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Commission on the Status of Women

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Agenda item 3 (a)

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”: review of gender mainstreaming in entities of the United Nations system

Rwanda* and Slovenia*: revised draft resolution

Advisability of the appointment of a special rapporteur on laws that discriminate against women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the commitment made in the Beijing Declaration¹ and Platform for Action,² adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, to ensure equality and non-discrimination under the law and practice³ and the specific commitment made in paragraph 232 (d) to revoke any remaining laws that discriminate on the basis of sex and remove gender bias in the administration of justice,⁴

Noting the concern expressed in the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, that legislative and regulatory gaps, as well as lack of implementation and enforcement of legislation and regulations, perpetuate de jure as well as de facto inequality and discrimination, and in a few cases, new laws discriminating against women have been introduced,⁵ and realizing that intensified efforts are needed towards the undertaking to review domestic

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

¹ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ *Ibid.*, strategic objective I.2.

⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 232 (d).

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-23/3, para. 27.

legislation “with a view to striving to remove discriminatory provisions as soon as possible, preferably by 2005”,⁶

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Advisability of the appointment of a special rapporteur on laws that discriminate against women”,⁷

1. *Invites* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Commission on the Status of Women and other relevant treaty bodies his report⁷ with a view to eliciting their views on ways and means that could best complement the work of the existing mechanisms and enhance the Commission’s capacity with respect to discriminatory laws, and also invites the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide its views thereon;

2. *Invites* Member States to submit to the Secretary-General their further views on his report;

3. *Decides*, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and the requested views thereon, to consider at its fifty-first session the advisability of the appointment of a special rapporteur on laws that discriminate against women, bearing in mind the existing mechanisms with a view to avoiding duplication.

⁶ Ibid., para. 68 (b).

⁷ E/CN.6/2006/8.