



Amnesty International would like to thank the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century for initiating the discussion and organizing the conference on global New concept of fundamental human rights and freedom issue. At the same time we express our full support towards the challenges occurring in the new global scenario. After an analysis of the draft proposed by the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century let us annotate it and include our suggestion as well.

Amnesty International is open to support and take part in solving the issues of human rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In the section *Notes*:

As the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century correctly noted there are international organizations and governments, which set many goals for the new millennium. Amnesty International is one of the international organizations that support the Millennium development goals that United Nations member states adopted 11 years ago by signing the Millennium Declaration. Amnesty International agrees with Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century that the world would not be able to fulfill these goals without the realization of human rights. Human rights standards must be put at the heart of MDG in order to fulfill the promises made in the Millennium Declaration. Amnesty International believes that the respect and promotion of all human right such as economic, social and cultural right is the key issue in order to improve lives of the people living in poverty.

The vision of Amnesty International is that every person all over the world enjoys the same rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration. The Declaration sets down the basic principles at the very heart of the human rights movements. It has enabled remarkable progress in human rights, inspiring international human rights standards, laws and institutions that have improved lives of many around the world. Amnesty International agrees with Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century that every state out of 184 members should respect the rules they signed for. Amnesty International is aware of cultural diversity of each country and also that the perception of the human rights may differ from country to country. The organization agrees with the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century that political system with its



legislation is an entity which sets and implements human rights. On the other hand Amnesty International believes that principles of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards and treaties defines, harmonize and unify the term „human rights“

- Amnesty International agrees with Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century that many international documents, treaties and declarations were adopted during last decades. The problems every such documents faces is that, for example, although as many as 184 states signed the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, there is no legal system that would punish them for violating what they signed. So far in many states the only subject that is allowed to take action for abuse of human rights is government within its national jurisdiction. In many cases of violation of human rights the governments do not do anything to protect their citizens due to their unwillingness or inability to take appropriate steps. Amnesty International believes that Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> Century correctly identified that the effort of achieving the effective law enforcement in the field of human rights must be done.

In the section Proposals:

- Amnesty international agrees with Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century to establish the tribunal as a subsequence of Security Council. The tribunal should be an essential part of the system for protecting rights across the world. However because the steps and decision taken within the tribunal would not be legally binding and would be only recommendatory there is no point of keeping the right of veto for suggested permanent members of Security Council. Therefore Amnesty International suggest interconnect the decisions adopted on the ground of tribunal with those taken by Security Council by making them resolutions and thus biding for countries. Then the right of veto would be maintained.

Amnesty International is prepared to help tribunal with identifying the infringements of human rights through various statements, reports and investigations done in the states. As the largest non-governmental organization, Amnesty International suggest, all states which approved the establishment of tribunal within the Security Council would allow the



organization investigate and monitor human rights situation in the countries. Based on this, Amnesty International will provide tribunal with all the information it needs to identify key issues on human rights in every country and thus, this allows the tribunal to start creating the appropriate national plan. The plan must include measures to promote and guarantee respect for economic, social and cultural rights – including the highest level of health, the right to freely chosen or accepted work, the right to education, and right of all people to an adequate standard of living in terms of food, clothing and housing.

Amnesty International suggests creating a group of experts within the tribunal, who would help revise the national laws of the countries and implement the plans into their jurisdiction to improve human rights standards.

Amnesty International believes that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The work of Amnesty International is based on the international human right standards such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that have set by the international community through the United Nations and also other intergovernmental bodies to which states are committed respecting. Based on this statement Amnesty International may not support the Idea of cultural relativism that is suggested by the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century to organize states into various groups. Amnesty International investigation shows that people struggle form the same abuses of human rights everywhere in the world. For example as the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century drafted the sentence of death penalty is not only the issue of Japan or USA that are considered developed countries, but also in many developing industrial countries such as China and especially in many developing countries in Africa or Middle East. On the other hand social rights – social security, or clean and healthy environment are not just a problem of only developing but also developed countries.

Amnesty International welcomes the idea that every institution and every person will have the right to address to the tribunal in case of breaking the rights set in national plan. Every such case should be investigated by the tribunal and those responsible should be brought to justice. The organization suggests that in case of that there will be positive findings the



tribunal give notice to a legal body of the state where violation of the rights took place, with recommendation how to resolve the situation.

- Since the adoption of Universal Declaration of Human Rights has passed almost 63 years. Since then the declaration became one of the fundamental source of human rights in economic, politic, social and cultural area. As the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century correctly suggested it should serve as a basis for creating the legislation and national plan of each state. Amnesty International encourages all governments to revise their national laws and implement all the rights noted in Declaration into their national plan as to the base for further steps.

However Amnesty International sees the opportunity to revise the UDHR itself due to current environmental issue. The organization suggests broadening the UDHR with a new article with regard to protect human right through protection of environment.

- Amnesty International welcomes the suggestion of the Forum for 21<sup>st</sup> century to play a leading role in the vital work with the non-governmental organizations. Amnesty International strongly recommends creating a mechanism supporting the work of NGO's to monitor state's compliance with human rights standards and to coordinate public opinion against offending states. It is necessary to support NGO's work in order to control how states fulfill their commitments according to signed treaties. NGO's would have an effective tool to create strategies for their future work. Our suggestion is that every participating country provides NGO's with reports on selected topics and also they would initiate meetings, between representatives of both governments and NGO's, on regular basis on selected topics. NGO's in return will make statements and reports to help participating countries eliminate defaults determined by NGO's.

- Amnesty International welcomes the Forum's aim to bind the states to incorporate the human rightist into their legislation. The organization encourages governments to establish an effective national framework to guarantee against impunity. Amnesty International wants all governments to ensure that national laws enable national authorities to investigate and prosecute violations of human rights.