



Reports on the 45th session of the UN Human Rights Council

General debate on Agenda Item 9 (1 October 2020)

**Item 9: Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance,
follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA)**

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Presentation of Reports

H.E. Mr Refiloe Litjubo, Chair-Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Introduction:

The consequences of COVID-19, in access to food, water, medical care, employment and education are disproportionately affecting groups facing racial discrimination.

The demonstrations of solidarity with George Floyd and the Black Live Matter movement remind us that the fight against racism is a problem that concerns all of us. During demonstrations, countries were calling to heal their wounds of the past.

The language on the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) on the past is historic since it condemns wrongs of the past in unequivocal language and has been agreed upon by the whole international community.

The Durban documents make the linkages between gender, racism and poverty, as well as intersections between health, stigma, racism and racial discrimination.

The DDPA contains a series of concrete recommendations: for national action plans and public policies for better treatment of victims of racism; for tougher anti-discrimination legislation and administrative measures, for strengthening education, for improving the remedies and recourses available to victims.

Presentation of the Report:

“The Preparations for marking the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action” (A/HRC/45/48).

The report is based on discussions held during the 17th session of the WG (Dec 2019).

- The DDPA continues to be reaffirmed and recognized as a comprehensive framework and solid foundation for combating racism and racial discrimination.
- Proposes to convene a **one-day high-level plenary event** to mark the anniversary during the high-level segment of the 76th session of the GA, in 2021.
- Recommend the Council to convene an event to mark the 20th anniversary.
- Recognizes the importance of the involvement of civil society.
- The initiatives for the celebration should have high visibility, celebrate the positive developments, and address the remaining challenges.
- Encourages OHCHR to prepare public information materials that could be disseminated at various events and through UN information centres.

Racial equality and the full and effective implementation of the DDPA should be placed at the top of the international agenda.

Ms Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Presentation of oral update on systematic racism, violations of international human rights law against Africans and people of African descent by law enforcement agencies, especially those incidents that resulted in the death of George Floyd.

OHCHR continues to receive reports of police brutality and racism against people of African descent. The violations often go unpunished: often it appears that the investigation is open only when the video footage shared on social media creates public outrage. The absence of accountability and redress for racially motivated crimes committed by members of security forces against people of African descent is unacceptable. In every state where there is a Rule of Law, there must also be an oversight and absolute commitment to ending impunity.

[Resolution 43/1](#) provides momentum to expose the root causes that have enabled systemic racial discrimination and racial discrimination to persist, and to renew our collective efforts to resolve them. Following the adoption of the Resolution, the OHCHR established the dedicated team to work towards its implementation in accordance with the established methodology. An initial examination of the prevalence, patterns and trends of the issues raised in the resolution will guide the scope of the OHCHR's planned reporting. Important for the OHCHR to learn from the experiences of the victims of African descent and their families and communities as it is formulate its recommendations.

OHCHR began implementing the resolution before it received the resources.

Presentation of report of the High Commissioner on her activities within the framework of the International Decade for People of African Descent

As indicated in the report [A/HRC/45/47](#), since the start of the Decade, the OHCHR has assisted in the development of national anti-racial discrimination laws and action plans. It has assisted region-wide, through engagement with the African Union, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and European Union bodies. Within the UN system, it has collaborated with UNESCO, UNFPA and ECLAC, it has also coordinated the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. Three key regional meetings were organized, in Brasilia, Geneva and Dakar. There is an urgent need for stronger action from States and other stakeholders.

Three main recommendations of the Report:

- National implementation of the DDPA with participation of the affected communities in drawing up national plans and policies.
- The need to finalize the modalities for the Permanent Forum.
- Genuine engagement in drawing up the planned UN Declaration of the Promotion and Full Respect of Human Rights of People of African Descent.



Interventions made on behalf of Groups of States

Germany (on behalf of the European Union), Pakistan (on behalf of the OIC), Kuwait (on behalf of a Group of Countries), China (on behalf of a Group of Countries), Azerbaijan (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Norway (on behalf of a Group of Countries), Burkina Faso (on behalf of the African Group)

