



Issue 5  
August 2001

# Durban 2001

## United against Racism

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM SECRETARIAT



South African Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma and Secretary General of the World Conference against Racism, Mary Robinson sign off on the final arrangements for Durban. (OHCHR photo)

I would like to welcome national delegates, representatives of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, experts and all who have gathered in Durban. We share a common goal: to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in all its forms. As this issue of our newsletter went to press, negotiations were going down to the wire. The intensity of discussions and the great attention they have attracted are a measure of the importance of the issues we are dealing with. The process has been a difficult one, perhaps inevitably. But we cannot allow differences of view to overshadow the very positive developments the Conference process has produced:

- we can now see emerging a global alliance against racism, bringing together people from around the world in a way never envisaged before;
- a broader awareness of discrimination and the different ways intolerance blights the lives of so many; and,
- the context for a number of national measures to fight bias, even before the meeting in Durban.

Here in Durban, we have the opportunity over the next week to build on this progress and get a real breakthrough on how we relate to each other – neighbour to neighbour, community to community, nation to nation – at the start of the new century.

To achieve this, Durban must produce:

- a Declaration that solemnly acknowledges the wrongs of the past, urges appropriate redress, notes the current manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and commits States and peoples to moving forward together in the fight against racism; and
- a concrete, forward-looking, Programme of Action that identifies practical steps for fulfilling this commitment.

I asked delegates at the beginning of the third session of the Preparatory Committee to ask themselves one question: "Is the position I am taking likely to lead to a successful outcome at Durban?" As we embark on the World Conference itself, the question is more relevant than ever. Are we ready to demonstrate a sense of vision and common purpose to help us achieve that much-needed breakthrough? The victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance are looking to us to secure a successful outcome that will improve their lives. We cannot afford to disappoint them.

**Mary Robinson**  
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights  
and Secretary General of the World Conference  
against Racism, Racial Discrimination,  
Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

# Let Us Make Durban a Success!

i n s i d e t h i s i s s u e

**2** Provisional Programme of Work and Provisional Agenda

**8** Parallel Events in Durban

**10** Preparations for the World Conference in China and Latvia

# Provisional Programme of Work

## Thursday, 30 August

**16:00 - 19:00**

Informal consultations  
of the General Committee/Bureau

## Friday, 31 August

**9:30 - 9:50**

Opening ceremony (Plenary Hall)  
Cultural activity: Dance programme  
by Ballet Theatre Afrikan

**10:00 - 11:30**

Opening session (Plenary Hall)

Items 1 to 3: Opening statement of  
the Secretary General; Opening  
address by the President of South  
Africa; Election of the President of  
the World Conference; Introductory  
statement by the President of the  
World Conference; Statement by the  
President of the General Assembly;  
Statement by the Secretary General  
of the World Conference

**11:45 - 13:00**

Plenary (Plenary Hall)

Item 4: Adoption of the Rules of  
Procedure

Item 5: Election of other Officers

Item 6(a): Establishment of the  
Credentials Committee

Item 7: Adoption of the Agenda

Item 8: Organization of work –  
Establishment of the Main Committee  
and the Drafting Committee

**15:00 - 18:00**

Roundtable of Heads of State/Heads  
of Government (Plenary Hall)

Main Committee (Room 1)  
followed by the Drafting  
Committee (Working Group on the  
Draft Declaration; Working Group on  
the Draft Programme of Action)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

## Saturday, 1 September

**9:00 - 10:00**

Meeting of the General  
Committee/Bureau<sup>1</sup>

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary (Plenary Hall)  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

**18:00 - 24:00**

South African concert

## Sunday, 2 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

## Monday, 3 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

## Tuesday, 4 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

**10:00 - 12:00**

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**12:00 - 13:00**

Drafting Committee followed  
by Main Committee

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee

• Working Group on the Draft  
Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft  
Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

