



**OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS**



**Systematic rape and sexual slavery during periods of armed conflict**

**Sub-Commission resolution 1995/14**

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Recalling its resolution 1993/24 of 25 August 1993 on slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime, in which it requested an in-depth study on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime, including internal armed conflict,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights decision 1994/103 of 4 March 1994,

Recalling further its decision 1994/109 of 19 August 1994, in which, taking note of the information concerning slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime received by the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery at its nineteenth session and by the Sub-Commission at its forty-sixth session, which required an in-depth study as a matter of priority, it decided to invite Ms. Linda Chavez to submit, without financial implications, a working paper on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime, including internal armed conflict, to the Sub-Commission at its forty-seventh session,

Guided by the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Slavery Convention of 1926, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and other relevant human rights instruments, as well as the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and Protocols I and II thereto of 1977,

1. Welcomes the working paper on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during wartime, including internal armed conflict (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1995/38);
2. Decides, since this subject requires careful and comprehensive inquiry, to appoint Ms. Linda Chavez as Special Rapporteur with the task of undertaking an in-depth study of the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict;
3. Requests the Special Rapporteur to submit a preliminary report to the Sub-Commission at its forty-eighth session and a final report at its forty-ninth session;
4. Decides to consider the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict under its agenda item on contemporary forms of slavery at its forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions;
5. Recommends the following draft decision to the Commission on Human Rights for adoption:

The Commission on Human Rights, taking note of resolution 1995/14 of 18 August 1995 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, endorses the decision of the Sub-Commission to appoint Ms. Linda Chavez as Special Rapporteur with the task of undertaking an in-depth study of the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict. The Commission also decides to invite Governments, competent bodies of the United Nations, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide or continue to provide information on this question, and recommends the following draft decision to the Economic and Social Council for adoption:

"The Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights decision 1996/... of ... 1996, approves the endorsement by the Commission on Human Rights of the decision of the Sub-Commission on

Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to appoint Ms. Linda Chavez as Special Rapporteur with the task of undertaking an in-depth study of the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery and slavery-like practices during periods of armed conflict and to submit a preliminary report to the Sub-Commission at its forty-eighth session and a final report at its forty-ninth session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide all assistance necessary to enable her to complete her study."

27th meeting

18 August 1995

[Adopted without a vote.]