



2 March 2018

**Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural (SOCHUM)**

**Topic Area: Preventing violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.**

**Sponsored By: The Netherlands**

**Submitted by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malta, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, The United States of America.**

### **Preambulatory Clauses**

*The United Nations Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee,*

*Recalling* the universality, interdependence and indivisibility of the human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

*Further recalling* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind,

*Endorsing* the Human Rights Council resolution 17/19 of 2011,

*Recognizing* the efforts of various member states to ensure that LGBT people are treated equally,

*Taking into consideration* the differences among the cultures and legal systems around the world,

*Considering* the lack of effective legal framework in many countries regarding LGBT rights,

### Operative Clauses

1. **Recommends** that any kind of punishment for consensual sexual activity, especially the death penalty, should be avoided;
2. **Supports** the immediate abolition of Sodomy Laws;
3. **Considers** the increase of sentencing for those who violate the rights of other people based on their sexual orientation and gender identity;
4. **Invites** member states to criminalize hate speech;
5. **Suggests** the creation of an international database that will contain information regarding the state in which the rights of the members of the LGBT community are in;
6. **Urges** the psychological recovery programmes to be administrated and conducted by individuals with professional expertise in mental evaluation counseling;
7. **Further urges** member states to provide medical assistance for both short term and long-term rehabilitation for victims of violence, while creating the appropriate circumstances under which victims will be supported socially, medically, psychologically and financially;
8. **Strongly suggests** that member states incorporate LGBT topics in mainstream education, as a means to familiarize children with the rights and needs of the LGBT community;
9. **Calls upon** all countries to make direct awareness raising efforts, through public campaigns, cooperation with NGOs and other measures;
10. **Proposes** the harmonization of the age of consent for heterosexual and homosexual conduct;
11. **Stresses the need** to provide members of the LGBT community with equal opportunities for education, work, legal representation, and advancement;

12. **Encourages** the creation of programs with the aim of supporting transgender people who have lost their jobs, residency and educational opportunity;
13. **Applauds** all efforts made by the member states towards raising the percentage of LGBT people in all sectors of employment, politics, residency and healthcare;
14. **Calls** for a more balanced, objective and free of any misconceptions media coverage regarding human rights in general, and LGBT community's rights in specific, by, for example, broadcasting inspiring speeches or human rights awareness campaigns;
15. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.