

security and economic development, human rights cannot be genuine. Democracy and human rights cannot flourish without a certain degree of economic prosperity. There is no denying that development and human rights are closely related.

It is also true that regional and national circumstances need to be taken into account in the promotion and protection of human rights. Yet, history shows us that special circumstances do not justify abuses of human rights. Lack of development, for example, can never be used as an excuse or justification for any abuse of human rights.

Clearly, we have a dilemma here. In dealing with this problem, we should bear in mind that a simplistic and self-righteous approach to the issue of human rights could be counter-productive by provoking another powerful human sentiment, namely, nationalism. Compassion and pragmatism, rather than subjective moralism, should be our guiding principle.

Mr. President,

As we discuss ways to promote human rights, we have to pay particular attention to the importance of two interrelated elements: free flow of information and the integration of the state in the international order. The days when governments controlled the flow of information among their people are over. Free information always works for the promotion and protection of human rights. In the same vein, the more a state becomes integrated in the regional and world order, the less likely it is that gross violation of human rights will occur.

Twentieth-century history bears witness to the fact that only democracy and human rights ensure the full blossoming of individual potential, which in turn forms the basis for political, social and economic development.

In this process, we have learned that individual courage and sacrifice is a fundamental driving force behind the promotion and protection of human rights.

In this respect, the important role of individuals and non-governmental organizations cannot be overemphasized.

More often than not, the NGOs, as well as the individuals, can be more responsive to the implementation of human rights standards than governments. For that reason, the increasing number of NGOs indicates a promising trend for the universal realization of human rights.

Individuals and NGOs function within the realm of a state. It is the state that has the primary responsibility to protect and promote human rights. Thus, it is imperative that all nations become party to the international human rights instruments, including the two International Covenants on Human Rights. The states which have not yet done so should be urged to ratify or accede to these instruments as soon as possible.

As we turn our attention from the individual and the state to the world scene, we see the vital contributions made by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. The Universal Declaration, the International Covenants and other major human rights instruments were prepared and drafted by the Commission. In the actual promotion of human rights also, the role of various special rapporteurs and working groups established by the Commission has been crucial.

Now that we have a rare opportunity to promote human rights at a global level and that the United Nations is established as the most effective organization to do this, it is high time to strengthen the U.N. mechanism on human rights.

The United Nations should be provided with a more effective organizational mechanism for dealing with human rights activities. In this respect, Korea supports the proposal to establish the office of High Commissioner for Human Rights.

A High Commissioner will facilitate the coordination of activities conducted by various human rights organs

of the United Nations. This institution will also be able to respond more effectively to emergency situations involving massive human rights violations.

We fully support the strengthening of U.N. activities to ensure the rights of women so that human rights violations against women can be dealt with in a more effective and comprehensive manner.

Likewise, concrete programs of action should be adopted to facilitate the promotion and protection of the rights of vulnerable groups, such as children, minorities, indigenous people and the disabled. Such programs of action should be prepared with the recognition that the people in these groups should not only be the objects of protection but become full participants in the development process of the society to which they belong.

Mr. President,

The Republic of Korea is a party to most of the major human rights instruments, including the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We are now preparing to accede to the Convention Against Torture within this year, and will faithfully carry out all the obligations under these conventions.

Korea is irrevocably committed to the cause of human rights. President Kim Young Sam of the Republic of Korea, an ardent champion of democracy himself, announced new foreign policy guidelines last month, which have particular bearing on human rights. Korea's new diplomacy, he said, is the one which places emphasis on such universal values as democracy, liberty, welfare and human rights.

His announcement reflects the belief in democracy shared by all people in my country. The Republic of Korea, with the firm faith that democracy is an ultimate guarantor of human rights, individual liberties, peace and development, will continue to do its part in the international endeavour to expand democratic ideals.

Mr. President,

In 1998, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the epoch-making Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These intervening five years will be critical for the cause of human rights as the new world order takes clearer shape.

With our common efforts to achieve the goals set in the Declaration, we must be able to say to future generations that this conference here and now opened a new and bright chapter of human rights for the 21st century.

Thank you.

의장, 대표 및 인사숙녀 여러분,

45년전, 유엔은 세계인권선언을 채택하였으며, 같은 해에 대한민국의 정부 수립을 도왔습니다. 그 이후 약 반세기동안, 세계인권선언은 자유와 민주주의를 위한 한국인의 투쟁에 있어 하나의 등불이 되어왔습니다.

그러한 이상을 위한 노력의 과정에서 우리는 많은 시련과 고난을 겪었습니다. 성공의 가능성이 너무나 요원하여 절망한 때도 있었고, 그릇된 희망으로 설블리 기뻐했던 적도 있습니다. 분단된 국가로서 우리는 안보라는 과중한 부담을 짊어져야 했고, 또한 오랜 빈곤으로 인해 경제문제를 최우선시해야 했습니다.

그러나 우리는 이 모든 어려움을 헤치고, 인권과 자유를 위해 일어난 사람들의 용기와 희생을 바탕으로 인권의 완전한 존중을 위한 행진을 계속했습니다.

여기 우리들이 세계인권회의에 모인 자리에서 나는 한국에서 인권이 드디어 성숙에 이르렀다고 알릴수 있게 된것을 큰 기쁨으로 생각합니다. 나는 진실, 자유, 그리고 민주주의가 마침내 승리했다고 자랑스럽게 말할 수 있는 국가와 국민을 대표해서 여러분 앞에서 있습니다.

의장,

세계는 제2차 대전의 종전을 계기로 유엔을 창설하고 곧이어 세계인권선언을 채택하였습니다. 이것은 인권의 보호와 증진을 향한 우리의 최초의 의미있는 행동이었습니다. 이제 여기에 모인 우리들은 냉전이후 또 하나의 새로운 기회가 열리고 있음을 인식하고 있습니다. 이데올로기적으로 말하자면, 제2차 대전은 파시즘에 대항한 전쟁이었고 냉전은 공산주의와의 전쟁이었습니다. 냉전의 종식은 자유민주주의가 끝까지 견디어내어 승리하였다는 것을 의미합니다.

들이켜보면, 억압적인 이데올로기들은 20세기의 체계적이고 총체적인 인권 침해를 부당한 방법으로 정당화시켰습니다. 우리는 이제 "자유란 굴종이다"라든가 "들 더하기 들은 다섯이다"와 같은 전율할 오웰의 구절들을 잠재울 수 있게 되었습니다. 여행의 자유는 물론이고 거주선택의 자유와 같은 기본적 권리를 무시하는 국가들은 이 지구상에서 사라지고 있습니다.

이제 탈냉전시대에, 화해와 협력의 추세는 새로운 세계질서 형성에 필수적인 요소가 되고 있으며 이러한 추세는 인권증진을 위한 새로운 기회, 즉 45년전 제2차 대전 종전후 우리에게 주어졌던 것 만큼이나 드문 기회를 제공하고 있습니다.

우리는 보편적 인권을 성취하기 위한 새로운 기회와 함께, 대량인권침해를 수반하는 지역분쟁, 만성적인 빈곤과 저개발과 같은 탈냉전시대의 어려운 도전에 직면하고 있습니다. 이러한 도전의 본질은 인권의 보편성이라든지 발전, 민주주의 및 인권간의 관계와 같은 본 회의의 의제에 반영되어 있습니다.

우리는 인권을 위한 투쟁이 인간본성에서 유래한 것임을 투쟁과정을 통하여 알게 되었습니다. 인권은 정치적 또는 경제적 상황에 관계없이 인류가 마음에 간직하고 열망하게되는 그 무엇입니다. 인권은 보편적이고 불가분이며 상호의존적입니다. 또한 상황에 따라 변경될 수 없는 것입니다. 어떤 인권의 보장을 위해 다른 인권이 부인되는 것은 정당화 될 수도 없으며 합당하지도 않습니다.

우리는 인권보장을 위한 여정을 하룻밤새에 마칠 수 없다는 점도 인식해야 할 것입니다. 그것은 여타 과제들과 함께 달성해야 할 길고도 힘든 여정일 것입니다. 안보와 경제적 발전없이 진정한 인권은 불가능하며, 민주주의와 인권은 어느정도의 경제적 번영없이 꽃피기 어렵습니다. 발전과 인권은 밀접히 관련되어 있다는 점을 부인할 수는 없습니다.

인권의 보호와 증진에 있어 지역적, 국가적 상황이 고려될 필요가 있다는 것도 또한 사실입니다. 그러나, 역사는 특수상황이 인권침해를 정당화 할 수 없다는 것을 우리에게 보여주고 있습니다. 예를들면, 저개발이 인권침해에 대한 변명이나 정당화 수단으로 사용될 수는 없습니다.

여기에 딜레마가 있는 것은 분명합니다. 이러한 문제를 다룸에 있어, 우리가 명심해야 할 것은, 인권문제에 대한 단순화되고 독선적인 태도는 민족주의라는 또다른 강력한 감정을 촉발함으로써 역효과를 발생시킬 수 있다는 점입니다. 주관적 도덕주의 보다는 등정과 실용주의가 우리의 기본지침이 되어야 할 것입니다.

의장,

우리는 인권증진방안을 논의하면서 상호 연관성이 있는 두가지 중요한 문제에 특히 관심을 기울여야 할 것입니다. 그것은 정보의 자유로운 흐름과 한 국가의 국제질서로의 통합입니다.

국민에 대해 정보의 유통을 통제하던 시대는 끝났습니다. 정보의 자유는 언제나 인권의 보호와 증진에 긍정적으로 작용합니다. 같은 맥락에서, 한 국가가 지역질서와 세계질서에 통합되면 될수록 심각한 인권침해가 발생되기 어려워질 것입니다.

오직 민주주의와 인권만이 정치적, 사회적, 경제적 발전의 바탕이 되는 개인 잠재력의 완전한 발휘를 보장한다는 사실을 20세기 역사는 증명하고 있습니다.

이러한 과정에서 우리는 개인의 용기와 희생이 인권의 증진과 보호에 중요한 원동력을 알게 되었습니다. 이러한 점에서 개인과 민간단체들의 중요한 역할은 높이 평가되어야 합니다.

개인과 마찬가지로 민간단체들은 보통 인권규범의 이행에 있어 정부보다 더 적극적인 대응을 할 수 있으며, 따라서 민간단체의 증가는 인권의 보편적 실현에 긍정적인 징조라고 하겠습니다.

개인과 민간단체들은 국가의 영역내에서 기능하고 있습니다. 인권의 보호와 증진을 위한 일차적 책임을 지는 것은 국가입니다. 이러한 점에서 모든 국가가 2개의 국제인권규약을 포함한 제반 국제인권협약에 가입하는 것이 필요합니다. 아직 이러한 협약에 가입하지 않은 국가들이 가능한한 조속히 협약에 가입할 것을 촉구합니다.

개인과 국가에서 세계무대로 관심을 돌리면 우리는 유엔 인권위원회의 지대한 공헌을 알게 됩니다. 세계인권선언, 국제인권규약과 여타 주요 인권협약들이 등 위원회에 의해 마련되었습니다. 또한, 실질적 인권증진에 있어서도 인권위원회에 의해 설립된 다양한 특별보고관과 실무그룹들이 매우 중요한 역할을 하고 있습니다.

우리는 범세계적으로 인권을 증진하는데 있어 드문 기회를 맞이하고 있으며 또한 유엔이 인권증진의 임무를 수행하기에 가장 효율적인 기구인 만큼, 지금이야말로 유엔 인권활동의 메카니즘을 강화시켜야 할 호기라고 하겠습니다.

유엔은 인권활동을 수행함에 있어 보다 효율적인 조직체제를 필요로 하고 있습니다. 이런 의미에서, 한국은 유엔 인권고등판무관직을 설치하자는 제안을 지지합니다.

인권고등판무관은 유엔내 다양한 인권기관에 의해 수행되는 활동의 조정을 보다 용이하게 할 것입니다. 또한 인권고등판무관은 대량인권침해를 수반하는 긴급상황에 보다 효과적으로 대처할 수 있을 것입니다.

우리는 여성에 대한 인권침해가 보다 효과적이고 포괄적인 방법으로 다루어 지도록 여성인권의 보장을 위한 유엔활동이 강화되는 것을 지지합니다.

