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**DURBAN REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Preparatory Committee

Intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group  
to follow up the work of the Preparatory Committee

Second session

Agenda item 5

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATE OF THE WORKING GROUP  
AS CONTAINED IN PREPARATORY COMMITTEE DECISION PC.2/4 OF  
22 APRIL 2008 ENTITLED “ESTABLISHMENT AND DATES OF THE  
INTERSESSIONAL OPEN-ENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING  
GROUP”**

**Additional contributions from States received by the Office of the United Nations  
High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. Pursuant to decision PC.1/10 adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference on 31 August 2007, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) circulated, on 17 January 2008, a questionnaire to Member States (see A/CONF.211/PC.2/2). The summaries of replies received from 40 States as at 4 April 2008 were submitted to the Preparatory Committee at its first substantive session (see A/CONF.211/PC.2/CRP.6). This document was also made available to the working group at its first session.
2. Additional contributions by States received by the Secretariat after the circulation of the above document amount to 19 replies in total as at 29 August 2008. Summaries of some of those additional replies have already been included in the documents issued for the two regional meetings preparatory to the Durban Review Conference that were held in Brasilia on 17 to 19 June 2008 (see A/CONF.211/PC/RPM/1/2) and in Abuja on 24 to 26 August 2008 (see A/CONF.211/PC/RPM/2/2). For ease of reference, they are also reproduced in the present document, together with the summaries of new contributions received.

3. In view of the number and volume of the additional replies received and also bearing in mind the existing UN rules on the length of submission of documents, the summaries of some of the replies will be issued subsequently in an addendum to the present document.
4. The full text of all 59 replies to the questionnaire received so far by the Secretariat have been posted on OHCHR website at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/racism/DurbanReview/session1-repliesfromMemberStates.htm>

## ADDITIONAL REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE BY STATES

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## ANGOLA

In its uncategorized reply to the questionnaire, Angola states that it is a country that is capable of hosting, side by side, people of different origins and culture. It states that as the fifth largest country in sub-Saharan Africa, the country's demographics are based on ethnic diversity and multiculturalism. All the communities live in harmony and tolerance and no major problems of cohabitation have been reported. In spite of the negative impacts of thirty years of war, Angola has made progress in various areas. The National Police has been undergoing a modernization programme aimed at improving its capacity and readiness to deal with all circumstances upholding the rights of citizens including a specific training on human rights and in particular on issues related to discrimination, racism, xenophobia and related intolerance. There are radio programmes in Portuguese and in local languages broadcast to promote tolerance among communities and ethnic groups.

Angola is doing its utmost to ensure that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action is transformed into deeds, including by way of constructive dialogue to end discrimination and intolerance. Angola is of the view that states must adapt their own national legislation to combat all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance by elaborating strategies and implementing policies to fully implement the DDPA. The constitution of Angola provides for equality for all under the law, irrespective of colour, race, ethnicity, gender, place of origin, religion, ideology and social condition. Practical mechanisms to control discrimination in Angola include the Ninth Commission of the National Assembly which receives complaints and petitions from citizens, the Ministry of Justice and the Office of the Ombudsman. All citizens have the right to participate in public life, have access to health and housing and are accorded freedom of religion and belief. In 2006 the Government held the Third Symposium on National Culture which dealt with cultural policy. There is a Law No. 3/94 which establishes the legal regime of foreigners who reside in Angola and allows them to have equal rights and guarantees as the citizens of Angola with the exception of political rights and duties that the law expressly reserves for the Angolan citizens. It also guarantees aliens and stateless persons the right to seek asylum and provides for the acquisition of Angolan nationality. There is an Ombudsman, an independent public body which is set to protect the rights and freedoms of all through particular means, justice and legality of public administration.

## ARGENTINA

**Pregunta 1:** La República Argentina aprobó en 2005 un Plan Nacional contra la Discriminación, cuya elaboración fue coordinada por distintas áreas gubernamentales del país. El Plan fue el resultado de cuatro años de trabajo, que se iniciaron en octubre de 2001, cuando se firmó el proyecto para promover la aplicación en el país de las recomendaciones del Plan de Acción de Durban.

El Plan Nacional excede las recomendaciones del Plan de Acción, porque no sólo se limita a recomendar medidas en contra de la discriminación, sino que también confecciona un diagnóstico sobre la discriminación que abarca tres ejes centrales:

racismo, pobreza y exclusión social y estado y sociedad. El Plan se encuentra actualmente en su fase de implementación.

**Pregunta 2:** Además de sus tres ejes centrales, el Plan Nacional contra la Discriminación abarca diferentes áreas de análisis tales como étnico; étnico-nacional; género; orientación sexual e identidad de género; migrantes y refugiados; necesidades especiales; político-ideológico; religioso; y otros. En el INADI se confeccionan estadísticas por grupo vulnerado en el centro de atención; en el área de resolución rápida de conflictos, y en el centro de denuncias. Además, se está confeccionando el mapa de la discriminación en la Argentina y una de las conclusiones más relevantes de la percepción sobre situaciones de discriminación en el país son las prácticas de xenofobia contra los bolivianos y peruanos, sobre todo en los grandes centros urbanos.

**Pregunta 3:** Existen un conjunto de medidas e iniciativas elaboradas por la República Argentina, entre ellas se mencionan el establecimiento del Instituto Nacional contra la Discriminación, la Xenofobia y el Racismo (INADI), la elaboración del Plan Nacional contra la Discriminación, la sanción y promulgación de leyes, tales como las referidas a niñas, niños y adolescentes; pueblos originarios; género; refugiados; y migrantes. Asimismo, se promovió el nuevo Proyecto de Ley contra Actos Discriminatorios que modificará la actual Ley 23.592.

**Pregunta 4:** La Argentina estima que el incremento de la eficacia de estos mecanismos, se verá posibilitada en la medida que aumente su coordinación, no exista superposición de funciones, y continúen avanzando en la materia, por ej., a través del abordaje de nuevas cuestiones.

