Commission calls upon the Government to ensure that no public statements are made that may endanger their lives, integrity and security.

“31. The Commission welcomes the increase in resources allocated to the Programme of Protection of Vulnerable Populations within the Department of the Interior and Justice, and the permanent integration of protection programmes into the National Development Plan. The Commission notes the constructive dialogue with civil society undertaken by the Vice-President at Cartagena in February 2005 and expresses the hope that such an approach will continue to strengthen.

“32. The Commission remains deeply concerned by the still extremely high numbers of internally displaced persons, and urges the illegal armed groups to refrain from actions that give rise to displacements. It recognizes the downward trend in the number of newly displaced persons, noting however that the total number of newly displaced has increased. The Commission calls on the Government of Colombia to continue to implement the recommendations of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with international bodies, especially the

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Commission supports the efforts towards durable solutions to the still grave humanitarian situation, such as the “Plan Nacional de atención integral a la población desplazada”, for which financial resources have increased. It also encourages the Government of Colombia to conclude the “Plan de Acción Humanitaria”, and to implement both plans urgently. The Commission urges all illegal armed groups to allow humanitarian access to all areas throughout the country.

“33. The Commission deplores the continued violence against indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. The Commission also expresses grave concern at the situation of the indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities that are being subjected to confinement.

“34. The Commission further condemns ongoing violations of the economic, social and cultural rights of persons belonging to minorities and indigenous communities, and urges all actors to respect their special cultural status. It appeals to all illegal armed groups to respect the identity and integrity of these minorities and indigenous communities. Supporting the efforts of the Government of Colombia to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to minorities and indigenous communities, the Commission calls upon the Government of Colombia to increase its efforts to alleviate extreme poverty in regions with great concentrations of minorities and indigenous communities. The Commission encourages the Government to take special and urgent measures to defend indigenous communities at risk of extinction and to prevent their forced displacement.

“35. The Commission condemns the continuing violations of the rights of women and girls and the climate of impunity in which such violations occur, and stresses the need to investigate, prosecute and punish those responsible for such violations. The Commission condemns particularly the reports of attacks against the personal integrity and dignity of women and girls, sexual and gender-based violence and slavery-like practices, which have been attributed mainly to illegal armed groups, but also to members of the Security Forces. The Commission encourages the Government to



adopt a gender perspective while addressing the problem of impunity, and the guarantees of the rights to truth, justice and reparations of victims of the armed conflict, as well as in the development and implementation of public policies to address poverty and social and economic inequalities. The Commission supports the efforts of the Government in setting up programmes of the Presidential Advisory Office on Women's Equality in the areas of peace-building, security, development and rural women, as well as in developing a specific statistical system to monitor the situation of women in the framework of the fulfilment of the Beijing commitments, and calls upon the Government to implement these programmes. It also underlines the importance of the National Agreement on Gender Equality and of the National Policy on Sexual and Reproductive Health and urges further advances in these areas.

“36. The Commission also deplores violations of the right to life of children. It is concerned that abandonment, child labour, sexual exploitation and abuse, physical ill-treatment and familial violence continue to occur, and calls for a specific policy for children to be developed to address these issues.

“37. The Commission stresses the need to further address poverty, exclusion, social injustice and the gap in wealth distribution. The Commission supports the efforts of the Government of Colombia to address extreme poverty, illiteracy and unemployment and to guarantee access to health, education and housing and encourages the Government to adopt a gender perspective in the formation of policies in these areas. The Commission is encouraged by the reduction of the unemployment rate.

“38. The Commission further calls upon the Government of Colombia to make full use of the advisory services and technical expertise of the office in Colombia of the High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to ensuring that norms and measures adopted by Colombian institutions are consistent with international human rights law. The Commission also calls upon the Government of Colombia to ensure that the recommendations of the High Commissioner for Human Rights are implemented swiftly, and reiterates the need for the adoption in the first half of 2005 of a timetable for implementation of the recommendations. The Commission welcomes the commitment of

the Government of Colombia to work in a constructive spirit with the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia to examine the implementation and evaluation of the recommendations.

