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

Durban, 31 August-7 September 2001
Item 8 of the provisional agenda

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Proposed organization of the list of speakers for the general debate in the plenary of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Information note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with established practice at previous world conferences, the list of speakers for the debate in the plenary of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance would be established as outlined below.

Schedule of the plenary meetings of the World Conference

2. Eighteen plenary meetings would be held over the six-day period from 1 to 6 September, with three meetings per day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.; and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Time limits in the debate in plenary

3. Statements in the debate in plenary should be limited in time as follows:

(a) States Members of the United Nations and of specialized agencies should be limited to seven minutes;

(b) Representatives of organizations and entities having received a standing invitation to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly; associate members of the regional commissions; specialized agencies; other intergovernmental organizations and entities; representatives of interested United Nations organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms, including human rights bodies and mechanisms; Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and of national human rights institutions, should be limited to five minutes;

(c) Representatives of non-governmental organizations should be limited to three minutes.

Allocation of two speaking slots at the end of the meetings of Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 2 September 2001

4. The last two speaking slots at the plenary meetings on Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 2 September 2001 might be reserved for participants other than States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies.

Establishment of the list of speakers for the debate in plenary

5. The list of speakers for the debate in plenary would be established on a first-come, first-served basis.

6. The list of speakers would be organized on the basis of 18 plenary meetings and the number of speaking slots at each meeting would be calculated on the basis mentioned above.

7. On Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 2 September, each meeting would have 20 speaking slots for States and members of the specialized agencies and 2 speaking slots for speakers in other categories.

8. In the meetings of Monday to Thursday, 3 to 6 September 2001, the number of speakers would depend on the categories of participants that register to speak at that meeting.

Precedence in speaking order

9. The order of precedence for the list of speakers would be as follows:

- (i) Heads of State/Heads of Government;
- (ii) Vice-Presidents/Crown Princes or Princesses;
- (iii) Deputy Prime Ministers;
- (iv) Ministers;

- (v) Vice-Ministers;
- (vi) Chairmen of delegations;
- (vii) Heads of organizations, intergovernmental organizations and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly;
- (viii) Representatives of organizations, intergovernmental organizations and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly;
- (ix) Associate members of regional commissions represented at the highest level;
- (x) Representatives of associate members of regional commissions;
- (xi) Heads of specialized agencies;
- (xii) Representatives of specialized agencies;
- (xiii) Heads of other intergovernmental organizations and other entities;
- (xiv) Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations and other entities;
- (xv) Heads of interested United Nations organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms, including human rights bodies and mechanisms;
- (xvi) Representatives of interested United Nations organs, bodies, programmes and relevant mechanisms, including human rights bodies and mechanisms;
- (xvii) Members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;
- (xviii) Representatives of national human rights institutions;
- (xix) Non-governmental organizations represented at the highest level;
- (xx) Representatives of non-governmental organizations.

10. As a result of the decision to have a single round table on 31 August, the debate in the plenary will start on 1 September at 10 a.m. The list as prepared by the secretariat will be rearranged accordingly, in consultation with delegations and organizations concerned.

Changes in the level of representation and exchanges of speaking slots

11. Should the level of representation of delegations change after the first list of speakers is issued, the replacement speaker would be assigned the last position in the appropriate category at the same meeting.

12. Exchanges of speaking slots between delegations would be possible; both delegations should inform the secretariat of the World Conference in writing of such an intent. Exchanges would also be possible between speakers in other categories. In the case of equality of rank, a delegation would be assigned the exact position of the other delegation. In the case of inequality of rank, a delegation would be assigned the last position in the appropriate category at the meeting to which it was changing.
