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UNCLAS NAIROBI 23924

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: UNSCW, AORG, SREF, EAID
SUBJECT: UN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: FIFTH DAY: JULY 19: US DRAFT RESOLUTION ON REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN: USDEL 12
FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION ON REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS TABLED BY USDEL ON JULY 19.

BEGIN TEXT: THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND APPRAISE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DECADE FOR WOMEN: EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE,

RECOGNIZING THAT THE PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS AFFECT EVERY CONTINENT AND PLACE SPECIAL BURDENS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;

BEARING IN MIND THE ROOT CAUSES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT NEARLY 10 MILLION REFUGEES AND MANY MORE DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE WORLD TODAY--FAMINE, DROUGHT, WAR, AND PARTICULARLY THE WHOLESALE LOSS OF HUMAN FREEDOM;

DEPLORING THE ACTIONS OF GOVERNMENTS WHICH FORCE PEOPLE FROM THEIR HOMES IN SEARCH OF FREEDOM;

RECOGNIZING THAT A LASTING SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED WOMEN AND CHILDREN SHOULD BE SOUGHT IN THE ELIMINATION OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF THE FLOW OF REFUGEES, AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS SHOULD BE FOUND LEADING TO THEIR VOLUNTARY RETURN TO THEIR HOMES IN CONDITION OF SAFETY AND HONOR, OR WHERE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, TO SUCCESSFUL LOCAL INTEGRATION IN THE COUNTRY OF FIRST ASYLUM, OR, AS A LAST RESORT, RESETTLEMENT IN A THIRD COUNTRY;

AWARE THAT THE INCREASINGLY SERIOUS SITUATION OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS PLACE HEAVY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BURDENS ON THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH PROVIDE ASYLUM, RELIEF, REHABILITATION, OR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT;

NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN THAT WOMEN AND CHILDREN CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN MOST AREAS;

RECOGNIZING THAT THE NEEDS OF REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN AS MOTHERS AND AS WOMEN WHO HAVE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUPPORT OF THEIR FAMILIES REQUIRE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTENTION BY ALL PARTIES TO THEIR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION; RECOGNIZING ALSO THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT REFUGEE WOMEN PLAY IN THE ASSIMILATION PROCESS AND THE POTENTIALLY STRONG CONTRIBUTION BY REFUGEE WOMEN TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ASYLUM RESETTLEMENT;

BEARING IN MIND THE PARTICULAR VULNERABILITY OF REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN TO INTIMIDATION, EXPLOITATION AND PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE;

AWARE THAT THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN HAVE TO DATE NOT BEEN FULLY STUDIED;

REAFFIRMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 35/135 OF 1980, DEALING WITH REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN,

1. REQUESTS ALL STATES TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES IN ORDER TO ASSURE FULL PROTECTION OF THE WELL-BEING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION.

2. CALLS UPON ALL STATES AND DONORS PROVIDING IMMEDIATE RELIEF TO REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS TO ENDEAVOR TO LESSEN THE SPECIAL VULNERABILITY OF WOMEN IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, BY ENSURING THEIR ACCESS TO EMERGENCY RELIEF, HEALTH PROGRAMS, PHYSICAL SECURITY AND THEIR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING IN CENTERS OR CAMPS FOR REFUGEES OR DISPLACED PERSONS.

3. URGES THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE URGENT AND ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE TO ALL REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN AND TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES PROVIDING ASYLUM OR REHABILITATION, ESPECIALLY THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

4. FURTHER URGES ALL STATES TO CREATE OR MAINTAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH ENSURES THE RIGHTS OF THEIR CITIZENS FREELY TO LEAVE AND RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN IN HONOR AND DIGNITY.

5. CALLS UPON ALL STATES TO COOPERATE IN PRIORITIZING THE REUNIFICATION OF IMMEDIATE FAMILIES AND TO ASSIST DISRUPTED FAMILIES TO BE REUNITED.

6. FURTHER CALLS UPON ALL STATES AND DONORS ASSISTING IN THE REHABILITATION OR REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS TO RECOGNIZE THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF THE MOTHER IN THE FAMILY, AND THUS IN THE PROVISION OF FAMILY WELFARE TO ENSURE WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO PHYSICAL SAFETY AND TO FACILITATE THEIR ACCESS TO COUNSELING SERVICES AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING PROVIDING THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ACCESS TO CAMPS AND PROGRAMS WITHOUT RESTRICTION.

7. CALLS UPON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO CONTINUE EXERTING PRESSURE UPON STATES WHOSE POLICIES IN VIOLATION OF SELF-DETERMINATION THROUGH USE OF FORCE CONTRIBUTE TO THE

CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH CREATE MASSIVE REFUGEE PROBLEMS.

8. URGES THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO WORK WITH HOST COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN, INCLUDING REFUGEE WOMEN, IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, NOTABLY THE PROVISION OF ESSENTIAL FOOD, SHELTER AND MEDICAL SERVICES IN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM AND TO PROMOTE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND ORIENTATION PROGRAMS IN COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM AND RESETTLEMENT.

9. URGES THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO DRAW UPON THE EXPERTISE OF ALL UN BODIES CONCERNED AS WELL AS INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED, TO CARRY OUT DETAILED STUDIES AND RESEARCH TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH REFUGEE AND DISPLACED WOMEN ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE AND TO FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS BASED UPON THE RESULTS OF THESE STUDIES.

10. REQUESTS THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON THE PROGRESS OF THESE PLANS AND PROGRAMS.

11. FURTHER RECOMMENDS THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ENSURE THAT THE NUMBER OF WOMEN AT ALL LEVELS ON HIS STAFF, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELD, IS INCREASED. END TEXT. THOMAS