<p>Germany on behalf of the European Union¹</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The EU condemns all forms of racism and intolerance, as they are incompatible with the values and principles upon which the EU is founded. - On September 18th the European Commission published a new EU anti-racism action plan for the period 2020-2025 which aims at bringing EU institutions, EU Member States, EU agencies, civil society organisations, social partners and the private sector together in order to make concrete progress towards eliminating the scourge of racism from our societies. - The EU stands ready to discuss ways of revitalizing the work and streamlining of numerous UN mechanisms focusing on fighting racism in order to ensure our work is relevant.
<p>Pakistan on behalf of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OIC rejects any discrimination on basis of race, gender, creed, color and religion. - Emphasizes the need to effectively combating defamation of religion and incitement to violence through denigration of revered religious personalities and symbols; destruction of mosques and places of worship; and marginalization of Muslim communities through State-sanctioned acts, policies and laws. - In particular, strongly condemns burning of the Holy Quran in some European countries and republication of caricatures denigrating religious personalities and symbols.
<p>Kuwait on behalf of the Arab Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are racist practices that are institutionalized and systematically taken by law enforcement agencies and other senior officials that incite and promote hate speech and oppression of the Other. - Many communities have seen an increase of discriminatory practices as well as practices that target migrants, refugees and those under occupation in spite of international covenants and legal frameworks that guarantee human rights for all without discrimination on any basis. - The fight against racism and discrimination requires strong will and real measures to eliminate the root causes of these negative phenomena, starting with the need to sincerely and seriously implement the relevant international conventions, as well as decisively criminalize all discriminatory and racist practices and manifestations of hatred and punish the perpetrators.
<p>China on behalf of a Group of Countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Took note of the Oral Report made by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of Resolution 43/1, and express concern over the recent serious violations of the rights of people of African descent and other minorities in the countries concerned: - Many members of minorities died as a result of a racial discrimination and xenophobic violence. - Children of migrants are held in immigration detention centres of mal condition, forcibly separated from their families. - Express deep concern over the continued violations of the rights of immigrants in offshore immigration detention centres, and failure to protect indigenous peoples rights in certain countries which is a contemporary form of racial discrimination.

¹ The Candidate Countries Turkey, the Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, and Georgia align themselves with this statement.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Human Rights Council should increase input in combatting racism, racial discrimination and hate speech, and implement Resolution 43/1 of the Council.- All parties should oppose politicizing and stigmatizing the pandemic.
Azerbaijan on behalf of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- There is an urgent need to address the resurgence of contemporary forms of abhorrent racism related crimes with greater resolve and political will, in all spheres of life and in all parts of the world, including all those under foreign occupation.- The NAM encourages the Human Rights Council, through the Intergovernmental Working Group, to finalize the elaboration of complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.- The NAM reiterates its position that pluralism, tolerance, dialogue and understanding of religious and cultural diversity are essential for peace and harmony.- The NAM condemns the glorification, in any form, of the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past.- The NAM recognizes the potential to increase the use of the new information and communications technologies, including the Internet, especially by national educational institutions, to create educational and awareness-raising networks and programs against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, both in and out of school.
Norway on behalf of the Nordic and Baltic countries²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 19 years after the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, racist statements and negative stereotypes, attitudes and prejudices are still far too common. This is a problem in many countries, including in Nordic and Baltic countries.- The clear call for change and action from civil society must be followed up by political action by member states. Specific and targeted measures are needed, such as national actions plans, campaigns against discrimination, combating hate speech and a hostile debate environment and developing arenas for dialogue.- Need to strengthen co-operation to create robust and inclusive democracies that promote dialogue, freedom of expression and diversity. Our common goal is societies based on tolerance, freedom and justice.
Burkina Faso on behalf of the African Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All States should consider the 20th Anniversary commemorations as an opportunity to reiterate their support to the DDPA.- Raising political will for implementing the DDPA remains a critical issue. African Group has established a High Level Group at the Council's session in March with a view to tackle racism and racial discrimination wherever it occurs.- Human Rights Council, its mechanisms and all the States have a role to play in the battle against racism.

² Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden, Norway.



Interventions made on behalf of Human Rights Council's Member States

Pakistan, Qatar, India, Indonesia, Brazil, Armenia, Bangladesh, Namibia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Bahrain, Nepal, Spain, Sudan, Nigeria

1. Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expresses deep concern over the resurgence of racism, xenophobia and Islamophobia, rooted in the ideologies of exclusion and hate. - Under the garb of nationalism and in order to win votes, populist parties continue to demonize minorities, migrants and refugees. - The Council cannot remain a silent spectator as India drifts into a racially inspired communalism that entails death, destruction and indignities towards minorities and human rights defenders in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.
2. Qatar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The appearance of new and renewed patterns of racism and xenophobia linked to official policies and transborder decisions by governments are among the worst forms of racial discrimination. - The blockade and the discriminatory measures imposed on the State of Qatar and its citizens, has entered its fourth year last June. - Expresses concern about the racist and discriminatory practices that some religious and ethnic minorities have been exposed to in some countries due to the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, calls for effective measures that enhance the values of equality in response efforts.
3. India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - India regards racism and racial discrimination as the anti-thesis of everything humanity stands for- equality, justice, peace and progress. - To foster inclusive development and guarantee the respect for human rights in situations of growing mistrust and hatred climate, the framework of Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) need to be implemented in true letter and spirit. - The 20th anniversary of DDPA, will be an opportune time to engender greater cooperation and synergy.
4. Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The rise of racial discrimination, Islamophobia, xenophobia, ethnic hatred and intolerance continues to be a grave concern for Indonesia. - These problems have run in congruence with the rise of infodemics of hate speech and malignant disinformation, exacerbated by the abuse of information technology and the unhealthy manifestation of the freedom of expression. - We have to take stern action against all forms of racial violence, including against the rise of Islamophobia. We must pay closer attention to the recent anti-Islam movements in many parts of the world.
5. Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We have reached the mid-term of the International Decade for People of African Descent. The long-awaited establishment of the Forum on People of African Descent would constitute a milestone. - Brazil remains open to share good practices, engage in discussions and help accelerate the implementation of international commitments.
6. Armenia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Azerbaijan has portrayed itself as a country that took pride in adopting 'multiculturalism' as a national policy. Government of runs appalling policy and practice of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance directed specifically against presumed ethnic Armenians. - The most egregious identity-based crimes against Armenians by Azerbaijan have been recognized by the European Court of Human Rights on two different rulings.
7. Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shares the concern of growing prejudices, hatred, and religious profiling against the Muslims in many parts of the world. - Notes with frustration increasing stigmatization and social exclusion of migrants including those in irregular situation, exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. - Decades of persistent, systematic and systemic discrimination against the Rohingyas in the Northern Rakhine State of Myanmar has led to a deplorable condition which is against the values and principles of DDPA. - Myanmar should demonstrate political will in following the recommendations of DDPA and ending discriminatory actions including issuing, encouraging, condoning, and propagating hate speeches against this community, as well as bring the hate mongers to justice.
8. Namibia	<i>Aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group and the NAM.</i>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remains deeply concerned by the vicious forms of intolerances perpetuated especially against Africans and people of African Descent. - We need to do better as the international community to fulfill our commitment to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedom for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, and religion. - Namibia strongly supports all recommended activities towards the full implementation of the DDPA, including the proposals to hold a panel discussion in Geneva and a high-level event in New York for the 20th Anniversary of the DDPA.
9. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The challenges faced by the people of African descent are numerous, especially in the developed countries. - Welcomes the work of the Intergovernmental Group on the effective implementation of the DDPA and the recommendations. - Venezuela reiterates its strong commitment to the universal principles of solidarity and non-discrimination.
10. Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is unfortunate that we still see an increase of forms of racial discrimination, negative stereotypes and xenophobia that limit the enjoyment of basic human rights by minorities. - Concerned about the increasing patterns of racial discrimination, negative stereotypes and xenophobia in most Western countries. - This urgent humanitarian issue requires immediate solution through legal frameworks and national action plans to combat racial discrimination, and adopting policies and initiatives in accordance with the basic principles of international human rights law.
11. Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Underlines the importance of active involvement of all stakeholders including the civil society and the media in consolidating common efforts. - Concerted international efforts are needed towards full implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024) as mutually reinforcing framework along with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. - Many racist acts, including hurtful remarks on migrant workers, refugees and religious minorities have increased. - Effective implementation of SDGs should continue to be our common agenda for an inclusive society.
12. Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcomes the holding of this debate as an opportunity to exchange experiences and good practices that will help us in the implementation of legislative, administrative or other measures required to combat racism. - Spain attaches great importance to education at all levels and all ages, including in the family, and including the human rights education, in order to eradicate racism.
13. Sudan	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statements made by the regional groups to which it belongs.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hoped for the greater awareness among the countries about the need to join forces, but nothing has changed, despite the pandemic. - Racial practices have become systematic in many countries, or even laid in law in certain countries. - Demonstrations, including following the death of George Floyd, are an example of a positive action.
14. Nigeria	<p><i>Nigeria aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African Group.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With the seeming growing trend of racism and racial discrimination across the world, it thus appears that no meaningful progress has been achieved since the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) almost two decades ago. - We must collectively work to ensure the effective and comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, in order to demonstrate sincere global commitment to combatting racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.



