

Decisions of the Organizational and Substantive Sessions of the Preparatory Committee of the Durban Review Conference

Decisions of the Organizational Session of the Preparatory Committee of the Durban Review Conference 27 - 31 August 2007

PC.1/1. Rules of procedure for the Preparatory Committee

At its 1st meeting, on 27 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to use as rules of procedure for the Preparatory Committee the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, section XIII, insofar as applicable.

PC.1/2. Participation of, and consultation with, observers at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee

At its 1st meeting, on 27 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to apply the following criteria and practices for participation by non-governmental organizations at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee:

(a) The mechanism established by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1996/31 of 26 July 1996, and practices observed by the Commission on Human Rights, shall be the framework for participation of, consultations with, and accreditation of non-governmental organizations, while ensuring their most effective contribution;

(b) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to participate fully in all the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31;

(c) In the case of non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, but accredited to participate in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and its follow-up mechanisms:

(i) The Secretariat will send to Member States an updated list of non-governmental organizations not in consultative status, but accredited to participate in the World Conference and its follow-up mechanisms;

(ii) Non-governmental organizations in this category shall be invited to participate fully at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, unless there are observations made by Member States within 14 days from the date they receive the note verbale with the list of non-governmental organizations mentioned above. The standard process established in Council resolution 1996/31 will be applied;

(iii) In the event that a Government raises questions concerning the accreditation of a non-governmental organization, the final decision shall be taken by the Preparatory Committee, in accordance with the standard process established in Council resolution 1996/31;

(d) In the case of non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and not accredited to participate in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and its follow-up mechanisms:

(i) Non-governmental organizations interested in the processes for the first time and wishing to participate in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee should submit applications to the Secretariat, in accordance with the criteria established in Council resolution 1996/31;

(ii) The Secretariat shall post on the website of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the procedures and relevant forms regarding the participation of non-governmental organizations;

(iii) The Secretariat shall continue to review all applications received to ensure that they meet the requirements established in Council resolution 1996/31;

(iv) Where non-governmental organizations have had their consultative status withdrawn or suspended under paragraph 57 (a) or (b) of Council resolution 1996/31, the Secretariat shall include information as to the reasons for withdrawal or suspension including the date of the decision, in the list circulated to all Member States;

(v) The Secretariat shall send to Member States, on a periodic basis, the updated list of applications received. Member States may submit comments on any of the applications in the list within 14 days from receipt of the above-mentioned list. The comments of Member States shall be communicated to the non-governmental organization concerned, which will be offered the opportunity to respond;

(vi) In cases where the Secretariat believes, on the ground of the information provided, in accordance with Council resolution 1996/31 that the non-governmental organization has established its competence and relevance of its activities with regards to the work of the Preparatory Committee, it shall recommend to the Preparatory Committee that the non-governmental organization be accredited. In cases where the Secretariat does not recommend the granting of accreditation, it shall make available to the Preparatory Committee its justifications for not doing so;

(vii) In the event that a Member State raises questions concerning the accreditation of a non-governmental organization, the final decision on such cases shall be taken by the Preparatory Committee in accordance with the standard process established in Council resolution 1996/31;

(e) Indigenous peoples' representatives that are accredited in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/32 of 25 July 1995, and who express willingness to participate, shall be accredited to the sessions of the Preparatory Committee. Other interested indigenous peoples' representatives can also be accredited, following standard procedures established under Council resolution 1996/31;

(f) Participation of national human rights institutions in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee shall be based on arrangements and practices agreed upon by the Commission on Human Rights, including resolution 2005/74 of 20 April 2005, while ensuring the most effective contribution of these institutions;

(g) The sessions of the Preparatory Committee are also open to participation by other observers such as:

(i) Entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers at the sessions and in the work of the General Assembly;

(ii) Intergovernmental organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers at the sessions and in the work of the General Assembly;

(iii) Specialized agencies;

(iv) Associate member of regional commissions;

(v) United Nations organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms, including human rights bodies and mechanisms.

PC.1/3. Dates for the Durban Review Conference

At its 5th meeting, on 29 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote that the Durban Review Conference shall take place during the first half of 2009.

PC.1/4. Level of participation

At its 5th meeting, on 29 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote that participation in the Conference should be at the highest possible level.

PC.1/5. Secretary-General of the Durban Review Conference

At its 5th meeting, on 29 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to designate the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights as Secretary-General of the Durban Review Conference, who, in this capacity, will assume the responsibility for the preparations for the Conference.

