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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Forty-fourth session

Pre-sessional open-ended Working Group
on the Question of a Convention on the
Rights of the Child

25-29 January 1988

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A TECHNICAL REVIEW
OF THE DRAFT

Proposal submitted by AUSTRALIA

In accordance with the request from the Chairman, the following are proposed guidelines which the body or person charged with the responsibility for carrying out a technical review of the Draft Convention on the Rights of the Child after the first reading has been completed, should adhere to.

Those charged with the technical review of the Draft Convention should produce a report which:

1. Identifies overlap and repetition between and within draft articles and makes recommendations on any consequential consolidation and/or relocation of such articles, particularly provisions with general application in the Convention;
2. Reviews the standard of protection given children and the responsibilities required of States in the various articles of the Convention with a view to:
 - checking their internal consistency
 - identifying whether they meet, as a minimum the requirements of other widely accepted instruments of international human rights and humanitarian law

- noting whether they are such as to be realistically attainable immediately by all States in the light of the limited resources available to poorer countries.

3. Makes other suggestions for technical improvements in the text including:

- the elimination of sexist language in the text
- consistent use of key terms in all parts of the draft.