Interventions made on behalf of Observers

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, State of Palestine, Djibouti, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Maldives, Greece, Cuba, Morocco, South Africa, China, Botswana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Switzerland, United Nations Population Fund, Costa Rica, Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia, Georgia, Myanmar, Chad

<p>1. Israel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In recent years, the world has seen an alarming resurgence of antisemitism, often called “the oldest hatred”. - Racists and anti-Semites now have abused the COVID pandemic to spew their hatred. - Hate speech and incitement hurt communities and individuals alike, and can lead to serious violence. They cannot be confused with free speech, and the abuse of social media platforms to spread this kind of content cannot be tolerated. - Welcomes the positive steps taken by several social media platforms to limit the circulation of hateful content and help their users identify it.
<p>2. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This General Debate falls on the first day of Black British History month in the UK, which seeks to recognise and celebrate the contribution of Black people in the UK. - The Prime Minister recently announced a new Commission to look at inequality in the UK, which will review the areas of poverty, education, employment, health and the criminal justice system. - Internationally, UK remains dedicated to participating actively in anti-racism-related UN mechanisms, with efforts focusing on the practical steps that states can take to combat racism. - How can we meaningfully engage in conversations about racism, in order to address these challenges?
<p>3. State of Palestine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racially-motivated violence should not merely be condemned. Effective concrete responses should be provided to contribute to fight systemic racism and the legacies of colonialism and apartheid. - Since its inception, Israel, the occupying colonial power, has blatantly violated international law, disregarding the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination, in violation of Israel’s obligations under the UN charter. - International Community should pursue international justice and accountability for human rights violations against the Palestinian people, including the crime of apartheid, by supporting a full, thorough, and comprehensive investigation by the ICC into the Situation in Palestine.
<p>4. Djibouti</p>	<p><i>Aligns itself with statements made on behalf of the African Group, OIC and NAM.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The violations cannot be considered as abuses or isolated acts since the number of victims of these acts continues to grow. They find their roots in impunity and reprehensible practices which tend to be repeated in an environment conducive to the persistence of racially motivated abuses. The latter are also fueled by the rise of hate speech, extremist ideologies, and incitement to hatred and racial or ethnic purity. - Djibouti hopes for a new trend in the management of issues relating to racism and racial hatred and urges all States to respect their international commitments, making more efforts both individually and collectively.
<p>5. Democratic People's Republic of Korea</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unequivocal and principled position against all forms of racism, racial discrimination and related forms of intolerance. - Japanese government should refrain from all forms of discrimination against the DPRK’s residents in Japan, including against the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.
<p>6. Sierra Leone</p>	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statement delivered by the African Group.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 20th anniversary of the adoption of the DDPA should have high visibility to reaffirm states’ political will and commitment. Supports the call to convene two high-level events in Geneva and New York in order to celebrate positive developments and address remaining challenges.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calls on the Human Rights Council to develop and adopt a multiyear outreach programme for information and advocacy on the DDPA, as per the request by the UN General Assembly and proposed elements outlined in the recommendations in the 2019 report of the Group of Independent Eminent Experts. - Pluralism, tolerance, dialogue and understanding of religious and cultural diversity are essential for peace and harmony.
7. Maldives	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statement by OIC.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What often begins as subtle expressions of dislike or intolerance can develop into institutionalized discrimination, incitement to hatred, verbal and physical abuse and, ultimately, hate crimes. - There is an alarming increase in hate crimes and Islamophobia, including the ongoing persecution and violence against the Rohingya Muslims. - There is an urgent need to instill the universal value of tolerance among our societies and to teach our younger generations that the misperceived notion of superiority of one group over another is truly nonexistent. - Governments need to establish closer cooperation between authorities and risk groups.
8. Greece	<p><i>Aligns itself with the EU statement.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greece has adopted a number of laws, policies and measures to combat both racism as a phenomenon and its expressions through racist behaviours. The National Council against Racism and Intolerance, the Ombudsman, and the Racist Violence Recording Network are among the key institutions which have been set up or tasked with addressing this scourge. - Greece is currently elaborating its first national action plan on combating racism. - Recognizing the central role of education in combating racism at its root, diversity has been mainstreamed as a key value of our educational system. Specialized Police Departments and Offices, as well as special prosecutors, focus on racist crimes, while communication of relevant cases to the authorities has been made easier through the use of web services and a hotline.
9. Cuba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supports the recommendations, notably concerning the celebrations for the 20th Anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action. Greater commitment is required on the part of all the States and the Secretariat to ensure the success. - Cuba's commitment to fighting the scourge of racism is embodied in its National Program. - The situation of structural and systemic racism continues to worsen in some countries. At the international level, there has not been enough progress against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other related intolerance.
10. Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racism, racial discrimination and intolerance are prohibited under the Moroccan Labour Code and the Criminal Code, among others. - Morocco hosted the international conference on the follow-up to the Rabat Plan of Action for fighting hatred, and will host the World Conference of the Alliance of Civilizations. - Morocco has always strived to attribute to Moroccan civil society a role of partner in the promotion of respect for human rights.
11. South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the context of growing populist and nationalist policies and the resurgence of racism and racial discrimination, the 20th Anniversary of the DDPA offers a possibility for the States to reaffirm their support and commitment. - Calls to invite Member States, international organizations, civil society and other stakeholders to organize various initiatives to commemorate with high visibility the Anniversary, and to address the remaining challenges.
12. China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial discrimination and xenophobia is exacerbating in some countries. In the United States, systemic racial discrimination, police violence and social inequalities are deep-rooted. In the United Kingdom, islamophobia is prevalent. African and Asian groups face systemic discrimination in healthcare, education, employment, and justice. In Australia, a large number of migrants are detained in harsh offshore