# of the World Conference

## Wednesday, 5 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft Programme of Action (Room 2)

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

## Thursday, 6 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft Programme of Action (Room 2)

**15:00 - 18:00**

Plenary  
Item 9: General Statements

Drafting Committee  
• Working Group on the Draft Declaration (Room 1)  
• Working Group on the Draft Programme of Action (Room 2)

**18:00 - 21:00**

Plenary

## Friday, 7 September

**10:00 - 13:00**

Drafting Committee followed by:  
Main Committee

Credentials Committee  
Item 6 (b) - Report

**15:00 - 16:00**

Closing session

Item 10: Adoption of the Declaration and the Programme of Action  
Adoption of the Report of the Conference

**16:00 - 17:00**

Closing ceremony/Cultural activity: Musical programme by the Center for Jazz

NB:

a) The meetings, committees and plenary sessions of the World Conference will take place at the International Convention Centre, Durban.

b) This provisional agenda (Doc.A/CONF.189/PC.3/9/Rev.1) and the provisional programme of work (Doc.A/CONF.189/PC.3/Misc.5) were adopted at the third session of the Preparatory Committee on 10 August.

c) The provisional programme of work of the World Conference is subject to change.

<sup>1</sup> The General Committee will meet thereafter as and when required.

## Provisional Agenda

### 1. Opening of the Conference

### 2. Election of the President

### 3. Opening addresses

### 4. Adoption of the rules of procedure

### 5. Election of the other officers of the Conference

### 6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

(a) Appointment of the Credentials Committee;

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

### 7. Adoption of the agenda

### 8. Organization of work

### 9. Conference themes:

• Sources, causes, forms and contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

• Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

• Measures of prevention, education and protection aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at the national, regional and international levels.

• Provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress, [compensatory]\* and other measures at the national, regional and international levels.

• Strategies to achieve full and effective equality, including international cooperation and enhancement of United Nations and other international mechanisms in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and follow-up.

### 10. Adoption of the final document and the report of the Conference

\* The square brackets in item 9, para. 4, indicate that consensus has not been reached on the word "compensatory".

## Third Preparatory Committee sets framework for Durban

On 10 August, after two weeks of intensive deliberations by the third session of the Preparatory Committee of the World Conference, negotiators meeting in Geneva finalized their work on a Draft Declaration and Programme of Action to be considered by the World Conference against Racism in Durban.

Although the documents of the World Conference still contain language that will be the subject of negotiations in Durban, the Committee, chaired by Ambassador Hussain of Malaysia during the first week, and Ambassador Diallo of Senegal during the second, achieved considerable progress. Two open-ended working groups chaired by Ambassador Hénault of France and Mr. Saboia, Secretary of State for Human Rights of Brazil, negotiated the Draft Declaration and Draft Programme of Action, respectively (documents A/CONF.189/PC.3/7 and A/CONF.

189/PC.3/8). The working groups agreed on paragraphs that were later adopted by the plenary of the Preparatory Committee, on the last evening of the meeting.<sup>1</sup>

The negotiations included paragraphs concerning Africans and people of African descent; indigenous peoples; migrants; other victims; measures of prevention, education and protection; legislative, judicial regulatory, and administrative measures; ratification of instruments; national institutions; health; education; and strategies to achieve full and effective equality, including international cooperation.

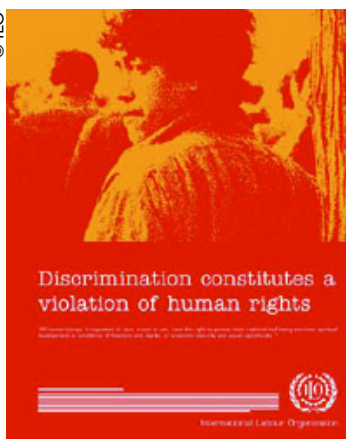
Summing up the session, High Commissioner for Human Rights and Secretary General of the World Conference, Mary Robinson pointed to reports by the chairpersons of three panels set up to look for compromise language on "three difficult issues" and noted that they had struck an optimistic note. The South African chair of the panel on the

question of the Middle East, reported that "views were still divergent, but there was great potential to close the gap". The Brazilian chair of the panel looking at questions related to slavery, colonialism and reparations said that "ideas were converging," while the Mexican head of a group dealing with the theme of victims of racism conveyed the view that "the elements [of an agreement] were there", and that he felt optimistic.