“39. The Commission calls upon the international community to continue to support the prompt implementation by all relevant parties of the recommendations of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

“40. The Commission requests the High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit to it at its sixty-second session a detailed report containing an analysis by her Office of the human rights situation in Colombia, in accordance with the agreement between the Government of Colombia and her Office on the operation of the permanent office in Bogotá.”

#### **Question of detainees in the area of the United States naval base in Guantánamo**

28. At the 60th meeting, on 21 April 2005, the representative of Cuba introduced draft resolution E/CN.4/2005/L.94/Rev.1, sponsored by Belarus, Cuba and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Venezuela subsequently joined the sponsors. The draft resolution read as follows:

*“The Commission on Human Rights,*

*“Considering the obligation of States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,*

*“Aware that all persons are entitled to respect for their human rights as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and bearing in mind that several of these rights are non-derogable, and that their enjoyment cannot be restricted under any circumstances,*

*“Recalling the duty of all States to respect and comply with their obligations under international instruments, including those relating to human rights, to which they are party,*

*“Recalling also* general comment No. 31 (2004) of the Human Rights Committee, adopted at its 2187th meeting on 29 March 2004,

*“Recalling further* the request made to the Government of the United States on 25 June 2004 by four thematic procedures mandate holders of the Commission, with the objective of visiting the persons detained on grounds of terrorism, including in Guantánamo Bay,

*“Taking into account* the statement made on 4 February 2005 by six special procedures mandate holders of the Commission, reaffirming their serious concern over the situation of detainees at the naval base in Guantánamo, despite some positive developments that had occurred in recent months,

*“Taking into account also* that a significant number of Governments and parliaments from all over the world have expressed their concern in this regard, among them the European Parliament which, in its resolution on Guantánamo adopted on 28 October 2004, called on the United States administration to allow an impartial and independent investigation into allegations of torture and mistreatment for all persons deprived of their liberty in United States custody,

*“Taking note* of the information provided by representatives of the United States of America to Member States during the sixty-first session of the Commission on some aspects of the question of the detainees in the area of United States naval base in Guantánamo, and that the United States stated its willingness to consider the requests made by some special procedures mandate holders to visit the Guantánamo naval base detention centres,

“1. *Requests* the Government of the United States of America to authorize an impartial and independent fact-finding mission by the relevant special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of detainees at its naval base in Guantánamo;

“2. *Also requests* the Government of the United States of America, with that end in view, to authorize the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers to visit the detention centres that have been established on that base;

“3. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare and submit to the Commission at its sixty-second session, a report on the situation of the detainees at the United States naval base in Guantánamo, based on the findings of the visits to be conducted thereto by the mandate holders of the above-mentioned special procedures;

“4. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this issue at its next session.”

29. The representative of Cuba orally revised the second preambular paragraph by replacing “restricted” by “derogated from”, the fourth preambular paragraph by inserting at the end of the sentence “in particular its paragraphs 3, 10 and 11,” and operative paragraph 3 by replacing “based on” by “bearing in mind”.

30. Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by the representatives of Canada, Costa Rica, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mauritania, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as well as Romania, which aligned itself with the statement), Peru, Sudan and the United States of America.

31. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution, as orally revised, which was rejected by 22 votes to 8, with 23 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* China, Cuba, Guatemala, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, Sudan, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* Armenia, Australia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mauritania, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Indonesia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Togo, Ukraine.

### **Proposed reform of the Secretary-General in the area of human rights**

32. At the 62nd meeting, on 22 April 2005, the representative of Ethiopia (on behalf of the States members of the African Group) introduced draft decision E/CN.4/2005/L.101, sponsored by Ethiopia (on behalf of the States members of the African Group). Cuba subsequently joined the sponsors.

33. Statements in connection with the draft decision were made by Canada, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Nigeria, South Africa, the United States of America and Zimbabwe.