	detention centres, and the rights of indigenous peoples are systemically violated. In Czech Republic, discrimination and hate speech against the Romans are widespread.
13. Botswana	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statements made by the African Group and the NAM.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcomes the recommendations made by the Working Group, including holding the event at the General Assembly. - The global protests against racial profile and excessive use of force is an indication that we have reached a turning point in the fight against all forms of racial discrimination.
14. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	<p><i>Fully supports the OIC's statement sounding the alarm over the increasing practices of Islamophobia in European countries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HRC's urgent debate that followed the killing of George Floyd showcased the human solidarity and shared concern over this blatant injustice. - The US radical unilateralism and bellicose bullying against sovereign States are posing serious threats to international peace and security and grossly violating basic human rights of the targeted populations. - Instrumentalization of citizenship is another manifestation of racism.
15. Switzerland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many people around the world, particularly those of African descent, continue to face structural racism and racial discrimination. - At the national level, Switzerland monitors its polices and prosecutes racially motivated offences. Great importance is attributed to cooperation with civil society.
16. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFPA is guided by the Secretary General's vision and reiterates that the scourge of racism violates the UN Charter and debases core values. - The empowerment of women and girls is at the core of the work of UNFPA and underpins our strategy. - Women of African descent are more likely to die during childbirth than other cohorts of women, and they often suffer institutional discrimination in the health sector. All this, as a direct result of racial discrimination. - Encourages Member States and the Working Group to take this dimensions into account during the upcoming 20th anniversary of the DDPA, as well as in the upcoming sessions of the Working Group.
17. Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The International Decade for People of African Descent, together with the 2030 Agenda should be a new window of opportunities to eliminate racism and racial discrimination and ensure the effective promotion of the economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights of persons of African descent and their meaningful participation in all areas of society. - The disparities in the social and economic model resulting from the period of slavery has led to the exclusion of people of African descent, particularly in the context of COVID19. - In some countries, the persons of African descent disproportionately represent front-line workers or those who are more vulnerable to the virus due to lack of access to health services or pre-existing health conditions, linked to economic reasons. - Calls on States to assume their unavoidable commitments to end disparities and ensure access for all to all rights under equal conditions.
18. Russian Federation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ideas of ethnic superiority are becoming more attractive in certain countries, underpinning the whole fabric of government social relations, spreading intolerance. - Political parties, including moderate ones, and associations are using these ideas. Social networks begin to spread hate speech. The authorities of a number of Western countries close their eyes to this, claiming the freedom of speech. - The recent events in the United States, caused by the systemic racism and police brutality confirmed that the fight against contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia is still the major issue on the Agenda.
19. Azerbaijan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the last 30 years, the people of Azerbaijan, have been suffering the manifestations of ethnic and racial discrimination, as well as hate speech perpetrated by Armenian that has chosen racial superiority and hatred as its state policy.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hate crimes and violent acts organized by groups of extremists belonging to Armenian diaspora across the world resulted in gross human rights violations of many Azerbaijanis.
20. Egypt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expresses great concern regarding the targeting of Muslims in Germany, namely the hate speech on the doors of mosques, and the attacks against Muslims. The rise of attacks on refugees and their camps. Need to hold perpetrators accountable. - Regarding Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, there is an increase in anti-foreign rhetoric. There are also restrictions in entrance visas, as well as the admission of Palestinian refugees, and forced deportation of some asylum seekers. - In the United Kingdom, there is a significant increase in the rate of hate crimes in recent years.
21. Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Turks, as one of the major components of migrant communities in several European countries, are facing with xenophobia and Islamophobia. - These trends are also fueled through online channels by abusive contents and hate speech. Emerging digital technologies cause new forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia. - Furthermore, populist politicians exacerbate these dangerous trends and tendencies by their divisive rhetoric. - Turkey continues to urge the international community to take effective measures against these trends and make sure that the issue remains a priority on the international agenda.
22. Tunisia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the devastating and widespread impact of racial discrimination, inequality, and racial inequalities on the lives of the most vulnerable people and groups, including people of African descent and ethnic minorities, in a large number of parts of the world, particularly with regard to access to health and social care. - Tunisia calls upon implementing the ICERD and the DDPA in order to eliminate racial discrimination within the framework of an international approach based on solidarity and respect for universal and indivisible human rights.
23. Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Along with the Constitution of Georgia that guarantees the equal rights of all persons, the Anti-discrimination Law adopted in 2014 aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination. - To effectively respond to human rights protection challenges, number of measures are implemented at the national level, including training of the law enforcement professionals, special training program created in cooperation with the OSCE ODIHR on investigation of crimes based on discrimination, and tightening liability for discrimination-related crimes. - In the Russia-occupied Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions of Georgia against the backdrop of ethnic discrimination, the local population is deprived of minimal safeguards for their lives. Discrimination on the ethnic grounds has become more worrisome during COVID-19 outbreak.
24. Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A stronger multilateralism and international cooperation is very much imperative, instead of politicization and polarization. - Myanmar is a multi-ethnic and multi religious country where more than 100 ethnic groups live together in peace and harmony. Myanmar always respects the provisions stipulated in the DDPA as well as other UN declarations. Myanmar categorically rejects the baseless accusations of the delegation who is hijacking this platform to pursue their political agenda. - The growing concern is the misuse of online platform to foment division and incite offline violence. Myanmar has always been against the use of any sort of hate speech and takes various measures to prevent hate speech and fake news.
25. Chad	<p><i>Aligns itself with the statements made by the Groups it belongs to.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commends the aim foreseen by the Program of Activities of strengthening national, regional and international action and cooperation for the full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights by people of African descent. - Welcomes the summaries of constructive debates resulting from the 17th Session of the IGWG on the celebration of the 20th anniversary. - Strongly supports the celebration of the 20th anniversary, and the mandate of the Special Committee to draft the Complementary Standards.



