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Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 3

Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development

Brazil, Ethiopia, Fiji, Japan, Morocco: draft resolution

35/... Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members

The Human Rights Council,

PP1 Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

PP2 Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling relevant international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

PP3 Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007 on institution-building of the Council,

PP4 Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 8/13 of 18 June 2008, 12/7 of 1 October 2009, 15/10 of 30 September 2010 and 29/5 of 2 July 2015, and General Assembly resolution 65/215 of 21 December 2010,

PP5 Recalling further the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

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Welcoming WHO's Global Leprosy Strategy 2016-2020 and sharing the common aspiration to accelerate towards a leprosy-free world,

PP6 Recalling that leprosy is curable and that the human rights of persons with leprosy could be better protected by treatment provided in the early stages that can prevent disability,

PP7 Deeply concerned that, in various parts of the world, persons affected by leprosy and their family members have faced and continue to face barriers to their participation as equal members of society, including isolation, discrimination, and violations and abuses of their human rights, and conscious that greater attention is needed to address these challenges,

PP8 Reaffirming that persons affected by leprosy and their family members, including women and children, should be treated with dignity and are entitled to enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms under customary international law, relevant conventions and national constitutions and laws,

PP9 Recognizing that persons affected by leprosy and their family members still face multiple forms of prejudice and discrimination stemming from misinformation about and misunderstanding of the disease throughout the world,

PP10 Recognizing also that specific attention is needed to address all forms of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members,

PP11 Bearing in mind the need to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of prejudice and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members to promote policies facilitating their inclusion, throughout the world,

PP12 Stressing the importance of implementing the principles and guidelines for the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members, submitted by the Advisory Committee in 2010,¹ to which Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions were encouraged to give due consideration in Council resolution 15/10 and General Assembly resolution 65/215 respectively,

PP13 Welcoming the final report by the Advisory Committee based on the resolution 29/5 of 2 July 2015 and its recommendations,

1. *Decides* to appoint, for a period of three years, unless otherwise deemed necessary, a Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members, with the following mandate:

(a) To follow up and report on progress made and measures taken by States for the effective implementation of the principles and guidelines for the realization of the enjoyment of human rights by persons affected by leprosy and their family members in all regions of the world, and to make recommendations to the Human Rights Council in this regard;

(b) To engage in dialogue and consult with States and other relevant stakeholders, including United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, in particular WHO, funds and programmes, other intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations to identify, exchange and promote good practices relating to the realization of the rights of persons affected by leprosy and their family members, and their participation as equal members of society with a view to achieving a leprosy-free world;

(c) To raise awareness on the rights of persons affected by leprosy and their family members and to combat stigmas, prejudices and harmful traditional practices and

¹ See A/HRC/15/30, annex.

beliefs that hinder their enjoyment of human rights and participation in society on an equal basis with others;

(d) To report annually to the Human Rights Council, starting from its thirty-eighth session, and to the General Assembly;

2. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in the discharge of the mandate, including by providing all information requested, to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to consider implementing the recommendations made in the mandate holder's reports;

3. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, including United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, other international organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur to enable the mandate holder to fulfil his or her mandate;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the human, technical and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur, in collaboration with States, relevant international organizations such as World Health Organization as well as concerned NGOs, to organize seminars on leprosy-related discrimination at an appropriate time and location in order to widely disseminate and deepen the understanding of the Principles and Guidelines among States and all other concerned stakeholders, ensuring substantial participation of persons affected by leprosy;

6. *Encourages* States, all relevant stakeholders, including United Nations bodies, specialized agencies such as the World Health Organization, funds and programmes, the special procedures, other international organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations to participate actively in the seminars;

7. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.
