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Agenda item 9

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Written statement* submitted by the Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[13 February 2017]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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As per para 30 of Durban Declaration, there is an important and urgent need to prevent, combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking of persons, in particular women and children and to recognize that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Since 2001 Indian government has failed to prevent human trafficking or so it seems that it intentionally ignores the declaration altogether. It is proven by repeated recurrence of the menace across the length and breadth of India, especially in border / ethnic minority states.

As per a report of the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, US Department of State, experts estimate that millions of women and children are victims of sex trafficking in India. Traffickers use false promises of employment or arrange sham marriages in Gulf States and then women and girls fall victims to sex trafficking. In traditional red light districts of India, women and children increasingly endure sex trafficking in hotels, huts and private residences with law enforces not only acting as silent observers but even in some cases named as perpetrators themselves.

We request this Council to please take a note of the unending violations of the human rights trafficking victims in India and impress upon their government to take punitive measures and stop abominable crime immediately.

Thank you.
