

1999/249. Rights of the child

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 27 July 1999, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/80 of 28 April 1999,³² endorsed the Commission's decision:

(a) With regard to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to request the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities from the United Nations regular budget for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee;

(b) With regard to the draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,¹¹ on the involvement of children in armed conflict:

- (i) To invite the Chairperson of the Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts to continue broad informal consultations, with the aim of promoting an early agreement on the optional protocol, and, if possible, to draw up a report thereon by the end of 1999, including recommendations on how to finalize the formal negotiations;
- (ii) To request the Working Group to meet early in 2000 in order to make further progress with the aim of finalizing its work before the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention, and to report to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session;
- (iii) To request the Secretary-General to give the necessary support to the Working Group to meet for a maximum of two weeks;

(c) With regard to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the question of the impact of armed conflict on children, to request the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary support was made available expeditiously to the Special Representative for the effective performance of his mandate;

(d) With regard to the question of a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography:

- (i) To invite the Chairperson of the Working Group on a draft optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to conduct broad informal consultations, with the aim of promoting an early agreement on the optional protocol, and, if possible, to draw up a report thereon by the end of 1999, including recommendations on how to finalize the formal negotiations;
- (ii) To request the Working Group to meet early in 2000 in order to make further progress with the aim of finalizing its work before the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention, and to report to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session;
- (iii) To request the Secretary-General to give the necessary support to the Working Group to meet for a maximum of two weeks;

(e) To approve the recommendation of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,³⁶ contained in its resolution 1998/16 of 21 August 1998,⁴² that the mandate of Ms. Halima Embarek Warzazi as Special Rapporteur on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child be extended to ensure the completion of her task as called for in Subcommission resolution 1996/19 of 29 August 1996.⁴³

⁴² E/CN.4/1999/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/45, chap. II, sect. A.

⁴³ E/CN.4/1997/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/41, chap. II, sect. A.