34. The representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) proposed to amend the draft decision to read as follows:

“The Commission on Human Rights, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled ‘In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all’ (A/59/2005) on, inter alia, the reform of the Commission, and

bearing in mind the recommendations contained in the reports of the panels commissioned by the Secretary-General, that is, the report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change entitled 'A more secure world: Our shared responsibility' (A/59/565 and Corr.1) and the Millennium Project report entitled Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals, decides to hold informal consultations for two days in June 2005 under its current Chairperson to reflect on the recommendations on human rights contained in the report of the Secretary-General and to invite the relevant facilitator of the President of the General Assembly and invite the Secretariat to produce a summary report of the consultation. ”

35. At the same meeting, the Chairperson moved, under rule 48 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, that the meeting be adjourned for 30 minutes.

36. At the same meeting, the Chairperson moved, under rule 63 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to determine whether the text proposed by the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) constituted an amendment in the sense of rule 63 of the rules of procedure.

37. By a recorded vote, the Commission decided by 28 votes to 19, with 6 abstentions, that the text as proposed by the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) was not an amendment. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:* Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Against:* Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Zimbabwe.

*Abstaining:* Argentina, Armenia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Paraguay.

38. Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by Argentina, Armenia, Costa Rica, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union that are members of the Commission - Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as well as Romania, which aligned itself with the statement), Peru and the United States of America.

39. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on the draft decision, which was adopted by 34 votes to 15, with 4 abstentions. The vote was as follows:

*In favour:* Argentina, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Zimbabwe.

*Against:* Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Romania, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:* Armenia, Gabon, Guatemala, Mexico.

40. For the text, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/116.

### **Situation of human rights in Liberia**

41. At the 62nd meeting, on 22 April 2005, the observer for Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union) introduced draft decision E/CN.4/2005/L.102, sponsored by Congo and Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union). Switzerland subsequently joined the sponsors.

42. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/117.

### **Technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of human rights in Chad**

43. At the 62nd meeting, on 22 April 2005, the observer for Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union) introduced draft decision E/CN.4/2005/L.103, sponsored by Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union). Switzerland subsequently joined the sponsors.

44. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/118.

## **F. Meetings, resolutions and documentation**

45. As indicated in paragraph 1 above, the Commission held 63 fully serviced meetings.

46. The resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first session are contained in chapter II of the present report. Draft decisions for action by the Economic and Social Council are set out in chapter I. For a list of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission and Chairperson's statements, by agenda item, see annex V to the present report.

47. Annex III contains a list of speakers in the general debate on agenda items 3 to 20.

48. Annex IV contains a statement regarding the administrative and programme budget implications of resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first session.



49. Annex VI contains a list of documents issued for the sixty-first session of the Commission.

### **G. Visits**

50. During its sixty-first session, the Commission heard statements by the following guest speakers, addressing the Commission during the high-level segment:

(a) At the 3rd meeting, on 14 March 2005: Mr. Jean Asselborn, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg (also on behalf of the European Union); Mr. Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin, Minister of Justice and chairman of the Advisory Council for Human Rights of Sudan; Ms. Micheline Calmy-Rey, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Switzerland; Mr. Dato' Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia; Mr. Karel de Gucht, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium; Mr. Marco Vinicio Vargas, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica; Mr. Manuel Rodríguez-Cuadros, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru followed by a statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of Japan; Mr. Askar Aitmatov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic; The Honourable Pierre Pettigrew, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada; Dr. María Teresa Fernández de la Vega, Deputy Prime Minister of Spain; Mr. Renaud Muselier, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of France.

