

To: General Assembly

From: Poland

Subject: Increasing Tolerance

Date: March 31, 2011

Deeply concerned by the degree of racism and intolerance that exists throughout the international community and the failure,

Concerned by the struggle of Member States on the national level and on the international level to implement the ideas of the Durban Declaration,

Motivated by successful public outreach programs implemented in Member States such as Poland, Germany, and India which utilize media outlets, education programs, and community engagement of their citizens to promote tolerance within their nations,

Recognizing the opportunities to expand such programs to other Member States to promote positive action towards the ideals of eliminating intolerance addressed in the Durban Declaration,

Noting the important role that different actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, played in that struggle and in ongoing efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance during the World Conference held in Durban, South Africa in 2001,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993, that calls for the immediate and comprehensive elimination of all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Further recalling the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and recalling also the two World Conferences to combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held in Geneva in 1978 and 1983 which resulted in resolutions 1997/74 and 52/111,

Reaffirming that cultural diversity is an asset for the progression and wellbeing of humanity at large and should be valued, enjoyed, genuinely accepted and implemented as a permanent feature which enriches our societies,

Recognizing that national and international actions are required to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in order to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights, economic, social, cultural, civil and political, which are universal, indivisible interdependent and interrelated, and to improve the living conditions of men, women and children of all nations,

Emphasizing the importance of preventive and concerted action, especially in the field of education and awareness-raising, and calls for the strengthening of human rights education through the use of mass media,

Interested in the funds available through the United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) for projects which promote tolerance and acceptance amongst peoples of various races, ethnicities, genders, religions, physical abilities, economic status, and personal ideologies,

Considering General Assembly Resolution 64/290 which urges all Member States to implement strategies and policies to ensure and support the realization of the right to education,

Acknowledging that education is the means the bridge that will connect the gap between injustice and prosperity between Member States,

Calls for:

1. **Encourages** Member States to establish programs which aim to inform, educate, and facilitate tolerance of persons in respect to their race, ethnicity, gender, religion, physical abilities, economic status, and personal ideologies through multiple methods including but not limited to, media, education, and community engagement;
2. **Requests** that Member States look to their education infrastructure on all levels as a means of further disseminating information on issues related to intolerance, and to encourage acceptance and civility towards various groups within their country through methods including, but not limited to:
 - a. The introduction of more minority teachers into their public education systems,
 - b. Incorporating a greater variety of language and culture studies into their current education system,
 - c. Increasing the number of study abroad opportunities available to their students such as those available through the Global Partnership,
 - d. Expanding international educational exchange programs between Member States to include educators in all levels of education;
3. **Recommends** the creation of an afterschool programs aimed at building tolerance such as:
 - a. The creation of athletic workshops to increase tolerance,
 - b. The encouragement of cultural activities such as drama and music festivals to bring awareness and understanding of different perspective fostering common spaces of interaction and tolerance,
 - c. The incorporation of classes in the national curriculum to address the regions specific racial diversity,
 - d. Counseling services that will expedite the healing process and contribute to the long term reconciliation,
 - e. Empowering the population through entrepreneurial development skills like technical training;

4. **Further recommends** that Member States utilize the media in order to disseminate information about issues related to intolerance, and to encourage acceptance and civility towards various groups within their country through various media outlets including, but not limited to print, internet, radio, television, and other media outlets;
5. **Requests** that Member States increase available outlets and venues for community engagement including, but not limited to:
 - a. Community sports clubs, teams, and facilities,
 - b. Community fine arts and cultural organizations,
 - c. Community festivals, fairs, and celebrations, especially those which introduce members of the community to other cultures,
 - d. Volunteer projects and groups for community improvement;
6. **Emphasizes** the importance of local and global leaders to be active role models in eliminating intolerance through media;
7. **Encourages** regions to implement programs, similar to the European Union's Youth in Action, directed toward educating the youth on:
 - a. active citizenship,
 - b. developing solidarity and promoting tolerance in order to foster social cohesion throughout the international community,
 - c. creating a bridge between states;
8. **Endorses** the use of alternative educational programs such as video conferencing that would broadcast lectures, seminars, and the like to make international education more affordable for developing states;
9. **Calls for** the integration of multiracial organization such as International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization (IMSCO) and programs in order to increase diversity appreciation;
10. **Encourages** Member States to utilize existing international programs which provide social services through such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) like Teachers Without Borders, Youth In Action, and those that advocate implementing grassroots programs for promoting diversity;
11. **Asks** that Member States work together whenever possible to collaborate their programs in order to facilitate greater regional and global tolerance.