**Pregunta 5:** El Gobierno argentino ratificó la Convención Internacional sobre la Eliminación de Todas las Formas de Discriminación Racial el 2 de octubre de 1968; y el 6 de febrero de 2007, reconoció la competencia del CERD para recibir y examinar comunicaciones de personas que alegaran ser víctimas de violaciones a sus derechos por parte del Estado.

**Pregunta 6:** Entre las prácticas efectuadas por la Argentina, se mencionan el soporte a personas o grupos que se consideran víctimas de prácticas discriminatorias a través de un Centro de Denuncias; establecimiento de una línea telefónica gratuita, y guardias jurídicas; inicio de la confección del mapa de la discriminación en la Argentina; establecimiento de premios a la producción científica contra la discriminación en la Argentina; redes de investigadores/as contra la discriminación de las universidades públicas nacionales; establecimiento de un Consejo Asesor en el INADI integrado por representantes de la sociedad civil; creación de foros de la sociedad civil por ejes temáticos de discriminación; acompañamiento de iniciativas de la sociedad civil en la materia; establecimiento de delegaciones del INADI en las jurisdicciones provinciales; Activación del programa “Ciudades Libres de Discriminación”; establecimiento del programa “Barrios Libres de Discriminación”; establecimiento del Observatorio contra la Discriminación, la Xenofobia y el Racismo; y la realización de amplias campañas de difusión sobre la temática.

## BOLIVIA

**Pregunta 1:** El Estado Boliviano ha ratificado la *Convención Internacional sobre Eliminación de todas las Formas de Discriminación Racial*, mediante la *Ley No. 1978* de 14 Mayo de 1999, comprometiéndose a ejercer el pleno cumplimiento de este instrumento internacional para eliminar el racismo, la discriminación racial, la xenofobia y todas las formas conexas de intolerancia.

El 13 de Abril del 2004, mediante *Ley No. 2650*, se reformó la Constitución Política del Estado, reconociendo a Bolivia como un '*pais multiétnico y pluricultural*', y garantizando la participación y representación popular a través de agrupaciones ciudadanas y de pueblos indígenas, reconociendo además los derechos económicos, sociales y culturales de los pueblos indígenas.

En los últimos años, el Estado Boliviano, implementó el Plan Nacional de Desarrollo (PND) (*'Bolivia Digna, Soberana, Productiva y Democrática para Vivir Bien'*), fue aprobada por el Decreto Supremo No. 29272 de 12 de Septiembre de 2007.

Es el primer gobierno en la historia de Bolivia que tiene el 25% de participación real de mujeres como autoridades dentro de su gabinete ministerial.

**Pregunta 2:** Durante el proceso de la Asamblea Constituyente, a partir del 27 de Agosto al 19 de Diciembre 2007, se han presentado hechos de racismo y discriminación, contra algunos miembros de la Asamblea Constituyente, como contra algunas autoridades del Gabinete Ministerial.

Manifestaciones de discriminación, acontecidas en principalmente en la ciudad de Sucre, también se presentaron en las ciudades de Santa Cruz, Cochabamba y Tarija. Asimismo, esta discriminación e intolerancia racial se ha manifestado contra algunas altas autoridades del Poder Ejecutivo.

**Pregunta 3:** El 1 de Mayo 2008, se nacionaliza los recursos naturales hidrocarburíferos del país, recuperando la propiedad, la posesión y el control total y absoluto de éstos recursos.

Se ha promulgado la *Ley No. 3760* de 5 Noviembre del 2007, por la cual se ratifica la '*Declaración Universal sobre los Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas*' de las Naciones Unidas, por el cual se declara el derecho que tienen los pueblos a la 'auto determinación'. Finalmente, se ha creado el Viceministerio de Justicia Comunitaria, con atribuciones de legislar la defensa y protección de los derechos de las comunidades campesinas y de los pueblos indígenas.

**Pregunta 4:** Para que los mecanismos establecidos en el Plan y Programa de Acción de Durban, sean plenamente efectivos, se debe realizar un seguimiento constante sobre la implementación de normas jurídicas que pudiesen 'legalizar' algún tipo de discriminación.

**Pregunta 5:** Mediante Reforma Constitucional con la *Ley No. 2850* de 13 de Abril 2004, se reconoce al Estado boliviano como un '*pais multiétnico y pluricultural*'. El 28 de Noviembre del 2007, se estableció la existencia de la causal de expropiación por

utilidad pública de reagrupamiento y redistribución de la tierra con fines de dotación a favor del pueblo indígena Guaraní.

**Pregunta 6:** El Estado Boliviano, a través de diferentes instituciones, organizaciones de la sociedad civil que trabajan a favor de los Derechos Humanos, como el Defensor del Pueblo de Bolivia, elaboran y socializan información mediante programas comunicacionales y otras actividades como talleres y cursos con el objetivo de luchar contra la discriminación y concientizar a la población.

## CHILE

**Question 1:** In December 2000, Chile hosted the Regional Conference of the Americas, in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, to be held in September 2001 in Durban. Pursuant to the 2006-2010 government programme, the “Tolerance and No Discrimination Programme”, which was placed under the Ministry General-Secretariat General of the Government, has acquired more relevance and has been transformed into the Department of Diversity and Non-Discrimination. The Division of Social Organizations of the above-mentioned Ministry created a plan of action with the following components: (a) a plan of action against racism; (b) the promotion of civil initiatives; and (c) the spreading of initiatives on tolerance and no discrimination.

In 2004, the first national study on disability was carried out in Chile by the National Fund on Disability and the National Institute of Statistics. There is also currently a draft bill on disability before the Chilean Congress and there is a new policy that recognizes the multicultural diversity in the country. This policy is the most important political instrument based on the Durban Conference. There is also a new programme entitled “origins” concerning the regularization of lands, scholarship, health and cultural programmes. In addition to this, a pilot project related to the health of the transgender population has been launched. There are also efforts being made by the Chile Solidarity Programme to reduce poverty in the country.

