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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
Geneva, 1-5 September 2008

AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS THERETO

Annotations

Item 1. Opening of the session

1. Pursuant to decision PC.2/4 on the establishment and dates of the intersessional open-ended intergovernmental working group adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference on 22 April 2008, the working group should hold two sessions, of one week each. The Preparatory Committee decided that the first session should take place from 26 to 30 May 2008 and the second session from 30 June to 4 July, or at any other time agreed by the working group.
2. The first session of the working group was held from 26 to 28 May 2008. The working group decided to convene its second session from 1 to 5 September 2008.

Item 2. Election of Chairperson-Rapporteur

- 3.

12. The working group may wish to recall that the following reports issued as documents of the Human Rights Council were also circulated during the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee:

A/HRC/2/3	Report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
A/HRC/6/5	Report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief
A/HRC/7/19	Report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
A/HRC/7/36	Report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on its seventh session

(d) 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;

(e) 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 Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to address challenges and impediments thereto, including in the light of developments since its adoption in 2001.

16. At its first session, the working group had before it a “non-paper” submitted by the Chairperson-Rapporteur. This non-paper contained an inventory of issues which were listed following the structure of the draft outcome document of the Durban Review Conference as contained in Preparatory Committee decision PC.2/8. On 27 May 2008, this non-paper was circulated by the Secretariat to all permanent missions in Geneva.

17. The working group agreed with the proposal of its Chairperson-Rapporteur for the establishment of an informal “Group of friends of the Chair” to meet during the intersessional period in order to facilitate the work of the working group at its second session. Each regional group was subsequently invited to nominate up to five representatives to serve as members of this informal group. The composition of the group which held several meetings in the period from June to August 2008 is as follows: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Greece, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Latvia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Uruguay and Turkey.

18. At the present session, the working group will have before it a working document submitted by the Chairperson-Rapporteur (A/CONF.211/PC/WG.1/3).

Item 6. Report of the working group to the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference

19. At the conclusion of its work, the working group will consider and adopt its report to the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference which will hold its second substantive session from 6 to 17 October 2008 at Geneva.
