

28/8/07
AZERBAIJAN 28/8/07

Thank you, Madam Chairperson,

First I would like to align myself with the statement made by Pakistan on behalf of the OIC. *fully* ~~SP Nine, I~~

would like to make several remarks in my national capacity
I join previous speakers in congratulating you on the occasion of your well-deserved election to the Chairmanship. We are confident that under your able and wise leadership the Preparatory Committee will be able to accomplish successfully all the tasks it is faced with. I also congratulate the other members of the Bureau.

I would like likewise to thank K. G. G. Arslan for her opening statement.
Madam President,

The equality and non-discrimination are the fundamental basis for the human right guarantees that are equally the main target of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action. Since the very time of its adoption my Government has been taking a number of measures to implement the DDPA and put in effect the relevant measures to further maintain the existing tolerance and the culture of resistance against the possible manifestations of racism and racial discrimination.

The Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan has also been supportive ever since the adoption of the DDPA to all international efforts aimed at advancing the fight against the global challenges of racism and racial discrimination. In the same spirit we have supported the adoption of Resolution 3/2 of 8 of December 2006.

We are of the opinion that we should spare no effort to make best use of the Review Conference to discuss the main challenges, contemporary manifestations leading to the racism and racial discrimination. In this regard, we welcome the call in operative paragraph 4 of the Resolution 3/2 on the various stakeholders, including the relevant special procedure mandate holders and experts on the implementation and complementary standards to assist the Preparatory Committee to meet its tasks.

While the Preparatory Committee should also concentrate on the question as to what objectives the Review Conference shall follow, my delegation would like to share with the respective delegates the following.

In our understanding, the question of implementation has to be considered separately and independently of other issues that we might look into. Implementation should never lose its important place in terms of best use of the existing normative basis and their practical effectiveness.

In the meantime, we are of the opinion that we should not limit our debates and deliberations to the implementation in a narrow parochial sense. We have to comprehensively focus on the today's picture of racism and racial discrimination in all their forms and manifestations. It is also our firm belief that only following both paths that are in a number of ways complementing and benefitting may we reach our objective - the review of our activities and challenges.

Thank you.