The High Commissioner said that these assessments "give us hope and encouragement". She added: "A lot remains to be done. But I think we can say that a framework has emerged from this Preparatory Committee which will carry our work forward to Durban."

<sup>1</sup>The Committee adopted its draft report of the activities and decisions of the Third Session. The official report of the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee will be available for the World Conference against Racism.

## Combating racial discrimination in the world of work



Racial discrimination and xenophobia disproportionately affect minorities, indigenous peoples and migrant workers, and often result in unjustified disadvantages in the hiring process and promotion opportunities, and

impact job security. They can also prevent women and men from vulnerable groups from getting the training, education and vocational guidance necessary to successfully enter the labour market. As Juan Somavía, Director-General of the International Labour Office (ILO), said on 21 March, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, "...this process of marginalization and exclusion wastes productive potential, and aggravates poverty and social tension. Racial discrimination can be a major destabilizing factor for whole societies."

The ILO and its tripartite constituents – governments, and employers' and workers' organizations – are identifying challenges and obstacles to help combat racial discrimination and xenophobia in the world of work and are setting out concrete and clear actions to address them. Committed to an agenda of decent work, the ILO plays a role in promoting work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity, free

from discriminatory treatment. Governments have an obligation to establish mechanisms that protect victims of racial discrimination which are accessible to all victims, and operate in a way that puts policies into practice. Trade unions contribute by promoting the principle of non-discrimination through information activities, social dialogue, representation of victims and collective bargaining. The business community is also increasingly concerned about non-discrimination, as it becomes more aware of the economic advantages of management concepts based on diversity and equality.

To eliminate racial discrimination at work domestic policies must be firmly based on international standards, and their implementation must be ensured through legislative, administrative and judicial measures. The ILO has a lot to offer in this respect. The ILO Discrimination Convention (Employment and Occupation), 1958 (No. 111), ratified by 151 countries, is one of the key international instruments to combat racial discrimination in the workplace. The Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97) and the Migrant Workers Convention, 1975 (No. 143), are the only conventions in force, to date, to protect migrants and indigenous and tribal peoples from racial discrimination. The ILO supervises the implementation of these conventions, among others, and provides technical assistance and policy advice to States.

In several countries, the ILO is researching the causes and manifestations of racial, ethnic and gender discrimination in the workplace, and it is preparing a manual on discrimination at work highlighting legal requirements and strategic guidance for the practical application of Convention No. 111.

It is also assisting governments in the collection of statistical data broken down by race and gender, which helps to evaluate measures that address the negative economic consequences of racial and gender-based discrimination.

The protection of the human rights of migrant workers, including those in an irregular situation, becomes more crucial as labour migration increases. The ILO recently documented discrimination against migrant workers in the labour market in Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain.

Training and awareness-raising activities about racial discrimination at work are important too. In May 2001, a sub-regional training seminar for judges on discrimination issues, including equality of opportunity and treatment at work, and gender issues in labour courts, was held in Kampala, Uganda. The aim of the seminar was to contribute to better understanding and use of international labour standards by labour courts.

The ILO also carries out projects in Latin America, Africa and Asia aimed at improving the living and working conditions of indigenous and tribal peoples. It gives advice on capacity-building for indigenous and tribal peoples and governments, and works to establish dialogue between the actors involved in development projects at the local level.

The ILO is making a number of contributions and special reports to help develop a comprehensive and effective programme of action at Durban, including specific action to eliminate racial discrimination and xenophobia in the world of work.

