



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

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DURBAN DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

General Assembly High-Level Meeting • 22 September 2011

On 22 September this year, the United Nations General Assembly will hold a one-day High-Level Meeting in New York to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

This document is the international community's **blueprint for action** to fight racism, adopted by consensus at the 2001 UN World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa. It is an innovative and action-oriented agenda to combat all forms of racism and racial discrimination.

The tenth anniversary is an opportunity to renew and strengthen political commitment in the fight against racism and racial discrimination. The theme for the anniversary event is: **“Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: recognition, justice and development.”**

Format

The General Assembly meeting is a one-day event at the level of Heads of State and Government, taking the form of a plenary session and a series of roundtable discussions.

The meeting will open at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, 22 September in the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters in New York. A short ceremonial opening will be followed by two consecutive roundtables from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. A closing plenary session will take place from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. where summaries of the roundtable discussions will be presented. The plenary is then expected to adopt a short and concise political declaration.

NGO Participation

Non-governmental organizations (NGO) and other civil society actors are essential in combating all forms of racism. A representative of an NGO will speak at the opening plenary and selected representatives will be invited to participate in the roundtable proceedings, while others will be able to follow the proceedings of the roundtable sessions in the overflow room.

All civil society and NGO representatives participating in the meeting must be active in the field of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. The President of the General Assembly will draw up a list of representatives of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations active in the field of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related forms of intolerance, for the consideration of Member States.

The meeting will also be webcast live at: www.un.org/webcast

More information concerning non-governmental organization participation is available on the High-Level Meeting website at: www.un.org/en/ga/durbanmeeting2011

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