



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

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

### Summary record of the 2709th meeting

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 14 December 2018, at 3 p.m.

*Chair:* Mr. Amir

## Contents

Closure of the session

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*The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.*

### **Closure of the session**

1. **The Chair** said that, at the current session, the Committee had adopted concluding observations on the State party reports that it had considered and had conducted various other activities.
2. The Committee had held informal meetings with non-governmental organizations and an informal meeting with States parties. Some 61 States parties had attended the latter meeting. The State party representatives who had taken the floor had commented on the implementation of the Committee's recommendations and the need to address new forms of racial discrimination. Several representatives had asked what could be done to help the Committee in the run-up to the review by the General Assembly of the human rights treaty body system in 2020.
3. On 6 December, the Committee had held a joint meeting with the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent to discuss issues of common interest, including the draft declaration on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent and racial profiling. The two bodies had shared information on their recent activities and had expressed the hope that their cooperation would continue.
4. The Committee had considered one communication submitted under article 14 of the Convention, in which it had found that the State party concerned had violated the complainant's rights.
5. Earlier in 2018, for the first time in the history of the treaty body system, the Committee had received three inter-State communications under article 11 of the Convention. At the current session, the Committee had discussed general procedural issues in relation to those three communications, which had been brought by Qatar against Saudi Arabia, Qatar against the United Arab Emirates, and the State of Palestine against Israel, and had informed the States parties concerned of its decisions.
6. Concerning early warning measures and urgent action procedures, the Committee had considered various country-specific situations and had decided to issue letters to six States parties. The Committee had requested the States parties in question to provide information on the steps that they had taken to resolve the situations of urgent concern identified by the Committee.
7. The Committee had considered three follow-up reports submitted pursuant to article 9 (1) of the Convention and rule 65 of its rules of procedure. Mr. Kut had agreed to continue serving as the Committee's Follow-up Coordinator.
8. Concerning its methods of work, the Committee had discussed a number of issues, including the possibility of extending the simplified reporting procedure to all States parties.
9. The Committee had also discussed a report presented by Mr. Albuquerque e Silva in his capacity as focal point for the 2020 review of the treaty body system. In that context, members had expressed their views on the implementation of the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 68/268 and the proposals made at the meeting of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies in June 2018. Mr. Albuquerque e Silva's report had been endorsed as a working document of the Committee. The Committee had decided to appoint Mr. Avtonomov and Ms. Chung as its new focal points for the 2020 review.
10. Mr. Murillo Martínez had presented a paper containing a preliminary outline of a possible general recommendation on racial profiling, which the Committee had discussed. The Committee had decided that Mr. Murillo Martínez should work with other interested members in order to produce a draft general recommendation for the Committee's consideration at a later stage.
11. The Committee had discussed ways in which it could help States parties to comply with their reporting obligations and had formulated a number of proposals in that regard. It had also decided to consider establishing a working group on working methods in order to consider new developments and pending issues, including amendments to its rules of

procedure, working methods and the resource implications of extending the simplified reporting procedure.

12. At its ninety-eighth session, the Committee would consider the reports of Andorra, Israel, Guatemala, Lithuania and Zambia.

13. After the customary exchange of courtesies, he declared the ninety-seventh session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination closed.

*The meeting rose at 3.45 p.m.*