

Preparatory Conference Durban Review 2009

April 23, 2008

United Nations, Geneva

JOINT STATEMENT: NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Thank you Madam Chair for this blessed opportunity to present to this distinguished international assembly. We gratefully extend our appreciation to all the expert panelists, especially to the very valuable contribution from the special rapporteur, Mr. Doudou Diene and his challenge to the house. Our presentation is on behalf of some of the leading NGO's, Civil Society Networks across the Africa and the African Diaspora. We understand that the establishment of the African Diaspora during the World Conference Against Racism Xenophobia and Related Intolerances in Durban 2001 was indeed one of the great achievements of that assembly. We would thereby like to state that we wholeheartedly support the review of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action and strongly advocate all Member States to be part of the implementation of the process towards the Durban Review initiatives and its actions.

In addition, we strongly reconfirm our commitment to be an active part of this process to promote the issue of solidarity with all victims of racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, Islama-phobia, Afro-phobia, against Women, Youth and Dalits People so that we all may enjoy equal treatment and end the suffering that has become so common in this era of humanity.

Therefore, Madam Chair, we would like to bring your attention to what we understand to be one of the successful initiatives and contributions regarding the Durban Review. This event was "The Durban +5 Review Roundtable

Discussion" held April 18-20 2007 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This event was sponsored solely by serious and committed Africans and African Descendants and NGO's from the world wide African Diaspora under the leadership of Pan Afstrag International.

The purpose of this conference was to:

- Keep the hope and spirit alive of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action by reviewing and discussing the support, attention and concern on behalf of the Nation States regarding the implementation of concrete action plans which they committed to after the World Conference Against Racism in 2001.
- Develop a Status Report on what has been achieved in the past five years since the Durban Conference in 2001.
- Develop a position paper and program of action including strategies and polices for the next five years (2011).
- To review the support, attention and concern on behalf of the Africans and African Descendants and Non Government Organizations regarding the follow-up on their commitments to the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action.

Several African and African Decedents international conferences were held in preparation for the Durban + 5 Review. The reviews of theses meetings are documented in report of discussion. It is here we would like to acknowledge some of the extraordinary supporters of these initiatives who assisted in keeping the DDPA spirited and alive: General Ishola Williams, Executive Secretary General Pan Afstrag International, and Dr. Barryl Biekmen European President of Pan Afstrag International.

In preparation for the Durban + 5 Review we took the opportunity to review all of the accredited documentation which factual stipulated the vision and commitments made by the Member States so that we would not be remiss and under or over evaluate the things achieved regarding the DDPA. The report of the Durban + 5 Review has been submitted to the Preparatory Committee for review. It is our desire that this document be acknowledged as an accredited instrument for distribution form which you will gain a true and realistic account for what has been achieved towards the overall commitment to the DDPA since its establishment by AAD and NGO's. We highly recommend that you take this document into consideration as we prepare for the second Durban Conference to be held in 2009

Thank You

Speech made by

Dr. Derrick Jackson

Stichting National Monument of the Netherlands

Report Available via <panafstrag-europe @ xs4all.nl

On Behalf of (See the List as attachment)

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