environment far exceed the return on other investments.
d) Emphasize the importance of sound preparation for the Rio-10 Summit. Such
preparation should include the drafting of
a comprehensive report that reflects the
expectations of the region, reviews what
has been achieved in the past 10 years in
the area of the environment, outlines the
main objectives and assesses the human and
financial resources required. In this
better standards of life in larger freedom
as well as to employ international mecha-
nisms for the promotion of the economic
and social advancement of all peoples,
Recalling all its previous resolutions
relating to the right to development, in par-
72, 1999/79 and 2000/5, as well as those
of the General Assembly, and welcoming
Assembly resolution 55/108,
Recalling also that the Declaration on
the Right to Development adopted by the
General Assembly in its resolution 41/128
of 4 December 1986 confirmed that the
right to development is an inalienable hu-
man right and that equality of opportunity
for development is a prerequisite of both
countries and of individuals, who make up
nations,
Taking note of the three studies pre-
pared by the independent expert on the
right to development and his proposed
possible approaches to the operationaliz-
ation of the right to development,
Welcoming the commitment made by
heads of State and Government in the
United Nations Millennium Declaration to
make the right to development a reality for
everyone and their resolve to create an
environment – at the national and global
levels alike – which is conducive to devel-
opment and to the elimination of poverty,
and their commitment to spare no effort to
promote good governance and democracy
and to strengthen the rule of law as well as
respect for all universally recognized
human rights and fundamental freedoms,
including the right to development,
Underlining that meeting the objec-
tives of good governance also depends on
good governance at the international level
and on transparency in the financial, mon-
etary and trading systems and an open,
equitable, rule-based, predictable and
non-discriminatory multilateral trading and
financial system,
Underlining also the fact that realiza-
tion of the right to development requires
effective development policies at the na-
tional level as well as equitable economic
relations and a favourable economic envi-
ronment at the international level,
Recalling the need for coordination
and cooperation throughout the United Na-
tions system for a more effective promo-
ion and realization of the right to develop-
ment,
1. Welcomes the holding of two ses-
sions of the open-ended Working Group
on the Right to Development (18-22 Sep-
tember 2000 and 29 January – 2 February
2001) which focused on certain issues, as
reflected in the report of the open-ended
Working Group, and emphasizes the need
to continue deliberations on the right to
development in all its aspects, inter alia on
the basis of the report of the open-ended
Working Group and the Chairperson’s con-
cclusions, as well as comments submitted
thereon;
2. Emphasizes that on the basis of the
text of the Declaration on the Right to De-
velopment of 1986, several resolutions and
declarations adopted by consensus at sub-
sequent international conferences and the
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
of 1993, it should now be possible to
reach consensus on the full implemen-
tation of the right to development;
3. Expresses its appreciation of the re-
ports of the independent expert and his ad-
ditional work on and clarifications of the
"development compact" proposal, which
contributed to a better understanding of this
proposal, while recognizing that further
clarification is still needed;
4. Recognizes that any "development
compact" would be of a voluntary nature
for all parties involved and that its content
would be defined on a case-by-case basis
and be adapted to the priorities and reali-
ties of any country willing to conclude such
a compact, which would need the adher-
ence and the support of all international
actors involved in its implementation;
5. Requests the independent expert
to clarify further the proposed "development
compact", taking into consideration views
expressed during the two sessions of the
Working Group and in broad consultation
with the Office of the High Commissioner
for Human Rights and United Nations funds
and programmes, as well as specialized
agencies, relevant international and regi-
onal organizations, non-governmental organi-
zations and, in particular, those actors and
States interested in developing pilot projects
in this regard, keeping in mind:
(a) The ongoing bilateral, regional and
multilateral development cooperation pro-
grames;
(b) The formulation of an operational
model for the "development compact";
(c) The views of concerned international
organizations and agencies and relevant
regional institutions and actors;
(d) The need to ensure that any added
value and complementarity with the relevant
existing mechanisms;
(e) The need to address and remedy the
national and international dimensions of
corruption;
(f) The need for country-specific studies
both from a national and an international
perspective;
6. Recommends that States have the pri-
mary responsibility for the creation of na-
tional and international conditions favour-
able to the realization of the right to de-
velopment and that they are committed to co-
operating with each other to that end;
7. Also reaffirms that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and which also proclaims the human person as the central core of development and recognizes that while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

8. Also recognizes that for many developing countries, the realization of the right to development, as well as the realization of the rights to health, food, education and social security, may be important development entry points to the realization of the right to development and that, in this context, the independent expert’s concept of a “development” agenda intends to give expression to some basic tenets of the interdependence of all human rights and national ownership of development strategies and development programmes, as well as the importance of international cooperation;

