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PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION:

**PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Mr. Alfonso Martínez, Mr. Bíró and Ms. Hampson: draft resolution

2005/... Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

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

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in the Charter, is the achievement of international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 48/163 of 21 December 1993, and 59/174 of 20 December 2004, in which the Assembly proclaimed, respectively, the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Recalling also that the General Assembly established as the goal of the Second Decade the further strengthening of international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people, by means of action-oriented programmes and specific projects, increased technical assistance and relevant standard-setting activities,

Taking into account that in resolution 59/174 the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as the Coordinator for the Second Decade and to submit a report to the Assembly at its sixtieth session on a comprehensive programme of action for the Second Decade,

Convinced that the recently proclaimed Second Decade and its programme of action should bring about positive changes in terms of achieving full respect and implementation of the rights and freedoms of indigenous people and a real improvement in their daily lives, since, in spite of important achievements during the first Decade, the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/51 of 20 April 2005 expressed its deep concern about the precarious levels of economic and social development that indigenous peoples continue to endure in many parts of the world and the disparities in their situation in comparison to the overall population and reaffirmed the need to recognize, promote and protect more effectively their rights and freedoms,

Noting with particular and increased concern the delay in the work on the elaboration of the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples, one of the main objectives of the first Decade,

Stressing the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples and their organizations in planning and implementing the programme of action for the Second Decade, as well as of the need to ensure full cooperation and consultation between the Coordinator for the Second Decade and other relevant bodies and mechanisms of the United Nations system such as the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, as recognized by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/49 of 20 April 2005,

Convinced, further, that the Working Group on Indigenous Populations is a most valuable forum in which for more than two decades States, indigenous peoples and their organizations and leaders, together with numerous United Nations specialized agencies and a large number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have fruitfully interacted annually, thus

facilitating a growing awareness of international public opinion of the many aspects and real dimension of the difficult situation of indigenous peoples in many parts of the world,

Welcoming the invitation extended to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/49 to submit to the Coordinator of the Second Decade, through the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, a list of activities to be considered for possible inclusion as part of the human rights component of the comprehensive programme of action for the Second Decade, and the appropriate way in which the Working Group complied with the request at its twenty-third session,

Having considered the report of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations on its twenty-third session (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/26), in particular its annex IV, in which the Working Group suggests to the Coordinator for the Second Decade a list of activities to be undertaken at the international, regional and national levels for possible inclusion in the programme of action for the Second Decade,

1. *Endorses* the list of activities recommended by the Working Group on Indigenous Populations to the Coordinator for the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People for possible inclusion in the programme of action of the Second Decade (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/26, annex IV), compiled in compliance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/49;
2. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to forward, at its earliest convenience, the list mentioned in the preceding paragraph and the present resolution to the Coordinator for the Second Decade;
3. *Reiterates* the need to continue giving particular attention to achieving the effective participation of indigenous peoples in the planning, organization and implementation of the activities of the Second Decade in order to fully realize the Decade's goals;
4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to take the necessary steps to ensure the participation of her Office in the activities of the human rights component of the programme of action of the Second Decade, in full cooperation with the Coordinator for the Second Decade;

5. *Requests* its Working Group on Indigenous Populations to follow closely the activities carried out as part of the human rights component of the programme of action of the Second Decade on the basis of the information to be submitted regularly by the Office of the High Commissioner to the members of the Working Group, so as to be able to contribute to the mid-term and end-term reviews of the Second Decade to be carried out by the General Assembly in 2010 and 2015;

6. *Expresses* its view that the conclusions and recommendations adopted annually by the Working Group and the experiences accumulated by this body during its 23 years of continuous work on the most diverse indigenous issues and in the evaluation of the implementation of the programme of action of the first Decade could be of particular value for the successful planning and implementation of the activities to be undertaken within the framework of the Second Decade;

7. *Welcomes* the observance of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People on 21 July 2005;

8. *Recommends* that the celebration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People continue to be held in Geneva, as usual, on the fourth day of the twenty-fourth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, in order to ensure as large a participation of representatives of indigenous peoples, Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as of staff of United Nations bodies and the specialized agencies, as possible;

9. *Recommends* that the Coordinator for the Second Decade appeal to Governments and other possible donors to contribute generously to the Voluntary Fund for the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

10. *Welcomes* the steps that have been taken and continue to be taken to establish and promote cooperation between the Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, as was the case in working to achieve a successful common approach stressing the need for a second international decade.
