

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;

(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, in

- 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

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. ~~IDUR~~ 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

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:

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 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

**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,

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 agains

(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