**Question 2:** The Government of Chile stated that several studies had concluded that discrimination and intolerance were embedded in the core of the national culture, and operated unconsciously with stereotypes, prejudices and beliefs. Research results confirmed that the main root of discrimination was poverty and, as a result, public policies have focused on the eradication of poverty and social exclusion.

**Question 3:** In relation to the situation of indigenous peoples in Chile, a new policy (titled Re-Conocer: Pacto Social por la Multiculturalidad, or “Recognize: social pact for multiculturalism”) has been launched. This policy includes, inter alia, a plan of action which covers the following areas: (a) the political system, rights and institutions; (b) the integral development of peoples; and (c) multiculturalism, identities and diversity.

**Question 4:** Not applicable.

**Question 5:** In 2008, the Government of Chile will submit its 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination for the period 2000-2007.

**Question 6:** Currently, there are several initiatives to combat racial discrimination. For instance, there is a draft bill against any form or manifestation of discrimination currently before the Senate (which has been approved by the House of Representatives). Also, the inter-ministerial network and the multicultural citizen network, in the framework of Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Programme are important national initiatives.

## COLOMBIA

**Question 1:** Colombia actively supported the Durban Conference and its Plan of Action, which is an important reference for public policies.

**Question 2:** Racism and racial discrimination derives from the cultural process of colonialism and has no support in any legal instrument or agency. Xenophobia is not an issue. Ethnic minorities are usually the most affected by poverty and other minorities recognized and assisted are people affected by HIV/AIDS, internally displaced persons (IDPs), persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, transgender and bisexual persons (LGTBs).

**Question 3:** The Constitution establishes the right to formal and material equality and prohibits all discriminatory practices. The Penal Code and Law 1010 on Labour Harassment include anti-discriminatory provisions. The Quota Law assures the participation of women in public life and that of indigenous and Afro-Colombians is supported through measures, such as the Consulta Previa (Prior Consultation). The last three National Plans of Development have integrated the ethnic minorities and the national census of 2005, including a variable on ethnicity, has supported an anti-discriminatory policy. The Government has developed a set of special strategies towards Afro-Colombians of the Pacific region, and it has introduced a differential approach in its policies for IDPs (women and children) and in the Integral Policy of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law of the Ministry of Defence (vulnerable persons). The Programme to Protect Victims includes an ethnic approach and several positive measures have been developed for the provision of social benefits (housing, health, education, culture), promoting the patrimony of indigenous peoples. Several other projects within different ministries also address discrimination.

**Question 4:** Colombia strongly supports the various United Nations mechanisms on the issue and it also strongly supported the candidacy of a national expert to become a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. In the conferences held in Brazil, Colombia recognized a broad agenda against discrimination, including discrimination based on race, but also on inter alia gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion, migration and displacement. Regionally, several mechanisms were created to fight against racism and racial discrimination.

**Question 5:** Colombia ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 1981. Its resolutions have constitutional status. In 2008 Colombia submitted a report to the Committee.

**Question 6:** Pursuant to the Constitution of 1991, actions against racism and racial discrimination seek consensus, dialogue and agreement. To that end, Colombia



created a High-Level Consultative Commission; the National Pedagogic Commission, with its department commissions; community councils at the local level and the inter-institutional commission to advance Afro-Colombian peoples' issues.

## CUBA

Cuba considera imprescindible que la Conferencia de Examen de Durban se concentre no sólo en el análisis de la implementación de lo acordado en Durban, sino también en la discusión de las formas contemporáneas de racismo, discriminación racial, xenofobia e intolerancia conexas.

Tras el triunfo de la Revolución Cubana, el Gobierno implementó avances significativos en la lucha contra el racismo, la discriminación racial, la xenofobia y formas conexas de intolerancia. Todos los desposeídos, especialmente los afro-descendientes, empezaron a recibir beneficios sociales.

La Revolución cubana estableció entre sus prioridades la lucha contra la discriminación racial, dando inicio a un proceso de transformaciones políticas y socio-económicas. Se logró institucionalizar un marco jurídico y constitucional que garantiza la igualdad de todos los ciudadanos, con independencia de su raza.

La Constitución Cubana consagra el derecho de todo ciudadano de ejercer todos los derechos reconocidos en ella, sin distinción de raza, color de la piel, sexo, creencias religiosas, origen nacional y cualquier otra lesiva a la dignidad humana.

Todo acto que se inspire en ideas o teorías basadas en la superioridad de una raza o de un grupo de personas, o que pretenda justificar o promover el odio o discriminación racial, es sancionado por la legislación penal.

La Ley de Asociaciones impide la creación de asociaciones racistas y segregacionistas.

En los programas de curso se estudian asignaturas que incluyen la erradicación de toda forma de discriminación racial.

Se han aplicado políticas públicas que tienen como objetivo la inclusión y que han beneficiado a los afro-descendientes.

Los medios de difusión masiva en Cuba – al ser propiedad del Estado – tienen una política editorial dirigida a combatir cualquier forma de discriminación.

El Estado cubano ratificó la Convención para la Eliminación de todas las formas de discriminación racial. Cuba ha sostenido un diálogo y cooperación fluida con el CERD.

Cuba considera que la política y programas que ha aplicado han tenido un impacto real en el fomento de una sociedad en la cual se ha podido superar la impunidad en la expresión pública del racismo, la discriminación racial, la xenofobia y las formas conexas de intolerancia.

No obstante, por encontrarse los cubanos afro-descendientes entre los sectores más marginados y discriminados durante siglos, no ha sido posible resolver del todo la difícil situación heredada por estos grupos. En la limitación de recursos disponibles para redoblar estas acciones ha incidido negativamente el impacto del bloqueo impuesto por los Estados Unidos a Cuba.

El Gobierno de Cuba ratifica su compromiso de dedicar sus esfuerzos a la eliminación de la discriminación racial, xenofobia e intolerancia conexas, así como la aplicación efectiva y seguimiento de la Declaración y el Programa de Acción de Durban.