PC.1/6. Venue of the Preparatory Committee sessions and Durban Review Conference

At its 5th meeting, on 29 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote that:

- (a) The venue of the Preparatory Committee sessions will be Geneva;
- (b) The venue of the Durban Review Conference will be decided by the Preparatory Committee at a later date.

PC.1/7. Dates of the substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee

At its 8th meeting, on 30 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote that its first substantive session shall be held in Geneva from 21 April to 2 May 2008 and that its second substantive session shall be held from 6 to 17 October 2008.*

PC.1/8. Report of the Preparatory Committee

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote to recommend that the Human Rights Council adopt the following decision:

“Recalling its resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006, the Human Rights Council invites the Preparatory Committee to submit its reports to the General Assembly.”

PC.1/9. Rules of procedure for the Durban Review Conference

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote to recommend for the Durban Review Conference the provisional rules of procedure.

PC.1/10. Reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the Durban Review Conference

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote, on the basis of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, General Assembly resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006, and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006, and in line with the objectives of the Durban Review Conference:

- (a) To request Governments, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant United Nations bodies, regional organizations, governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, the

* Pending confirmation from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; session should not overlap meetings of the Third Committee of the General Assembly.

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, the Five Independent Eminent Experts to follow up on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Five Experts on Complementary International Standards, the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and other relevant human rights mechanisms including other special procedures to assist the Preparatory Committee by undertaking review and submitting recommendations, through the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as contributions to the outcome of the Review Conference;

(b) To request the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in order to facilitate the review process, under the supervision of the Bureau to draft a questionnaire that will be sent immediately after the end of the organizational session of the Preparatory Committee to all stakeholders listed above. Responses to the questionnaire will be sent to the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee;

(c) To establish at its first substantive session an open-ended intergovernmental working group to follow up the work of the Preparatory Committee, review additional written contributions and to report thereon to the Preparatory Committee;

(d) To request the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure the expeditious submission of the written contributions to the open-ended intergovernmental working group.

PC.1/11. Preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote to call upon States and regional organizations to hold international, regional and national meetings and/or to undertake other initiatives in preparation for the Durban Review Conference in line with the objectives of the Review Conference, and to request that reports from such activities, on the outcome of the respective deliberations, be submitted to the Preparatory Committee through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

PC.1/12. Sources of funding and financial and technical assistance

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote on the following provisions regarding sources of funding and financial and technical assistance:

(a) To request the United Nations Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the preparations for the Durban Review Conference and to consider providing, as appropriate, the necessary financial and technical assistance for the convening of the regional preparatory meetings, according to established practices;

(b) To request the High Commissioner for Human Rights to revitalize the voluntary fund for the Durban Review Conference. This voluntary fund would cover

expenses, other than those covered by the regular budget, related to the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference, including for the needs of the intersessional working group, the participation of the representatives of national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, especially those from developing countries, as well as human rights treaty bodies and thematic special procedures;

(c) To appeal to all Governments, international organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector and individuals, to contribute generously to the voluntary fund, and, to this end, requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to undertake initiatives to encourage contributions;

(d) To encourage the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to assist States and regional organizations, which convene international, regional and national meetings and/or undertake other relevant initiatives, including at expert level, in the framework of the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference; and also urges the United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and particularly the United Nations regional economic commissions, in coordination with the United Nations High Commissioner, to provide assistance for the organization of the above-mentioned preparatory activities and stresses that such assistance should be supplemented by voluntary contributions;

(e) To recommend to the General Assembly to appeal for contributions from extrabudgetary resources to cover the cost of participation of representatives of least developed countries in the preparatory processes, including the first and second substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee, the relevant regional preparatory meetings and in the Durban Review Conference.

PC.1/13. Objectives of the Durban Review Conference

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote that, on the basis of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, General Assembly resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006, and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006, the objectives of the Durban Review Conference will read as follows:

1. 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;
2. 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;
3. 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;

4. To identify and share good practices achieved in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

PC.1/14. Adoption of the draft provisional agenda for the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided without a vote to adopt an agenda for its first substantive session, which is set out below:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Organization of work.
4. Submission of the provisional agenda of the Durban Review Conference.
5. Reports of preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels.
6. Review of reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the Durban Review Conference and contributions of human rights bodies and mechanisms.
7. Draft outcome document of the Durban Review Conference.
8. Organization of the work of the Durban Review Conference and other matters.
9. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee.

PC.1/15. Organization of the work for the substantive sessions of the Preparatory Committee and the formulation of a concrete plan for the preparatory process

At its 9th meeting, on 31 August 2007, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to base its work over the next two years on a flexible timetable that takes into account the possibility of conflicting work agendas and other time constraints of the Committee members which would best facilitate the work of the Preparatory Committee.

