



**International Convention on
the Elimination
of all Forms of
Racial Discrimination**

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Sixty-eighth session
Geneva, 20 February – 10 March 2006

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The sixty-eighth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 20 February – 10 March 2006. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 20 February 2006.
2. This document contains the provisional agenda for the session, prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, together with annotations relating thereto.
3. The attention of States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4 and to the annex which contains a tentative timetable for the consideration of reports and further information submitted by States parties and for the consideration of States parties whose reports are seriously overdue, pursuant to the review procedure.
4. In accordance with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the States parties are invited to be present at the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure.
2. Election of officers, according to rule 15 of the rules of procedure.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organizational and other matters.
5. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures.
6. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention.
7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention.
8. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention.
9. Follow-up procedure.
10. Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee under rule 14 of the rules of procedure

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the nine members of the Committee elected or re-elected at the twenty-first Meeting of States parties to the Convention, held on 12 January 2006, will make the following solemn declaration:

“I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously.”

2. Election of officers

In accordance with article 10, paragraph 2, of the Convention and rules 15 and 16 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur. The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

Under rule 58 of the rules of procedure, elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Committee decides otherwise in the case of an election to fill a place for which there is only one candidate.

3. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of the officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, defer, or delete items.

4. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee will consider its programme of work for the sixty- eighth session.

5. Prevention of racial discrimination, including early warning measures and urgent action procedures

The Committee decided at its forty-fifth session to establish this as one of its regular and principal agenda items. Within the framework of its efforts to prevent racial discrimination, the Committee may decide to take early warning measures aimed at preventing existing problems from escalating into conflicts or it may decide to initiate urgent action procedures aimed at responding to problems requiring immediate attention to prevent or limit the scale or number of serious violations of the Convention. The Committee may also take action or further action regarding States parties already considered under this item.

Furthermore, the Committee may, at its discretion, schedule the consideration of the situation in some States parties at short notice.

6. Consideration of reports, comments and information submitted by States parties under article 9 of the Convention

At its sixty-eighth session, the Committee will consider initial and periodic reports received from the following States parties: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Israel, Lithuania, Mexico, South Africa and Uzbekistan. It will also undertake a review of the implementation of the Convention in the following States parties for which periodic reports are seriously overdue: Antigua and Barbuda, Congo, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nicaragua and Papua New Guinea.

In pursuance of established practice and in conformity with rule 64 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee. The scheduling of the Committee's consideration of reports submitted and review of the implementation of the Convention in the States parties whose reports are excessively overdue is set forth in the timetable below.

7. Submission of reports by States parties under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention

At its sixty-eighth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General concerning the status of submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 9 of the Convention (CERD/C/68/2). Part A of that document indicates reports received from States parties and pending consideration by the Committee. Part B of the document contains information relating to overdue reports.

8. Consideration of communications under article 14 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVIII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are or appear to be submitted to it under article 14 of the Convention.

In accordance with rule 88 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee during which communications under article 14 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

9. Follow-up procedure

In accordance with the provisions of article 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item follow-up by States parties to the observations and recommendations of the Committee.

10. Follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The Secretariat will brief the Committee on follow-up activities to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

Annex

**TENTATIVE TIMETABLE FOR CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS,
COMMENTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY
STATES PARTIES AND FOR CONSIDERATION OF STATES
PARTIES WHOSE REPORTS ARE SERIOUSLY OVERDUE
PURSUANT TO THE REVIEW PROCEDURE**

The following timetable has been drawn up by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the relevant decisions taken by the Committee at its sixty-seventh session.

Monday, 20 February 2006		(1731 st meetings)
p.m.	Mexico	Twelfth to fifteenth periodic reports due from 1998 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/473/Add.1)
Tuesday, 21 February 2006		(1732 nd and 1733 rd meetings)
a.m.	Mexico	(continued)
p.m.	Lithuania	Second and third periodic reports due from 2001 to 2003, submitted in one report (CERD/C/461/Add.2)
Wednesday, 22 February 2006		(1734 th and 1735 th meetings)
a.m.	Lithuania	(continued)
p.m.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Initial to sixth periodic reports due from 1994 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/464/Add.1)
Thursday, 23 February 2006		(1736 th and 1737 th meetings)
a.m.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	(continued)
p.m.	Israel	Tenth to thirteenth periodic reports due from 1998 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/471/Add.2)
Friday, 24 February 2006		(1738 th and 1739 th meetings)
a.m.	Israel	(continued)
p.m.	Guatemala	Eighth to eleventh periodic reports due from From 1998 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/469/Add.1)

Monday, 27 February 2006		(1740 th and 1741 st meetings)
a.m.	Guatemala	(continued)
p.m.	El Salvador	Ninth to thirteenth periodic reports due from 1996 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/471/Add.1)
Tuesday, 28 February 2006		(1742 nd and 1743 rd meetings)
a.m.	El Salvador	(continued)
p.m.	Uzbekistan	Third to fifth periodic reports due from 2000 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/463/Add.2)
Wednesday, 1 March 2006		(1744 th and 1745 th meetings)
a.m.	Uzbekistan	(continued)
p.m.	South Africa	Initial to third periodic reports due from 2000 to 2004, submitted in one report (CERD/C/461/Add.3)
Thursday, 2 March 2006		(1746 th and 1747 th meetings)
a.m.	South Africa	(continued)
p.m.	Guyana	Initial to fourteenth periodic reports due From 1978 to 2004, submitted in one report CERD/C/472/Add.1)
Friday, 3 March 2006		(1748 th and 1749 th meetings)
a.m.	Guyana	(continued)
p.m.	Botswana	Fifteenth and sixteenth periodic reports due from 2003 to 2005, submitted in one report (CERD/C/495/Add.1)
Monday, 6 March 2006		(1750 th and 1751 st meetings)
a.m.	Botswana	(continued)
p.m.		Individual communications
Tuesday, 7 March 2006		(1752 nd and 1753 rd meetings)

a.m.

Antigua and Barbuda^a
Congo^a
Ethiopia^a

p.m.

Mozambique^a
Nicaragua^a
Papua New Guinea^a
Early warning and urgent action procedures

Note

^a Review procedure (for States parties whose reports are seriously overdue).
