



**OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS**



**International Convention on the Protection of the Rights  
of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families**

**Commission on Human Rights Resolution: 2004/56**

*The Commission on Human Rights,*

*Reaffirming* that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights, are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood,

*Considering* the obligation of States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and freedoms,

*Guided* by the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and reaffirming the obligation of States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Bearing in mind* the principles and standards established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various United Nations bodies,

*Aware* of the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

*Deeply concerned* at the grave situation of vulnerability of migrant workers and members of their families,

*Recalling* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in all societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance,

*Reiterating* that, despite the existence of an established body of principles and norms, there is an urgent need worldwide to make further efforts to improve the situation of and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which the Assembly adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

*Considering* that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights (A/CONF.157/23) urges all States to guarantee the protection of all migrant workers and their families and invites them to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

1. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the entry into force of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on 1 July 2003;

2. *Welcomes* the signing or ratification of or accession to the Convention since then by other States and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention (E/CN.4/2004/73);

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider urgently signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the convening of the first meeting of the States parties to the Convention, especially for the election of the 10 independent experts of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in accordance with article 72 of the Convention, and for the convening of the first session of the Committee, and takes note of its rules of procedure, adopted in accordance with article 75 of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue providing the facilities and assistance necessary for the effective functioning of this new body created by virtue of an international treaty on human rights;

6. *Invites* the Committee to take into account the work of other human rights committees to protect and promote the human rights of migrant workers, as well as the work of other international forums addressing issues of international migration;

7. *Also invites* the Committee to take into account the debate in other human rights committees concerning improvements in their methods of work and to avoid any duplication;

8. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to submit in due time their first periodic report requested by article 73 of the Convention;

9. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to consider making the declarations foreseen in articles 76 and 77 of the Convention;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all facilities and assistance necessary for the active promotion of the Convention, through the programme of advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights;

11. *Welcomes* the increasing activities of the International Steering Committee of the Global Campaign for the Ratification of the Convention and invites organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue and to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on the Convention and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

12. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention and encourages her to persevere in this endeavour;

13. *Notes* that the Committee should present an annual report to the General Assembly on the application of the Convention, in accordance with its article 74;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its sixty-second session on the status of the Convention and on the efforts made by the Secretariat to promote the Convention and the protection of the rights of migrant workers;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the agenda sub-item entitled “Specific groups and individuals: migrant workers”.

*56th meeting*

*20 April 2004*

[Adopted without a vote. See chap. XIV.- E/2004/23 – E/CN.4/2004/127]