**Decisions of the First Substantive Session of the Preparatory Committee
of the Durban Review Conference
21 April – 2 May and 26 May 2008**

**PC.2/1. Accreditation of the non-governmental organisation: Peoples Forum for
Human Rights and Development**

At its first meeting, on 21 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that in line with Preparatory Committee decision PC.1/2 of 27 August 2007 entitled “Participation of, and consultation with, observers at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee”, the secretariat has sent to all Member States an updated list of non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, but accredited to participate in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and its follow-up mechanisms. The Government of Bhutan, in a note verbale of 7 September 2007, raised objections concerning the non-governmental organization Peoples Forum for Human Rights and Development. Given that this organization did not respond to requests made by the secretariat for further information following the concerns raised by the Government of Bhutan, and that there are not sufficient grounds to establish its competence and the relevance of its activities with regard to the work of the Preparatory Committee, the Preparatory Committee decides not to accredit the non-governmental organization Peoples Forum for Human Rights and Development.

PC.2/2. Accreditation of thirty-three non-governmental organisations

At its first meeting, on 21 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that according to Preparatory Committee decision PC.1/2, para. (c) (ii), non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but accredited to participate in the 2001 Durban World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance shall be invited to participate fully at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, unless there are observations made by Member States within 14 days from the date they receive the note verbale with the list of these non-governmental organizations. The standard process established in Council resolution 1996/31 will be applied. Observations were made by the government of India seeking information, as stipulated in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 26 July 1996, with regard to the thirty three organizations below. The said organizations, having failed to provide required information demonstrating their compliance with Economic and Social Council Resolution 1996/31, the Preparatory Committee decides not to invite the organizations concerned to participate in the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference.

List of thirty-three NGOs

1. Catholic Bishops Conference of India/Commission for Scheduled Caste
2. Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative
3. Dalit Resource Centre
4. Dalit Solidarity Peoples

5. Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples
6. National Federation of Dalit Women
7. New Entity for Social Action
8. Peoples Watch – Tamil Nadu
9. Tamil Nadu Women’s Forum
10. All India Women’s Conference
11. Breakthrough Trust
12. Centre for Organisation Research and Education
13. Centre for Promotion of Social Concerns
14. Krushi Samstha
15. People’s Action for Rural Awakening (PARA)
16. People’s Education for Action and Liberation (PEAL)
17. People’s Movement for Self-Reliance (PMSR)
18. Prajwala Sangham
19. Prayas Gramin Vikas Samity
20. Rural Education for Development Society
21. Rural Health Education, Agriculture and Development Society
22. Sahanivasa
23. Andhra Pradesh Vyavasa Vruthidarula Union
24. Dalit Women Movement
25. Dalit Liberation Education Trust
26. National Alliance of Women (NAW)
27. Society for Integrated Development in Urban & Rural Areas (SIDUR)
28. Society of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (ICM Sisters) - Trichy
29. Sulabh International Social Service Organisation
30. Ambedkar Education Society
31. PRERANA
32. Sarvangin Vikas Sanstha
33. Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy

PC.2/3. Panel discussion on the objectives of the Durban Review Conference

At its third meeting, on 22 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided to hold a panel discussion on the objectives of the Durban Review Conference under agenda item 6, “Review of reports, studies and other documentation for the Preparatory Committee and the Durban Review Conference and contributions of human rights bodies and mechanisms.” The panel will be composed of the members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, the independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on the elaboration of complementary international standards. The presentations by the experts will be followed by an interactive dialogue.

PC.2/4. Establishment and dates of the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group

At its third meeting, on 22 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee, recalling its decisions PC.1/10 (c) and PC.1/15 of 31 August 2007, decided to establish an intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group to follow up the work of the Preparatory Committee, including through reviewing contributions and commencing negotiations on the draft outcome document, and to report thereon to the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee further decided that the open-ended intergovernmental working group will hold two sessions, of one week each. The first session will take place from 26 to 30 May 2008 and the second session from 30 June to 4 July 2008, or at any other date agreed by the working group.

PC.2/5. Provisional accreditation of NGOs

A.

At its eleventh meeting, on 30 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to provisionally accredit the below mentioned new NGO to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process pending the reception of further information that demonstrates that they fully satisfy the criteria for accreditation contained in ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 and in accordance with Preparatory Committee decision PC1/2:

1. Swadhikar

B.

