**Preliminary exchange of views on the preparations of the twentieth anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

The Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action during its seventeenth session, held in Geneva from 16 to 20 December 2019 and on 16 January 2020, devoted one meeting to a preliminary exchange of views on the preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. In line with Human Rights co7ncil resolution A/HRC/Res/42/29, the following discussions will be integrated in a report to be presented to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session and to the Human Rights Council at its forty-fifth session.

During the meeting devoted to the preliminary exchange of views on the preparations of the twentieth anniversary of the DDPA, the representative of Iran expressed the wish of his delegation that, on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the DDPA, this Working Group would address the wide range of issues addressed in the DDPA, as well as the new manifestations of discrimination, in particular issues of xenophobia and Islamophobia.

The representative of South Africa suggested that a one day to commentate the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action 20th Anniversary should be planned and implemented with the agrees mandate of the General Assembly and invite civil society.

The representative of the European Union aligned with the proposal of South African for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the DDPA as a proposal which is similar what was done for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the DDPA.

The representative of Zimbabwe aligned with the proposal of South Africa to convene two events for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the DDPA, including one thematic event in Geneva and one high-level political event in New York.

The representative of the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations raised concerns with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action being the least know of all UN declarations and suggested that the UN should provide promotional material of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

The representative of Jamaica believed that the 20th anniversary of the DDPA should have high visibility and appropriate planning. She stated that her delegation supports several of the proposals put forward by South Africa, Cuba and other delegations.

**Conclusions**

1. **The Working Group:**

**Underlines that Durban Declaration and Programme of Action continue to have strong reaffirmation and recognition in the United Nations as a comprehensive framework and solid foundation for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. As such, the 20th Anniversary of this historic instrument needs be celebrated, and light needs be shed on the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.**

**Recommendations**

1. **The Working Group recommends that:**
2. **Member States mobilise political will for the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and convene a one-day high-level plenary event to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the DDPA during the high-level segment of the 76th session of the General Assembly (GA) in 2021. In this regard, the UNGA will have to adopt a resolution at its 75th session, mandating the hosting of the event, which would aim at reaffirming commitment to the full and effective implementation of the DDPA;**

1. **The Human Rights Council to convene a commemorative event on the 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;**
2. **Recognizes the importance of the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the observance of the 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and invites Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other actors to consider providing support to enable non-governmental organizations to organize and participate in the activities of the twentieth anniversary;**
3. **Invite Member States, international and regional organisations, civil society and other stakeholders to organize various initiatives with *high visibility* that celebrate positive developments and address remaining challenges, which will effectively increase awareness at all levels;**
4. **Prepare information materials on the 20th anniversary that can be disseminated at various events, through UN information centres and OHCHR’s and other United Nations’ webpages.**