



# General Assembly

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## Sixtieth session

### Third Committee

Agenda item 69

#### Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

##### Jamaica:\* draft resolution

### **Global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 59/177 of 20 December 2004, in which it firmly consolidated the global drive for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and recognized the absolute necessity and the imperative nature of the political will for the achievement of the commitments undertaken in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 58/160 of 22 December 2003, in which it decided to place emphasis on the concrete implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as a solid foundation for a broad-based consensus for further actions and initiatives towards the total elimination of the scourge of racism,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 57/195 of 18 December 2002, in which it outlined the important roles and responsibilities of the various organs of the United Nations and other stakeholders at the international, regional and national levels, including, in particular, the Commission on Human Rights, and 56/266 of 27 March 2002, in which it endorsed the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as constituting a solid foundation for further action and initiatives towards the total elimination of the scourge of racism,

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\* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

<sup>1</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

*Reiterating* that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

*Taking note* of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2002/68 of 25 April 2002,<sup>2</sup> 2003/30 of 23 April 2003,<sup>3</sup> 2004/88 of 22 April 2004<sup>4</sup> and 2005/64 of 20 April 2005,<sup>5</sup> by which the international community put into effect mechanisms for the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

*Underlining* the primacy of political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels for the successful implementation of the Durban Programme of Action,

*Alarmed* at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, inter alia, as a result of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

*Underlining* the importance of urgently eliminating continuing and violent trends involving racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

*Welcoming* the determination of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to profile and increase the visibility of the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and her intention to make this a cross-cutting issue in the activities and programmes of her Office,

## **I**

### **Basic general principles**

1. *Acknowledges* that no derogation from the prohibition of racial discrimination, genocide, the crime of apartheid or slavery is permitted, as defined in the obligations under the relevant human rights instruments;

2. *Expresses its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

3. *Expresses deep concern* at recent attempts to establish hierarchies among emerging and resurgent forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and

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<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3 (E/2002/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 2003, *Supplement No. 3 (E/2003/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, 2004, *Supplement No. 3 (E/2004/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 2005, *Supplement No. 3 (E/2005/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

related intolerance, and urges States to adopt measures to address these scourges with the same emphasis and vigour, with a view to preventing this practice and protecting victims;

4. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

5. *Recognizes* that States should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures to prevent and protect against acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations;

6. *Emphasizes* that it is the responsibility of States to adopt effective measures to combat criminal acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing, to prevent those crimes from going unpunished and to ensure the rule of law;

7. *Urges* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration laws, policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with their obligations under international human rights instruments;

8. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communication technologies, including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to combat this form of racism in accordance with the commitments that they have undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>1</sup> in particular paragraph 147 of the Programme of Action, in accordance with existing international and regional standards of freedom of expression and taking all necessary measures to guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

9. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

10. *Stresses* the responsibility of States to mainstream a gender perspective in the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels, to ensure that they effectively target the distinct situations of women and men;

## **II**

### **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**

11. *Reaffirms* that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>6</sup> are of paramount importance for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination in the world;

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

12. *Reiterates* the call made by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, in paragraph 75 of the Durban Programme of Action to achieve universal ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by 2005 and for all States to consider making the declaration envisaged under article 14 of the Convention, and endorses the grave concern expressed by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2005/64<sup>5</sup> to the effect that, with one hundred and seventy ratifications and only forty-six declarations, the deadline for universal ratification decided by the Conference has regrettably not been realized;

13. *Urges* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the above context, to maintain and issue regular updates on its website of a list of countries that have not yet ratified the Convention and to encourage such countries to demonstrate their practical commitment to meet the deadline for universal ratification as decided upon by the World Conference;

14. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention, on the financing of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and calls for adequate additional resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

15. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts to implement the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>7</sup> and article 5 of the Convention;

16. *Notes* that the Committee holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 5 of the Convention;

17. *Welcomes* the emphasis placed by the Committee on the importance of follow-up to the World Conference and the measures recommended to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;<sup>8</sup>

### **III**

#### **Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

18. *Acknowledges* that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance is on an equal footing with the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields;

19. *Acknowledges* that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which was the third world conference against racism, was significantly different from the previous two conferences, as evidenced by the inclusion in its title of two important components

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<sup>7</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>8</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18), chap. XI.

