

Human Rights Council Section 1

Topic: "Freedom of Religion or Belief"

Co-Sponsors: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Republic of Argentina, Commonwealth of Australia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Federative Republic of Brazil, Canada, People's

Republic of China, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of France, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Guatemala, Republic of India, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Republic of Kazakhstan, The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, United Mexican States, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Republic of Rwanda, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of South Africa, Kingdom of Spain, Republic of the Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Togo, Republic of Turkey, United States of America

The General Assembly, reaffirming the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, proposes this resolution regarding violations of human rights due to religious discrimination,

<u>Recalling</u> Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states, "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in a community with others and in public or in private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship, and observance", <u>Affirming</u> General Assembly Resolution 68/169, which stated "Calls for strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs,"

<u>Deeply concerned</u> that people are being brutally killed in masses for expressing their beliefs, therefore being denied of their inalienable human rights,

- Encourages action on the part of all member states to teach and promote religious tolerance and to discourage acrimony and xenophobia, as well as to provide a basic education on common and minority religions through their educational system with the goal of providing understanding on the issue;
- Endorses a periodical gathering every four months of national and religious leaders to discuss global and national religious issues;
- Urges other member states to help provide funds and aid for education for those who cannot provide this education for themselves; Believes that countries are considerate enough to donate and appreciates that;
- Further requests that the UN Human Rights Council certifies that a previously selected religion textbook is unbiased and comprehensive to avoid any personal opinion in schools;
- 5. Encourages educational facilities to provide an optional course on religion;
- 6. Emphasizes that this educational class on religion is on religion in general and is factual and unbiased. This class would teach doctrine and history as well as philosophical units, but would not contain any personal interpretation from the

teachers in order to prevent the possibility of discrimination;

- Declares accordingly that these classes should not be taught from the point of view of any religion;
- 8. Further requests nation states to fund the NGO Freedom House, which is a global organization dedicated to promoting the freedom of religion or belief internationally, as well as other NGOs with similar purposes and intents. These NGOs would assume responsibility for the hiring of teachers;
- 9. Encourages speaking out against intolerance; and
- 10. Supports the construction of places of all kinds of religious worship.