



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



**Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide**

**Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/66**

*The Commission on Human Rights,*

*Guided* by the Principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, as well as other relevant international instrument on human rights,

*Recalling* the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 96 (1) of December 1946, which declares genocide to be a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 53/43 of 2 December 1998 on the fiftieth anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 1998/10 of 3 April 1998, 1999/67 of 28 April 1999 and 2001/66 of 25 April 2001 on the Convention,

*Noting* that the General Assembly, in adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948, recognized the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

*Noting also* the entry into force on 1 July 2002 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the subsequent establishment of the International Criminal Court,

*Noting further* the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity of 26 November 1968,

*Deeply concerned* at the suffering caused by genocide to mankind and that the danger of the repetition of genocide has not completely disappeared,

*Recognizing* the important contribution of the Commission to efforts towards preventing situations in which the crime of genocide could be committed,

1. *Reaffirms* the significance of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide as an effective international instrument for the punishment of the crime of genocide;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention;
3. *Invites* States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so and, where necessary to enact national legislation in conformity with the provisions of the Convention;
4. *Invites* the Secretariat and relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system to disseminate the Convention widely, with a view to ensuring its universality and full and comprehensive implementation;
5. *Calls upon* all Member States to continue to give serious consideration to the matter of the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide;
6. *Decides* to examine the issue at its sixty-first session.

*61st meeting*  
*24 April 2003*  
[Adopted without a vote.]

See chap. XVII. - E/CN.4/2003/L.11/Add.6]