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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-sixth session
Item 16 of the provisional agenda

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE SUPPRESSION
AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF APARTHEID

Reports submitted by States parties under
article VII of the Convention

Addendum

PAKISTAN

[20 June 1989]

1. Pakistan's Constitution and penal laws explicitly condemn and prohibit racism. The principles of policy of the Constitution expressly discourage racism.

Principle No. 33 states:

"The State shall discourage parochial, racial, tribal, sectarian and provincial prejudices among the citizens."

Principle No. 38 confirms this, declaring:

"The State shall secure the well-being of the people, irrespective of sex, caste, creed or race ... [and] provide the basic necessities of life, such as food, clothing, housing, education and medical relief, for all such citizens."

2. The fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan guarantee the right of everyone to equality before the law without distinction as to race, colour, national or ethnic origin.

Fundamental Right No. 25 states:

"All citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law."

Fundamental Right No. 28 guarantees as follows:

"Any section of citizens having a distinct language, script or culture shall have the right to preserve and promote the same and, subject to the law, to establish institutions for that purpose."

3. These principles of policy and fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan are amply reflected in the country's penal laws. Section 153-A of the Pakistan Penal Code, which was added in 1973, prohibits any action which promotes or incites disharmony between different religious, racial, language or regional groups or castes or communities, and makes such activity punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with a fine.

4. In view of the principles of policy and the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution and the provisions of section 153-A of the Pakistan Penal Code, Pakistan is not required to take any additional legislative, judicial or administrative measures in this regard.