relating to contemporary forms of racism, namely, xenophobia and related intolerance;

20. *Emphasizes* that the basic responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States, and to this end stresses that States have the primary responsibility to ensure full and effective implementation of all commitments and recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

21. *Also emphasizes* the fundamental and complementary role of national human rights institutions, regional bodies or centres and civil society, working jointly with States towards the achievement of the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

22. *Welcomes* the elaboration of national action plans by those States which have done so and affirms this trend as a demonstration of commitment for the elimination of all the scourges of racism at the national level, and calls upon those States which have not yet done so to comply with their commitments undertaken at the World Conference;

23. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay, at the national, regional and international levels, policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

24. *Recognizes* the fundamental role of civil society in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular in assisting States to develop regulations and strategies, in taking measures and action against such forms of discrimination and through follow-up implementation;

25. *Decides* that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with their respective roles under the Charter of the United Nations and Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and the Commission on Human Rights shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

26. *Stresses and reaffirms* its role as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters related to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter, including in the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the goals and targets set at all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions;

27. *Welcomes* the second meeting of the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, held in Geneva from 21 to 23 February 2005, in particular its programme of work as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/177, and the appeal of the experts to the Commission on Human Rights and the Assembly to adopt a plan for the five-year review of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action,<sup>9</sup> and further welcomes regional initiatives under way in this regard;

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<sup>9</sup> See E/CN.4/2005/125 and Corr.1.

28. *Decides* that the Commission on Human Rights, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, shall have a central role in the monitoring of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action within the United Nations system and in advising the Council thereon;

29. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing work of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, and endorses the outcomes of their fourth and fifth sessions respectively and calls for their implementation by all stakeholders;

30. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level seminar in January 2006 under the auspices of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights focusing on the elaboration of standards complementary to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and on racism and the Internet, and encourages all States to participate in this seminar at the appropriate level;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the outcome of the high-level seminar in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the follow-up to the World Conference;

32. *Acknowledges* the centrality of resource mobilization, effective global partnership and international cooperation in the context of paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action for the successful realization of commitments undertaken at the World Conference, and to this end emphasizes the central role to be played by the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in mobilizing the necessary political will required for the successful implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

34. *Expresses its concern* at the increasing incidence of racism in various sporting events, while noting with appreciation the efforts made by some sporting governing bodies to combat racism, and in this regard, invites the Fédération internationale de football association, in connection with the World Cup to be held in Germany in 2006, and in particular in the interest of promoting a world of sport free from racism and racial discrimination, to consider introducing a visible theme on non-racism in football, and requests the Secretariat to bring this matter to the attention of the Fédération internationale de football association;

#### **IV**

#### **Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and follow-up to his visits**

35. *Expresses its full support and appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism,

racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and encourages its continuation;

36. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur;

37. *Recognizes with deep concern* the increase in anti-Semitism, Christianophobia and Islamophobia in various parts of the world, as well as the emergence of racial and violent movements based on racism and discriminatory ideas directed against Arab, Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities, communities of people of African descent, communities of people of Asian descent and other communities;

38. *Calls upon* States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

39. *Encourages* closer collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the Anti-Discrimination Unit;

40. *Urges* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

42. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur,<sup>10</sup> and encourages the continuation of his work, and calls for the implementation of those recommendations by all States and other relevant stakeholders;

43. *Urges* Member States to consider implementing the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Rapporteur and invites other relevant stakeholders to implement those recommendations;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give particular attention to the resurgence of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia against national, ethnic, cultural and religious minorities, immigrant populations, asylum-seekers and refugees, largely through the erosion of their economic and social rights (housing, education, health) and the gradual loss of protection systems under the relevant international instruments;

45. *Invites* Member States to demonstrate greater commitment to fighting racism in sport by conducting educational and awareness-raising activities and by very firmly condemning the perpetrators of racist incidents, in cooperation with national and international sports organizations;

46. *Reiterates* that international sports bodies such as the Fédération internationale de football association, on the occasion of the World Cup to be held

<sup>10</sup> See A/60/283.

in Germany in 2006, should focus on the national dimension of the fight against racism by asking national federations to submit annual reports on racist incidents and action taken in response to them;

**V**

**General**

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

48. *Decides* to remain seized of this important matter at its sixty-first session under the item entitled “Elimination of racism and racial discrimination”.

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