(b) At the 4th meeting, on 15 March 2005: Mr. Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland; Mr. Vartan Oskanian, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, followed by a statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for Azerbaijan in connection with which, at the 6th meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Turkey; Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, at the 6th meeting, on the same day, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of the United Kingdom as well as at the 7th meeting, on 16 March 2005, by the representative of India and by the observer for Thailand as well as at the 11th on 17 March 2005, by the observers for Greece and Philippines; Mr. Hamadi Ould Meimou, Human Rights Commissioner of Mauritania; Ms. Amat Al-Alim Al-Soswa, Minister of Human Rights of Yemen; Mr. Kastriot Islami, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Albania;

Dr. Dimitrij Rupel, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Chairman in the Office of the OSCE; Ms. Patricia Olamendi, Deputy Foreign Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico; Dr. N. Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs Republic of Indonesia; Dr. Bernard Bot, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands; Mr. George Iacovou, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, at the 11th meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Turkey in connection with which a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Cyprus, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for Turkey, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for Cyprus.

(c) The 5th meeting, on 15 March 2005: Dr. Alcinda António de Abreu, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique; Prof. Belela Herrera, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uruguay; Mr. Borys Tarasyuk, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; Mr. Lakshman Kadirgamar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka; Mr. Kassymzhomart Tokayev, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan; Mr. Mohamed Bouzoubaa, Minister of Justice of Morocco; at the 6th meeting, on the same day, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Algeria, in connection with which a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Morocco, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for Algeria, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for Morocco; Dr. D. Horacio Daniel Rosatti, Minister of Justice and Human Rights of Argentina.

(d) At the 6th meeting, on 15 March 2005: Mr. Nilmário Miranda, Cabinet Minister, Special Secretary for Human Rights of Brazil; Hon. Mr. Ramesh Nath Pandey, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal; Dr. Nizar Obaid Madani, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia; Ms. Laila Freivalds, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden; Mr. Artis Pabriks, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia; Ms. Bridgitte Mabandla, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development of South Africa; Ms. Jadranka Kosor, Deputy Prime Minister of Croatia; Ms. Margherita Boniver, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy; Ms. Monique Ilboudo, Minister for Promotion of Human Rights of Burkina Faso.

(e) At the 7th meeting, on 16 March 2005: Ms. Mary Pili Hernandez, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela; Mr. Phandu T.C. Skelemeni, Minister for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration of Botswana; Ms. Marta Altolaguirre, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala; Dr. Jorge Hernandez Alcerro, Minister of Governance and Justice of Honduras; Mr. Jacob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Mr. Dao Viet Trung, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam; Mr. Felipe Pérez Roque, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba; Mr. Itsunori Onodera, Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan, followed by a statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of China as well as the observer for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in connection with which a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Japan, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the observer for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply of the representative of Japan; Mr. Hans Winkler, Deputy Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria; Mr. Alhaji Abubakar Tanko, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria; Mr. Bill Rammell MP, Minister for International Human Rights Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, followed by a statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of Zimbabwe as well as the observer for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Dr. Francisco Santos Calderón, Vice-President of the Republic of Colombia.

(f) At the 8th meeting, on 16 March 2005: Ms. Marie-Madeleine Kalala, Minister for Human Rights of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Mr. Šarūnas Adomavičius, Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania; Mr. Pavel Svoboda, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic; Mr. Kiraitu Murungi, Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs of the Republic of Kenya; Mr. Mahmud Mammad-Quliyev, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, at the 11th meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Armenia in connection with which a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Azerbaijan; Mrs. Carmen Liliana Burlacu, Director-General for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania; Mr. Reaz Rahman,

Advisor (State Minister) for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh; Mr. Omer Berzinji, Head of the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq; Mr. Vuk Drašković, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro; Mr. Mladen Ivanić, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mr. Petko Draganov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria; Mr. Muhammad Wasi Zafar, Minister of Law, Justice and Human Rights of Pakistan, at the 9th meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of India in connection with which a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the representative of Pakistan, followed at the 11th meeting, by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of India, followed by a second statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of Pakistan.

