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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

**Written statement* submitted by the Organization for Defending Victims of
Violence (ODVV), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[30 August 2007]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

Racism

One of the aspects of human rights is equality. No person can have advantage over another, and all humans must enjoy equal freedom. Freedom means the ability to do anything, providing the deed does not hurt others. Therefore the recognition of natural rights does not create any problems, and these rights are realised as the legal rights of humans in society. Thus the rights of each individual include an equal share of the citizen's rights collective that exists in a lawful society. There is no absolute definition or concept for freedom.

The talk of today's world is of a global unity, global village. But in practice is this unity in the destiny of the individuals of society applied?

The daily increase in mass killings, racial discrimination, corruption and prostitution, drugs and human trafficking are all indicative of the fact that the fundamental human rights of people from all sections of society are being violated. The protection of human dignity requires practical mechanisms for the realisation of common ideals of mankind, peace, security and the elimination of all forms of discrimination in other words.

According to the 2006 report of UN Special Rapporteur on Racism included the targeting of minority groups, refugees and immigrants, insult to religion, Islam in particular. The report covered the root causes of racism and racial discrimination (A/HRC/6/6 and A/HRC/5/10).

In his report (E/CN.4/2006/54) to the HRC he mentioned the mechanisms between democracy and racism

The ODVV believes that countries that condemn any form of racism, should pursue a process to eliminate racism, and they must adopt and implement more effective measures in their policies on national and local levels. Laws must be amended or legislated in order to effectively fight and eradicate racism and racial discrimination.