아울러, 아동, 소수민족, 원주민 및 장애자와 같은 취약계층의 인권보호와 증진을 도모할 수 있는 구체적인 행동계획이 채택되어야 할 것입니다. 그러한 행동계획은 취약계층의 사람들이 보호의 대상일 뿐 아니라 그들이 속한 사회의 발전과정에 완전한 참여자가 되어야 한다는 인식위에서 마련되어야 할 것입니다.

의장,

대한민국은 시민적, 정치적 권리에 관한 국제규약 선택의정서를 포함한 거의 모든 주요 국제인권협약에 가입하였습니다. 또한 금년내에 고문방지협약에 가입하기 위하여 국내절차를 추진중이며, 나아가 이러한 제협약상의 모든 의무를 충실히 준수해 나갈 것입니다.

한국은 인권보장에 대해 확고한 의지를 가지고 있습니다. 열렬한 민주주의의 옹호자인 김영삼 대통령은 지난달 신외교 정책기조 발표에서 인권에 대해 각별한 의미를 부여하면서 한국의 신외교는 민주주의, 자유, 복지 그리고 인권과 같은 보편적 가치에 중점을 둘 것이라고 천명하였습니다.

김 대통령의 선언은 우리나라의 모든 국민이 갖고 있는 민주주의에 대한 신뢰를 반영하는 것입니다. 대한민국은 민주주의가 인권과 개인의 자유, 평화와 발전의 궁극적인 보장자라는 굳은 신념위에서, 민주주의 이상의 확산을 위한 국제적인 노력에 참여하여 그 나름의 역할을 계속해 나갈 것입니다.

의장,

1998년에 우리는 역사적인 세계인권선언 50주년을 기념하게 될 것입니다. 향후 5년은 새로운 국제질서가 보다 뚜렷한 형태를 갖추어 가면서 인권이란 목표에 있어 매우 중요한 기간이 될 것입니다.

세계인권선언의 목표를 달성하기 위한 공동의 노력을 통하여, 우리는 바로 이 회의가 21세기를 위한 새롭고 찬란한 인권의 장을 열었다고 후세에 대해 말할 수 있어야 할 것입니다.

감사합니다.

주요대표 기조연설 요지

1. 아주지역

가. 북 한 (백인준 최고인민회의 부의장)

- 냉전시대에 존재하던 인권의 정치적 목적 이용 현상이 상존하고 있을 뿐 아니라 강화되고 있음.
- 세계인권의 보장문제에 있어 이중기준 적용 및 선별성 경향이 극복되어야 하며, 문화적 특성, 발전단계가 고려되어야 함.
- 인권보장에 있어 민주주의의 중요성을 강조함.
- 보편적 인권은 역사와 전통이 중시되는 국가에서 그에 맞게 적용, 발전되어야 함.
- 북한 주민은 무상의료 및 무상교육 등의 혜택을 받으며, 일치단결, 미래에 대한 근심없이 살고 있음.

나. El Hassan Bin Taral 요르단 왕세자 (유엔 사무총장 초청인사)

- 인권은 보편적이며 모든 국가는 정치적, 경제적 발전수준에 관계없이 국제적으로 인정된 인권의 존중 및 보장의무가 있음.
- 국제적 기준은 융통성있게 국내에 적용되어야 하며 특정한 정치적, 법적, 사회적 혹은 문화적 모델은 강요되지 말아야 함.
- 주권이 개인의 정치적, 경제적 권리를 침해하여서는 아니됨.
- 인권기준이 세계 정의의 기초가 된다면 그 감시방법도 객관적이어야 함.

다. 인도네시아 (Ali Alatas 외무장관)

- 선진국과 개도국간의 가치 대립이 본회의를 위협한다는 보도는 잘못된 것임. 개도국은 대립이나 문화적 상대주의 개념을 주장하기 위해 본회의에 참석한 것이 아님.
- 인권개념의 논쟁은 "개인자유와 원리"와 "강력한 합법적 권능의 원리"라는 서양의 두가지 전통간의 상충된 개념에서 비롯된 것임.
- 인권문제에 대한 검토는 UN 헌장에 기초하여야 하며, 인니는 인권의 실현과 경제 및 개발협력과의 연계를 받아들일 수 없음.
- 인권의 실현과 개인의 공동체에 대한 의무와의 조화가 필요함.
- 개도국내 인권증진에는 시민적 권리 뿐만 아니라 결핍, 공포, 무지, 질병으로부터의 자유를 포함한 여타 기본적 권리도 포함됨을 유념하여야 함.
- 인권실현에 있어 각국의 특성이 충분히 고려되어야 함.
- 인권위원회는 각종 정보에 대한 평가방법을 개선하기 위하여 업무 조정 및 조직개선이 필요함.
- 인권고등판무관 설치 제의는 신중한 검토가 필요함.

라. 싱가포르 (Wong Kan Seng 외무장관)

- 국가발전 초기단계에 사회의 권리 보다 개인 권리에 지나치게 치중하는 것은 발전을 지연시킴.
- 금번회의의 목적은 특정한 진실을 주장하거나 특정형태의 사회제도를 강요하지 않고 인도적 기준을 증진시키는 것임.
- 인권의 보편주의는 현실의 다양성을 부인하거나 은폐하기 위해 원용되어서는 아니됨.

마. 파키스탄 (Begum Nusrat Bhutto)

- 보스니아, 팔레스타인, 카시미르 등에서 대량의 조직적인 인권침해가 계속되고 있음.
- 자결권을 요구하는 주민들의 고통이 계속되는 카시미르에서는 3만여명이 사망하고 수천명이 수감중인 바, 인도는 동 투쟁이 대중적이고 자발적인 것으로 인정하여야 함.
- 국제사회는 인도가 탄압정책을 중지하도록 촉구하여야 하며, 동 문제는 안보리 결의와 Simla 협정의 정신에 따라 해결되어야 함.
- * 상기 발언도중 인도 대표가 의사진행 발언을 통해, 동 대표의 특정 국가에 대한 허위발언에 유감을 표명하고, 특정국가 문제는 제기하지 않기로 결정된 바 있음을 언급함. 의장이 파키스탄 대표의 계속 발언을 허용, 발언을 마침. 이후 본회의에서 양국대표의 답변권 행사가 있었음.

바. 태 국 (Prosong Soonsiri 외무장관)

- 국가가 인권보장의 1차적 책임을 지므로 인권의 완전한 실현을 위한 노력은 국내에서부터 시작되어야 함.
- 인권침해 및 인권보장의 장애요인은 국제사회의 관심사항이나, 동 관심이 국내문제 간섭 또는 국가주권의 침해의 명분으로 변질되어서는 아니됨.
- 발전을 이유로 인권침해나 민주주의 탄압을 정당화 할 수 없듯이, 개발원조가 민주주의나 인권보장의 수준에 따라 조건부이어서는 아니됨.

사. 필리핀 (Roberto R. Romulo 외무장관)

- 민주주의 중요성을 강조함.
- 발전권은 인간의 존엄에 필수적임.
- 제2차 대전 이후 서방측은 전체주의체제 국가에 대항하여 개인적, 정치적 권리를 강조한 반면에, 전체주의 국가들은 방어적 조치 또는 정치적 권리에 대한 탄압을 합리화하기 위하여 경제적, 사회적, 문화적 권리를 주장하였음.
- 금번 회의는 2개의 인권규약이 분리될 수 없는 권리의 조합으로서 인식되는 계기가 되어야 함.

아. Corazon Aquino 전 필리핀 대통령 (유엔 사무총장 초청인사)

- 인권의 존중은 정부의 최우선 과제임.
- 인권은 정치적 또는 선전적 도구로서 사용되어서는 안됨.
- 필리핀의 민주화 과정을 설명함.

자. 방글라데시 (A.S.M. Mostafizur Rahman 외무장관)

- 회교도는 소수이건 다수이건 대부분의 경우 최대의 인권침해 피해자임.
- 상황에 따라 적용되는 기준이 다르므로 인권침해는 계속됨.
- 세계언론매체의 불공정한 조작으로 중대한 침해가 가볍게 다루지고 있음.
- 현시점에서 유엔 인권관련 기구의 확대 제안에 반대함.

차. 베트남 (Le Mai 외무차관)

- 인권에 관한 계속적인 대화 및 지속적인 협력을 위하여는 국제법의 기본원칙과 상호 존중이 필요함.
- 인권은 당해국가의 산물이며, 인권증진의 책임은 기본적으로 국가가 짐.
- 유엔체제내 인권관련기구 신설문제는 신중한 검토가 필요함.

카. 시리아 (Farouk Al-Shara 외무장관)

- 인권문제에서 이중기준과 선별성은 배제되어야 함.
- 새로운 협약이나 제도의 창설 보다는 국제법상 모든 사람들이 평등하다는 원칙에 대한 정치적 의지가 중요함.
- 인권고등판무관 임명 또는 국제재판소 설치 이전에 국가주권과 영토보전을 보장하는 기준과 규칙에 대한 합의가 있어야 함.

타. 이란 (Mohammad Javad Zarif 외무차관)

- 인권은 분명히 보편성을 가지고 있으나, 모든 문화와 종교로부터의 풍요와 경험이 인권개념을 풍요롭게 함.
- 인권문제에 있어 이중기준의 적용과 정치적 고려의 확산이 문제임.

파. UAE (Rashid A. Al Noaimi 외무장관)

- 팔레스타인인에 대한 지속적 인권침해와 보스니아에서의 인종청소는 국제법 위반임.
- 이라크내 모든 정치범의 석방을 촉구함.
- * 이라크 대표는 답변권 행사를 통해 UAE측 발언을 반박함.

하. 미얀마 (U Ohn Gyaw 외무장관)

- 인권에 대한 관심은 새로운 현상도 아니며, 특정한 문화에만 한정되는 것이 아니며, 많은 사회에서 관용과 정의에 관한 문화적, 사회적 가르침을 통해 인간의 존엄을 확인하였음.
- 국제사회는 대화와 설득을 통해 합의된 규범의 보편적 수락을 추구하여야 함.
- 방콕선언에는 국가주권, 영토보전, 국내문제 불간섭 원칙이 재확인되었으며, 인권적용에 있어서 선별성과 이중기준, 정치적 목적 이용 등은 배척되어야 함.

거. 사이프러스 (Alec P. Michaelides 외무장관)

- 인권침해가 계속되는 것은 원칙 또는 각종 협약상 문제 때문이 아니라 정치적 의지의 부족 때문임.
- 인권고등판무관직 및 국제인권재판소 설치를 지지함.

너. 예멘 (Mohamed Salem Basundwa 외무장관)

- 인권과 기본적 자유는 민주주의 실현의 전제조건임.
- 발전권은 여타 권리와 분리될 수 없으며, 국제사회는 개도국의 빈곤 문제 해결을 위하여 메카니즘을 발전시켜야 함.
- 팔레스타인, 보스니아, 남아프리카에서의 인권위반 상존함.

더. 말레이시아 (Abdullah Haji Ahmed Badawi 외무장관)

- 유엔 인권활동은 시민적·정치적 권리에만 치중되어 있으며, 인권 문제의 정치화 경향이 있음.
- 개발원조와 인권존중을 연계하려는 시도는 인권보장을 저해함.
- 정치적 불안정, 빈곤, 박탈의 환경에서 인권은 의미가 없으며, 시민적·정치적 권리는 경제적·사회적·문화적 권리와 나란히 발전되어야 함.
- 인권신장을 위하여는 새로운 제도의 창설 보다는 기존 조직의 개편을 위한 종합적인 검토가 있어야 함.

러. 일본 (Nobuo Matsunaga 본부대사)

- 인권은 문화적·정치적·경제적 체제나 발전정도에 관계없이 모든 나라에서 보장되어야 함.
- 개발원조 공여시 수혜국의 인권 및 민주화 노력에 유의하여야 함.
- 인권고등판무관직 신설을 지지하며, 인권증진을 위한 모든 아시아 국가간 대화증진을 촉구함.

머. 네 팔 (Girija Prasad Koirala 수상)

- 최저개도국의 지속적인 빈곤상황에서 인권규범의 시행은 어려움.
- 인권에 대한 국제적 관심이 국가주권원칙을 저해하여서는 아니됨.

버. 스리랑카 (John A.E. Amaratunga 외무장관)

- 무력에 의한 분리운동에 직면하는 국가에서는 정상적인 상태로의 회복을 추구하게 됨.
- 최근 양자적 또는 다자적인 원조제공시 인권관련 조건부가는 발전을 저해하고 있음.
- 국제평화와 안전에 대한 위협에 대처하는 것과 같은 방법으로 유엔 현장에 따라 인권을 감시하는 것은 적절치 않음.

