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The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights presents its compliments to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 61/149 of 19 December 2006, in which it decided to convene in 2009 a review conference on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to be conducted within the framework of the General Assembly, and, to this end, requested the Human Rights Council to undertake preparations for this event. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights also wishes to refer to Human Rights Council resolution 3/2 of 8 December 2006 in which it decided to act as the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference and requested, inter alia "...non-governmental organizations ...to assist the Preparatory Committee by undertaking review and submitting recommendations, through the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as contributions to the outcome of the Review Conference..."

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is pleased to transmit, for information and comments, the list of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council which were granted accreditation to participate at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Durban South Africa in 2001. The purpose of this list is to facilitate the clearance of their participation at the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference in accordance with the criteria contained in the attached document which were agreed by the Bureau designate of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference. For ease of reference, please also find attached Part VII of the Economic and Social Council's resolution 1996/31 of July 1996 that governs the participation of non-governmental organizations in international conferences convened by the United Nations and their preparatory process. Permanent Missions are invited to transmit their comments to the Secretariat at fax +41 22 928 9050.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights is pleased to inform Permanent Missions that the Chair of the Bureau designate would appreciate if, notwithstanding the deadline, the distinguished governments could send their comments earlier to be taken into account by the Preparatory Committee during its organizational session.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Permanent Missions to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.


23 August 2007