Interventions made on behalf of Civil Society Organizations

Statements made by 50 speakers³, representatives of National Human Rights Institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations.

1. American Civil Liberties Union (Joint Statement)	Recommendations to ensure effective implementation of resolution A/HRC/RES/43/1 and a transparent, inclusive process for producing the report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The report should center the lived experiences of people of African descent and be informed primarily by individuals and communities directly impacted by structural racism and police violence.- The report must examine and highlight individual cases of extrajudicial killings of people of African descent and entrenched impunity for police violence.- It should thoroughly examine the history of racist policing in the United States and other countries in order to make recommendations for a concrete path forward regarding the Council's role to ensure effective accountability and follow-up.- Sufficient resources must be allocated to ensure that the report comprehensively and thoroughly examines structural racism and police violence.- The report must be based on regional hearings and consultations, potentially facilitated by OHCHR's regional and field offices, that will provide adequate and meaningful opportunities for a wide range of voices and experiences to be presented.
2. International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Calls on Member States to use the 20th anniversary as an opportunity to introduce legislative reforms and policy measures to prohibit racial discrimination in line with the ICERD, deliver justice to victims, and uplift the lives of racialised communities.
3. International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- In Malmo, Sweden, 2 consecutive hateful racist incidents took place. In the 1st incident, members of the Danish Far-Right Stram-Kurs group burnt a Quran. This led to the 2nd incident - demonstrations by local Muslims, some of whom chanted "Slaughter the Jews".- Calls upon member states, and the international community to increase their efforts to prevent such hateful incidents, and act to ensure that those involved are held accountable.
4. International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Calls on the Council to decide on an intersessional meeting next year for a broad based dialogue on implementation of the DDPA and commemoration of its 20th anniversary. A proposed two hour ceremonial panel at the 46th session is not sufficient for this purpose.
5. Female Synergy for peace and sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The minorities in Yemen are subject to systematic supremacist racism by Houthi militias.
6. Sikh Human Rights Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Has been proposing a Declaration on Diversity that will take the Durban Declaration agenda forward with positive action plans. Refers to its written statement A/HRC/41/55.
7. Global Action on Aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comprehensive dialogue and deliberations on the DDPA outreach programme should be resumed.

³ Including Joint Statements.