2. 서구 및 동구지역

가. 미국 (Warren M. Christopher 국무장관)

- 민주주의는 1990년대 도덕적, 전략적 필수불가결 요소이며, 인권의 정취 뿐만 아니라 인권보장을 위한 최상의 수단임.
- 문화적 상대주의는 억압의 피난처가 될 수 없으며, 세계인권선언의 보편성 원칙과 국제사회를 풍요롭게 하는 문화와는 상충되지 않음.
- 유엔 인권고등판무관 및 여성폭력문제 특별보고관 임명을 지지함.
- 미국은 모든 정부와의 양자관계에서 인권을 추구할 것이며, 미국의 외교정책은 국의 뿐만 아니라 기본적 가치를 반영할 것임.

나. 슬로바키아 공화국 (Michal Kovac 대통령)

- 슬로바키아 국민들은 전체주의의 부정적 영향을 인식하고 있음.
- 소수민족에 대해 동등한 시민적 권리의 보장이 필요함.

다. 구유고 마케도니아 공화국 (Kiro Gligorov 대통령)

- 금번 회의에서 소수민족 보호협약 작성작업 개시를 유엔총회에 권고해야 할 것임.
- 소수민족문제 유엔 고등판무관 설치를 제의함.
- 유엔 군축회의와 같이 새로운 유엔 인권관련 협약 협상을 위한 기구 설립이 필요함.

라. 벨기에 (Willy Claes 외무장관)

- 외국인 혐오증, 인종차별, 불관용은 제거되어야 함.
- 개도국에서의 부의 공정한 분배를 촉구함.
- 민주주의, 인권 및 발전은 밀접한 관계가 있으며 벨기에는 민주화 과정에 있는 국가를 우선 지원할 것임.
- 인권의 보편성을 중시하나 지역적, 문화적 차이 고려도 중요함.
- 인권고등판무관은 현재의 인권보장기능 강화에 도움이 될 것임.
- 인권침해 현상에 안보리의 관심이 필요함.

마. 아일랜드 (Dick Spring 외무장관)

- 발전이 인권의 실현보다 우선될 수 없으며, 인권존중, 법의 지배, 민주적 제도는 평등한 발전에 필수적임.
- 원조공여국들은 타 국가의 뿌리깊은 신앙과 가치체계와 어긋나는 문화적, 종교적 견해를 강요해서는 안됨.
- 인권고등판무관의 설치를 주장함.
- 인권위원회의 위원국 확대문제 논의 및 인권위 특별보고관의 임무 강화가 필요함.
- 국제형사재판소 (International Criminal Tribunal) 창설을 지지함.

바. CSCE (Margaretha Af Ugglas 스웨덴 외무장관)

- 전쟁범죄 책임자는 사법처리 되어야 하며, 분쟁예방과 위기관리의 인권적 측면은 보다 심각히 고려되어야 함.
- CSCE는 소수민족 고등판무관을 임명하였음.

사. 알바니아 (Sali Berisha 대통령)

- 알바니아내 종교적 다원화 현상을 설명함.
- 보스니아 사태의 코소보 및 마세도니아로의 확산방지를 위한 국제적 노력이 필요함.

아. 네덜란드 (Peter Kooijmans 외무장관)

- 모든 시민적, 정치적, 경제적, 사회적 및 문화적 권리들은 불가분, 상호 연관되어 있으며 보편적임.
- 인권고등판무관 설치를 찬성함.
- 여성권리보호에 대한 관심을 촉구함.

자. 노르웨이 (Johan Jrgen Holst 외무장관)

- 인간사회는 배타적인 민족성 및 종교 보다는 사람의 권리에 기초 하여야 함.
- 아웅산 수지의 석방을 촉구하며 달라이 라마의 활동을 지지함.
- 경제원조시 인권을 조건화하는 것은 부당한 간섭이 아니라 자금의 낭비 등을 방지하기 위한 필요한 보장임.
- 인권사무국 산하에 유엔 인권 프로그램의 조정 메카니즘을 설치하고, 인권고등판무관직을 신설하는 것을 지지함.

차. 러시아 연방 (Andrei Kozirev 외무장관)

- 인권은 불가분, 보편적이며, 국제적 차원에서 보호되어야 함.
- 공격적 민족주의에 대한 방비가 필요함.
- 유엔 인권고등판무관직 설치를 지지함.
- 전시 피해자 보호를 위한 세계적 및 지역적 보호체제 마련이 필요함.

카. 크로아티아 (Mate Granic 부수상)

- 인권규범에 관한 국제조직은 인권활동과 법적보호에 관한 다양한 분야에서의 변화를 수용할 수 있도록 지속적인 보완이 필요함.
- 조기경고체제 (early warning system) 도입이 필요함.
- 인권고등판무관직 설치를 지지함.

타. 호 주 (Gareth Evans 외무장관(대독))

- 인권은 보편적·불가분하며, 모든 국가에 책임이 있음.
- 1998년까지 유엔 인권예산을 현재의 2배로 하는 노력이 필요함.
- 인권신장에 관한 국가별 실천계획 작성을 권고함.
- 인권고등판무관 및 상설 국제형사재판소 설치를 지지함.

파. 덴마크 (Niels Helving Petersen 외무장관 : EC 대표)

- 전시 피해자에 대한 인도적 지원이 필요함.
- 구유고지역 전범에 대한 임시 재판소 설치를 결정한 안보리 결의 환영
- 인권사무국 강화 및 인권고등판무관직 설치 필요성을 강조함.
- 금번회의 선언에 여성 등 취약계층 인권보장 필요성, 고문철폐, 인종 차별주의 비난 내용이 포함되어야 함.
- 대의 민주정부와 법치주의에 의하여 정치적·시민적 권리 뿐만 아니라 경제적·사회적·문화적 권리를 증진하는데 있어서 개발협력의 중요성을 강조함.
- EC는 공공분야에서의 조직신설, 사법행정의 강화, 경찰에 대한 훈련, NGO 역할 강화 등에 관한 기술지원을 통하여 인권을 개발협력에 통합 하였음.
- EC는 자신의 체제나 규율을 다른 사회에 적용하려거나, 민주사회의 단일 모델을 강요하지는 않으며, 보편적 참정권, 인권존중, 특정의 사회적·문화적 여건을 기초로 민주주의를 공고히 하고자 하는 국가들과 협력하기를 희망함.

하. E C (Hans van Den Broek 대외집행위원장)

- 인권의 보편성 및 불가분성을 강조함.
- EC 경제원조계획에 따른 정치적 조건부 (political conditionality)는 비난 또는 반대의견의 표현이 아니라 공동의 염원을 이루기 위한 것임.
- EC는 새로운 민주헌법 제정을 위한 기술지원과 신생 민주국가의 선거 감시활동에 적극 참여. 또한 사법부 독립 및 사법 및 형사제도의 개선을 지원함.

거. 오스트리아 (Alois Mock 외무장관)

- 테헤란 회의는 인권의 증진과 보호를 촉진하였는 바, 금번 회의는 인권침해의 근본원인을 제거함으로써 침해를 방지하는 시대의 시작이 되어야 할 것임.
- 인권위원회에 예방적 차원의 사실조사 및 감시활동의 1차적 책임이 부여되어야 하며, 인권침해에 관한 현재의 비공개 또는 공개의 두 절차는 통합된 효율적인 제도로 대체되어야 함.
- 여러 인권협약 산하기구의 활동조정을 위해 특별조정기구가 설치되고, 궁극적으로 단일기구에서 모든 보고서를 심의하여야 할 것임.
- 각종 협약상의 진정서 절차를 담당할 별도 기구의 신설이 필요한 바, 동 기구는 국제인권재판소의 형태를 취할 수 있음.

너. 뉴질랜드 (Jenny Shipley 사회복지·여성장관)

- 70여개국내 3억명의 원주민의 인권전반에 대한 관심제고가 필요함.
- 발전권의 중요성을 강조함.
- 여성문제가 유엔활동중에서 중심의제로 되어야 하며, 유엔사무국 고위직에 여성 임명, 인권문제 특별보고관으로 여성임명이 필요함. 또한 각종 형태의 폭력, 특히 여성 및 아동에 대한 폭력은 용인되거나 감춰져서는 아니됨.

더. 스위스 (Flavio Cotti 외무장관)

- 인권관련 협약의 채택에도 불구하고, 이의 이행에는 아직 미흡함이 많음.
- 선진국은 개도국의 경제적 권리의 실현을 지원할 도덕적 윤리적 책임이 있음.
- 개발원조는 국가행정의 올바른 관리와 연계되어야 함.
- 인권고등판무관 제도 및 긴급경고체제 등 인권보장을 위한 긴급제도 신설이 필요하며, 국제인도법의 보다 올바른 시행이 중요함.

러. 핀란드 (Heikki Haavisto 외무장관)

- 모든 정부가 유엔 인권협약의 가입을 위해 최대한 노력할 것을 촉구함.
- 인권침해에 대한 보다 즉각적인 대응방안 강구가 필요함.
- 인권의 존중은 평화와 안보의 유지 및 강화, 사회·경제적 발전을 촉진시키기 위한 유엔 활동의 불가분의 일부로서 증진·권장되어야 함.
- 인권고등판무관직은 기존의 유엔조직을 보완하는 것으로서 필요한 권능과 독립성이 부여되어야 함.

머. 벨라루스 (Pyotr K. Kravchanka 외무장관)

- 자국내 민주화 실적 소개

버. 폴투갈 (Jose Manuel Durao Barroso 외무장관)

- 어떤 이유로든 기본적 인권과 가치에 대한 침해를 정당화 할 수 없음.
- 보편성의 원칙은 문화적·종교적·이념적 다양성과 공존할 수 있음.
- 동티몰은 냉전시대에 허용되었던 기존의 모호성과 이중성의 좋은 사례임.

* 동티몰 문제 언급과 관련, 인도네시아 대표와 폴투갈 대표간 각각 2차례의 답변권 발언이 있었음.

서. 스웨덴 (Alf Svensson 개발협력 및 인권담당 장관)

- 국제사회는 지원을 필요로 하는 국가에 대한 원조능력의 배양과 함께 적절한 감시체제를 발전시켜야 하며, 인권고등판무관은 광복할만한 업적이 될 것임.
- 전시하의 여성 및 아동에 대한 인권침해에 특별한 관심을 촉구함.
- 시장경제가 자유, 번영 및 민주주의의 전제조건이나 공정하고 인정 있는 사회를 보장하지 않음.
- 스웨덴 정부는 민주적 선거지원을 위한 국제적 독립기관 설립의 가능성을 연구하고자 독립적인 선거위원회를 설립하였음.

어. 이태리 (Giovanni Conso 법무장관)

- 인권고등판무관 제도는 인권침해에 대한 신속한 파악 및 대응에 기여
- 인권문화를 증진하기 위한 정치적·제도적 분위기 조성이 필요함.

저. 캐나다 (Dorothy Dobbie 의원)

- 금번 회의가 전세계적인 인권문화를 조성하는 계기가 되어야 함.
- 유엔은 개도국 및 동구국가의 사법제도 및 자유공정선거 기관의 개선을 지원하여야 함.
- 위기에방외교가 실현되었다면 구유고 상황은 달라졌을 것임.

처. 영국 (Martin R. Morland 대사)

- 보편적 인권의 규범은 모든 위대한 종교와 문화의 핵심에서 찾을 수 있음.
- 인권과 경제적 번영은 상호 연관이 있고, 상호 지원하며, 함께 번성함.
- 인권의 적절한 존중은 소수민족에 대한 특별처우의 필요성을 없앴.
- 금번 회의에서 인권고등판무관직 신설이 권고되어야 함.

커. 터 키 (Hikmet Cetin 외무장관)

- 최고의 인권기준을 갖춘 유럽에서 대량학살이 자행되고 있으나 국제사회는 보스니아 회교계 지원을 위하여 어떠한 조치도 취하고 있지 않음.
- 필요한 민주주의적 하부구조가 결여된 국가에서 인권보장을 요구하는 것은 무의미함.
- 서구에 새롭게 대두된 인종차별에 따른 폭력으로 기본적인 인권의 원칙이 위협을 받고 있음.
- 테러리즘에 대한 대응을 촉구하며, 여성에 대한 폭력문제는 유럽에서 전반적으로 다뤄져야 함.

