





crimes should be eliminated through effective and timely prosecution. The international community should rededicate itself to the full implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. It should ignore divisive forces and demonstrate that it could create a world where the promise of "dignity and justice for all" was not an empty slogan but a reality.

SHIGEYUKI HIROKI (Japan) said that it was important to recall the original purpose of the Review Conference "United against Racism: Dignity and Justice for All". Based on the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in 2001, Japan hoped that there would be future-oriented and forward-looking discussions towards the elimination of racism and that they would come up with practical and effective measures to fight against racism in the world. It was deeply regrettable, however, that the statements by some of the earlier speakers, using this Conference as a platform to be divisive, included what was contrary to achieving the objectives of this Review Conference. It was Japan's strong and sincere desire that all participating delegations would be engaged with in the Conference in a constructive and cooperative manner, respecting its objectives and spirit.

The Government of Japan had been actively promoting the elimination of prejudice or discrimination against foreigners in the country, acceptance of foreign cultures and diversity, and respect for the human rights for foreigners. In addition, Human Rights Counselling Offices for Foreign Nationals with interpretation services had been established in major cities in Japan. Concerning the Ainu people, the Japanese Diet unanimously adopted a resolution in June 2008 recognizing that the Ainu people were an indigenous people residing mainly in Hokkaido. The Government had growing concerns over the violations of human rights, including racial discrimination through the Internet. The Government had growing concerns over the violations of human rights, including racial discrimination through the Internet.



intolerance, the progress and work achieved thus far would be relegated to the status of double speak and cast into question its validity.

ELCHIN AMIRBAYOV (Azerbaijan) said that unfortunately, even nowadays, in the twenty-first century, the world still faced racist and xenophobic policie



the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights that the speech was clearly beyond the scope of the Review Conference. It could not see how this speech could contribute to fighting racism and promoting tolerance that was the aim of this Conference and Lithuania deplored such attempts to undermine efforts of the international community to address issues of racism.

Lithuania was fully committed to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance both on national and international levels. Lithuania welcomed international actions addressing these scourges and was fully convinced t