The Preparatory Committee also decided to provisionally invite to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process the below mentioned NGOs that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but participated in the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001, pending the reception of further information that demonstrates that they fully satisfy the criteria for accreditation contained in ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 and in accordance with Preparatory Committee decision PC1/2:

1. Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society
2. Rural Development Centre
3. National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
4. Buddha Smriti Sanathan

PC.2/6. Accreditation of Durban 2001 NGOs

At its eleventh meeting, on 30 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to reaffirm the accreditation of those NGOs that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but participated in the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001 and whose accreditation to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process was not questioned by any Member State.

PC.2/7. Accreditation of new NGOs

At its eleventh meeting, on 30 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to accredit the following new NGOs to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process:

1. Palestinian Grassroots Anti-Apartheid Wall Campaign
2. Mouvement International pour les Reparations
3. Foundation Against Racism and Anti-Semitism
4. Community Security Trust

PC.2/8. Structure of the draft outcome document of the Durban Review Conference

At its eleventh meeting, on 30 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that the outcome, consisting of a declaratory part and an action-oriented part containing further actions and initiatives, will be based on contributions submitted in conformity with Decision PC1/10 and the outcomes of the preparatory meetings and activities at the international, regional and national levels, and shall be drawn up in accordance with the following structure:

1. 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
 - Sources, causes, forms and contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
 - Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
 - Measures of prevention, education and protection aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels
 - Provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress, and compensatory and other measures at all levels
 - 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
2. 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.
3. Promotion of the universal ratification and implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

4. 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.

5. 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 DDPA and to address challenges and impediments thereto, including in the light of developments since the adoption of the DDPA in 2001.

PC.2/9. Information strategy for the Durban Review Conference

At its thirteenth meeting, on 2 May 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to request the High Commissioner, in her capacity as Secretary-General of the Durban Review Conference, to prepare and carry out, in close cooperation with the United Nations Department of Public Information, a worldwide information campaign with a view to mobilizing support for the objectives of the Durban Review Conference by all sectors of political, economic, social and cultural life, as well as other interested sectors.

PC.2/10. Documentation for the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference

At its thirteenth meeting, on 2 May 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that all documents submitted as contributions to the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference, and circulated in English only, should be translated into all official languages of the United Nations and made available in time for the relevant meetings of the Inter-sessional Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to follow up the work of the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee further decides that a dedicated extranet page should be developed where all the documents of the conference shall be posted and be easily accessible by all stakeholders.

PC.2/11. Provisional agenda of the Durban Review Conference

At its third meeting, on 22 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, to adopt the provisional agenda of the Durban Review Conference, as follows:

1. Opening of the Conference. 2. Election of the President. 3. High-level segment. 4. Adoption of the rules of procedure. 5. Election of other officers of the Conference. 6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference. 7. Adoption of the agenda. 8. Organization of work. 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.

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

PC.2/12. Participation of observers in the Durban Review Conference

At its twelfth meeting, on 30 April 2008, the Preparatory Committee, recalling its decision PC.1/2 of 27 August 2007 on the participation of, and consultation with, observers at the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, decided, without a vote, that the same criteria, practices and arrangements should also apply to the participation of all observers in the Durban Review Conference.

PC.2/13. Venue, timing and duration of the Durban Review Conference

At its fifteenth meeting, on 26 May 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that the Durban Review Conference, which will include a high level segment, shall be convened in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009.

PC.2/14. Slogan of the Durban Review Conference

At its fifteenth meeting, on 26 May 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote, that the slogan of the Durban Review Conference shall be: “United Against Racism: Dignity And Justice For All”.

PC.2/15. Logo for the Durban Review Conference

At its fifteenth meeting, on 26 May 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided, without a vote that the logo for the Durban Review Conference shall be the same as that of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban in 2001. The Preparatory Committee also decided that the following additional elements shall be part of the logo: “Durban Review Conference” and “2001 – 2009”, and delegated to the Bureau to agree on the technicalities of the logo in consultation with the Secretariat.

**Decisions of the Second Substantive Session of the Preparatory
Committee of the Durban Review Conference
6 – 17 October 2008**

PC.3/1. Organization of Work of the second substantive session

The Preparatory Committee,

Recalling its decision PC.1/13 on the objectives of the Durban Review Conference and recalling further its decision PC.2/8 on the structure of the draft outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,

Recognizing the work of its intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group as mandated in its decisions PC.1/10 and PC.2/4, and noting that further written contribution will be made,

Taking note of the recommendation made by the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group (A/CONF.211/PC.3/2, annex V),

Acknowledging that the issues and the text contained in the working paper submitted by the Chairperson of the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group entitled “Certain indicative elements in relation to the outcome document” are not negotiated, and that attributions should be made,

1. *Decided* to commence immediately the process of negotiations on and drafting of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference;
2. *Decided* that working document entitled “Certain indicative elements in relation to the outcome document” shall constitute a basis for discussion and negotiations at the present session of the Preparatory Committee, without prejudice to the possibility for other stakeholders to make further proposals;
3. *Decided* that the drafting of the declaratory part of the outcome document shall be undertaken after the first reading of the five sections of the action-oriented part of the draft outcome document by the Preparatory Committee is completed.

