

1998/250. Human rights and extreme poverty

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/25 of 17 April 1998,³⁹ endorsed the decision of Commission to appoint, for a period of two years, an independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty:

(a) To evaluate the relationship between the promotion and protection of human rights and extreme poverty, including through the evaluation of measures taken at the national and international levels to promote the full enjoyment of human rights by persons living in extreme poverty;

(b) To take into account in particular the obstacles encountered and progress made by women living in extreme poverty as regards the enjoyment of their fundamental rights;

(c) To make recommendations and, as appropriate, proposals in the sphere of technical assistance;

(d) To report on these activities to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions, and make those reports available to the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, as appropriate, for their sessions during the same years;

(e) To contribute to the General Assembly's evaluation in 2000 of the World Summit for Social Development by making his or her final report and conclusions available to the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly devoted to that evaluation;

(f) To make suggestions to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-fifth session on the main points of a possible draft declaration on human rights and extreme poverty so that the Commission can consider the possibility of initiating, at the fifty-first session of the Subcommission on Prevention of

Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the drafting by that body of a text for examination by the Commission and possible adoption by the General Assembly, taking into account in that regard, *inter alia*, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁴¹ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁴¹ the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,⁴² the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,⁴³ the Agenda for Development⁴⁴ and the final report of the Special Rapporteur, Mr. Leandro Despouy.⁴⁵

³⁹ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

⁴⁴ General Assembly resolution 51/240, annex.

⁴⁵ See E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/13.