티. 교황청 (Jean-Louis Tauran 대주교)

- 전세계적으로 종교의 자유를 보장하려는 노력이 아직 부족함.
- 자결권은 새로운 민족주의를 야기할 수 있음.
- 국가주권을 남용하는 것을 중지하고 인권위반문제 처리에 있어 국제적 책임을 부각시킬 때임.

3. 중남미지역

가. 브라질 (Mauricio Correa 법무장관)

- 발전이 자동적으로 민주주의와 인권보장을 가져오는 것은 아니며, 모든 정부는 발전정도에 관계없이 개인의 권리를 침해하지 않을 도덕적, 사법적 의무가 있음.
- 인권에 영향을 미치는 국가별 사업계획에 대한 지원제공과 같은 유연내 특별계획 등 예방활동에 관한 국제협력 마련이 필요함.
- 원주민의 권리에 관한 세계선언의 채택을 지지함.

나. 멕시코 (Fernando Solana 외무장관)

- 인권, 민주주의 및 발전과의 상호의존 관계에 관심을 기울여야 함.
- 국제법 질서를 무시한 인권옹호는 국가간 평화공존원칙을 위협함.
- 현존 인권조직들은 편파적인 정치적 목적에 악용되기 보다는 보편적으로 활용되어야 함.
- 인도적 원칙이라는 미명하에 비합리적 간섭을 지지할 수 없음.
- 취약계층에 대한 각별한 관심 필요함.
- 역사적으로 인권옹호는 국가적 차원에서 제기되었으며, 국제적 활동은 이를 지원할 경우에만 유용함.

다. 페 루 (Fernando Vega Santa Gadea 법무장관)

- 폭력, 인종적 불관용, 외국인 혐오증에 대한 해결방안 강구가 필요함.
- 인권문제의 탈정치화가 국제사회의 인권관련 대화 증진에 기여함.

라. 콜롬비아 (Noemi Sanin de Rubio 외무장관)

- 인권은 보편적 관점에서 검토되어야 함.
- 여성, 이주노동자 및 원주민의 인권문제에 대한 관심을 촉구함.
- 국가만이 유일한 인권침해 주체라는 인식은 재고되어야 하며, 테러리즘에 대한 검토가 필요함.

마. 알젠티 (Guido M. Di Tella 외무장관)

- 인권의 완전한 보장은 민주주의의 증진과 공공행정에의 시민의 완전한 참여에 의하여 성취되며, 사회정의 없이 시민의 자유만을 보장할 경우 민주체제의 안정성은 위협을 받게 됨.
- 유연 인권고등판무관직은 지역에 따라 1개 또는 수개의 직을 신설 하자는 권고를 지지함.

- 바. 쿠 바 (Roberto Robaina Gonzalez 외무장관)
- 인권문제는 불의를 정당화하고 유엔의 임무를 왜곡시키는데 악용되었음.
 - 예방외교, 주권제한, 인도적 간섭의 원용은 지구의 곳곳에서 유혈 사태를 초래하였음.
 - 인권보장을 위하여는 국가의 국민의 발전권을 보장하는 것이 시급함.

- 사. 칠 레 (Roberto Garreton 대사)
- 인권보장에 관한 국제적 관심은 도덕적으로 필요할 뿐 아니라 실질적으로도 매우 유용함.
 - 비선별성의 개념은 역사적인 근거가 없음.
 - 대의 민주주의의 강화는 모든 인권의 효율적 존중을 위한 최선의 보장책임
 - 인권고등판무관 임명 및 국제형사재판소 설치를 지지함.

- 아. 코스타리카 (Bernd Niehaus Quesada 외무장관)
- 유엔총회에서 인권고등판무관직 신설 가능성을 검토하여야 함.
 - 여성폭력에 관한 국제협약 작성문제 검토가 필요함.
 - 선진국이 개도국의 경제적, 사회적 문제에 보다 더 관심을 기울일 것을 촉구함.

- 자. 자메이카 (Benjamin Clare 외무, 통상담당 국무상)
- 인권고등판무관 제도가 국내문제에 대한 간섭의 구실로써 악용되어서는 아니되며, 유엔내 단일의 조정기관이 필요한지 문제가 인권의 불가분성과 관련, 검토되어야 함.
 - 취약계층의 보호를 위한 적절한 조치를 취할 의무를 모든 국가가 수락할 것을 촉구함.

- 차. 파나마 (Julio E. Linares 외무장관)
- 인권은 국가의 너그러운 양여의 결과가 아니라 모든 국민에게 본래 주어진 것임.
 - 인권침해는 개인 뿐만 아니라 조직의 안정과 사회전반에 영향을 미침.
 - 민주주의와 인권이 없이는 문화와 발전은 단지 꿈일 뿐임.

4. 아프리카 지역

- 가. 모리타니아 (Sidi Mohamed Ould Boubacar 수상)
- 팔레스타인 주민 및 보스니아인의 인권보장 시급함.
 - 개도국은 충분한 경제적 기반없이 자유, 평등사회를 이뤄야 하는 도전에 직면하고 있음.
 - 국제경제환경과 외채부담이 인권문제에 큰 영향을 미침.
 - 인권사무국의 기능강화가 필요함.

- 나. 나이지리아 (M.T. Mbu 외무장관)
- 발전수준 또는 정치체제에 관계없이 인권의 증진은 모든 국가의 중요한 책임임.
 - 인권침해에 대한 국제사회의 관심과 침해제발을 위한 조직이 필요하므로 인권고등판무관직 설치를 지지함.

- 다. 케냐 (Steven Kalonzo Musyoka 외무장관)
- 발전없이 지속가능한 민주주의가 없으며, 민주주의 없이는 발전의 여건을 조성할 명화가 실현될 수 없음.
 - 인권고등판무관직 설치에 신중한 연구가 필요함.
 - 케냐내 50만명 이상의 난민문제가 심각함.

라. 감비아 (Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara 대통령)

- 인권고등판무관 설치를 적극 지지함.
- 선진국의 시민적, 정치적 권리 주장은 개도국의 빈곤탈피를 위한 경제적, 사회적, 문화적 권리주장에 상응해야 할 것임.
- 본회의는 유해 폐기물 수출에 단호한 입장 표명이 필요함.

마. 우간다 (Paul Ssemogerere 외무장관)

- 인권실현의 기본적 책임은 국가에 귀속함.
- 개도국에서 법치주의와 사법행정에 대한 투자가 필요함.
- 21세기의 유엔 인권실천 계획은 인권증진을 위한 국내기관의 강화와 조정을 고려하여야 함.

바. 알제리 (Redha Malek 외무장관)

- 자결권, 주권평등 및 국내문제 불간섭 원칙이 고려되어야 함.
- 민주주의는 어떠한 환경하의 어떤 곳에서든 적용될 수 있는 만병통치약이 아니며, 국가적 가치에 부합되어야 하며, 현실적으로 단계적이어야 함.

사. 모로코 (Mohammed-Allal Si Nacer 문화장관)

- 시민적, 정치적 권리의 경제적, 사회적, 문화적 권리에 대한 보완성에 대하여 합의에 도달함.
- 국제관계의 의사정책과정에서 대부분 국가가 소외되는 것은 받아드리기 어려움.
- 개발원조에 조건을 부과하려는 어떠한 시도도 불행만을 자초함.
- 인권의 보편성이 문제가 아니라 등 원칙의 이행에 문제가 있음.

아. 카메룬 (Leopold Ferdinand Oyono 외무장관)

- 아프리카지역 국가들은 등 지역에서의 소요로 전세계적인 변화를 수용하기가 어려움.
- 개도국에서의 인권보장을 위한 과정은 개별적인 문화적 배경과 독자적인 페이스에 따라야 함.
- 인권고등판무관 제도 창설문제는 보다 면밀한 검토가 필요함.
- 인권보장의 과정에서는 이해가 필요함.

자. 가봉 (Lazare Digombe 문화, 예술, 인권담당 장관)

- 모든 인권은 발전이 있을 경우에만 향유될 수 있음.
- 가봉의 신헌법 채택 등 민주화 노력을 설명함.

차. 세네갈 (Moustapha Niasse 외무장관)

- 인권의 증진과 보장은 평화와 직접 관련이 있으며, 인권에 대한 보편성 강조가 중요함.
- 기본적 복지혜택이 없는 빈곤상태의 수백만 아동의 참상에 관심을 기울여야 함.
- 개발원조에서의 조건 부가는 일반국민에 대한 징벌이 될 것임.

카. 모리셔스 (Paul R. Berenger 외무장관)

- 문화가 다르다고 다른 인권기준이 적용될 수는 없음.
- 안보리 등 유엔의 보다 투명하고 민주적인 운영이 인권분야에서의 유엔의 역할증대에 필요함.
- 인권침해에 대한 관심은 내정간섭이 아님.

타. 말라위 (L.J. Chimango 재무장관)

- 인권고등판무관 제도 신설을 지지하나 내정간섭 가능성 우려에 비추어 적절한 안전장치 마련이 필요함.

파. 튀니지 (Habib Ben Yahia 외무장관)

- 진정한 민주주의는 발전이 있는 곳에서만 존재할 수 있으며, 민주주의 없이 지속적인 발전은 이를 수 없음.
- 선진국은 개도국내에서 인권이 일상생활의 중요부분이 되도록 지원하기 위하여 경제분야에서 정의에 기초한 새로운 질서가 형성되도록 지원하여야 함.

하. 탄자니아 (Damian Lubuva 법무장관)

- 인권고등판무관 제도는 보다 신중한 검토가 필요함.
- 보스니아, 소말리아, 앙골라에서 일어나는 일은 국제사회의 강대국이 이 중 기준을 가지고 있음을 입증함.

거. 자이레 (Joseph Guhanika Wa Mulume 법무장관)

- 인권보장에 있어서 주요 장애요인은 민주주의의 부재, 외채, 인종차별, 식민주의, 인권협약 미가입 등임.
- 국제사회는 신흥 민주주의 국가를 지원하여야 함.

5. 국제기구 및 기타 대표

가. NGO 회의 대표 (ManFed Nowak 보고관)

- 인권고등판무관 및 여성문제 특별보고관 임명을 요청함.
- 인권침해에 대한 국제형사재판소 설치를 지지함.
- 유엔조직의 민주화를 권고함.(안보리 상임이사국의 거부권 폐지)
- 발전은 민주주의 및 기본욕구 충족과 연계되어야 함.

나. 유네스코 (Federico Mayor 사무총장)

- 인권과 자유는 불가분이며, 빈곤과 무지가 타파될 때 촉진됨.
- 인권신장에 있어서 교육의 중요성을 강조함.
- 인권은 민주주의 하에서만 실현되고 보호받을 수 있으며, 민주주의의 단일모델은 없으나 보편적으로 인정된 원칙과 가치가 존재함.

다. UNHCR (Sadako Ogata 유엔 난민고등판무관)

- 인권보장은 난민접수국에서의 난민접수와 보호에 필수적임.
- 난민에 대한 폭력, 외국인 혐오 및 인종차별주의의 증가에 우려를 표명하고, 이러한 현상을 막지 못할 경우 민주사회의 기초가 위협을 받게 됨.
- 강제이주의 근본원인에 효과적으로 대처하기 위하여 유엔 및 관련 인도구호 기구들의 종합적인 협동노력이 필요함.
- 인권보장을 위한 종합적인 방법으로서 유엔체제내에서 감시, 사실보고 국제읍서버, 지역적 협정 등의 효과적 체제 발전을 위한 국제사회 노력이 필요함.

라. PLO (Yasser Araft 의장)

- 팔레스타인 및 기타 피점령 아랍지역의 인권상황 관련 이스라엘을 비난

마. WHO

- 많은 개발활동의 영향에 대하여 상세한 검증이 없는 것이 우려되며, 특히 전세계 인구의 1/5인 취약계층에 대한 영향은 지대함.
- 평균수명은 늘었으나 생활수준은 향상되지 못하고 있음.

바. ILO

- 인권보장에 있어 진정한 발전을 이룩하기 위하여는 특정한 문제에 집중, 문제를 파악하고 동 문제 해결을 위한 구체적인 권고와 원조를 제공하는 것임.

- 유엔의 인권신장활동은 인권위반을 비난하면서 동시에 일상적인 업무를 수행하는한 신뢰성이나 효율성을 확보할 수 없으며, 인권 보장을 위하여 명확하고 일관성있는 정책을 수행하여야 함.