<p>8. International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic & Other Minorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regrettably the Programme of Activities of the Decade has not, yet in the sixth year of the Decade, been published by the OHCHR. - This situation led the IGWG on the DDPA at its latest session to request the OHCHR to publish in an easily accessible brochure form the Programme of Activities for the Decade for wide dissemination. The response by the OHCHR has been that they will do so when the request is included in a Council resolution. Regrettably this request made by states at the IGWG is not included in any of the draft resolutions for this session of the Council.
<p>9. Villages Unis (United Villages)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “One-fifth” racist document issued in Yemen, which stipulates allocating 20% of the country’s revenues to the Hashemites.
<p>10. Minority Rights Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structural racism in law enforcement, is being replicated and amplified through the use of new technologies – more on that in the upcoming MRG’s annual Trends Report.
<p>11. Zero Poor in Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Hashemites in Yemen has 90% of the wealth, while the rest of country is deprived of resources.
<p>12. Center for Justice and International Law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statement made on behalf of the Center for Justice and International Law and the Black Coalition for Rights, which represents more than 150 black Brazilian organizations. - The populations of Ilha de Maré and its surroundings, in the state of Bahia, are subject to a systematic violation of their environmental, cultural, social, and economic rights.
<p>13. European Union of Jewish Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Council should adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of Antisemitism.
<p>14. Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre les peuples</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MRAP calls on the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism to pay particular attention to the racist and discriminatory practices of the Kingdom of Morocco against the Saharawi People.
<p>15. Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (Joint Statement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to recognize Israel’s apartheid regime over the Palestinian people.
<p style="text-align: right;">Point of Order: Israel</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Please, respect the language of this Forum.</p>
<p>Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (Joint Statement)</p>	<p><i>Resumed its statement</i></p>
<p>16. Human Rights Watch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the United States, an understanding of structural racism should shape authorities’ approach to addressing police brutality and the need for reparations for slavery. - Responses should include crucial investment in Black and brown communities and reimagining the role of police in society. - HRW urges the High Commissioner to ensure that her final report under resolution 43/1 examines the root causes of structural racism and the impacts of slavery and subsequent discriminatory laws and practices in the US, and set out clear recommendations for the Council to pursue redress, accountability measures and reparations for these practices.
<p>17. International Institute for Rights and Development Geneva</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to exert pressure on Israel, to allow international non-governmental organisations to access the West Bank and the Gaza Strip at any time, in order to protect Palestinians’ fundamental rights.



18. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racist practices against migrant workers in the United Arab Emirates intensified during the pandemic.
19. International Human Rights Association of American Minorities (IHRAAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IHRAAM calls upon the Human Rights Council to implement the full scope of the DDPA in its resolution by addressing the full scope of treaty bodies to combat racism.
20. International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urges for a full support of the DDPA outreach programme, namely, through activation of the UN information centres, wider dissemination of the DDPA in official and non-official UN languages and engagement with education institutions at all levels. - Encourages collaboration with use and wider use of social media. - A multiyear programme of activities should be developed. A programme of activities for the International Decade should be published and be easily accessible.
21. International Service for Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statement on behalf of <i>Collectif Urgence notre police assassine</i>. - The report should be based primarily on the experiences and contributions of victims and their families, as well as those of defenders and civil society working on police violence and systemic racism. - The report must highlight not only the institutional causes and manifestations of racially motivated police violence, but also the individual responsibilities of the perpetrators. - The report should issue precise recommendations to States to address and end police violence and systemic racism and provide effective remedies to victims and their families.
22. Association for Integration and sustainable Development in Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial discrimination of people in the North-East India, including in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
23. Servas International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development and adoption of a multiyear outreach program for information and advocacy must remain a priority for this Council. - Calls on this Council to stand firm in its resolve to combat racism and both, states and the UN must invest the necessary resources for public education and Information.
24. Human Rights Information and Training Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yemen women and vulnerable groups suffer from a number of racist practices.
25. Rencontre Africaine pour la defense des droits de l'homme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RADDHO reiterates the call for enhanced efforts in the collection of disaggregated data in view of better targeting the needs of people of African descent.
26. United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racism and equal access to employment. Racial discrimination against women. - High Commissioner should promote civil society activities in order to combat racism around the world and in the UN.
27. Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ODVV urges the Council to create an international commission of inquiry to investigate systemic racism in the United States. - Calls on the Special Rapporteur on racism and SR on freedom of religion to pay special attention to the rise of anti-Muslim expressions and to study and report on causes and effects of Islamophobia on fundamental rights of Muslims around the world.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ODVV also requests all states to make effort to train journalists to avoid using ethnic and religious clichés in their reports.
28. World Jewish Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Urges this Council to prioritize the issue of antisemitism, and to provide recommendations to effectively combat antisemitism on both a national level and global level.
29. Universal Rights Group (URG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Istanbul Process was established as a forum for all stakeholders to share their experiences and good practices in implementing the 16/18 8-point action plan, which includes, building collaborative networks, establishing mechanisms to identify tensions, providing outreach training, discussing root causes of discrimination, speaking out, criminalizing incitement to violence, using education to combat negative stereotyping and promoting an open debate and interfaith dialogue. - In November of last year, the Netherlands hosted the 7th meeting of the Istanbul Process in the Hague. On that occasion, URG announced that it was partnering with Article19 to create a new digital platform for the Istanbul Process. - The website of the Istanbul Process has been launched and can be consulted at https://www.istanbulprocess1618.info/
30. World Muslim Congress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xenophobia and racial discrimination against Indian Muslims.
31. Solidarity Switzerland-Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racist policies against Yemeni people used by the Houthis.
32. International-Lawyers.Org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the US, the legal doctrine of “qualified immunity” aims to protect government officials from lawsuits if they acted in good faith and did not clearly violate constitutional rights. In recent years this has essentially enabled policy brutality to go unpunished, which disproportionately affects people of color.
33. Association Maonah for Human Rights and Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The rise in hate speech: in countries such as Australia, Hungary, Germany, as well as Italy, racist discourse in politics is feeding into the public’s fear of migrants and the rejection of minorities within their society.
34. Al Baraem Association for Charitable Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xenophobia and communal hatred is rising steadily in India. The persecution of minorities in India has risen drastically over the past few years.
35. Guinea Medical Mutual Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yemenis place systematic racism, which can be seen through the forced displacement.
36. Global Welfare Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dalits face caste atrocities in India. Human rights defenders are targeted and harassed.
37. Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial discrimination in the GCC countries, including that of the migrant workers in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain.
38. World Barua Organization (WBO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial discrimination against people in North-Eastern states of India.
39. Liberation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial discrimination against people in North-Eastern states of India.
40. Centre for Gender Justice and Women Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A strategic policy of colonialism and structural discrimination of Pakistan in Balochistan.
41. Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights (Joint Statement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calls on the Council and its Member States to take legal and political measures to publicly recognize and collectively overcome the apartheid regime imposed over the Palestinian