## **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**Question 1:** The Dominican Republic is working on programmes, preventative and educational measures, designed to avoid the occurrence of racist, discriminatory and xenophobic practices, as is outlined in the Programme of Action. Among these, we could point to the insertion of information on cultural diversity and the contributions of Afro-Americans, Haitians and other races in text books. We have also created the National Commission on Human Rights and other bodies in order to protect people's rights without distinction. It is worth pointing out that the International Labour Organisation accepted as valid the annual report that the Secretary of Labour presented concerning advances in the country in the area of work. In the report it is mentioned that the Secretariat has 38 offices throughout the country where the right not to be discriminated against in the workplace, on various grounds, is enforced.

**Question 2:** On the part of the State of the Dominican Republic, and within the legal framework that governs society and State institutions, there are no initiatives that endorse discriminatory treatment on account of their race, colour, gender, sex, religion or language. Of the initiatives taken by the Government of the Dominican Republic in the area of migration, the issuing of identity cards and birth certificates, as well as education especially directed at foreigners, it is worth pointing out that these initiatives have been designed and implemented in an effective way for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, colour, sex, gender, religion or language. This has provided more security to all those who wish to establish themselves legally within the national territory and exercise a life with full enjoyment of their civil, economic, social, political and cultural rights, without discrimination of any kind.

**Question 3:** As there are no policies of the State or its institutions that tend to produce racial discrimination, racism or xenophobia against nationals or foreigners by reason of their colour, race, gender, sex, religion or language, the State has not developed concrete measures to combat this. Neither is it possible to identify groups that apply such practices. This does not mean that the State does not take appropriate actions in cases that merit them.

**Question 4:** The Government of the Dominican Republic believes that all the current international mechanisms for following up upon Durban and other pertinent United Nations mechanisms that deal with the issue of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related form of intolerance will be effective, provided that they act in an impartial and just manner in their decisions.

**Question 5:** The Dominican Republic is a party to and has ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. As such, the Dominican Republic takes into consideration the recommendations made by the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. As an example we can cite the elimination of the *Fianza Judicatum Solvi* that constituted an economic impediment to foreigners exercising their right to bring cases before Dominican tribunals. This constitutes a great advance in the area of access to justice.

**Question 6:** As there is no racist, discriminatory or xenophobic treatment by the State in the Dominican Republic, there are no concrete practices implemented to combat these phenomena. There are, however, internal measures applied by the Dominican Republic, through the Director General of Migration, the Central Electoral Board, the “Oficialias del Estado Civil” and the State Secretariat for Education to benefit foreigners who decide to establish residence in the country in a legal manner. These protect their human rights regardless of colour, race, gender, sex, religion or language.

## ECUADOR

**Question 1:** A systematic programme for the application of the Durban Declaration has not yet been implemented in Ecuador. However, through the Corporación de Desarrollo Afroecuatoriano (CODAE, or Afro-Ecuadorian Development Corporation) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ecuador participated in the Regional Conference of the Americas concerning the Advances and Challenges of the Programme of Action against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Brazil on 26 and 27 July 2006.

In 2004, the Government began a national survey concerning the perceptions concerning racism and discrimination in Ecuador.

**Question 2:** The National Constituent Assembly is currently in negotiations relating to the incorporation of norms that advance and guarantee the most comprehensive application of collective rights of indigenous persons and Afro-Ecuadorians.

**Question 3:** In 2003, as part of the National Plan for Human Rights in Ecuador, the Operative Plan of Human Rights for Indigenous Communities and Afro-Ecuadorians was implemented.

Principles of non-discrimination and collective rights are enshrined within the Constitution of Ecuador. Article 1 of the Constitution clearly states that it is a multicultural nation. Articles 16 and 17 affirm that the State has the greatest responsibility to respect and ensure that human rights are guaranteed to all of its inhabitants (particularly, the collective rights of the Afro-Ecuadorians and Indigenous persons). Articles 23, 83, 84, 85 and 237 further recognize and affirm principles of non-discrimination and collective rights. The legislature declared a national day for the Afro-Ecuadorian communities and there is also a specific law relating to the collective rights for the Afro-Ecuadorian communities.

In 1998, the National Directorate for Intercultural Bilingual Education was established within the Ministry of Education and Culture, with particular emphasis on indigenous

communities. In the same year, the Government also created the Council for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples and Nationalities of Ecuador.

**Question 4:** The Government periodically reports on relevant information to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Since 2006, Ecuador has established a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

**Question 5:** Ecuador has ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

**Question 6:** Ecuador has also committed itself, within the National Plan for Social Development and Productivity, to make Afro-Ecuadorian communities a priority in the political agenda.

## GUATEMALA

**Question 1:** While no mechanism is in place to follow-up on the World Conference against Racism, the Presidential Commission on Racial Discrimination (CODISRA) is conducting a study in 2008 to propose such a mechanism.

**Question 2:** CODISRA is also in 2008 elaborating the 12th report of Guatemala to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and following up on the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action, in close consultation with other State entities.

**Question 3:** Several measures have been taken to combat racism and racial discrimination, among them:

- Promoting in Congress a legislative review towards abolishing laws or dispositions with discriminatory implications for indigenous peoples
- Creating judicial offices for the defence of indigenous rights providing free legal aid in the municipalities with the greatest number of indigenous communities
- Establishment of a Public Policy on Tolerance and the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination
- Classification of discrimination as a crime in the Penal Code
- The promulgation of a Law on Mayan Languages, and a law to recognize the right to use regional clothing in school
- The establishment of the CODISRA, which formulates public policy to eradicate racism and racial discrimination, as well as the Fund for Indigenous Development (FODIGUA), which supports social and economic development of indigenous communities

- The creation of a Commission of Indigenous Communities in Congress, and the creation of a National Commission on Reparations to carry out a compensation programme for victims of the 36-year internal armed conflict
- The creation of a Department on Indigenous Communities within the Ministry of Labour to oversee implementation of ILO Covenant 169, as well as an Indigenous Peoples Unit in the Ministry of Environment, to advise the Minister on environmental issues which affect indigenous communities
- The creation of a specialized Ombudsman for Indigenous Peoples within the national human rights institution, as well as the creation of the Academy for Mayan Languages (ALMG), which ensures application of the Law on Mayan languages, and promotes its use through a television channel

**Question 4:** Guatemala has strengthened national institutions, ratified international instruments, established solid legal and electoral systems, promoted knowledge of human rights by indigenous peoples, and opened space for civil society to contribute to public policy, all of which contributed to promote greater tolerance and combat racism and racial discrimination. But progress still needs to be made as the phenomenon evolves. The Government highlights positive mechanisms in place in the judicial system to ensure equal treatment before the law, and its commitment to follow recommendations made by the United Nations to Guatemala to eradicate racism and racial discrimination.

