

Organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
(Thursday, 22 September 2011, New York)

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 65/240 of 24 December 2010, decided to hold a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. The high-level meeting will be held on Thursday, 22 September 2011, and its theme will be “Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: recognition, justice and development”. The General Assembly, by its resolution 65/279 of 13 June 2011, further specified the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting.

2. On 22 July 2011, the Office of the President of the General Assembly circulated a first information note regarding the organizational arrangements of the high-level commemoration. This note serves to update the previous one.

Plenary meetings

3. The speakers who will take the floor in the opening plenary on behalf of their regional groups will be:

- African States: still to be determined
- Indonesia (Asia-Pacific States)
- Romania (Eastern European States)
- Jamaica (Latin American and Caribbean States)
- Monaco (Western European and other States)

4. Ms. Sarah White from the Mississippi Workers’ Center for Human Rights was selected as the representative from civil society who will speak in the opening plenary.

5. The list of NGOs who will participate in the high-level meeting has been submitted to Member States for consideration on a no-objection basis. In accordance with the objections received by Member States, the list has been adjusted and is attached to this note.

Round tables

6. Following the opening plenary, two consecutive round tables on the overall theme of “Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: recognition, justice and development” will take place from 11 to 1pm and from 3 to 6pm in the ECOSOC chamber.

7. The seating for the roundtables (two seats per delegation) will be according to General Assembly Protocol.

8. A list of speakers is maintained for the round tables in accordance with the level of representation. The Co-Chairs of the Round tables have not been identified yet. Member States are invited to indicate to the Office of the President of the General Assembly if they are interested to act as a Co-Chair. The following additional organizational arrangements have been made in accordance with resolution 65/279:

a) Round Table 1 (11-1pm)

Opening remarks will be made by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the Independent Eminent Expert on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. At the end of Round Table 1, a representative from each of the following five NGOs will be given the floor:

- Amnesty international - UK
- CIVICUS - South Africa
- International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences - Japan
- Latin American Committee for the Defence of Women's Rights (CLADEM) - Peru
- Open Society Institute - USA

Closing remarks will be made by the Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

b) Round Table 2 (3-6pm)

Opening remarks will be made by the Chairperson of the Working Group on People of African Descent and the Independent Eminent Expert on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. At the end of Round Table 2, a representative from each of the following five NGOs will be given the floor:

- Indigenous World Association - Canada
- International Trade Union Confederation - Belgium
- Jeunesse Horizon - Cameroon
- National Federation of Youth Organizations – Bangladesh
- Organizacao de Mulheres Negras - Brazil

Closing remarks will be made by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

9. All NGOs except those identified as speakers will be able to follow the Round Table discussions in an overflow room.

Further information

10. The website for the high-level meeting is available in all official languages at www.un.org/en/ga/durbanmeeting2011. It contains a range of information materials highlighting aspects of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, including information on Victims of Racism and particular groups such as Peoples of African Descent. Stories on combating racial discrimination are also featured.

11. An information kit containing these and other public information materials on racism will be distributed to delegates at the roundtable events.

12. The meeting will be webcast live at www.un.org/webcast and the archive will be available through the website of the high-level meeting.

Annex: High-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

<u>Thursday, 22 September 2011</u>
9:00 – 11:00 Opening plenary
11:00 – 13:00 Roundtable on “Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: recognition, justice and development”
15:00 – 18:00 Roundtable on “Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: recognition, justice and development”
18:00 – 19:00 Closing plenary