	people, to end Israel's illegal closure and blockade of Gaza, and to bring perpetrators of suspected war crimes and crimes against humanity to justice, including at the ICC.
42. African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters (CAPSDH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Specific consecutive activities events should be organized to commemorate the DDPA.- Importance to provide the necessary resources for participation of the civil society.
43. Indigenist Missionary Council (CIMI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racial discrimination and aggression against indigenous peoples, particularly, in Brazil.
44. Africa Culture International	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racial discrimination and abuses of human rights in Comoros.
45. Center for Organisation Research and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racial discrimination against indigenous peoples in India.
46. African Green Foundation International	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sri Lanka has well established laws and practices to ensure that no citizen shall be discriminated against on the grounds of race, religion language, caste, sex, political opinion or any such grounds.
47. International Career Support Association (Joint Statement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The oppression of Pashtuns by the state of Pakistan, and especially its military has been systematic, sophisticated, going on for decades and is getting worse by the day.
48. International Buddhist Relief Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All communities in Sri Lanka enjoy equal rights. Some of the minorities have rights that Sinhalese people do not.
49. Elmostakbell for Developpement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racial discrimination in India by Hindu fundamentalists.
50. Association for the Protection of Women and Children's Rights (APWCR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racial discrimination in the North-Eastern states of India.

Rights of Reply

- **India** (in response to the statement made by Pakistan),
- **Japan** (in response to the statement made by Democratic People's Republic of Korea),
- **Azerbaijan** (in response to the statement made by Armenia),
- **Armenia** (in response to the statement made by Azerbaijan),
- **Brazil** (in response to the statement made by two NGOs),
- **South Africa** (the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is akin to apartheid, and therefore the characterization is correct),
- **Namibia** (in response to the statement made by Israel),
- **Pakistan** (in response to the statement made by India),
- **Democratic People's Republic of Korea** (in response to the statement made by Japan),
- **Azerbaijan** (2nd reply in response to the statement made by Armenia),
- **Armenia** (2nd in response to the statement made by Azerbaijan),
- **Japan** (2nd reply in response to the statement made by DPRK),
- **Turkey** (in response to the statement made by Armenia).

Full recording of the General Debate on [Item 9](#) is available on the UN WebTV: [Part 1 \(Presentation of Reports\)](#) 17:31, and [Part 2 \(General Debate\)](#) 3:09:14