



General Assembly

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Agenda item 68 (b)

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Peru and Uruguay: draft resolution

Programme of activities of the International Year for People of African Descent

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ which proclaims 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 therein, without distinction of any kind, as well as other relevant international human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also its resolution 64/169 of 18 December 2009, in which it proclaimed the year beginning on 1 January 2011 the International Year for People of African Descent, with a view to strengthening national actions and regional and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent in relation to their full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, their participation and integration in all political, economic, social and cultural aspects of society, and the promotion of a greater knowledge of and respect for their diverse heritage and culture,

Recalling that, in its resolution 64/169, the General Assembly encouraged Member States and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, within their respective mandates and existing resources, to identify possible initiatives that could contribute to the success of the Year,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).



Recalling also the relevant provisions of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action² and the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,³

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the draft programme of activities for the International Year for People of African Descent,⁴

Recalling its resolutions 62/122 of 17 December 2007, 63/5 of 20 October 2008 and 64/15 of 16 November 2009 on the permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

1. *Takes note* of the draft programme of activities for the International Year for People of African Descent⁵ as a guideline for the activities related to the Year; and invites Member States and other donors to contribute, on a voluntary basis, to those activities;

2. *Encourages* Member States to participate in and support the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Year for People of African Descent, and to cooperate constructively and decisively to ensure rapid progress and concrete results in the achievement of the objectives of the Year;

3. *Encourages* the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and existing resources, intergovernmental organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to develop activities for the Year, taking into account its goals and objectives and, as a guideline, the programme of activities;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to launch the International Year for People of African Descent with an opening day ceremony on 10 December 2010;

5. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to facilitate and assist the implementation of activities, in order to continue to contribute to the success of the International Year for People of African Descent, in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities and bodies;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the progress and implementation of the present resolution.

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

⁴ A/65/227 and Add.1.

⁵ See A/65/227, sect. IX.