

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية

RÉPUBLIQUE ALGÉRIENNE DÉMOCRATIQUE ET POPULAIRE

MISSION PERMANENTE
AUPRÈS DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES
ET DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES
EN SUISSE



البعثة الدائمة
لدى مكتب الأمم المتحدة
والمنظمات الدولية بسويسرا

Human Rights Council Third Session

African Group Statement in introduction on L.3 entitled "Global efforts for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance and the Comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference Against Racism and the Effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action"

**Ambassador Idriss Jazairy
Permanent Representative of Algeria
On behalf of the African Group**

Mr President,

This statement is presented on behalf of the African Group.

Document L.3 is a traditional annual initiative of the African Group within the Council which has enjoyed wide support of members of the Council. Through this resolution, the African Group has demonstrated its leadership with the support of the international community for mobilising collective support and international solidarity to confront the scourge of racism in its different forms and manifestations.

The recent resurgence of incitement to racial and religious hatred and violence which brought about tension among civilisations and peoples in their ordinary lives, makes it even much more imperative for our efforts to be intensified.

Mr President,

Document L.3 particularly highlights the importance of elaborating complementary standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD). The resolution merely outlines a logical sequencing of events, a roadmap as it were, which will take us to the actual process of elaborating complementary standards.

The primary focus of the resolution is to establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Council to elaborate complementary standards. This Committee will only start its activities after completion of the mandate of the Intergovernmental Working Group with respect to complementary standards.

The African Group is greatly indebted to the Government of Chile for its commitment and commendable contribution to the global agenda against racism. As it will be recalled, the Government of Chile hosted in December 2000, the Regional Preparatory Conference towards the Durban Conference. We are indeed thankful to Ambassador Martabit and his predecessor, Ambassador Vega for their leadership and effective stewardship of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. It is largely owing to the wisdom and vision of Ambassador Martabit that we are now at a stage where we are able to proceed to the Ad Hoc Committee, whose sole mandate will be to elaborate complementary standards, thereby heeding the instructions issued by the Durban Conference in 2001.

The African Group thanks everyone for their constructive contribution by all interested parties during the negotiations of L.3, and we hope the Council will adopt it by consensus.

I thank you.