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# The fight against racism: a trade union priority

Combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance is an essential part of the trade struggle for freedom and social justice for all. In a globalized labour market where job security is uncer-



tain, and where unemployment and under-employment remain unacceptably high, race, colour or national origin are factors which increase the vulnerability of some workers and their families, and undermine solidarity among workers. That is why the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) reaffirmed its commitment to combating high levels of racism in the workplace, in the labour market, and in communities during its 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Durban in April 2001. As Bill Jordan, ICFTU General Secretary, said, "Equality of opportunity and treatment at work is a basic right for all".

Every day, trade unions work to further ensure that the rights of the individuals and groups most vulnerable to racial discrimination are protected. They press governments to defend the rights of workers; they

urge employers to adopt equal opportunities policies that recognize and combat abuses and that will put an end to racial discrimination in the workplace; and they join with other actors of civil society in this fight. Trade unions are fighting against racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia on every continent, at the national and international levels in all sectors through a variety of programmes and innovative strategies. At the national level, trade unions in countries like Brazil, Senegal, South Africa and Croatia organize awareness-raising campaigns and training workshops for employers and workers. In the United States and Canada, they lobby for positive measures and the repeal of racist and discriminatory laws and directives, while labour unions in the Netherlands and in Germany push for the inclusion of anti-racist provisions in collective bargaining agreements. Defending victims of racial discrimination in the workplace and denouncing violations of workers' rights is part of trade union activities in Ecuador and the Philippines.

At the international level, the ICFTU is calling on governments to ratify international Conventions on equal treatment for all workers in terms of working conditions, pay, social security and trade union rights (covered in a number of ILO Conventions, such as 97, 100, 107, 111, 117, 118, 143 and 169) and to withdraw all discriminatory

legal or administrative texts. It is also pressing for urgent reforms of restrictive immigration and asylum policies in many developed countries.

The ICFTU and its affiliates are also inviting governments to take steps to ensure that the key provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families (1990) are implemented without delay in their countries, whether or not they have ratified it.

Trade unions have been preparing for Durban. At an ICFTU international workshop held in May 2001 in Aylmer, Canada, unions prepared their contribution to the Durban Conference and assessed what they have done so far. Participants drew up concrete national, regional and international plans of action to combat racism more effectively in the workplace, in the labour market, in communities and within union ranks. The ICFTU is also publishing a brochure for Durban that highlights action by its affiliates that combats racial discrimination and promotes the rights of workers. The ICFTU believes that the World Conference can and must be a catalyst for change, a way to bring us all together in a common struggle against racism throughout the world.

For further information, e-mail the ICFTU at [intrnetpo@icftu.org](mailto:intrnetpo@icftu.org) or visit its website at [www.icftu.org](http://www.icftu.org)

## Three roundtables, a book and an exhibition



In Durban, UNESCO will hold two roundtable talks drawing attention to new types of discrimination including those connected to advances in genetics, as well as to the consequences of the African slave trade. In cooperation with OHCHR, it will also be holding an international roundtable on racism and the media and it will release a book of articles and standard-setting instruments against racism. An exhibition featuring material about its long-standing struggle against racism and discrimination is also planned.

On 3 September, a UNESCO panel discussion on "The New Aspects of Racism in the Era of Globalization and the Gene Revolution" will take place. Moderated by Jérôme Bindé of UNESCO, the debate will look at new forms of racism and discrimination fuelled by globalization and growing economic inequalities, focusing particularly on emerging forms of cultural racism and on the threat of a new form of eugenics and discrimination stemming from the progress in genetics.