사. 제4차 세계여성회의 사무국 (Gertrude Mongella 사무총장)

- 협약가입 확대 및 유보철회를 통해 여성차별철폐협약의 강화와 시행이 필요하며, 등 협약 선택의정서 채택이 필요함.
- 여성인권의 침해조사를 위한 광범위한 임무를 수행할 특별보고관 임명이 필요함.
- 대부분의 국가들은 정치 및 정책결정과정에서 여성을 제외, 실질적으로는 비민주적임.

아. UNFPA (Nafis Sadik 국장)

- 테헤란 선언에 가족계획이 인권으로서 규정되어 있으나 전세계 인구의 절반만이 보장받고 있는 실정임.
- 문화적 이유로 여성에 대하여 임신 또는 불임을 강요하는 것은 명백한 인권침해임.

자. 경제적.사회적.문화적 권리 위원회 (Phillip Alston 의장)

- 전반적인 경제적 발전이 반드시 그 사회의 최빈계층의 상황을 개선할 것이라는 이론은 무리가 있음.
- 경제적.사회적.문화적 권리가 효과적으로 증진되려면 이들 권리의 중요성이 재확인되어야 함.
- A규약 가입 확대, A규약 선택의정서 채택이 필요함.

차. UNIFEM (Marjorie Thorpe 부국장)

- 여성에 대한 폭력은 발전과정을 저해하며 가정과 아동의 복지에 악영향을 미침.
- 여성의 인권문제가 모든 차원의 인권정책 토의에 포함되어야 함.

카. ICRC (Cornelio Sommaruga 총재)

- 도덕적 권위로 야만성을 충분히 억제할 수 있는지 의문임.
- 일 국가의 문명의 수준은 소수민족에 대한 존중의 정도로서 평가됨.
- 무력분쟁중에 인도법이 바르게 적용될 경우 평화로의 복귀는 더욱 교섭이 가능함. 국제전쟁범죄재판소가 야만적 행위를 제어하도록 권고되어야 함.

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THROUGH HUMAN RIGHTS, WE AFFIRM TOGETHER THAT WE ARE

'SINGLE HUMAN COMMUNITY', SECRETARY-GENERAL SAYS

VIENNA, 14 June -- Following is the text of the statement made here this morning by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, at the opening of the World Conference on Human Rights:

The World Conference on Human Rights being convened today at Vienna marks one of those rare, defining moments when the entire community of States finds itself under the gaze of the world!

It is the gaze of the billions of men and women who yearn to recognize themselves in the discussions that we shall be conducting and the decisions that we shall be taking in their name. It is the gaze of all those men and women who, even now, are suffering in body and spirit because their human dignity is not recognized, or is being flouted. It is the gaze of history, as we meet at this crucial juncture!

When in 1989 the United Nations General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Governments and the organizations concerned on the desirability of convening a world conference on human rights, it was demonstrating remarkable historical intuition.

Two months earlier, the Berlin Wall had fallen, carrying away with it a certain vision of the world, and thereby opening up new perspectives. It was in the name of freedom, democracy and human rights that entire peoples were speaking out. Their determination, their abnegation -- sometimes their sacrifices -- reflected then, and still reflect, their commitment to do away with alienation and totalitarianism.

(more)

* Revised to reflect changes in the French text as delivered.

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Thus preparations for today's Conference have gone hand-in-hand with an impressive acceleration of the course of history.

That conjunction of events must not be seen as pure chance or mere coincidence. It is always when the world is undergoing a metamorphosis, when certainties are collapsing, when the lines are becoming blurred, that there is greatest recourse to fundamental reference points, that the quest for ethics becomes more urgent, that the will to achieve self-understanding becomes imperative.

It is therefore natural that the international community should today feel the need to focus on its own values and, reflecting on its history, ask itself what constitutes its innermost identity -- in other words, ask questions about humanity and about how, by protecting humanity, it protects itself.

The goals of the Conference faithfully reflect the following key questions:

What progress has been made in the field of human rights since the Universal Declaration of 1948?

What are the obstacles and how are they to be overcome?

How can implementation of the human rights instruments be enhanced?

How effective are the methods and mechanisms established by the United Nations?

What financial resources should be allocated for United Nations action to promote human rights?

And, at a deeper level, what are the links between the goals pursued by the United Nations and human rights, including the link between development and the enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights?

These are universal questions, but there is no single answer to any of them. While human rights are common to all members of the international community, and each member of that community recognizes himself in them, each cultural epoch has its own special way of helping to implement them. In this connection, a debt of thanks is owed to Member States which, at the regional level, have reminded others of this reality.

Yet this reminder must be a source of positive reflection, not of sterile misunderstanding.

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Indeed human rights, viewed at the universal level, bring us face-to-face with the most challenging dialectical conflict ever: between "identity" and "otherness", between the "myself" and "others". They teach us in a direct, straightforward manner that we are at the same time identical and different.

Thus the human rights that we proclaim and seek to safeguard can be brought about only if we transcend ourselves, only if we make a conscious effort to find our common essence beyond our apparent divisions, our temporary differences, our ideological and cultural barriers.

In sum, what I mean to say, with all solemnity, is that the human rights we are about to discuss here at Vienna are not the lowest common denominator among all nations, but rather what I should like to describe as the "irreducible human element", in other words, the quintessential values through which we affirm together that we are a single human community!

I do not want to underestimate the nature of our undertaking. Yet in such an area, this is no time to seek cautious compromise or approximate solutions, to be content with soothing declarations, or, worse still, to become bogged down in verbal battles. On the contrary, we must ascend to a conception of human rights that would make such rights truly universal!

There lies the challenge of our endeavour; there lies our work; there stands or falls this Conference in future evaluations.

An awareness of the complexities of the debate is the first step towards developing a method of debate. We should be under no illusion: a debate on human rights involves complex issues. Human rights should be viewed not only as the absolute yardstick which they are, but also as a synthesis resulting from a long historical process.

As an absolute yardstick, human rights constitute the common language of humanity. Adopting this language allows all peoples to understand others and to be the authors of their own history. Human rights, by definition, are the ultimate norm of all politics.

As an historical synthesis, human rights are, in their essence, in constant movement. By that I mean that human rights have a dual nature. They should express absolute timeless injunctions, yet simultaneously reflect a moment in the development of history. Human rights are both absolute and historically defined.

(more)

The reason I began with these statements of principle -- at the risk of appearing very abstract -- is that I am convinced that there will be no appropriate solutions to any of the issues that we shall be considering in the coming days, even the most technical, unless we bear in mind the fundamental dialectical conflict between the universal and the particular, between identity and difference.

What makes our task especially urgent is the fact that with the development of communications, every day the whole world is called to witness the free enjoyment -- or the violation -- of human rights.

Not a day goes by without scenes of warfare or famine, arbitrary arrest, torture, rape, murder, expulsion, transfers of population, and ethnic cleansing. Not a day goes by without reports of attacks on the most fundamental freedoms. Not a day goes by without reminders of racism and the crimes it spawns, intolerance and the excesses it breeds, underdevelopment and the ravages it causes!

And what confronts those men, women and children who are suffering and dying is a reality that is more unbearable than ever; we are all similar, yet history emphasizes our differences and separates us on all sorts of grounds: political, economic, social and cultural.

We have indeed learned that it is possible to view differences as such with respect as sources of mutual enrichment; yet when differences become synonymous with inequalities, they cannot but be perceived as unjust. Today, all peoples and all nations share these feelings. That fact in itself is a step forward in the conscience of humanity.

The more so since to move from identifying inequality to rebelling against injustice is only possible in the context of a universal affirmation of the idea of human rights. Ultimately, it is this idea which allows us to move from ethical to legal considerations, and to impose value judgements and juridical norms on human activity.

Let us not delude ourselves, however! Because judgements are based on this scale of constraints and values, it is also part of the power stakes. No doubt this is why some States seek -- often and by various means -- to appropriate human rights for their own benefit, even turning them into an instrument of national policy. There is no denying that some States constantly try to hijack or confiscate human rights.

Of course, in saying this, I do not mean to point a finger at any member of the international community. I only want to stress that human rights, in their very expression, reflect a power relationship.

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Let us be clear about this! Human rights are closely related to the way in which States consider them; in other words, to the ways in which States govern their people; in yet other words, to the level of democracy in their political regimes!

If we bear all these problems in mind, I am positive that we shall avert the dual danger lurking ahead of us at the outset of this Conference: the danger of a cynical approach according to which the international dimension of human rights is nothing more than an ideological cover for the realpolitik of States; and the danger of a naive approach according to which human rights would be the expression of universally shared values towards which all the members of the international community would naturally aspire.

These considerations should remain present in our minds throughout our discussions, so that we might be bold in our proposals and firm in our principles.

In this regard, I should like to issue a solemn call: that this Conference should measure up to the subject matter and that it should be guided by a threefold requirement, which I shall refer to as "the three imperatives of the Vienna Conference": universality, guarantees, democratization.

Let us deal first with the imperative of universality. To be sure, human rights are a product of history. As such, they should be in accordance with history, should evolve simultaneously with history and should give the various peoples and nations a reflection of themselves that they recognize as their own. Yet, the fact that human rights keep pace with the course of history should not change what constitutes their very essence, namely their universality!

Secondly, there is the imperative of guarantees. Every day we see how discredited human rights and the United Nations itself would be, in the eyes of the world, if the declarations, covenants, charters, conventions and treaties that we draft in order to protect human rights remained dead letters or were constantly violated. Human rights should therefore be covered by effective mechanisms and procedures to guarantee and protect them and to provide sanctions.

Lastly, there is the imperative of democratization. In my opinion, this is essentially what is at stake as we approach the end of the century. Only democracy, within States and within the community of States, can truly guarantee human rights. It is through democracy that individual rights and collective rights, the rights of peoples and the rights of

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persons, are reconciled. It is through democracy that the rights of States and the rights of the community of States are reconciled.

It is on those three imperatives -- universality, guarantees and democratization -- that I should like you to reflect.

The imperative of universality will undoubtedly be in evidence throughout our debates. How could it be otherwise? Universality is inherent in human rights. The Charter is categorical on this score: Article 55 states that the United Nations shall promote "universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion". The title of the 1948 Declaration -- universal, not international -- reinforces this perspective.

However, this concept of universality must also be clearly understood and accepted by everyone. It would be a contradiction in terms if this imperative of universality on which our common conception of human rights is based were to become a source of misunderstanding among us.

It must therefore be stated, in the clearest possible terms, that universality is not something that is decreed, nor is it the expression of the ideological domination of one group of States over the rest of the world.

By its nature and composition, it is the General Assembly of the United Nations that is best equipped to express this idea of universality, and we should pay tribute to the human rights standard-setting in which it has been engaged for almost 50 years now.

As a result of its activities, the areas of protection have become increasingly precise: punishment of genocide, suppression of genocide, abolition of slavery, efforts to abolish slavery, efforts to combat torture and elimination of all forms of discrimination based on race, sex, religion or belief.

Moreover, the subjects of those rights have been more clearly defined: right of peoples; protection of refugees, stateless persons, women, children, disabled persons, persons with mental illness, prisoners, victims of enforced disappearance; protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families; and protection of indigenous people. In this connection, the General Assembly is to be commended for drafting, for drafting, as part of the activities relating to the International Year of the World's Indigenous People, a universal declaration for consideration next autumn.

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The set of instruments resulting from this standard-setting by the United Nations General Assembly is now our common property. It has enough to satisfy all States, all peoples and all cultures, for the universality it affirms is that of the international community as a whole.

If we look closely at these instruments, and the World Conference on Human Rights affords an ideal opportunity to do so, we may be struck by, and justifiably proud of, the ceaseless efforts made by the General Assembly to develop on the very idea of universality.

While a general, abstract concept of human rights, born of liberal values, prevailed initially, as we can see from the text of the 1948 Universal Declaration, the input of the socialist States and the States of the third world helped broaden this initial vision. The 1966 Covenants bear witness to the broadening of our vision. They enable us to affirm, and I wish to emphasize this here, that civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights are equally important and worthy of attention.

We all know, however, that the General Assembly did not stop there: it expanded still further on the concept of universality by enunciating, after these collective rights, what I like to call rights of solidarity, rights which bring us back to a projected universality involving the joint action of all members of society both nationally and internationally. Since Article 1 of the Charter enunciated the right of peoples to self-determination, the General Assembly has proclaimed the right to a healthy environment, the right to peace, the right to food security, the right to ownership of the common heritage of mankind and, above all, the right to development.

