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DURBAN REVIEW CONFERENCE  
Geneva, 20-24 April 2009  
Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA\***

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\* Late submission.

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(b) To assess the effectiveness of the existing Durban follow-up mechanisms and other relevant United Nations mechanisms dealing with the issue of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to enhance them;		
(c) To promote the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;		
(d) To identify and share good practices achieved in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.		
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## **Introduction**

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/149, decided to convene in 2009 a review conference on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, to be conducted within the framework of the General Assembly, and, to that end, requested the Human Rights Council to undertake preparations for that event. In its resolution 3/2, the Council decided that it would act as the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference. In its decision PC.2/13, the Preparatory Committee decided that the Durban Review Conference, which would include a high-level segment, would be convened in Geneva, from 20 to 24 April 2009.

2. The Durban Review Conference will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, in the premises of the Palais des Nations. Delegations will find information on practical arrangements for the Conference in a note of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.211/5).

### **Item 1. Opening of the Conference**

3. Pursuant to Preparatory Committee decision PC.1/5, the Secretary-General designated the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as the Secretary-General of the Durban Review Conference. The Conference will be opened by the Secretary-General or, in his absence, by the Secretary-General of the Review Conference, who will preside until the Review Conference has elected its President.

### **Item 2. Election of the President**

4. At its first meeting, the Conference will elect a President from among the representatives of participating States.

### **Item 3. High-level segment**

5. Pursuant to Preparatory Committee decision PC.2/13, the Durban Review Conference will include a high-level segment. In its decision PC.1/4, the Preparatory Committee decided that participation in the Conference should be at the highest possible level.

6. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee proposed that the organizational and procedural arrangements for high-level segments followed by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council will be applied during the Durban Review Conference. Further details and modalities relating to the high-level segment of the Durban Review Conference will be provided by the Secretariat to Member States and observers as appropriate.

### **Item 4. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

7. At its first meeting, the Review Conference will adopt its rules of procedure. The Conference will have before it the provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.211/3) as recommended by the Preparatory Committee in its decision PC.1/9.

#### **Item 5. Election of other officers of the Conference**

8. In accordance with rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference will elect from among the representatives of participating States 21 vice-presidents, a rapporteur-general and chairpersons of the Main Committee and the Drafting Committee.

#### **Item 6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference**

9. A credentials committee of nine members will be appointed at the beginning of the Review Conference. Its composition will be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, in accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure. After examining the credentials of representatives, the Credentials Committee will report to the Review Conference without delay.

10. Pursuant to rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives will be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Review Conference, if possible not less than one week before the opening of the Review Conference. The credentials will be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

#### **Item 7. Adoption of the agenda**

11. At its first meeting, the Review Conference will adopt its agenda, the draft of which will, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference, in accordance with rule 17 (c) of the provisional rules of procedure. The Conference will have before it a provisional agenda (A/CONF.211/1), which was forwarded to it by the Preparatory Committee in accordance with its decision PC.2/11.

#### **Item 8. Organization of work**

12. The attention of the Review Conference is drawn to the provisional programme of work of the Conference as recommended by the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.211/4/Rev.1).

13. The Conference will also have before it an information note on practical arrangements for the Conference prepared by the Secretary-General (A/CONF.211/5) and a note by the Secretariat concerning the participation of non-governmental organizations in the Conference (A/CONF.211/6).

14. In view of the limited time available to the Review Conference, it may wish to adopt decisions concerning the organization of its work, including the frequency and duration of statements and the opening and closure of the list of speakers, taking into account respectively rules 22 and 24 of the provisional rules of procedure.

**Item 9. Issues arising from the objectives of the Conference:**

- (a) To review progress and assess implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action by all stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels, including assessing contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through an inclusive, transparent and collaborative process and identify concrete measures and initiatives for combating and eliminating all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to foster the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;**
- (b) To assess the effectiveness of the existing Durban follow-up mechanisms and other relevant United Nations mechanisms dealing with the issue of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to enhance them;**
- (c) To promote the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;**
- (d) To identify and share good practices achieved in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.**

15. On the basis of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, General Assembly resolution 61/149 and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2, the Preparatory Committee adopted the above objectives of the Durban Review Conference in its decision PC.1/13.

16. In its decision PC.2/8, the Preparatory Committee decided that the outcome, consisting of a declaratory part and an action-oriented part containing further actions and initiatives, would be based on contributions submitted in conformity with its decision PC.1/10 and the outcomes of the preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels, and would have the following structure:

- (a) Review of progress and assessment of implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action by all stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels, including the assessment of contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:
  - (i) Sources, causes, forms and contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
  - (ii) Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
  - (iii) Measures of prevention, education and protection aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels;

- (iv) Provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress and compensatory and other measures at all levels;
- (v) Strategies to achieve full and effective equality, including international cooperation and enhancement of the United Nations and other international mechanisms in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(b) Assessment of the effectiveness of the existing Durban follow-up mechanisms and other United Nations mechanisms dealing with the issue of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to enhance them;

(c) Promotion of the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(d) Identification and sharing of best practices achieved at the national, regional and international levels in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(e) Identification of further concrete measures and initiatives at all levels for combating and eliminating all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to foster the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to address challenges and impediments thereto, including in the light of developments since its adoption in 2001.

17. The Conference will have before it the draft outcome document as contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee on its third substantive session, which will be issued as document A/CONF.211/PC.4/7.

#### **Item 10. Adoption of the final document and the report of the Durban Review Conference**

18. At the conclusion of the Review Conference, the Conference will adopt a final document and a report, the draft of which will be prepared by the Rapporteur-General in accordance with rule 18 of the provisional rules of procedure.

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