**Question 5:** Guatemala ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) in 1983, and is considering recommendations made by special procedures and treaty bodies in the preparation of its 12th report.

**Question 6:** The Public Policy for Tolerance and the Elimination of Racism involves all State institutions, in six areas: (a) social and economic; (b) political and judicial; (c) cultural; (d) civic education; (e) equality and access to State services, and (f) the environment. CODISRA is launching a National Campaign against Racism and Racial Discrimination, along with workshops to sensitize the public on the issue.

## **HONDURAS**

**Question 1:** The State of Honduras has implemented actions to apply the Durban Declaration and programme of Action.

**Question 2:** The Constitution of the Republic, in its article 60, establishes the equality of people from Honduras and condemns all forms of discrimination for reasons of race, sex, class and all other affronts to human dignity.

**Question 3:** Honduras is State Party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. The National Commission against Racial Discrimination, Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was created. Also, the Social Cabinet, the Ministry for Advising on Ethnicity and the Special

Office for Ethnicity and Cultural Patrimony, which is a dependency of the Attorney General's Office, were created.

**Question 4:** The current Durban follow-up mechanisms and other relevant United Nations mechanisms are valid proposals that should be applied by States in order to abolish racial discrimination.

**Question 5:** The measures that the Government of Honduras has adopted to comply with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and give due consideration to the recommendations of the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination are constituted by its compliance with the requirements of internal legislation.

As regards preventative, educative and protective measures, the Special Office for Ethnicity is charged with advancing respect for the rights of diverse groups and ensuring that they are organised as a group and in a position to fight for their rights. These include such groups as Garifunas and Lencas.

Religious freedoms are protected in Article 77 of the Honduran Constitution and Article 12 of the American Convention on Human Rights, to which Honduras is a party.

Paragraph 3 of Article 60 of the Constitution prohibits all discrimination based on sex, race, class and all other affronts to human dignity.

As regards the establishment or consolidation of national institutions, the Special Office for Ethnicity and Cultural Patrimony has the primary task of taking penal action against those who commit crimes that prejudice the interests, both individual and collective, of indigenous peoples and afro-descendants in Honduras and advancing the rights of this sector.

As regards access to social services, employment, housing, education and medical attention, the State Secretariat for Education implements the National Education Programme for indigenous populations and afro-descendants in Honduras.

With regard to the media, the law in Honduras prohibits all apology for national, racial or religious hatred that constitute incitement to violence or similar illegal action against any person or group of people for any reason, including race, colour, religion, language or national origin.

## **JAMAICA**

**Question 1:** Jamaica informed that it remains committed to working towards the full implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and will continue their assessment of the progress being made at the national level in preparation for the 2009 Durban Review Conference. Both UN General Assembly resolutions 61/19 and 62/122 were the initiative of Jamaica and other CARICOM countries and were in keeping with paragraphs 101 and 102 of the Durban Declaration aimed at countering the legacy of slavery and contributing to the restoration of the dignity of the victims of slavery and the slave trade. At the national level, the Jamaica

National Bicentenary Committee was established to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade.

**Question 2:** The Government of Jamaica is not aware of manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in the country. Additionally, there are many rights enshrined in the Jamaican Constitution that protect against these scourges.

**Question 3:** The Constitution of Jamaica grants and protects the fundamental rights and freedoms of all Jamaicans irrespective, *inter alia*, of race. The Constitution safeguards these rights and freedoms by entrenching the provisions relating thereto. This means, therefore, that any amendment to these rights and freedoms would require a two-thirds majority of both Houses of Parliament. As another protective measure, the Constitution provides an avenue for redress when these rights have been infringed. In such circumstances, the person who alleges an infringement may bring the matter before the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and, ultimately, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Additionally, the Office of the Public Defender is entrusted with the responsibility of protecting and enforcing the rights of Jamaican citizens where these rights may have been infringed.

**Question 4:** Jamaica is encouraged by initiatives being taken at the regional and international levels to promote implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. Jamaica is also pleased with the adoption by the UN General Assembly of resolutions 61/19 and 62/122 in 2006 and 2007.

**Question 5:** Jamaica is a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Efforts are also being made to ensure the timely submission of periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and to the consideration of the recommendations made by the Committee.

**Question 6:** Provision has been made in the Constitution of Jamaica to safeguard all the fundamental rights and freedoms it guarantees, including its prohibition of discrimination on the basis of race. Additionally, the Office of the Public Defender is charged with ensuring the protection of these rights and freedoms where infringed.

### **LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA**

**Question 1:** The sixth principle of the Green Charter defines Libya's society of non discrimination. The law of 1991 number 20 in its first article introduced the non discrimination framework between male and female. The penal code does not discriminate between local or foreign workers in Libya. Article 418 prohibits trafficking and imposes penalty of imprisonment for those acts. Article 420 prohibits all forms of slavery, forced labor and sexual exploitation.

**Question 2:** Libya does not only do not practice racism but we combat the practice of regimes against the African people. It differentiates between racism and freedom of expression. It is facing new form of racism related to house helpers (maids).

**Question 3:** The legislations incriminate all forms of discrimination and exploitation and racial discrimination. They are not only contained in the provisions of criminal or

civil laws but also special codes like the 1991 (20) law and the green Charter. Libya provides equal work opportunity with full respect to gender equality.