I believe that this last right, in particular, shows just how modern the concept of universality is. The General Assembly went a long way towards recognizing this when, as early as 1979, it asserted that "the right to development is a human right" and that "equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations".

This idea was expressed even more clearly when, in 1986, the Assembly adopted a Declaration on the Right to Development which states that "the human person is the central subject of development and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development". In that same instrument, the Assembly emphasizes the corresponding duties which this right imposes on States: the duty to cooperate with each other in ensuring development, the duty to formulate international development policies and, at the national level,

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the duty to ensure "access to basic resources, education, health services, food, housing, employment and the fair distribution of income".

I think that this approach to the concept of universality is the right one and that it is this course that we should follow.

We must recognize that while ideological splits and economic disparities may continue to be the hallmark of our international society, they cannot interfere with the universality of human rights.

I believe that at this moment in time it is less urgent to define new rights than to persuade States to adopt existing instruments and apply them effectively.

I also believe that regional organizations have a positive role to play in making States increasingly aware of this problem. Regional action for the promotion of human rights in no way conflicts with United Nations action at the universal level -- quite the opposite.

I understand the recent regional meetings on human rights as reflecting a concern to remain true to this concept of universality, no matter what serious problems or legitimate questions it may raise.

The imperative of guarantees should be the second concern of our Conference. What do human rights amount to without suitable machinery and structures to ensure their effectiveness, both internally and internationally? Here again, the Vienna Conference must not lapse into unproductive debates or futile polemics. To avoid this, the Conference must go back to the very essence of human rights in international society, and to what is unique about them.

I am tempted to say that human rights, by their very nature, do away with the distinction traditionally drawn between the internal order and the international order. Human rights give rise to a new legal permeability. They should thus not be considered either from the viewpoint of absolute sovereignty or from the viewpoint of political intervention. On the contrary, it must be understood that human rights call for cooperation and coordination between States and international organizations.

In this context, the State should be the best guarantor of human rights. It is the State that the international community should principally entrust with ensuring the protection of individuals.

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However, the issue of international action must be raised when States prove unworthy of this task, when they violate the fundamental principles laid down in the Charter of the United Nations, and when -- far from being protectors of individuals -- they become tormentors.

For us, this problem is a constant challenge, particularly since the flow of information and the effect of world public opinion make the issues in question even more pressing.

In these circumstances, the international community must take over from the States that fail to fulfil their obligations. This is a legal and institutional construction that has nothing shocking about it and does not, in my view, harm our contemporary notion of sovereignty. For I am asking -- I am asking us -- whether a State has the right to expect absolute respect from the international community when it is tarnishing the noble concept of sovereignty by openly putting that concept to a use that is rejected by the conscience of the world and by the law! Where sovereignty becomes the ultimate argument put forward by authoritarian regimes to support their undermining of the rights and freedoms of men, women and children, such sovereignty -- and I state this as a sober truth -- is already condemned by history.

Moreover, I believe all members of the international community have an interest in international action being thus defined and directed. Nothing would be more detrimental to States themselves than to leave private agencies or non-governmental organizations to take sole responsibility for protecting human rights in individual States.

Yes, States must be convinced that the control exercised by the international community ultimately results in the greatest respect for their sovereignty and spheres of competence.

The Vienna Conference has therefore rightly decided to evaluate methods and machinery for guaranteeing human rights with a view to improving them. It is indeed important that all of us here be aware of the changes that have taken place, where such forms of control are concerned, at the administrative and jurisdictional levels and in the operational sphere.

At the administrative level, the number of procedures for guaranteeing human rights has been increasing for years, not only within the United Nations, but also at such specialized agencies as the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and at such regional organizations as the Council of Europe and the Organization of American States.

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Within the United Nations, a proliferation of bodies each entrusted with monitoring implementation of a specific convention can even be noted.

At a more general level, the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations Centre for Human Rights must be accorded a special place.

The Centre, in particular, has undergone profound changes in recent years.

Initially designed to carry out studies and provide information on all aspects of human rights, the Centre has gradually been called on to contribute to the implementation of conventions, and to participate in ad hoc committees of special rapporteurs set up to investigate such wide-ranging matters as summary executions, disappearances and instances of arbitrary detention.

However, guaranteeing human rights also means setting up jurisdictional controls to punish any violations that occur.

In this area, regional organizations have shown the way -- particularly in the context of the Council for Europe, in the form of the European Court of Human Rights, and in the Americas, in the form of the Inter-American Court.

I would draw your attention in this connection to the current efforts by the United Nations to promote both a permanent international criminal court and a special international tribunal to prosecute the crimes committed in the former Yugoslavia.

It was in February of this year that the Security Council decided to establish such a tribunal "for the prosecution of persons responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991".

In asking the Secretary-General to consider this project, the Security Council has given itself an entirely new mandate. On 27 May, the Tribunal was established by a unanimous decision of the Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter. This method has the advantage of giving immediate effect to the establishment of the Tribunal, since all States are required to take the necessary steps to implement a decision adopted in this manner. The Council has thus created, in the context of an enforcement measure, a subsidiary organ as envisaged in Article 29 of the Charter, but one of a judicial nature.

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I cannot discuss the development of measures taken by the Organization to safeguard human rights without mentioning the decisive action taken by the General Assembly in the area of humanitarian assistance.

Since December 1988, when the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/131 on humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters and similar emergency situations, the notion of a right to humanitarian assistance has, to a certain extent, become one of the areas in which human rights can actually be guaranteed.

We have seen this reflected in the Organization's operations in the Sudan, in Somalia, in the special case of Iraq and, today, in the former Yugoslavia.

Once again, these resolutions are not intended to justify some ostensible right of intervention, but simply to reflect one of the key ideas lying behind current efforts to safeguard human rights: the relationship between such guarantees and the imperative of democratization which the international community is rightly embracing today.

The imperative of democratization is the last -- and surely the most important -- rule of conduct which should guide our work. There is a growing awareness of this imperative within the international community. The process of democratization cannot be separated, in my view, from the protection of human rights. More precisely, democracy is the political framework in which human rights can best be safeguarded.

This is not merely a statement of principle, even less a concession to a fashion of the moment, but the realization that a democracy is the political system which best allows for the free exercise of individual rights. It is not possible to separate the United Nations promotion of human rights from the establishment of democratic systems within the international community.

Let me not be misunderstood nor unwittingly cause offence.

When, like so many others before me, I stress the imperative of democratization, I do not mean that some States should imitate others slavishly, nor do I expect them to borrow political systems that are alien to them, much less try to gratify certain western States -- in fact, just the opposite. Let us state, forcefully, that democracy is the private domain of no one. It can and ought to be assimilated by all cultures. It can take many forms in order to

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accommodate local realities more effectively. Democracy is not a model to copy from certain States, but a goal to be achieved by all peoples! It is the political expression of our common heritage. It is something to be shared by all. Thus, like human rights, democracy has a universal dimension!

To avoid misinterpretations and misunderstandings, we must all agree that democratization must not be a source of concern to some but should be an inspiration for all States! In this spirit the United Nations, in its mission to guarantee human rights, has an obligation to help States -- often those that are the most disadvantaged -- along the ever difficult road to democratization.

This is why we must distance ourselves from sterile polemics and act constructively to build the link effectively between democracy, development and human rights, a link we already recognize as inescapable.

One thing is certain: there can be no sustainable development without promoting democracy and, thus, without respect for human rights. We all know that, on occasion, undemocratic practices and authoritarian policies have marked the first steps taken by some countries along the road to development. Yet, we also know that if these States do not undertake democratic reforms once they have begun to experience economic progress, they will ultimately achieve nothing more than disembodied growth, a source of greater inequity and, eventually, social unrest. Democracy alone can give development its true meaning.

This analysis must lead the developed countries to take an increasingly responsible attitude vis-a-vis States that are engaged in the democratization process. More than ever before, each one must realize its own responsibility in what is a joint undertaking. Each one must understand that development assistance contributes to the promotion of democracy and human rights. This in no way diminishes the overriding responsibility of all States, including the developing countries, to promote democracy and human rights at home. This matter is of concern to the entire international community, for only through individual development can peace for all be ensured!

Each passing day shows that authoritarian regimes are potential causes of war and of the extent to which, conversely, democracy is a guarantor of peace. We have only to look at the mandates given to the United Nations forces to see the connection which the Organization is making, at the operational level and in the most concrete terms possible, between peace-keeping, the establishment of democracy and the safeguarding of human rights.

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The mandate given to the United Nations operation in Namibia from April 1989 to March 1990 was an early but powerful demonstration of this evolution. Since 1991, a number of major operations have incorporated this political dimension -- the safeguarding of human rights and the restoration of democracy -- in their mission. We have seen this in the operations in Angola, Mozambique, El Salvador, Somalia and, of course, Cambodia.

Many States, in fact, know full well how desirable it is to receive the electoral assistance which they are requesting with increasing frequency from the United Nations.

In 1989, a mission was set up to monitor the electoral process in Nicaragua. The following year, a similar mission was set up in Haiti. Requests for electoral assistance continued to increase at a steady rate, and in the autumn of 1991 the General Assembly endorsed the creation, within the Department of Political Affairs, of an electoral assistance unit, which became operational in April 1992.

Since then, equipped with this new tool, the United Nations has been better able to meet the requests for electoral assistance from many States: Argentina, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Romania, Senegal, Seychelles, Togo, Uganda ... the list is impressive.

Such requests fall into a variety of categories: the organization and holding of elections, their monitoring and verification, on-site coordination of international observers and with the many forms of technical assistance required for democratic elections to take place smoothly.

This is a major undertaking for the United Nations, and one whose magnitude must be stressed. The supervision and monitoring of elections do not in themselves constitute long-term guarantees of democratization and respect for human rights. This is borne out, unfortunately, by the experiences of Angola and Haiti. The United Nations cannot guarantee that there will be enough of a sense of democracy for election results to be respected.

And so we have to do even more. We must help States change attitudes, convince them to undertake structural reforms. The United Nations must be able to provide them with technical assistance that will allow them to adapt their institutions, educate their citizens, train leaders and set up regulatory mechanisms that respect democracy and reflect a

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concern for human rights. I am thinking specifically of how important it is to create independent systems for the administration of justice, to establish armies that respect the rule of law, to create a police force that safeguards public freedoms, and to set up systems for educating the population in human rights.

It is my conviction that our task is nothing less than setting up a civics workshop on a global scale.

Only by heightening the international community's awareness of human rights in this way and involving everyone in this effort can we prevent future violations that our conscience, and the law, will condemn. Here, as elsewhere, preventive diplomacy is urgently needed.

I look to the Conference to offer suggestions, innovations and proposals to give increasing substance to this human rights diplomacy!

Through these thoughts and illustrations I hope that I have shown that the United Nations has taken a decisive turn in its history. Imperceptibly, our determination to respect human rights is now beginning to be reflected, through concrete and pragmatic efforts, in everything we do.

This has been an important lesson for us which we must bear in mind throughout this Conference: the safeguarding of human rights is both a specific and a general goal. On the one hand, it requires us to identify increasingly specific rights and to imagine increasingly effective guarantees. But it also shows us that human rights permeate all activities of our Organization, of which they are, simultaneously, the very foundation and the supreme goal.

Allow me, then, by way of conclusion and at the outset of this Conference to make a final appeal:

May human rights create for us here a special climate of solidarity and responsibility!

May they serve to bind the Assembly of States and the human community!

And, finally, may human rights become the common language of all humanity!

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WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Opening Statement

Dr. Alois MOCK,
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Austria,
President of the Conference

Vienna, 14 June 1993

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Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I at the very outset thank you all, the delegates to this Conference, the representatives of the Governments attending, for the confidence you have placed in me by electing me to the high office of President of the Conference.

I do appreciate your trust and your good will, and I am sure that I, in turn, will find in you partners in our common endeavour to work together for the promotion, the protection and the further development of human rights.

I should like, at this stage, to pledge to you my full co-operation and the full co-operation of the host country to make this Conference successful and meaningful. Indeed, this Conference more perhaps than any other held in the past, needs the unreserved co-operation of all Governments and all participants.

If we want to make it a new milestone in the development of human rights, if we are sincere in obtaining the goal of crafting a human rights agenda for the twenty-first century, then we shall have to give a new impetus to the idea that the human being, its needs and its rights, is at the root of each and every sovereign State and at the root of the collectivity of States known as the United Nations.

