

Report of the Human Rights Council, A/61/53 (2006)

Resolution 1/3. Open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles relating to economic, social and cultural rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling that in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III), the World Conference encouraged the Commission on Human Rights to continue the examination of optional protocols to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Bearing in mind the discussions held, and the progress made, during the three previous sessions of the Open-ended Working Group on an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group (E/CN.4/2006/47);
2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Working Group for a period of two years in order to elaborate an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and, in this regard, requests the Chairperson of the Working Group to prepare, taking into account all views expressed during the sessions of the Working Group on, inter alia, the scope and application of an optional protocol, a first draft optional protocol, which includes draft provisions corresponding to the various main approaches outlined in her analytical paper, to be used as a basis for the forthcoming negotiations;
3. *Requests* the Working Group to meet for ten working days each year and to report to the Council;
4. *Decides* to invite a representative of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to attend these meetings as a resource person;
5. *Decides* to remain seized of this matter.

*21st meeting
29 June 2006*