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HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL  
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**RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED FORMS OF  
INTOLERANCE: FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DURBAN  
DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

**Note verbale dated 27 April 2009 from the Permanent Mission  
of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Office of the  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and hereby conveys the official position of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran\* with regard to the final outcome document of the Durban Review Conference.

The Permanent Mission should be grateful if the present note, containing the reservation of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to the final outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, could be registered as a document of the Durban Review Conference and a part of the final report thereon.

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\* Reproduced in the annex, as received and in the language of submission only.

ANNEX

1) The final document of the Conference is the outcome of a negotiating process, which led to a compromise at the last moment. Nonetheless, it fails to address a number of important and essential issues, which due to the intransigent policy of certain parties, could not be sufficiently and appropriately reflected therein. The Islamic Republic of Iran expected that the Durban Review Conference would take firm and concrete positions on those issues through its final outcome document.

2) The final document suffers particularly from the lack of substantive reference to the racist policies of the Zionist regime exercised against the Palestinian people under protracted occupation; policies and actions that culminated in the latest brutal massacres against the Palestinians in Gaza and should have been condemned in the strongest term.

3) The final document, to the contrary, singles out the question of the Holocaust in an inappropriate manner and as a special case. It is unfortunate that different suggestions, asking for the deletion of the said reference or combining it with other cases, were rejected.

4) Moreover, the final document lacks sufficient reference to the issue of "defamation of religions". Under the circumstances where the Conference recognizes with concern the global rise and the number of incidents of racial and religious intolerance, especially against Islam, it is unfortunate that it disregards the necessity and appropriateness of reflecting this important issue.

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