Human Rights Council

Resolution 6/23. Preparations for the Durban Review Conference

The Human Rights Council,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006, by which the Assembly convened the Durban Review Conference in 2009,

Recalling its resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006 by which the Council contextualized, clarified and elaborated on several preparatory processes for the Durban Review Conference, in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly,

Welcoming the convening of the first session (organizational session) of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference held in Geneva from 27 to 31 August 2007 and, in this regard, looking forward to the two substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee tentatively scheduled to be held in Geneva from 21 April to 2 May 2008 and 6 to 17 October 2008, respectively,

Noting with deep regret, in the above context, the non-participation of all relevant non-governmental organizations, including the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and also regretting the fact that not all these entities were able to contribute to the Preparatory Committee’s dialogue on the “Objectives of the Review Conference”,

Noting that an effective preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference requires the full participation of all relevant non-governmental organizations, including the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in order for these entities to contribute to the Preparatory Committee’s dialogue on the objectives of the Conference,

Noting all the decisions taken by the Preparatory Committee with regard to the facilitation of all the preparatory processes to the 2009 Durban Review Conference,
1. Requests the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference to present her report to the General Assembly during its sixty-second session, covering the activities of the Preparatory Committee and progress made in preparation for the 2009 Durban Review Conference;

2. Looks forward to the General Assembly, in its capacity as the highest political entity of the United Nations system, providing political guidance and taking further decisions, as and when necessary, to ensure a smooth and successful Conference with a relevant substantive outcome complementary to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

3. Decides to remain seized of this important item on its agenda.

22nd meeting
28 September 2007

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 33 to 10, with 3 abstentions

In favour: Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, Zambia.

Against: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Abstaining: Japan, Republic of Korea, Ukraine.]