



**“ A global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance is a matter of priority for the international community.”**

## KEY MESSAGES

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- Racism and related acts of intolerance occur on a daily basis all around the world. Despite progress made in the fight against these problems since the 2001 World Conference against Racism, rising bigotry and prejudice are challenges for all countries.
- The one-day UN High-level meeting in September will mark the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action by the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa in 2001.
- The purpose of the High-level meeting is to mobilize political will for real action to prevent and combat racism. For this reason, world leaders have been invited to participate.
- It is expected that they will produce a short political statement calling for increased action and accelerated implementation of measures to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action was adopted by consensus. It is the most comprehensive framework for fighting racism and related forms of intolerance and discrimination. It represents the firm commitment of the international community to tackle these issues, and serves as a basis for advocacy efforts worldwide.
- The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action highlights issues faced by victims of racial discrimination, including people of African and Asian descent, migrants, refugees, and specific vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, the Roma and other minorities.
- The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action also expresses deep concern about the increase in anti-Semitism, and increasing prejudice related to religious beliefs, including Islamophobia.
- The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action contains measures to combat racism in all of its manifestations, including through education, strengthening of the rule of law, and services and resources for victims of racial discrimination. It underscores the human rights of all groups suffering from racial discrimination, emphasizing their right to participate freely and equally in political, social, economic and cultural life.
- The September meeting is an opportunity to focus on one of the most critical global challenges of the 21st Century. It provides a chance to recommit to take action to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

**General Assembly High-Level Meeting, 22 September 2011  
Tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

[www.un.org/en/ga/durbanmeeting2011/](http://www.un.org/en/ga/durbanmeeting2011/)