The human being is indeed unique; its dignity and worth do not depend on any outside authority. Human rights are not

"bestowed" upon the individual by any state, social group or political party; they are part of man's very nature.

This undeniable truth has been proclaimed by different cultures and with a different wording, at different times.

More than 1300 years ago the second Caliph, Omar, already asked his contemporaries: "Why have you turned men into slaves, if all of them were born free?"

Let me also recall two - very similar - quotations. One says that all living creatures ought to enjoy "security, ... impartiality and happiness." And the other states that "all men are created equal and independent, that from that equal creation they derive rights inherent and inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, and liberty, and the pursuit of happiness".

The latter of these two quotations is, of course, taken from Thomas Jefferson's famous original draft of the American Declaration of Independence. But the first comes from an edict of the Indian Emperor Ashoka who reigned over 2200 years ago.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

All this is proof, if proof were needed, that there is a commonly shared idea about the nature of man and his rights. Human rights are indeed universal in character. Today this is recognized more than ever before.

It is precisely the universal character of human rights, the fact that those rights transcend national borders and are a common, precious part of all mankind, which has brought us together today, delegates of well over one

hundred States, representatives of the world community at large.

We are, therefore, bound to make the universality of the human rights system our point of departure.

By accepting this point of departure we are also bound to apply the same human rights "yardstick", whenever and wherever basic principles of humanity are in jeopardy. To my mind, the very concept of universality, in fact, excludes the application of dual standards.

Furthermore, we must also understand human rights in their widest possible sense. We shall only succeed in safeguarding human dignity if we do not limit ourselves to protecting man's political rights; we must also defend his economic, social and cultural rights.

In our days, man's right to pursue his "happiness" would probably have been called his "right to development". I am convinced that the individual will only be able to prosper and unfold if that basic right is also accepted and observed.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This universal and, at the same time, general understanding of human rights, as well as the rejection of dual standards, must form the basis of the work of this Conference. It is also in this spirit that I conceive my role as President. I call for your co-operation so that we attain, through joint action and joint effort, the noble aims that the General Assembly had in mind when it decided to convene this Conference.

The World Conference on Human Rights is admittedly the largest all-encompassing human rights event so far in the history of mankind. The entire community of nations is participating, at a high level, as requested by the General Assembly.

The various UN branches involved in human rights are present, the Specialized Agencies and regional organizations have dispatched representatives, the various mechanism created by the United Nations are giving us their special input.

Numerous non-Governmental organizations and national institutions have also come to join this Conference in order to make us realize what the peoples of the world expect from such a gathering: concrete steps forward in the realization of human rights.

This Conference - as a world-wide event - is first of all designed to see to it that human rights become a living reality in every single country, that through common accord and joint action the root-causes for continued violations of human rights are eliminated, and that the community of nations collectively strive to respect the fundamental rights inherent in any human being.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

What are those fundamental rights which we are attempting to further and to protect? The answer, on the surface, is easy: it is the rights enshrined in the "International Bill of Human Rights" created by the United Nations during its first twenty years.

The first element of the International Bill, namely the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948 by

the General Assembly without a dissenting vote, represents the recognition and realization of the Charter's promise that the peoples of the United Nations were indeed determined to reaffirm faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of all men and women.

By the same token the Universal Declaration is a living monument to the determination of the peoples to practice tolerance and to live together in peace with one another as good neighbours. Indeed, since the adoption of the Universal Declaration we have come to realize the interdependence and interrelationship of human rights and peace. Genuine peace within any nation and among nations can only be built on recognition of, and respect for, the inherent rights of the individual.

Where peace is broken, human rights are always violated. Whenever human beings cease to practice tolerance towards each other, violence is the result. Where human rights are violated on a larger scale, peace falls to pieces.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In this connection I should like to recall one important paragraph from the "Vienna Declaration" adopted by the International Christian-Islamic Conference "Peace for Humanity" which recently took place in Vienna.

In its Declaration the Conference appealed to all Christians and Moslems to strive together, and with all people, for a more humane world, a world in which all can live together in dignity, justice, mutual tolerance and peace, in which the wealth of our earth is distributed justly and in which tensions and conflicts are resolved in

a spirit of dialogue coupled with the resolute will for peace.

It is in the light of this, that I have invited the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates to Vienna for a private gathering so that those eminent personalities may analyze in more detail the delicate interrelationship between the maintenance of peace in the world and the observance of human rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Following the adoption of the Universal Declaration the United Nations went on to draft binding instruments on human rights. These are first and foremost the two International Covenants, on civil and political rights, on the one hand, and on economic, social and cultural rights, on the other.

The Covenants, cornerstone of the human rights system created by the United Nations, were adopted in 1966 by consensus. Thus they are the expression of the common will of all States and Governments: in other words, the Covenants do represent the conviction of mankind that every individual around the globe ought to be the beneficiary of the rights enumerated in these instruments.

It would be fallacious to argue that the concept of basic rights of the individual, as embodied in the Covenants, would not represent, or would only partially represent, ideas common to all mankind.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

What we are called upon to achieve in the forthcoming two weeks is to strengthen and further improve this system

which, let me again repeat it quite clearly, is part and parcel of the objectives of the United Nations as conceived by the founding fathers.

The main task of our Conference will accordingly be to strengthen and develop this system further. This task has been confirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/155 which, in very broad terms, invites us

- * to review and assess the progress made in the field of human rights;
- * to examine the relation between development and the enjoyment, by everyone, of all the human rights as they are embodied in the Universal Declaration and both Covenants;
- * to work for the improvement of the implementation of existing human rights standards and instruments;
- * to evaluate the effectiveness of relevant United Nations methods and mechanisms and, finally;
- * to formulate recommendations for improving the effectiveness of relevant United Nations activities and mechanisms.

A large part of our work will therefore be dealing with the United Nations. At the end of the twentieth century and at the dawn of a new millenium we must place the United Nations in a position of effective control as to the implementation and the further development of human rights.

In so doing we must bear in mind that all our actions have but one aim: to improve the situation of the individual in the world of today. After the many decades of East-West confrontation we have been granted the chance of a fresh beginning. At this historic turning-point we must, in particular, take due account of the individual human being and of his inherent rights and responsibilities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am aware, as you are, that violations of human rights - which we witness on an almost daily basis in all parts of the globe, including the immediate neighbourhood of Austria - are likely to occur also in the years to come.

For this very reason I am also convinced that the credibility of this Conference will, in the final outcome, not only depend on what has been said in this hall. It will be judged in accordance with its medium- and long-term consequences. In the long run it is not declarations that count, but their implementation. It is not words that count, but deeds.

We must, therefore, pay tribute to all those who are already actively involved in combating human rights violations. Very many people accross the globe are making unbelievable sacrifices, and are often even risking their lives or liberty in defense of those basic freedoms that are the common heritage of mankind. This Conference ought to give these courageous men and women the support they deserve. This is our moral duty.

Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me, once again, appeal to you all for your co-operation in making this Conference a successful and meaningful event in the history of the development of human rights. We owe this to our own peoples.

May the World Conference on Human Rights stand as a new milestone on which succeeding generations can build. To promote and protect human rights is a never ending task. It will stay with each of us, it will stay with each and every Government, it will stay with the World Organization.

In the two weeks ahead of us, we must try to lay the groundwork for an improved approach to human rights. We will have to understand that a new consciousness of human rights is emerging. To give it the appropriate underpinning and infrastructure ought to be seen as our major obligation.

For this very reason I am also convinced that the credibility of this Conference will, in the final outcome, not only depend on what has been said in this Hall, it will be judged in accordance with its medium- and long-term consequences. In the long run it is not declarations that count, but their implementation. It is not words that count, but deeds.

We must understand that the human rights struggle is not a purely ideological one. It is a struggle for the lives of liberty in defense of those basic freedoms that are the common heritage of mankind. This Conference ought to give these courageous men and women the support they deserve. This is our moral duty.

Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me, once again, appeal to you all for your co-operation in making this Conference a successful and meaningful event in the history of the development of human rights. We owe this to our own peoples. We owe this to the peoples of the world.

May the World Conference on Human Rights stand as a milestone on which succeeding generations can build to promote and protect human rights as a never-ending task. It will stay with each of us. It will stay with you and every Government, it will stay with the World Organization.

Mr. Secretary-General, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me, once again, appeal to you all for your co-operation in making this Conference a successful and meaningful event in the history of the development of human rights. We owe this to our own peoples. We owe this to the peoples of the world.

STATEMENT
BY
THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

JUNE, 1993

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December 1948, the international community has adopted and implemented several instruments of human rights instruments in order to ensure human rights and the basis of them, while continuing efforts to ensure respect and protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms at national, regional and international level, thus paving the way for the establishment of a new world order and security.

However, notwithstanding the progress that has been made in the field of human rights, the world is still far from achieving the goal of a just and equitable world order based on mutual respect and cooperation between all peoples and nations.

The serious economic and social problems which exist in the developing countries in the past still remain unresolved even today, which constitute the most fundamental impediments to the enjoyment of human rights by the peoples in these countries.

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Mr. President

Allow me, first of all, to congratulate you on your election as President of the World Conference on Human Rights and express my conviction that, under your skillful leadership, the Conference will be conducted successfully.

At the same time, I would like to express my sincere appreciations to the host country and the members of the Secretariat for their excellent preparations of the Conference and kind hospitalities extended to all participants.

I also take note of some positive results produced in the meetings of Preparatory Committee and the regional meetings held prior to this Conference.

Mr. President

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1948, the international community has adopted and made effective several tens of international human rights instruments in order to codify human rights and, on the basis of them, made continued efforts to ensure respect for and protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms at national, regional and international level, thus making no small contributions to the maintenance of world peace and security.

It is, however, unfortunate to note that in the international human rights field, the tendency toward politicizing human rights issue based on confrontational notion which existed during the Cold War era not only continues to remain but also becomes further aggravated.

In several parts of the world, the acts of violating the sovereign rights and the right of peoples to self-determination caused by the censure of political systems of the sovereign states and the imposition of sanctions and pressure upon them under the pretext of "human rights protection", have not been terminated yet.

Moreover, the tendency toward politicizing human rights issue is becoming ever more serious due to the attempts on the part of those forces which pursue the political and strategic ambitions of establishing unique supremacy in the international human rights field today.

The serious economic and social problems which existed in the developing countries in the past still remains unresolved even today, which constitute the most fundamental impediments to the enjoyment of human rights by the peoples in those countries.

Today the international community witnesses, with deep concern, the successive explosions of various forms of new human rights violations which were deeply hidden behind the long-drawn curtain of the Cold War.

In some regions, the ethnic, racial and religious antagonism and armed conflicts and various bloody situations unprecedented ever since the Second World War, with a result that grave violations of human rights of millions, several tens of millions of people, either losing their lives as victims or becoming refugees, continue to take place.

In several countries, the social and political instability and economic stagnation, which did not exist in the past, have emerged and extreme anarchy, mass unemployment, open killings, violence and sale of human-being are overflowing.

In some western European countries, a new type of human rights violations as to racial hatred, neo-Nazism and xenophobia has emerged.

Such grave developments urgently calls for the international community to intensify its efforts to ensure the respect for and protection and promotion of human rights.

Mr. President

My delegation believes that the World Conference on Human Rights will mark an important turning point in taking practical measures aimed at removing various forms of obstacles in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms and would like, in this regard, to state the stand of our Government.

Firstly, we hold that if the human rights issue is to be solved smoothly, it should, in no case, be used for any political purposes.

If the human rights issue is deviated from its peculiar and lofty ideal to ensure the dignity, freedom and well-being of the human-being and used for the realization of the political purposes of a country or a group of countries to disintegrate and overthrow the social and political systems of other countries, it is not a human rights issue in the true sense.

In order to realize the non-politicization of the human rights issue, the principle of respect for the state sovereignty, characterized by non-interference in the internal affairs, should be thoroughly observed in the international co-operation for solving human rights issue.

The state sovereignty is the basis for realizing human rights. And only when the state sovereignty is thoroughly respected is it possible to create an atmosphere for human rights to be fully guaranteed at national level.

The issue of human rights of the citizens in each country is not the issue to be solved by any ultrastate mode but the one that the sovereign state concerned should take responsibility for.

Therefore, the international community should reject the acts of violating sovereign rights committed by some countries against other countries, unpleasant to them, imposing political pressure, economic blockade and military intervention against those countries under the pretext of "human rights protection" and firmly maintain the principle of sovereign equality and respect for sovereign rights.

