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Agenda item 69

Promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Third Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Adriana **Murillo Ruin** (Costa Rica)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2013, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled:

“Promotion and protection of human rights:

“(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

“(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

“(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

“(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action”

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. An account of the Third Committee’s consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbol [A/68/456](#) and Add.1-4.



Item 69

Promotion and protection of human rights

Letter dated 25 September 2013 from the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Secretary-General ([A/68/487](#))

Item 69 (a)

Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Human Rights Committee on its 105th, 106th and 107th sessions ([A/68/40](#)) (vol. I and vol. II (Parts One and Two))

Report of the Committee against Torture on its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions ([A/68/44](#))

Report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its seventeenth and eighteenth sessions ([A/68/48](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery ([A/68/280](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture ([A/68/282](#))

Note by the Secretary-General on the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment ([A/68/281](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment ([A/68/295](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies on their twenty-fifth meeting ([A/68/334](#))

Item 69 (b)

Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances on its third and fourth sessions ([A/68/56](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights ([A/68/177](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Human Rights Learning ([A/68/207](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights ([A/68/208](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity ([A/68/209](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance ([A/68/210](#) and Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/68/211)

Report of the Secretary-General on the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights and fundamental freedoms (A/68/224)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice: analysis of the international legal and institutional framework for the protection of all persons deprived of their liberty (A/68/261)

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity (A/68/277)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region (A/68/287)

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion and protection of human rights, including ways and means to promote the human rights of migrants (A/68/292)

Report of the Secretary-General on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (A/68/298)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (A/68/301)

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (A/68/304)

Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies (A/68/323)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (A/68/390)

Report of the Secretary-General on combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief (A/68/546)

Report of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity (A/68/176)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons concerning protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons: the situation of internally displaced persons in the Syrian Arab Republic (A/67/931)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/68/185)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons (A/68/225)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/68/256)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders (A/68/262)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Independent Expert on minority issues ([A/68/268](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises ([A/68/279](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants ([A/68/283](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order ([A/68/284](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers ([A/68/285](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food ([A/68/288](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context ([A/68/289](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief ([A/68/290](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights ([A/68/293](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education ([A/68/294](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights ([A/68/296](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health ([A/68/297](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association ([A/68/299](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence ([A/68/345](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression ([A/68/362](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions ([A/68/382](#) and Corr.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism ([A/68/389](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of

States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights ([A/68/542](#))

Note verbale dated 1 October 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/68/496](#))

Item 69 (c)

Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar ([A/68/331](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran ([A/68/377](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ([A/68/392](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus ([A/68/276](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ([A/68/319](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 ([A/68/376](#) and Corr.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar ([A/68/397](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran ([A/68/503](#))

Letter dated 8 October 2013 from the representative of Belarus to the Secretary-General ([A/C.3/68/3](#))

Letter dated 24 October 2013 from the representative of Myanmar to the Secretary-General ([A/C.3/68/4](#))

Item 69 (d)

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights ([A/68/36](#))

Note verbale dated 9 October 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/C.3/68/2](#))

II. Consideration of a draft decision proposed by the Chair

4. At its 54th meeting, on 27 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of documents considered in connection with the promotion and protection of human rights (see para. 5).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

5. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly takes note of the following documents submitted under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights":

Under sub-item (a):

- (a) Report of the Human Rights Committee on its 105th, 106th and 107th sessions;¹
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;²
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;³
- (d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies on their twenty-fifth meeting;⁴

Under sub-item (b):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;⁵
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;⁶
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice: analysis of the international legal and institutional framework for the protection of all persons deprived of their liberty;⁷
- (d) Report of the Secretary-General on the promotion and protection of human rights, including ways and means to promote the human rights of migrants;⁸
- (e) Report of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity;⁹

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/68/40)*, vol. I and vol. II (Parts One and Two).

² A/68/280.

³ A/68/282.

⁴ A/68/334.

⁵ A/68/209.

⁶ A/68/224.

⁷ A/68/261.

⁸ A/68/292.

⁹ A/68/176.

(f) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Secretary-General on the right to development;¹⁰

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons concerning protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons: the situation of internally displaced persons in the Syrian Arab Republic;¹¹

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;¹²

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises;¹³

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants;¹⁴

(k) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;¹⁵

(l) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers;¹⁶

(m) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and the right to non-discrimination in this context;¹⁷

(n) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights;¹⁸

(o) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education;¹⁹

(p) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights;²⁰

(q) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;²¹

(r) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;²²

¹⁰ A/68/185.

¹¹ A/67/931.

¹² A/68/256.

¹³ A/68/279.

¹⁴ A/68/283.

¹⁵ A/68/284.

¹⁶ A/68/285.

¹⁷ A/68/289.

¹⁸ A/68/293.

¹⁹ A/68/294.

²⁰ A/68/296.

²¹ A/68/297.

²² A/68/299.

(s) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence;²³

(t) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression;²⁴

(u) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;²⁵

(v) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights;²⁶

Under sub-item (c):

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus;²⁷

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.²⁸

²³ A/68/345.

²⁴ A/68/362.

²⁵ A/68/382 and Corr.1.

²⁶ A/68/542.

²⁷ A/68/276.

²⁸ A/68/376 and Corr.1.