



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 June 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith, a letter from H.E. Mr. Francisco Duarte Lopes, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, and H.E. Ms. Mathu Joyini, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, the co-facilitators leading consultations on the political declaration and the modalities of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

The co-facilitators, via the aforementioned letter, forward herewith the revised text, Rev.1 (attached) of the draft resolution on the modalities of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. The co-facilitators have the further honour to invite you to the third and final informal consultation to be held on 16 June 2021 from 10 a.m. to 1 pm via the Cisco WebEx platform. Registration details will be provided by the secretariat prior to the meeting.

I encourage you to continue to extend your full cooperation to Ambassador Joyini and Ambassador Lopes for a successful conclusion of the process.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Volkan Bozkir'.

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

9 June 2021

Excellency,

We have the honor of addressing you in our capacity as the co-facilitators of the intergovernmental consultations on the political declaration and the modalities of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

We also have the honor to transmit herewith Rev. 1 of the draft resolution on the modalities of the high-level meeting to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. This revised text reflects, in our view, a balanced and careful consideration of the views expressed by Member States during the last two informal consultation meetings, as well as the written inputs received.

Thus, we have the pleasure of inviting you to the third and last informal consultation on **Wednesday 16 June 2021, from 10am to 1pm, via Cisco WebEx Platform**, where all delegations will have the opportunity to express their views on the revised text. Please note that the technical details for registration will be provided by the Secretariat prior to the meeting.

We sincerely trust that the proposed text meets the requirements to reach consensus and hope to entail a constructive discussion with all Member States next Wednesday.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



H.E. Ms. Mathu Joyini  
Permanent Representative of South Africa  
to the United Nations



H.E. Mr. Francisco Duarte Lopes  
Permanent Representative of Portugal  
to the United Nations

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent  
Observers to the United Nations  
New York

## **Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference;

*Reaffirms* the paramount importance of universal adherence to and the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965, in addressing the scourges of racism and racial discrimination;

*Recalling* its resolution 75/237 of 31 December 2020, in which it, inter alia, called for the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and decided to hold a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at the level of Heads of State and Government, on the second day of the general debate of the seventy-sixth session, on the theme “Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent”;

1. *Decides* that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action will be held on Wednesday, 22 September 2021, and consist of an opening plenary meeting from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., two consecutive round tables from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., and also decides that the morning meeting of the general debate on that day will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and that arrangement does not constitute a precedent;

2. *Also decides* that the speakers at the opening plenary will be the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Head of State of South Africa, one speaker from each regional group, a representative of a non-governmental organization and a youth representative, both of whom actively engaged in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to be selected by the President of the General Assembly;

3. *Further decides* that the political declaration aimed at mobilizing political will at the national, regional and international levels for the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and its follow-up processes shall be adopted by the General Assembly at the opening plenary meeting.

4. *Decides* that the organizational arrangements of the round tables will be as follows:

(a) The round tables will address the overall theme of “Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent”;

(b) Each round table will be chaired by a Head of State or Government to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly after consultations with the Member States;

(c) In order to promote a substantive and constructive dialogue, participation in the round tables will include Member States, observers, representatives of entities of the United Nations system and experts, as well as selected representatives of civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations that are actively engaged in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, such as parliamentarians, local governments, human rights defenders, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), where they exist, the private sector, academia, youth, community organizations and indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions to serve

as speakers on the round tables, taking into account, the principles of transparency, inclusivity, including gender balance and geographical representation;

5. Invites Member States, Observers States and observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level, including at the level of Heads of State and Government, in the high-level meeting;

6. Invites non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to participate in the high-level meeting, as appropriate;

7. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its round tables, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis<sup>1</sup> and to bring the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting;

8. *Decides* that the closing plenary meeting will comprise the presentation of summaries of the discussions by the chairs of the round tables, followed by statements from Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and the Deputy Secretary-General.

9. *Also decides* that the final format of the high-level meeting, in-person, virtual or a hybrid, will follow the decision of the format of the general debate of the seventy-sixth session based on an assessment of the health conditions;

10. *Further decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting, including the opening and closing plenary meetings, as well as the round tables will be webcast, and encourages the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General and all relevant United Nations entities to give it the highest visibility possible;

11. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.