

ECOSOC Decision 2001/245

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 24 July 2001, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/5 of 18 April 2001,¹ approved the Commission's recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to assign high priority to the activities of the revised Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination (1993-2003)² and to earmark adequate resources to finance the activities of the Programme.

The Council also approved the Commission's requests to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights:

(a) To continue to undertake research and consultations on the use of the Internet for the purposes of incitement to racial hatred, racist propaganda and xenophobia, to study ways of promoting international cooperation in this area, and to draw up a programme of human rights education and exchanges over the Internet on experience in the struggle against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism;

(b) To provide, insofar as possible, non-governmental organizations with technical assistance for the holding of a forum before and partly during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

(c) To explore ways and means of effectively involving all parliaments to participate actively in the preparation of the World Conference through the relevant international organizations.

The Council further approved the Commission's recommendations that:

(a) The issue of universal ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,³ as well as the reservations thereto, and the question of recognition of the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to receive individual complaints, be considered at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

(b) A gender-based approach be systematically adopted throughout the preparations for and in the outcome of the World Conference;

(c) The particular situation of children and young people receive special attention during the preparations for and during the World Conference itself, and especially in its outcome;

¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

² General Assembly resolution 49/146, annex.

³ General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

(d) The particular situation of indigenous people receive special attention during the preparations for and during the World Conference, and especially in its outcome;

(e) Special attention be accorded during the preparations for and during the World Conference, especially in its outcome, to the particular situation of migrants.