**Question 4:**

Although Libya does not have the practice of racial discrimination, it is combating it through the struggle against imperialism, fascism and racism at the global level. Many countries have not yet abided by their international treaty obligations.

**Question 5:**

Libya was among the first countries that ratified the treaty in 1968 and other treaties. It is a harmonic country which provides equality to all people on its ground.

**Question 6:**

Libya's legislations prohibited and criminalized all forms of discrimination even before Durban Declaration for combating racism as it was described before through adopting national legislation that prohibit discrimination mainly in law 5 and 20 of 1991.

## MEXICO

**Question 1:** On 14 April 2001, a constitutional reform modified article 1 of the Constitution of Mexico, with the overall aim of prohibiting any form of discrimination on any grounds. The National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination elaborated the National Programme for the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination. In June 2006, a Law on the Administration of Indigenous Justice was introduced which recognizes the complete judicial validity of the resolutions of the indigenous persons.

**Question 2:** On 11 June 2003, a law was introduced for the prevention and elimination of discrimination. As a consequence of this law, the National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination was created. In 2001, a law relating to the National Commission for the development of Indigenous Communities was introduced. In addition to this, the General Law on the Linguistic Rights of Indigenous Communities was introduced in 2003. This law then led to the creation of the National Institute of Indigenous Languages.

**Question 4:** The National Commission of Human Rights has the capacity to receive complaints concerning human rights violations and investigate alleged human rights violations.

**Question 5:** The Government of Mexico is committed to its National Development Plan (2007-2012).

**Question 6:** The Secretary for Social Development coordinates and organizes programmes to combat poverty and marginalization. On 26 February 2008, the Secretary for Employment introduced the Technical Committee for National Equality, Opportunities and Labour Inclusion.

Regarding the questions included in the annex, the Government of Mexico replied to several questions.



**Question 9:** In March 2006, a law was approved for the protection of migrants and their families and the protection of migrants and their families was reinforced. There is also a law relating specifically to equality between the sexes and a law governing access to women to a life free of violence. An intensive programme was implemented (from 2001 to May 2007) to educate civil servants and professionals in the specific area of human rights.

**Question 14:** Mexico is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

**Question 25:** Mexico has ratified the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 31 January (1967) in June 2002. In addition to this, the Mexican Commission to Assist Refugees has been established.

**Question 28:** On 28 November 2007, a national law for the prevention and sanction for the treatment of persons was introduced. The law, inter alia, establishes mechanisms to protect Mexican citizens in foreign countries (art. 16).

## MOROCCO

### **Question 1:**

Morocco became a party to ICERD and ratified a group of other international treaties. The Moroccan legislator incorporated the provisions of the convention in the penal code. Discrimination became prohibited and criminalized by this law. Labor law prevents hiring or firing based on racial discrimination. The law prevents the establishment of associations or institutions that are based on discrimination.

Morocco submits its reports regularly to the Committee of CERD. Human Rights education and awareness became an integral part of the regular schools and all other educational institutions.

### **Question 2:**

The country's national institutions, domestic legislations and daily practices constitute a guarantee against discrimination and for equality between all citizens. In addition Morocco adopted strategies and measures to ensure that all citizens enjoy equal rights without discrimination. It initiated and implemented a national plan for gender equality and another plan for human rights education to bring awareness against racial discrimination specially against all forms of racial discrimination. It added programmes to enhance protection of the (Barbar) Amazighi culture. We took measures to combat extreme poverty through developing programs aimed at supporting the poor, excluded and vulnerable group which may constitute bases to prevent forms of discrimination.

### **Question 3:**

The Kingdom believes fully in non discrimination and equality and dignity. In accordance with this Morocco amalgamated all sectors of the society into a national plan for modern democratic state which will ensure equality for all before the law and

its institutions. The main measures taken: reforming most of the legislations related to racism (the penal code chapter 431-1 repeated) labor laws, media, political parties, penal reform institutions, family and protection for refugees and immigrants provide protection against discrimination.

Morocco developed policies for the achievement of the MDGs, created development agencies to balanced development across the country. Special programs for villagers on education and nutrition. Combating illiteracy and gender equality among Amazighies. It created the Advisory Royal Council to the Sahara Affairs.

**Question 4:**

Morocco adopted a comprehensive approach to combat all forms of racism as a follow-up to Durban by making it a national issue of concern for all human rights mechanisms locally and internationally. Through the implementation of its recommendations and comments.

**Question 5:**

Morocco ratified CERD in 1969 where when incorporated in the domestic legislations defined discrimination in a comprehensive way and imposed penalty that included fine and imprisonment. It implemented most of the recommendations of the committee and reported regularly to it.

**Good practices:**

The use of the media and school curricula for promoting the Amazighies culture. The enacting of 2003 law for the protection of foreigners in Morocco. Comprehensive human development plan in rural areas.

## PANAMA

**Question 2:** In Panama there are no open forms for racism. However, there are hidden forms of racial discrimination such as admission being limited to private secondary schools, bars, restaurants and discos on the basis of colour. The Government established clear norms to eliminate these practices. There have been demonstrations of xenophobia against migrants, such as Dominicans and Colombians.

**Question 3:** Racial discrimination is not a problem in the country. To counter xenophobia, the State is taking into account the indications of United Nations bodies on migrant issues.

**Question 4:** The Government believes that its mechanisms against racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance are efficient and humane.

**Question 5:** As discrimination is not an official State policy, there are no government practices supporting racial discrimination.

**Question 6:** Executive decree No. 124 of 27 May 2005 creates the Special Commission for the establishment of a governmental policy for the full inclusion of the Afro-Panamanian ethnic group. In addition, as requested by the political group Platform of the Afro-Panamanians, article 9 of the Electoral Code was modified in order to allow those deprived of liberty to vote.

With reference to measures adopted by Panama to prohibit racial discrimination, the reply highlights the fact that all the various rights are guaranteed without limitations because of racial discrimination and that there are no laws supporting this.

A directorate of Indigenous Policies was established many years ago. The Government established recently the National Council of the African Descendent Ethnic Group.