9. Further recognizes the need for a discussion on a suitable permanent follow-up mechanism for the implementation of the right to development in the future, in the Working Group on the Right to Development;

10. Stresses the necessity of establishing, at the national level, an enabling legal, political, economic and social environment for the realization of the right to development and emphasizes the importance of democratic, participatory, transparent and accountable governance, as well as the need for efficient national mechanisms such as national human rights commissions, to ensure the implementation of the right to development;

11. Stresses the necessity of establishing, at the national level, an enabling legal, political, economic and social environment for the realization of the right to development and emphasizes the importance of democratic, participatory, transparent and accountable governance, as well as the need for efficient national mechanisms such as national human rights commissions, to ensure the implementation of the right to development;

12. Also affirms that for many developing countries, the realization of the right to development, as well as the realization of the rights to health, food, education and social security, may be important development entry points to the realization of the right to development and that, in this context, the independent expert’s concept of a “development” agenda intends to give expression to some basic tenets of the interdependence of all human rights and national ownership of development strategies and development programmes, as well as the importance of international cooperation;

13. Recognizes, while bearing in mind the existing efforts in this respect, that it is necessary to enhance efforts to consider and evaluate the impact of international economic and financial issues on the enjoyment of human rights, such as:
   (a) International trade issues;
   (b) Access to technology;
   (c) Good governance and equity at the international level; and
   (d) Debt burden;

14. Reaffirms the independent expert’s concept of a “development” agenda intends to give expression to some basic tenets of the interdependence of all human rights and national ownership of development strategies and development programmes, as well as the importance of international cooperation;

15. Further recognizes the need for a discussion on a suitable permanent follow-up mechanism for the implementation of the right to development in the future, in the Working Group on the Right to Development;

16. Underlines that in the process of the realization of the right to development, special attention should be given to persons belonging to minorities, whether national, ethnic, religious or linguistic, as well as to persons belonging to vulnerable groups, for instance elderly people, indigenous people, persons facing discrimination, persons with disabilities, children and persons with disabilities, children and persons infected with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome, and that this attention should have a gender perspective;

17. Affirms in this context that attention should also be given to the right to development of children, with special attention to the rights of the girl child;

18. **Reiterates** that the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptable wide, that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

19. Stresses the necessity of establishing, at the national level, an enabling legal, political, economic and social environment for the realization of the right to development and emphasizes the importance of democratic, participatory, transparent and accountable governance, as well as the need for efficient national mechanisms such as national human rights commissions, to ensure the implementation of the right to development;

20. **Recognizes** that the right to development is essential to the realization of the right to development, and based on the established practice of the Commission on Human Rights:
   (a) To extend the mandate of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development for one year;
   (b) To extend the mandate of the independent expert on the right to development, to consider, as appropriate, the relevant economic and developmental outcomes of the international conferences, inter alia the Summit of the Group of Seventy-seven and the follow-up thereto, in elaborating their recommendations for the implementation of the right to development;

21. **Requests** the independent expert to prepare, in consultation with all relevant United Nations agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, a report on the impact of these issues on the enjoyment of human rights, starting by analysing the existing efforts and means of assessing and evaluating such an impact, for consideration by the Working Group at its future sessions;

22. **Requests** the open-ended Working Group on the right to development, as well as the independent expert, to consider, as appropriate, the relevant economic and developmental outcomes of the international conferences, inter alia the Summit of the Group of Seventy-seven and the follow-up thereto, in elaborating their recommendations for the implementation of the right to development;

23. **Decides**, in view of the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as enshrined in the Declaration on the Right to Development, and based on the established practice of the Commission on Human Rights:
   (a) To extend the mandate of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development for one year;
   (b) To extend the mandate of the independent expert for three years;

24. **Recommends** that the Economic and Social Council endorse the Commission’s decision contained in the preceding paragraph.

25. **Decides** to continue consideration of the issue of the right to development, as a matter of priority, at its fifty-eighth session.

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Science and the Environment*

*E/CN.4/DEC/2001/111. 25 April 2001. See also page 129

At its 77th meeting, on 25 April 2001, the Commission on Human Rights, recalling the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002, recalling its resolutions 1993/90 of 10 March 1993, 1994/45 of 9 March 1994 and 1996/14 of 24 February 1995 and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 55/199 of 20 December 2000 on the ten-year review of progress achieved in the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, decided, without a vote, to invite the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to consider taking into account their respective approved work programmes and budgets, the organization of a joint seminar, to be funded through voluntary contributions, to review and assess progress achieved since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in promoting and protecting human rights in relation to environmental questions and in the framework of Agenda 21, in collaboration with the concerned international institutions and agencies and taking into account the views of concerned States, and to consider this question at its fifty-eighth session under the agenda item entitled “Protection and promotion of human rights: (d) Science and environment.”