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CONSEIL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME
Septième session
Point 9 de l'ordre du jour

**LE RACISME, LA DISCRIMINATION RACIALE, LA XÉNOPHOBIE ET
L'INTOLÉRANCE QUI Y EST ASSOCIÉE: SUIVI ET APPLICATION
DE LA DÉCLARATION ET DU PROGRAMME
D'ACTION DE DURBAN**

**Informations présentées par le Centre norvégien pour les droits de l'homme, la
Commission nationale grecque des droits de l'homme, la Commission nationale
consultative française des droits de l'homme, le Centre jordanien pour
les droits de l'homme et l'Institut danois des droits de l'homme¹**

Note du secrétariat

Le secrétariat du Conseil des droits de l'homme a reçu la présente communication², reproduite ci-après conformément à l'article 7 b) du Règlement figurant dans la résolution 5/1 du Conseil des droits de l'homme, qui dispose que «la participation des institutions nationales des droits de l'homme s'exerce selon les modalités et les pratiques convenues par la Commission des droits de l'homme, y compris la résolution 2005/74 du 20 avril 2005».

¹ Les institutions nationales de défense des droits de l'homme présentant des informations disposent du statut A accordé par le Comité international de coordination des institutions nationales pour la promotion et la protection des droits de l'homme.

² Ces informations sont reproduites en annexe telles qu'elles ont été reçues, dans la langue originale seulement.

ANNEXE

Second Arab – European Human Right Dialogue meeting for National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (NIs), 21 – 23 October 2007, Copenhagen

The second Arab-European human rights dialogue for national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (NIs) held in Copenhagen was devoted to the theme of discrimination. The meeting was organised by the DIHR (Danish Institute for Human Rights) and the NCHRJ (National Center for Human Rights of Jordan). Representatives from European and Arab NIs and academic institutions participated in the meeting. A list of participating institutions is annexed.

Recalling the recommendations of the 2002 Copenhagen Meeting for NIs on Racism, Intolerance and Xenophobia and the 2006 Santa Cruz Meeting for NIs addressing migration.

Reaffirming that the NIs in the European and Arab regions should conform to the Paris Principles adopted by the UN General Assembly resolution 48/134, 20 December 1993, and should continuously strengthen their role as independent NIs promoting and protecting human rights. As part of this role, the NIs should work to eliminate all forms of discrimination affirming that the principle of non-discrimination is fundamental to the protection and fulfilment of human rights.

Emphasizing that discrimination in this declaration is defined in accordance with the definitions of ICERD and CEDAW as any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment, exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental rights in the political, economic, social and cultural or any other field of public life.

Underlining that as NIs we have an obligation to move beyond non-discrimination towards a vision encompassing an inclusive society that guarantees full and equal access to human rights, recognizes and respects the diversities and differences of identities based on gender, origin, religion and beliefs and acknowledging that we are all equal.

Noting that the Arab and European dialogue meeting has identified severe challenges with regard to discrimination in both regions.

Declaring that the NIs from the two regions agree to develop and strengthen regional and cross-regional collaboration aimed at exchanging experiences and good practices that support NIs in their endeavours to promote and protect human rights at the national level.

Recommendations

The participants agree to commit themselves to:

1. Work towards securing national legal frameworks promoting and protecting human rights. In order to accomplish this and while recalling the Berlin Declaration of 2006 on the role of NIs and treaty bodies, we should work to:
 - a. ensure that our respective states ratify international human rights treaties and remove reservations contrary to the principle of non-discrimination, and

- b. promote that states open for individual complaints handling under ICERD and CEDAW.
 - c. ensure consistency between international human rights law and national legislation through the implementation of the recommendations of treaty bodies and special procedures in national law.
2. Play a key role through joint research and analysis in developing a knowledge base necessary to develop indicators and criteria that can be utilised to:
 - a. document and publicise facts,
 - b. monitor and report human rights violations resulting from discrimination,
 - c. contribute to developing national strategies and plans comprising activities to be implemented in collaboration with strategic partners and aiming at raising awareness, educating and training relevant stakeholders.
 3. Work with strategic partners and stakeholders including civil society organisations, local and central government agencies (municipalities, ministries and state organisations), private business sector, judiciary, parliament, academia and the media.
 4. Work to ensure free and effective assistance for victims of discrimination and promote the creation of easily accessible complaints handling mechanisms guaranteeing everyone to obtain redress for violations of prohibition against discrimination.
 5. Work together in order to explore opportunities for common activities and interventions aimed at ending discrimination and protecting human rights in both regions. Furthermore, to explore the institutionalisation of the NIs Arab-European Network with the aim of strengthening collaboration.

The List of participants:

| Country | Name of Institute | Names of Participants | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Denmark | The Danish Institute for Human Rights | Mr. Morten Kjaerum, Ms. Birgitte Kofod Olsen, Ms. Kristine Yigen, Ms. Mette Appel Pallesen, Ms. Lis Dhundale, Ms Eva Marie Lassen, Mr. Morton Winston, | Ms. Birgit Lindsnaes, Ms. Mandana Zarrehparvar, Mr. Anders Buhelt, Ms. Lone Lindholdt, Mr. Fergus Kerrigan, Mr. Sune Skadegaard Thorsen, Ms. Trine Pertou Mach |
| Sweden | Raoul Wallenberg Institute | Mr. Rolf Ring, | Ms. Hanna Johnsson |

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| Norway | Norwegian Centre for Human Rights | Mr. Njål Høstmælingen |
| Norway | The Equality and Anti-discrimination Ombud | Ms. Beate Gangås [|
| France | National Consultative Commission of Human Rights | Mme. Cécile Riou-Batista |
| Netherlands | Non-discrimination Law Faculty of Law - Dep. of Public Law | Prof. Hendrika Holtmaat |
| Greece | Greek National Commission for Human Rights | Mr. Kostis Papaioannou, |
| Finland | Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University | Ms. Katarina Frostell |
| Sweden | The Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination | Ms. Katri Linna, Mr. Jamal Nijim |
| | International Service for Human Rights, Geneva | Mr. Chris Sidoti |
| Palestine | Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights | Ms. Randa Saniora, Dr. Camille Mansour |
| Egypt | National Council for Human Rights in Egypt | Dr. Salah Amer |

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| Algeria | The Consultative committee for the development and protection of human rights in Algeria | Ms. Rihab Farida Al-Mouloda Hsees, Ms. Zaitoun Bayah |
| Morocco | The consultative council for human rights in Morocco | Mr. Mohammed Mustafa Raissouni, Mr. Idris Ajbali |
| Qatar | The national commission for human rights in Qatar | Mr. Jaber Hweil, Ms. Ghada Darweesh |
| Tunisia | Commission for human rights and fundamental freedom in Tunisia | Mr. Moncer Rouissi, Dr. Mohamed Habib Slim |
| Saudi Arabia | Commission for human rights in Saudi Arabia | Dr. Khalid Suliaman Alobaid, Mr. Ali Hasan Almestneer |
| Yemen | Ministry of human rights in Yemen | Mr. Ali Saleh Tayseer, Mr. Adel Mohammed Ahmed Il-Yazeedi |
| Jordan | National Center for Human Rights – Jordan | H.E. Shaher Bak, Ms. Bushra Abu Shahout |
