



**Guidance Note for Organizers of Cultural Activities During the
Durban Review Conference**
20-24 April 2009
Geneva, Switzerland

- Governments, United Nations entities, inter-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society and other organizations accredited to the Durban Review Conference may organize cultural activities, principally exhibitions, concerts and film presentations, during the Durban Review Conference. A number of dedicated public spaces will be made available for this purpose from 20-24 April 2009 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.
- A cultural activity is one which promotes dialogue among civilizations as defined in General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/6 and confirmed by General Assembly resolution A/RES/60/4.
- Organizers of cultural activities are invited to submit their request to the Conference Secretariat through the appropriate inscription form with all the relevant information **no later than 14 April 2009**. The inscription form for cultural activities may be found on the Durban Review Conference web site at <http://www.un.org/durbanreview2009/story11.shtml>.
- Keeping in mind the goals and objectives of the Durban Review Conference, cultural activities should focus on the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the combat against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- The Conference Secretariat will review all requests for cultural activities to ensure the broadest participation of stakeholders and a diverse range of themes and issues relating to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. Should the request be confirmed, the Conference Secretariat shall be in contact with the organizers concerning the next steps to take, including possible spaces, materials required and services available.
- The cultural activity must be compatible with the values, purposes and principles of the United Nations, in both content and presentation and shall not be of a profit generating or otherwise commercial nature. Organizers should also commit to undertake such activities in conformity with the letter and spirit of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and with the principles outlined in Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 on the consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations.

- When organizing cultural activities, organizers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts to avoid duplication. Where similar requests are received, the Secretariat shall endeavour to ensure a coordination of efforts and to encourage the co-sponsorship of activities. Where there is clear duplication, the Secretariat reserves the right to facilitate the holding of the activity, which is most closely associated with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
- It is important to note that organizers must ensure that their participants are part of those entities that are accredited to the Durban Review Conference. Participants shall receive their badges in the same manner as other persons accredited to the Durban Review Conference.
- The distribution of any background material is only allowed in the area where the activity takes place. All material distributed must bear the stamp of the organization sponsoring the activity. Offensive materials shall not be permitted.
- There is no provision for office space for organizers at the Conference site.
- Organizers wishing to hold receptions should arrange them directly with the catering service at the United Nations Office at Geneva (telephone number: + 41 22 917 5619).