



# International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

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## Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Ninety-second session

### Summary record of the second part (public)\* of the 2546th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 12 May 2017, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Ms. Crickley

## Contents

Adoption of the annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session

Closure of the session

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\* The summary record of the first part (closed) of the meeting appears as document CERD/C/SR.2546.

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*The public part of the meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.*

**Adoption of the annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session**

1. **Mr. Avtonomov** (Rapporteur), introducing the Committee's draft annual report to the General Assembly (A/72/18), said that it contained information on the work of its ninetieth, ninety-first and ninety-second sessions.
2. Highlighting the main points of each section of the report, he pointed out that some sections were to be supplemented by the insertion of recent information. In particular, section X would contain a summary of the outcome of the fifth informal meeting with States parties, which had taken place during the Committee's ninety-second session, and of the informal meeting with civil society, which had taken place during the Committee's ninety-first session; Annex II would contain a compilation of the information received on follow-up to individual communications since the previous annual report (A/70/18) and any decisions made by the Committee in that regard; and Annex III would contain the Committee's Statement on the occasion of the United Nations Summit on Refugees and Migrants.
3. **The Chair** said she took it that the Committee wished to adopt its annual report for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.
4. *It was so decided.*

**Closure of the session**

5. **The Chair** said that, at its ninety-second session, the Committee had successfully reviewed the periodic reports of six States parties. The concluding observations relating to those reports had since been published. The working group on early warning and urgent action had considered cases from seven different countries and the letters that it had drafted would be made public in the near future. The Follow-up Coordinator had reviewed five follow-up reports and the suggestions made in that connection would likewise be published in due course. The working group on communications had considered one case and reviewed previous suggestions and proposals made by the Committee. She was grateful to non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and to the national human rights institutions of the States parties whose periodic reports the Committee had considered, for their invaluable input. It was regrettable that a number of NGOs had been unable to meet with the Committee on account of travel and accommodation costs. The Committee would continue to explore other ways of allowing NGOs to contribute to its work remotely.
6. The fifth informal meeting with States parties, which had taken place on Friday 28 April 2017, had proved a great success, having been attended by more than 70 States parties. The meeting had provided an opportunity for the Committee to discuss the impact of its work with States parties; many of the latter had provided it with positive feedback and words of encouragement, as well as suggestions for improving its working methods, some of which it had already taken up. In addition, an ad hoc task force had been set up to explore ways and means of bolstering the Committee's efforts to promote the International Decade for People of African Descent, while a similar task force had been set up to devise a strategy for dealing with non-reporting States parties and States parties whose reports were overdue.
7. She noted that toxic global discourse was creating a particularly challenging climate for the fight against racial discrimination, which was disproportionately affecting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. The significance of the Committee's work should therefore not be underestimated. She thanked those Committee members who had attended meetings and side events in order to increase the visibility of the Committee's role in combating racism, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance. Although it was important for the Committee to review States parties' efforts to combat racial discrimination on their individual merits, it should not lose sight of the phenomenon's global dimension and should prioritize action to counter its most egregious forms.

8. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, she declared the ninety-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination closed.

*The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.*