Women are affected mainly by economic discrimination.

There are no statistics related to racial discrimination. The Government also actively promotes non-discrimination through its practice, as demonstrated by the number of Afro-descendent ministers, ambassadors and consuls. People of African descent have long been participating in the political, economic, social and cultural life of Panama. Possible exclusions are due to economic factors and limited access to public wealth, rather than to racial factors. The Government is planning to adopt the Plan presented by the National Council of the African Descendent Ethnic Group.

Regarding indigenous peoples, the Government has carried out policies to put an end to discriminatory practices against them. Indigenous laws are used in indigenous areas, if they do not affect the national integrity. State laws are agreed on with the various ethnic groups through a consensus process.

Regarding migrants, the laws conform to United Nations standards and norms.

Regarding refugees, asylum-seekers and displaced persons, anti-Semitism and anti-Arabism is not a practice in Panama and these two communities include the main investors in the country.

## **PARAGUAY**

Paraguay está aún frente a la necesidad de diseñar, promover y aplicar en el plano nacional programas y políticas, así como legislación adecuada, para promover a mejorar la calidad de vida de todos, sin discriminación. Es imprescindible tener una legislación que sancione los delitos motivados por actitudes racistas o discriminatorias, lo cual aun no fue adoptado por Paraguay.

Los Afrodescendientes han recurrido a la Defensoría del Pueblo, pese a ser un grupo minoritario. Un censo realizado a tres comunidades reveló la presencia de 1562 familias descendientes de africanos, de 2897 viviendas censadas, en distintas zonas del país. Este grupo se tornó más visibles por el trabajo de apoyo de la Defensoría a la organización Kamba Cua. Se ha planteado al Estado un dialogo cercano sobre las necesidades de estas comunidades y como promover sus valores culturales. Existen varios grupos vulnerables a manifestaciones contemporáneas de discriminación, como los indígenas, personas viviendo con VIH/SIDA, mujeres, ancianos, etc., y principalmente en nuestro país, las personas con discapacidades son principalmente discriminadas ya sea con acciones u omisiones.

La Constitución de Paraguay, establece en el artículo No. 46 que: “Las protecciones sobre desigualdades injustas no serán consideradas como factores discriminatorios sino igualitarios”, lo que entraña la sustentación a nivel constitucional de las acciones afirmativas que realice el Estado en su combate contra la discriminación. La Defensoría del Pueblo ha realizado campañas de sensibilización de la población, capacitación de las personas, seminarios, talleres, difusión por medios escritos etc., como un primer paso, ya que Paraguay no cuenta con una legislación que reglamente esta norma constitucional, y por ende no existe un órgano gubernamental que se ocupe de esta materia, si bien se presentaron varios proyectos de Ley que se encuentran en tratamiento.

La Secretaria Técnica de Planificación, organismo gubernamental encargado de los estudios nacionales de encuestas y censos, a través de la Dirección de Estadísticas, no ha evidenciado hasta la fecha, trabajos realizados en el área de discriminación en ninguna de sus modalidades. Las asociaciones civiles por su lado hacen puja para el elevamiento de datos de los afro descendientes. La Defensoría logró que en el censo nacional del 2010 se incluya la captación de datos relativos a la afro descendencia.

La Defensoría ha creado un Departamento de Acciones contra toda Forma de Discriminación. Asimismo, la Defensoría cuenta con un Departamento de Asuntos indígenas, a cargo de un abogado que realiza la tramitación de todos los casos que engloba este tema. La Defensoría del pueblo, realiza mediaciones - encausadas por medio de expedientes formados a petición de parte u de oficio - ante los conflictos suscitados. La Defensoría también realiza trabajos conjuntos con las comisiones del estamento legislativo, ya que el Senado cuanta con la Comisión de Equidad, Género y Desarrollo Social y la Cámara de Diputados una la Comisión de Equidad Social y Género. Se trabaja también en forma coordinada con una Red contra toda forma de Discriminación y con la Coordinadora Nacional de Asociaciones Civiles que trabajan en el sector de la No Discriminación.

Varias instituciones podrían recibir denuncias por presuntas discriminaciones, como las comisiones de ambas cámaras legislativas, el Ministerio Publico, la Comisión de Derechos Humanos, etc. La Defensoría también cuenta con la posibilidad de encausar estas reclamaciones, aún sin un poder sancionador.

Se han presentado Proyectos de Ley como el Proyecto Contra toda Forma de Discriminación. Este texto no solo contempla al sector de la equidad racial, afro descendientes, indígenas, sino a mujeres, ancianos, discapacitados, personas con VIH/SIDA, diversidad sexual, etc.

En los programas nacionales de educación, se contempla temas educativos en derechos humanos, derecho a la salud, etc, pero de manera complementaria se realizan conferencias, seminarios, talleres o capacitaciones por parte de diversos sectores de la sociedad civil junto con la Defensoría del Pueblo, en instituciones de educación, comunidades, en el interior, escuelas, colegios, centros de enseñanza superior, etc.

Se ha creado un Instituto de Capacitación en Derechos Humanos a iniciativa de la Defensoría del Pueblo, en donde los mismos funcionarios de la Defensoría, realizan la labor de instruir a agentes multiplicadores para la promoción y educación en esta materia.

Recién desde el mes de noviembre de 2006, la Resolución N° 804 crea el Departamento de Acciones contra la Discriminación, que se encuentra a cargo de una abogada cuyas funciones son: Realizar el control del cumplimiento de las disposiciones de la constitución nacional, de los pactos internacionales, de la declaración y programa de acción de Durban y de Santiago de Chile, referidos a la lucha contra la discriminación; Formular a la dirección de delegaciones de Asunción un plan de trabajo para el cumplimiento de sus funciones; Recibir las denuncias quejas y sugerencias que se relacionan a la discriminación; Intervenir de oficio en los casos de discriminación Realizar los trámites; Presentar un informe semestral a la dirección de delegaciones de Asunción.

La Convención Internacional sobre la Eliminación de todas las formas de Discriminación Racial fue ratificada por Paraguay como Ley N° 2.128/03.

