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WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM,  
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA  
AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

Preparatory Committee  
Second session  
Geneva, 21 May -1 June 2001  
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

REVIEW OF REPORTS, STUDIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION  
FOR THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND THE WORLD CONFERENCE

Contribution\*/ submitted by the Oromia Support Group

The secretariat has received the following contribution which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[12 March 2001]

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\*/ This contribution is issued, unedited, as received from the submitting non-governmental organization.



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The Oromia Support Group strongly supports the Draft Declaration And Programme Of Action as presented to the Open Ended Working Group for the Second Preparatory Committee of the WCAR, meeting 6-9 March 2001, in document A/CONF.189/WG.1/3.

In particular, the Oromia Support Group, being conscious of claims of genocide being perpetrated against the Oromo and other, smaller, marginalised peoples of Ethiopia, supports the inclusion of paragraph 18 of the Draft Programme Of Action in the final declaration of the WCAR. The Oromia Support Group urges that this paragraph be extended to include ongoing genocide and not only acute episodes of incitement to genocide.

The Oromia Support Group, being aware of the need for conciliation between peoples of Ethiopia, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraph 7, concerning the crucial role of human rights education, in the final declaration of the WCAR.

The Oromia Support Group, being a non-governmental organisation specialising in collating and reporting racially motivated human rights violations in Ethiopia and those violations committed in other African countries against Oromo people by the Ethiopian government, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraph 36, concerning the contribution of NGOs in reporting racial discrimination, in the final declaration of the WCAR.

The Oromia Support Group, being aware of racially motivated brutality by police and other state agents in Ethiopia, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraph 83, calling for measures to prevent and detect such acts and to prosecute perpetrators of such acts, in the final declaration.

The Oromia Support Group, being aware of the current impunity for perpetrators of racially motivated human rights violations in Ethiopia, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraphs 89 and 90, concerning impunity, in the final declaration of the WCAR.

The Oromia Support Group, being aware of the racial discrimination in Ethiopia and the financial and moral support afforded Ethiopia by developed countries and international financial institutions, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraph 36, calling for the further incorporation of human rights practices and norms into the policies and programmes of developed countries and international financial institutions, in the final declaration. The costly war between Ethiopia and Eritrea, from 1998-2000, was funded indirectly by foreign governments and institutions, while 10 million people faced acute food shortages.

The Oromia Support Group, being aware of the low level of international awareness of the racial discrimination in Ethiopia, which allows the deterioration of standard of living and infrastructure in all areas of Ethiopia except that of the minority ruling group, Tigray, strongly supports the inclusion of paragraph 108, calling for the monitoring and dissemination of racially discriminatory attitudes and acts, and the provision of support and advice to victims of such acts, in the final declaration.