



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

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COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Seventy- second session
Geneva, 18 February-7 March 2008

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The seventy- second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination will be held at the United Nations Office in Geneva from 18 February to 7 March 2008. The first meeting of the session will be convened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 February 2008.
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-second Meeting of States parties to the Convention, held on 17 January 2008, 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 seventy-second session. It will also start discussing its new draft general recommendation No. 32 on special measures and hold a dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

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 seventy-second session, the Committee will consider initial and periodic reports received from the following States parties: Belgium, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Italy, Nicaragua, Republic of Moldova and the United States of America. It will also undertake a review of the implementation of the Convention in the following States parties for which periodic reports are seriously overdue: Bulgaria, Gambia, Monaco, Panama and the United Arab Emirates.

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 seventy- second 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/72/2). 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 seventy-first session.

Monday, 18 February 2008		(1847th meeting)
p.m.		Dialogue with other United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and other competent bodies
Tuesday, 19 February 2008		(1848th and 1849th meetings)
a.m.		Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
		Initial discussion of draft general recommendation No. 32.
p.m.	Fiji	Sixteenth and seventeenth periodic reports due on 10 February 2006, submitted in one document (CERD/C/FJI/17)
Wednesday, 20 February 2008		(1850th and 1851st meetings)
a.m.	Fiji	(continued)
p.m.	Italy	Fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports due on 4 February 2005, submitted in one document (CERD/C/ITA/15)
Thursday, 21 February 2008		(1852nd and 1853rd meetings)
a.m.	Italy	(continued)
p.m.	United States of America	Fourth to sixth periodic reports due from 20 November 2003 to 2005, submitted in one document (CERD/C/USA/6)
Friday, 22 February 2008		(1854th and 1855th meetings)

a.m.	United States of America	(continued)
p.m.		Communications
Monday, 25 February 2008		(1856th and 1857th meetings)
a.m.		Communications
p.m.	Belgium	Fourteenth and fifteenth periodic reports, due on 6 September 2004, submitted in one document (CERD/C/BEL/15)
Tuesday, 26 February 2008		(1858th and 1859th meetings)
a.m.	Belgium	(continued)
p.m.	Nicaragua	Tenth to fourteenth periodic reports due from 17 March 1997 to 2005, submitted in one document (CERD/C/NIC/14)
Wednesday, 27 February 2008		(1860th and- 1861st meetings)
a.m.	Nicaragua	(continued)
p.m.	Moldova	Fifth to seventh periodic reports due from 25 February 2004 to 2006, submitted in one document (CERD(C/MDA/7)
Thursday, 28 February 2008		(1862nd and-1863rd meetings)
a.m.	Moldova	(continued)
p.m.	Dominican Republic	Ninth to twelfth periodic reports due from 24 June 2000 to 2006, submitted in one document (CERD/C/DOM/12)
Friday, 29 February 2008		(1864th and 1865th meetings)
a.m.	Dominican Republic	(continued)
p.m.		Monaco ^a Bulgaria ^a Gambia ^a

United Arab Emirates ^a
Panamá ^a

Follow-up procedure

Monday, 3 March 2008

(1866th meeting)

a.m.

Early warning and urgent action procedure.
Discussion of draft general recommendation No.
32.

Note

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