PC.3/2. Accreditation of two new NGOs

At its 1st meeting, on 6 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided to accredit the following new NGOs to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process:

1. Gherush92 Committee for Human Rights
2. Bexley Council for Racial Equality

PC.3/3. Accreditation of three Durban 2001 NGOs

At its 1st meeting, on 6 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, recalling that in its decision PC.2/5 A adopted at its first substantive session it decided to provisionally invite to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process the below mentioned NGOs that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but participated in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001, pending the reception of further information that demonstrates that they fully satisfy the criteria for accreditation contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 and in accordance with Preparatory Committee decision PC1/2:

- Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society
- Rural Development Centre
- National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
- Buddha Smriti Sanathan

and noting that no further information was received from the NGOs Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society, Rural Development Centre and Buddha Smriti Sanathan, the Preparatory Committee decided not to accredit these three NGOs to the Durban Review Conference.

PC.3/4. Invitation addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

At its 1st meeting, on 7 October 2008, bearing in mind the objectives of the Durban Review Conference as well as the important role that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has been playing in the follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA), the Preparatory Committee decided to invite the High Commissioner to make a contribution to the Durban Review Conference through a report on the implementation of the DDPA and proposals to enhance its implementation and on the implementation of relevant decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.

PC.3/5. Accreditation of five new NGOs

At its 6th meeting, on 8 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee decided to accredit the following new NGOs to the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process:

1. Humanrights.ch / MERS
2. People for Peace and Defence of Rights
3. Terre Nouvelle
4. Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organisation
5. Bilaal Justice Center

PC.3/6. Accreditation of the NGO International Dalit Solidarity Network

At its 6th meeting, on 8 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, having considered the application of the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN), an NGO, for

participation in the preparatory process to the Durban Review Conference, noting that the areas of activities of IDSN relate to caste-based discrimination and other forms of discrimination based on work and descent, and underlining that the participation of IDSN in the preparatory process of the Durban Review Conference would cover discrimination based on the ground of descent in line with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, decided, therefore, to grant accreditation to IDSN.

PC.3/7. Accreditation of the three NGOs National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights, Swadhikar, and People's Education for Action and Liberation

A

At its 9th meeting, on 10 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, having received further information from the NGOs in question, decided to accredit the following NGOs that were provisionally accredited at its first substantive session pending the reception of further information:

1. Swadhikar
2. National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

B

At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee, having received further information from the NGO in question, decided to accredit the following NGO that was not invited to participate at its first substantive session as it had not provided further information:

1. Peoples Education for Action and Liberation.

PC.3/8. Accreditation of the NGO ABGLT

At its 17th meeting, on 16 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, having considered the application of the Brazilian NGO ABGLT for participation in the Durban Review Conference to be held from 20 to 24 April in Geneva, stressing that the participation of the ABGLT in the Durban review Conference would be based on addressing discrimination in conformity with the contents of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) and shall strictly raise issues mentioned in the DDPA and in accordance with operative paragraph 5 of Resolution 3/2 of the Human Rights Council, decided, therefore, to grant accreditation to the ABGLT.

PC.3/9. Continuation of the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference

At its 19th meeting, on 17 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, recalling General Assembly resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006 and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 19 December 2006 and bearing in mind the need to continue and conclude the process of negotiations on and drafting of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference in advance of the Conference, decided:

- (a) To convene a third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee in Geneva for up to 3 working days, on 15 to 17 April 2009;

(b) To establish an intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group with a mandate to continue and finalize the process of negotiations on and drafting of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference on the basis of the compilation of proposals resulting from the work of the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee and any further contributions, and to report thereon to the third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee further decided that the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group shall meet for a total of up to 10 working days in advance of the third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee, including a meeting on 27 November 2008, the first session to be held from 19 to 23 January 2009, and the second session on 6 to 9 April 2009 or at any other date agreed by the working group.

PC.3/10. Participation in the Durban Review Conference

At its 19th meeting, on 17 October 2008, the Preparatory Committee, recalling General Assembly resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006 and 62/220 of 22 December 2007 and Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 19 December 2006 as well as its own decision PC.1/12, decides to request the General Assembly to allocate adequate resources from the regular budget of the United Nations to facilitate the participation in the Review Conference of the relevant human rights treaty bodies and thematic special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.