(g) At the 9th meeting, on 17 March 2005: Ms. Eugenia Kistruga, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova; Mr. José Martínez Lezcano, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Paraguay; Mr. Aaron Leshno Yaar, Deputy Director-General for United Nations and International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel; Mr. Paul Mba Abessole, Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Transport, Aviation, in charge of Human Rights in Gabon; Mr. Markku Niskala, Secretary-General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Mr. Yuri V. Fedotov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, at the 11th meeting, a statement in exercise of the right of reply was made by the observer for Latvia in connection with which a statement in exercise of the equivalent of the right of reply was made by the representative of the Russian Federation; Ms. Victorine Wodie, Minister for Human Rights of Côte d'Ivoire; Mr. Patrick Anthony Chinamasa, Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs of Zimbabwe; Mr. Déogratias Rusengwamihigo, Minister for Constitutional Reform, Human Rights and Relations with the Parliament of Burundi; Dr. Akmal Saidov, Minister, Chairman of the Committee for Human Rights in Uzbekistan; Ms. Paula Dobriansky, Under-Secretary of State for Global Affairs of the United States of America.

(h) At the 10th meeting, on 17 March 2005: Mr. Carsten Staur, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark; Ms. Maître Mame Bassine Niang, Minister and High Commissioner for Human Rights of Senegal; Hon. Mr. J. Ayikoi Otoo, Attorney-General

and Minister of Justice of Ghana; Mr. Mauricio Díaz Dávila, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nicaragua; Mr. Laurent Eso, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cameroon; Mr. George Chicoty, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola.

(i) At the 11th meeting, on 17 March 2005: Ms. Edda Mukabagwiza, Minister of Justice of Rwanda; Dr. José Ramos-Horta, Senior Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Timor-Leste; Prof. Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland; Mr. Eduard Kukan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovakia; Mr. Vidar Helgesen, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway; Mr. Ricardo Mangué Obama Nfubea, Vice-Prime Minister in charge of Public Administration, Social Affairs and Human Rights of Equatorial Guinea; Mr. Conor Lenihan TD, Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland with Special Responsibility for Overseas Development and Human Rights; Dr. G. Ali Khoshroo, Deputy Foreign Minister for International and Legal Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Ms. Wendy Chamberlin, Acting United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

51. The following guest speakers also addressed the Commission during its sixty-first session:

(a) At the 16th meeting, on 22 March 2005: Mr. Joschka Fischer, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, followed by a statement in exercise of the right of reply by the representative of China;

(b) At the same meeting, Mr. Gabriel Entcha-Ebia, Minister of Justice and Human Rights of the Republic of Congo;

(c) At the 31st meeting, on 4 April 2005, Ms. Matilde Ribeiro, Special Secretary of the Presidency of Brazil on Policies for Racial Equity;

(d) At the same meeting, Mr. Rainer Funke, Member of the German Bundestag and Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid of Germany;

(e) At the 37th meeting, on 7 April 2005, Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations;

(f) At the 52nd meeting, on 15 April 2005, Mr. Bernard Gousse, Minister of Justice of Haiti.

#### **H. Organization of the work of the sixty-second session of the Commission**

52. At the 61st meeting, on 21 April 2005, the Chairperson orally introduced a draft decision concerning the dates of the sixty-second session of the Commission.

53. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/114.

54. At the same meeting, the Chairperson orally introduced a draft decision concerning the organization of work of the sixty-second session of the Commission.

55. The draft decision was adopted without a vote. For the text, see chapter II, section B, decision 2005/115.

#### **I. Concluding remarks**

56. At the 63rd meeting, on 22 April 2005, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Louise Arbour, made concluding remarks.

57. At the same meeting, concluding remarks were also made by the following speakers:

(a) Mr. Makarim Wibisono, Chairperson of the sixty-first session of the Commission;

(b) The representative of Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States);

(c) The representative of the Republic of Korea (on behalf of the Group of Asian States);

(d) The representative of Armenia (on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States);

(e) The representative of Mexico (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States);

- (f) The representative of Ireland (on behalf of the Group of Western European and Other States);
- (g) The representative of Chile (on behalf of a cross-regional group of countries);
- (h) The representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference);
- (i) The representative of China;
- (j) Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers) (on behalf of CONGO and human rights non-governmental organizations working in Geneva).

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