

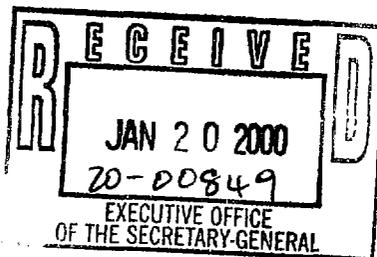
**NATIONS UNIES**  
HAUT COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME



**UNITED NATIONS**  
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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Télégrammes:  
UNATIONS, GENEVE  
Téléx: 41 29 62  
Internet: www.unhchr.ch  
E-mail: secrh.hchr@unog.ch



Address:  
Palais des Nations  
CH-1211 GENEVE 10

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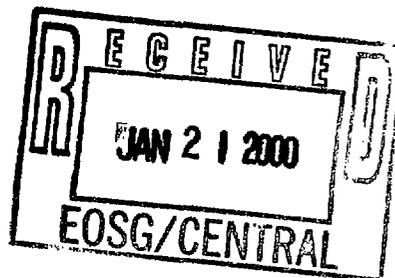
<b>A / To:</b>	Mrs. Elizabeth Lindenmayer Special Assistant to the Secretary-General	<b>De/ From:</b>	Mary Robinson <i>Mary Robinson</i> High Commissioner for Human Rights Geneva
<b>Fax N°: Tel N°:</b>	<b>001 212 963 3511</b>	<b>Fax N°: Tel N°:</b>	917 90 12 917 92 39
<b>Date:</b>	20 January 2000	<b>Nombre de page(s) - (y compris la présente): Number of page(s) - (this one included):</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Objet: Subject:</b>	Secretary-General's Priorities 2000		

Dear Mrs. Lindenmayer,

Attached please find as requested the submission by OHCHR on the Secretary-General's priorities for circulation to the SMG.

Best regards.

cc: Deputy Secretary-General ✓  
Mr. Malloch Brown - Convenor UNDG  
Mrs. Carolyn McAskie - Convenor ECHA  
Mr. Nitin Desai - Convenor EC-ESA  
Mr. Kieran Prendergast - Convenor, ECPS  
Mr. Riza- EOSG ✓



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## Secretary-General's priorities for 2000

### Submission of OHCHR

1. At the beginning of the year, the Secretary-General, in statements and articles, made the case that human rights are central to the work of the United Nations. It is important that this message be reflected in the deliberations of the millennium assembly as well as in its concluding document.
2. The World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, will be held in South Africa at the beginning of September 2001. The Secretary-General should identify himself with the global mobilization leading up to the World Conference and should help articulate themes that can influence the agenda and outcome of the World Conference.
3. The theme of equality and non-discrimination generally should also feature prominently in the Secretary-General's submissions and pronouncements for Beijing-plus-5, Nairobi-plus-15 and the Copenhagen-plus-5 events. A human rights perspective should run through all of these events and be reflected in the Millennium Assembly.
4. The Secretary-General's address to the Commission on Human Rights in 1999 was widely hailed as the most important address ever by a Secretary-General. The Secretary-General would send a powerful message by coming again to this year's Commission on Human Rights and making a major policy address, tracing the human rights challenges at the beginning of the century.
5. There is increasing recognition of the key role of human rights in early-warning and conflict prevention, in peace-making, in peace-keeping and in peace-building. The Secretary-General could take the initiative in organizing a high-level inter-agency meeting at United Nations Headquarters on this topic. Concise papers could be prepared beforehand that could be consolidated as the basis of discussions. The aim would be greater inter-agency understanding of the centrality of human rights in the area of peace and security and the fostering of further cooperation in this area.
6. UNDP's human development report this year will be on human rights. It would be important for the human development report to reflect the thinking of the Secretary-General and for the Secretary-General to be associated with the document.
7. Selecting a specific problem that the Secretary-General might zero in upon, the problem of trafficking in women and children urgently needs to be put into the international spotlight. The Secretary-General would help greatly if he were to help in placing the spotlight on this issue and putting his authority behind efforts to combat trafficking in human beings.

20.01.2000