



**Statement by Maggie Nicholson
Deputy Director
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**

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Third Committee
Item 66 (a & b) and 67

1 November 2010
New York



Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to introduce a number of reports under agenda item 66 entitled 'Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance' and item 67 entitled 'Right of peoples to self-determination', respectively.

Under agenda item 66 (a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, I have the honour to present to you **the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (A/65/292)**. As of 15 August 2010, the Convention had been ratified or acceded to by 173 States parties. The list of States that had signed, ratified, acceded to or succeeded to the Convention, and the dates of their ratifications, accessions or successions, are contained in the annex to the report. At the same date, 54 of the States parties [to the Convention] had made the declaration provided for under article 14 of the Convention, recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within their jurisdiction claiming to be victims of violation by those States parties of any of the rights set forth in the Convention.

Allow me now to turn to the report of the Secretary-General on **the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/65/312)**, which I have the honour to present on behalf of the Secretary-General. As you recall, in its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, the General Assembly welcomed the decision taken at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties

to the Convention in January 1992 to amend article 8 of the Convention, and requested the Secretary-General to take the appropriate measures to provide for the financing of the Committee from the regular budget of the United Nations, beginning with the budget for the biennium 1994-1995. It also requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the Committee met as scheduled until the amendment entered into force, when accepted by a two-thirds majority of States parties. As at 30 June 2010, notifications of acceptance had been received from 43 States parties to the Convention.

Let me now turn to agenda item 66 (b) entitled 'Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action', under which I have the honour to introduce the **report of the Secretary-General on global efforts for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** (document A/65/377). This report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/148. Following the model of previous reports on the subject submitted to the General Assembly, the report before you focuses on information received from Member States on the measures they have undertaken towards the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA). It includes a summary of contributions received from 16 Member States and 4 United Nations entities.

The report also provides you with a summary of a number of developments during the past year with regard to the implementation of the DDPA. It includes updates on the activities of the United Nations human rights mechanisms, treaty bodies and others, with a focus on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the DDPA. It highlights the roles of the Durban mechanisms, in particular, the

Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the DDPA (IGWG), the Ad-Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (WGPAD).

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Under agenda item 67 entitled 'Right of peoples to self-determination', the **report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination** (document A/65/286) outlines the latest developments in the relevant jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the implementation by States parties of human rights norms relating to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination. It also outlines the latest developments at the Human Rights Council on its consideration of the question of self-determination, at its twelfth special session, and at its twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth regular sessions. Under item 7 of its agenda, entitled *human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories*, the Human Rights Council discussed the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict (A/HRC/12/48) established in accordance with Council resolution S-9/1. Consequently, the report before you also outlines the main conclusions and recommendations of the Fact-Finding Mission, and related action requested by the Human Rights Council.

Finally, the report also refers to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued on 22 July 2010 on the legality of Kosovo's unilaterally declared independence.

This concludes my introduction of the reports submitted under agenda items 66 and 67.

Thank you.