At the same time, it should oppose any attempts of usurping the international legal systems as the lever of unjust pressure and interference upon the sovereign states.

The application of "double standard" pursuing political aims in the issue of human rights should never be allowed.

The situation that some countries maintain certain "standard" to justify such huge domestic human rights violations as deep-rooted racial discrimination, extreme murder, crimes, unemployment and acute problems of education and public health and accuse other countries groundlessly while applying another "standard", should be overcome thoroughly.

And the situation that some countries either turn their faces away from or cover the human rights violations in those countries with which they maintain political and strategic tie-ups or alliance and viciously condemn politically hostile countries even by fabricating human rights problems in those countries should be thoroughly rejected.

If the universality of human rights is to be realized, the "selectivity" which purposefully chooses and calls to account only specific countries or situations merely from political motivation should be removed by all means.

When all states oppose the consideration of and dealing with human rights issue which are based on political purposes and handle human rights issue on the principle of respect for state sovereignty, objectivity and impartiality, the atmosphere of detente and reconciliation will eventually prevail in the international human rights field.

Secondly, we hold that if the human rights are to be fully ensured at national and international level, the human rights and

fundamental freedoms should not be confined only to legal stipulation and protection but be practically exercised and enjoyed.

The rights that a human-being should enjoy in all fields of social life including political, economic and cultural fields are not exercised and enjoyed automatically simply because they have already been conferred with by the law.

The human rights can be practically exercised and enjoyed when conditions of social and material guarantee together with legal guarantee are created.

In order to enable all citizens in each country to really exercise their political rights including the right to be elected as provided for in its constitution, the measures of state and society to enhance the ideological consciousness and cultural level of the citizens and to ensure economic and social stability should be preceded accordingly.

In order to enable the citizens to enjoy economic, social and cultural rights, the measures to remove poverty, unemployment, diseases, illiteracy and crimes which jeopardize the existence of the human-being should be taken up.

The issue of realizing the economic social and cultural rights is raised as a more pressing task in the developing countries today.

At present, problems of poverty, diseases, heavy debt-burden and unfair international economic and trade relations gravely threatening the developing countries constitute a great obstacle to the enjoyment by the peoples of these countries of not only the right to subsistence and the right to development but also the political rights.

Such phenomena as ignoring the appalling situation of the right to subsistence and the right to development in the developing countries and putting political conditions in economic assistance under the pretext of internationalization of human rights issue should be put to an end.

The international community should, without any delay, establish international environment and measures to realize the right to subsistence and the right to development of the developing countries as called for in the "Declaration on the Right to Development" adopted in the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 24, 1986.

In particular, the developed countries should take responsibility for the origin of the economic difficulties of the developing countries, which are getting worse with each passing

day, and actively respond to the realization of the right to subsistence and the right to development of the developing countries.

Thirdly, we hold that the priority in the solution of human rights issue should be instituted in keeping with the historical and cultural characteristics and development stage of each region and country.

Today, a certain country and a group of countries are pretending as if the human rights perception, theory of value and social system of their style were "an omnipotent model" to be applied universally and are trying to impose them upon other countries. In case of any countries disobeying, they are putting pressure upon them, wilfully assessing and slandering the political systems and human rights situations in those countries.

As long as there exists a divergence between countries and regions in social and political systems, the level of economic development, historical and cultural traditions and customs, it is quite impossible and senseless to apply the human rights perception and policy and social system of a country and a group of countries to other countries in a uniform manner.

The protection and promotion of human rights in its true and unique sense, are realized not by the "directive" and "pressure" of any outside force but by the political and economic systems and laws chosen by each country and people. Therefore, no country has any right to behave as a "human rights judge".

The assertion of many developing countries including Asian countries today that the peculiarities of each country and region should be taken into due account in the solution of human rights issue fully conforms to the present reality.

In today's reality, in the case of the developing countries the realization of the right to subsistence and the right to development should be given priority and in the countries and regions with economic, social and cultural inequalities, the enjoyment by all citizens of human rights on an equal footing followed by the removal of such inequalities should be given precedence.

And in the countries and regions, where the importance is attached to the historical and cultural traditions and customs, the issue of applying and developing universal human rights perceptions in keeping with those traditions and customs should be preceded.

Fourthly, we hold that, if the human rights issue is to be solved satisfactorily at national and international level, true democracy should be put into effect.

Since the rights and freedoms of the human-being are guaranteed, exercised and enjoyed with a state as the unit, the thorough realization of democracy, which is the main form of state activity, is of vital importance in the overall insurance of human rights.

The democracy can be said to be a true democracy when it places at the centre the popular masses, not a certain minority group of the society, establishes the policies which reflects the will of the popular masses in the society, and serves their interest.

Only when such democracy is in place, can all citizens become masters of the state political life and give a full play to their creativity in all fields including economic, social and cultural fields.

The democracy in the international relations should be a democracy which opposes aggression, intervention and domination against other countries and respects their sovereignty.

Even today when humankind is at the threshold of a new century, such gross human rights violations as racism, apartheid, colonialism and aggression, interference, domination and power politics of the outside forces still exist on the globe. It is a disgrace to humankind and a challenge to the modern civilization and democracy.

The international community is encouraged to put an end to all forms of racial hatred such as racism, apartheid, neoNazism and xenophobia, as well as the violating state sovereignty such as disregard of existence of country or nation and forcible imposition of domination upon them and realize the democratization of the international relations.

Mr. President

The issue of ensuring the human rights is, in essence, an issue of meeting the requirements of a human-being, the most precious being in the world, to fully exercise and enjoy his or her rights and freedoms and to give a full play to the creativity in all fields of social life including political, economic and cultural fields.

The human rights of the people can be fully ensured only when the state concerned pursues the policy to defend the dignity of a human-being, places everything in the society including material wealth on the service to a human-being and creates the human relations consistent not with antagonism and enmity but with mutual assistance on the principle of not only taking responsibility for and defending but also constantly improving the human rights of its citizens.

In our country, the state takes the responsibility for the political freedoms and rights and economic, social and cultural rights of the popular masses and provides not only thorough legal guarantees but also all conditions necessary for their practical exercise and enjoyment.

Today our people as the master of the state and society are fully enjoying true freedoms and rights in their social and political life and their life free from any want and fear about future, united with single mind benefiting from such measures of state and society as free medical-care and free education expended by the state.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the international community will faithfully fulfil its international obligations, thus making a positive contribution to the insurance of respect for and protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world.

Thank you, Mr. President



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STATEMENT

BY

**H.E. NOBUO MATSUNAGA
ENVOY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN
AND REPRESENTATIVE OF**

JAPAN

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

VIENNA

18 JUNE 1993

**Permanent Mission of JAPAN
to the International Organizations in Vienna**

Mr. President,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In 1945, the peoples of the United Nations, in the newly adopted Charter, proclaimed their historic determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to reaffirm their faith in fundamental human rights. Now, with the end of the Cold War, the spirit of the United Nations Charter, though nearly half a century old, should be full of fresh meaning for us. When we recall the important part that faith in human rights has played in the ongoing world-wide tide of democratization, notably in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; when, with dismay, we see emerging ethnic conflicts marked by total disregard for human dignity; and as we set out to build a new international order which will guarantee all peoples and individuals lasting freedom, peace and prosperity, we must strive to give the Charter renewed vigor, and reaffirm, and act upon, our solemn commitment in the Charter to fundamental human rights and world peace.

In the decades since its establishment, the United Nations has made remarkable achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was the first landmark. A series of human rights conventions and international mechanisms to ensure their observance are part of the precious heritage of mankind. The time has now come to build on those accomplishments, overcome remaining obstacles, and meet today's new challenges. I would like to express my profound gratitude to

the Government of Austria for hosting this important conference, to address our historic task.

Mr. President,

Human rights are universal values common to all mankind. This truth, reflected in the United Nations Charter, is now generally accepted by the international community. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is regarded as a common standard of conduct. The two basic human rights instruments, namely, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, each of which came into effect with 35 ratifications in 1976 had, as of September 1992, been adhered to by, respectively, 116 and 113 States. And their numbers are increasing. Japan firmly believes that the international community must remain committed to the principles set forth in the Declaration and the Covenants. It is the duty of all States, whatever their cultural tradition, no matter what their political or economic system, to protect and promote those values.

Some countries argue that human rights are a matter falling essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of a State. It is true that a State has the primary responsibility to guarantee the human rights of those under its jurisdiction. However, human rights are also a matter of legitimate concern of the international community, as their enshrinement in the United Nations Charter testifies. One of the purposes of the Organization is to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights. The Economic and Social Council is authorized to make recommendations for the

purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. To express concern over any grave violation of human rights, be it arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance or torture, in whatever country such abuses may occur, and to encourage the country concerned to remedy the situation, should not be regarded as interference in internal affairs.

Mr. President,

This Conference gives us an opportunity to address the question of the relationship between development, democracy and human rights.

While social and economic development may facilitate enhanced respect for human rights, I believe that fundamental freedoms and rights should be respected by each and every country, whatever its culture, political or economic system, or stage of development.

Human rights should never be sacrificed to development. Rather, development should serve to promote and protect rights—economic, social, cultural, civil and political. Respect for human rights will facilitate development by bringing about a society in which individuals can freely develop their own abilities.

Convinced of this, Japan believes that development assistance should also contribute to promotion of the rights of individuals.

The Official Development Assistance Charter, which the Government of Japan adopted in June of last year, clearly states that when development assistance is provided, full attention should be paid to the situation regarding basic human rights and freedoms in a recipient country, and to the efforts being made by that country to promote democratization.

Mr. President,

My country believes it important that we continue to endeavour to promote the enjoyment of human rights for those who are particularly vulnerable: children, the aged, the disabled and others.

The 1990 World Summit for Children agreed to take joint actions to protect the rights of children and to improve their situation. The Government of Japan for its part, formulated its Plan of Action in 1991, as a follow-up to the Summit. One of the main objectives of our Plan of Action, covering both domestic measures and international assistance, is to assist children in developing countries, in particular in the area of Basic Human Needs, such as food, health and medical care, sanitation and education. Japan's international assistance in the field of Basic Human Needs accounted for as much as approximately 33% of all of its bilateral aid in 1992, and the Government intends to expand such assistance in the future.

This year is the International Year for the World's Indigenous People. The Government of Japan considers this an important opportunity to strengthen international cooperation aimed at finding solutions to the problems faced by indigenous communities. Trusting that the voluntary fund established for this

International Year will be used as a catalyst to stimulate activities initiated by indigenous people, Japan is contributing \$50,000 to this Fund.

Mr. President,

The advancement of women continues to be an important item on the agenda. Although progress has been made, especially through the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, there still remains a considerable gap between the de jure and de facto status of women. Continued efforts need to be made to eradicate gender discrimination, taking into consideration the importance of working towards the elimination of violence against women. I hope to see further improvement in the de facto status of women as we prepare for the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing in 1995.

Japan desires to see universal ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. I also urge States to review and withdraw reservations which are inconsistent with the object and purpose of the Convention.

Mr. President,

Technical cooperation in the field of human rights has an effective role to play in the promotion and protection of human rights. Japan evaluates highly the role played by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights in providing advisory services and technical assistance. Japan has regularly contributed to the United Nations' voluntary funds in the field of human rights, including the voluntary fund for advisory services and technical assistance. I believe that the

United Nations technical cooperation activities in the area of human rights should be further strengthened, and wish to appeal for additional contributions to the voluntary fund.

Mr. President,

Given the growing responsibilities of the United Nations in the field of human rights, it is important to allocate adequate resources to the United Nations Centre for Human Rights. Japan looks constructively at the need for additional resources for the Centre to be reallocated within the United Nations regular budget. At the same time, we urge all concerned to make further efforts to enhance the Centre's efficiency.

My country also supports the proposal that a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights be established. It believes that the High Commissioner should play an important role in coordinating United Nations human rights activities, and in assuring that the means necessary for thematic and country rapporteurs to do their tasks adequately are available.

Mr. President,

I believe that the countries of the Asian region should set to work to address the question of regional arrangements in the area of human rights. Given the ethnic, religious, cultural, social and legal diversity existing among the countries of Asia, we should proceed step by step, beginning with exchanges of experience and information at regional and sub-regional levels. I wish to call upon all fellow Asian States to work closely together for the promotion and protection of human rights, stressing enhanced dialogue among us.