El Estado cuenta con la Secretaria de Acción social, que establece programas de combate a la pobreza, pero no existen cuestiones explícitas acerca de iniciativas de algún componente de no discriminación. No se ha implementado programas integrales para abordar el tema de la discriminación, pero si existen múltiples proyectos y programas en ejecución que tratan este tema, ya sea como aprobación leyes de sectores específicos, es así como se intenta paliar la vulnerabilidad, por citar algunas:

- Ley N° 780/1979 que crea de Instituto Nacional de Protección a personas excepcionales. (INPRO).
- Ley N° 122/1990 que establece privilegios a favor de los impedidos.
- Ley N° 2479/2004 que establece la obligatoriedad de la Incorporación de personas con discapacidad en las instituciones publicas.

Como Paraguay no cuenta con una reglamentación que regule de los actos discriminatorios, es mejor recurrir a la vía judicial caratulándolo como difamación, injuria o calumnia para poder ser resarcir el daño, por lo menos pecuniariamente. Esto, conlleva otros factores como el acceso a la justicia, el costo del juicio, por su naturaleza de delitos de acción penal privada, a instancia de la victima.

## REPUBLIC OF KOREA

**Question 1:** The republic of Korea is opposed to racism and racial discrimination and respects fundamental human rights and the principle of racial equality stipulated in the United Nations Charter and Universal Declaration on Human Rights. It has endeavoured to faithfully implement the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

**Question 2:** Cases which could be specifically classified as contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance are hardly found in RKO. Nevertheless, the social integration of migrant workers and women migrants is emerging as a challenge for the Government.

**Question 3:** In May 2007, The Government of the ROK established the National Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights. On the basis of this Plan, it has been

formulating comprehensive and systematic policies for foreigners who reside in the ROK through enacting the Basic Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea and establishing periodic five-year Basic Plans for Policies Regarding Foreigners”.

**Question 4:** The Government of the ROK believes that the existing Durban follow-up mechanism should be able to address some controversial issues more effectively in preparation for the Durban Review Conference. Meanwhile it estimates that the United Nations legal and institutional mechanisms dealing with the issue of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance are effective and relevant, although dialogue and political will to implement those legal and institutional mechanisms need to be more intensified.

**Question 5:** The Government of the ROK ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 1978 and declared to accept Article 14 in 1997. It has strived to implement the recommendations issued after the review of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) on its 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> national reports last year in cooperation with NGOs.

The Government of the ROK has devoted efforts to improving the treatment of foreign workers and protecting their rights. Under the Employment Permit System (EPS) which was launched in August, 2004, foreign workers are protected by labor laws such as the Labor Standards Act, the Minimum Wages Act in the same way as Korean workers. The system prohibits discrimination against foreign workers solely on grounds of racial or ethnic origin.

The National Human Rights Commission of Korea, in its Memorial Ceremony of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 21, 2008 which was the first celebratory event of this kind in Korea, distributed leaflets to raise public awareness about the recommendations of the CERD.

The Act on the Punishment of Procuring Prostitution and Associated acts and the Act on the Prevention of Prostitution and Protection of Victims Thereof, specific articles serve to protect and support foreign women victim of force prostitution and/or trafficking.

In order to help primary and secondary students achieve a better understanding of cultural and racial diversity, the Government revised the 2007 primary and secondary school curricula. Under the revised curricula, the concept of human rights and cultural diversity is taught comprehensively through school activities, special activities and relevant subject matters

**Question 6:** Comprehensive and systematic policies for foreigners who reside in the ROK through the enactment of the Basic Act on the Treatment of Foreigners in Korea and establishing periodic five-year ‘Basic Plans for Policies Regarding Foreigners’ may be indicated as instances of good practices.

## SLOVENIA

**Question 1:** By joining the European Union, Slovenia adopted all EU commitment and policies which criminalize acts of racism and xenophobia throughout the EU member states. Slovenia believes that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action are an appropriate basis for all future activities aimed at their implementation and believes that a new Programme of Action is unnecessary. In Slovenia, in 2004, the National Assembly adopted the Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment Act which provides a common basis for the equal treatment of all persons in all spheres of society including in education, housing and supply of goods.

**Question 2:** Discrimination is prohibited in Slovenia's legal order and the constitution guarantees protection to all. Any incitement to national, racial and religious or other discrimination and the inflaming of national, racial, religious or other hatred and intolerance are unconstitutional and those aggrieved by public authority can appeal to the courts or through the Human Rights Ombudsman. Slovenia recognizes the importance of solidarity, respect, tolerance and multiculturalism in modern society and numerous activities are under way to promote respect for diversity. The Criminal Police Directorate closely follows any cases related to racial discrimination or xenophobia and informs the Peace Institute and also the non-governmental organization following xenophobia and racism on the internet –of measures taken by the police.

**Question 3:** Human Rights Ombudsman and Office of Equal Opportunities are institutions dealing with discrimination. Others are Commission for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities and the Council of the Government for the Implementation of the Principle of Equal Treatment. Three other commissions have been established for the protection of minorities, with majority of the members being from minority communities. There is also the Government Office for National Minorities that has been active in this struggle. Its recent work includes the drafting of the Roma Community Act which deals with the protection of the rights of the Roma.

**Question 4:** The Slovenia Government believes that there is a proliferation of mechanisms addressing racism and racial discrimination which can be detrimental to the fight against these scourges. There is need to rationalize and streamline these mechanisms.

**Question 5:** Slovenia calls on states to join in the universal ratification of the ICERD. Slovenia has been submitting its reports as they become due and has provided answers to comments made by the CERD in its concluding observations.

**Question 6:** The Slovenian Police have received training on how to behave in a multicultural society and are supposed to promote respect for different religions and cultures in the country, and in so doing they cooperate with the Peace institute as well as exchange information with two NGOs that follow these issues. Slovenia also cooperates with all Council of Europe mechanisms as well as the OSCE special representatives in the fight against different forms of discrimination.