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COMISIÓN DE DERECHOS HUMANOS

Subcomisión de Promoción y Protección
de los Derechos Humanos

53º período de sesiones

Tema 6 del programa

OTRAS CUESTIONES

Nota verbal de fecha 10 de agosto de 2001 dirigida a la Secretaría de la Subcomisión de Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos por la Misión Permanente del Iraq ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra

La Misión Permanente de la República del Iraq ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y demás organizaciones internacionales con sede en Ginebra saluda atentamente a la Secretaría del 53º período de sesiones de la Subcomisión de Promoción y Protección de los Derechos Humanos y tiene el honor de adjuntar a la presente una copia de la declaración de la delegación de la República del Iraq titulada "Promoción del diálogo sobre las cuestiones de derechos humanos".

La Misión Permanente de la República del Iraq solicita a la Secretaría de la Subcomisión que tenga a bien disponer la distribución de la declaración* como documento oficial del 53º período de sesiones de la Subcomisión en relación con el tema 6 del programa, titulado "Otras cuestiones".

* El texto del anexo se reproduce tal como se recibió, en árabe e inglés únicamente.

Annex

Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues

Mr. Chairman,

Under this item, my country's delegation wishes to make some observations which it regards as basic and which, if taken into account, might help in the implementation of methods and procedures to promote dialogue and enhance the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

During the last 50 years, considerable advances have been made in the formulation of basic human rights standards, to which reference is made in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the two International Covenants on Human Rights and numerous international conventions and declarations. However, we are still faced with the problem of procedural standards concerning the manner of implementation of international conventions, since these procedures and working mechanisms should be in conformity with the standards and rules of international law. For example, although the principle of the right of States to sovereignty and non-intervention in their internal affairs is a firmly established principle of international law, this right has been violated repeatedly through the recognition of situations in which interference in internal affairs is permitted on the pretext of the protection of human rights. Accordingly, the endeavours that are being made to formulate human rights standards should include the establishment of mechanisms to apply those standards and should take the following concepts into consideration:

1. Avoidance of selective interpretations of human rights in furtherance of aims and purposes relating to various, sometimes mutually conflicting, international interests, which can be described as a policy of double standards insofar as some international situations are dealt with in an extremely severe manner while other similar situations are handled in a more indulgent and even biased manner.
2. Avoidance of insistence on separating civil and political rights from economic, social and cultural rights, since they constitute an integrated whole. No State should be accused of failing to ensure proper health and nutrition while it is being denied the right to avail itself of its natural resources.
3. Avoidance of any misinterpretation, or erroneous determination of the scope, of the principle of the right to self-determination in an attempt to void that right of its basic content and apply it within the context of the rights of minorities with a view to fragmenting nations and peoples on a religious or ethnic basis in furtherance of political aims and international interests.

With regard to the work of the United Nations human rights organs, emphasis should be placed on the need for the special rapporteurs to play an objective and impartial role and enter into a constructive dialogue with the States concerned since, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/174 entitled "Strengthening of United Nations action in the

human rights field through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity”, the fundamental task assigned to them is to improve the human rights situation and not to interfere in the internal affairs of the country in which they are examining the situation.

The delegation of Iraq hopes that the distinguished Commission will take these observations into account when considering and examining human rights questions and situations, as this would enhance its credibility and improve the procedures for the achievement of its aim of promoting human rights throughout the world.