On 4 September, a panel debate on "The Slave Route: Slavery and Racism" will examine the causes, modalities and consequences of the African slave trade along with its ideological and legal foundations. Given their impact and reach, is there a role for media in protecting human rights and fighting racism? On 5 September, Riz Khan, free-lance journalist and former host of "Q&A with Riz Khan" on CNN International, will moderate a roundtable on "Racism and the Impact and Role of the Media". Organized jointly with OHCHR, the debate, which includes Mary Robinson, High Commissioner for Human Rights and Secretary General of the World Conference, Mr. Abid Hussain, Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, and Civil Rights Activist Reverend Jesse Jackson, is due to be broadcast internationally. "United to Combat Racism" is a selection of articles and standard-setting instruments published by UNESCO, in cooperation with OHCHR. The publication includes an article by Jyoti Shankar Singh,

Executive Coordinator of the World Conference called "Fighting Racism with Positive Messages: Importance of Youth and Education Activities" and an article on the "Reinforcement of International Mechanisms for Individual Complaints of Racial Discrimination" by Régis de Gouttes. In the preface, Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO expresses the hope that "the publication will help achieve the aims of our common struggle for equal dignity and equal opportunities for all."

At the Durban Exhibition Centre, UNESCO's activities in the struggle against racism and discrimination will be the subject of an exhibition of publications, posters and video-materials.

In keeping with its mandate to "further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion [...]" (Article 1, UNESCO Constitution), UNESCO will continue to work in co-operation with OHCHR to implement the decisions and recommendations of the Conference, following up on work it has been conducting since its early days combating racism and discrimination.

# A selection of “good practices” against racism

**Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), and private sector actors are taking concrete action to fight racism in all sectors and regions of the world. From education and the health care sector, to the political and legal system, and the media, there are many examples of good practices against racism. Here are some of them.**

## 1. Health Care

*Taking into consideration the realities of multiracial and multicultural societies is necessary to ensure access to health care services for all.*

- In an effort to break down linguistic and cultural barriers to good health care services for migrants, minorities and indigenous peoples, the **Montreal Children's Hospital** in Canada developed its Multicultural Programme, which includes interpretation services for patients and cross-cultural training workshops for hospital staff. The hospital's Transcultural Psychiatry Clinic also offers assessment, consultation and treatment adapted to the needs of migrant and refugee children and their families, particularly in cases of war trauma, cultural adaptation and identity questions.

- The **“Ethnic Integration via Volunteerism with Emergency Services”** project, funded by the Australian Government through its Living in Harmony community grants programme, encourages people from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds to volunteer in organizations which provide emergency health services in the state of New South Wales.

- The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) will launch its compendium on “Discrimination, Stigma and Denial” at the Durban Conference, which compares case studies conducted in India and Uganda on **the impact of HIV/AIDS related discrimination**, stigma, and denial on individuals, families and communities.

## 2. Media

*Media coverage of issues, incidents and the experiences of peoples often affects public knowledge, opinion and attitudes. They are essential partners in the fight against racism because they can disseminate information and promote respect for diversity to wide audiences.*

- The International Federation of Journalists' **“Media Award to Promote Media Awareness of Racism and Xenophobia Issues”** recognizes journalism which gives a fair and balanced picture of the world and contributes to better understanding between different groups and people in European multicultural societies.

- Journalists and NGO representatives who attended the **workshop on media and racism** in April 2001 in Kathmandu, Nepal, organized by Manila-based Isis International, discussed specific guidelines on how to avoid the traps of discriminatory atti-

tudes and messages when doing their work.

- The American **HBO television network** is using its website to educate its viewers and the broader public about the impact of hate on everyday lives, inviting them to “Dig Deeper” and “Look inside themselves for prejudice and stereotypes” as one of “10 ways to fight racism”.

- **Radio broadcasts** can be very successful in raising awareness about human rights work. In Fiji, where 600, 000 people out of the population of 780,000 listen to the radio, the Fijian Human Rights Commission (FHRC) gained greater exposure by participating in a morning talk-show broadcast in the Fijian language and by contributing to radio programmes in English and Hindi languages.



(Secretariat photo)

- CNN “World Report” is a programme that gives the world's broadcasters a global forum from which to report the news ‘as they see it’ to the rest of the world, providing television viewers around the world with the opportunity to **see other countries as they see themselves.**

- **Human Rights Internet** trains NGOs around the world to use the Internet to network and to share knowledge and expertise in the fight against racism.

## 3. The Legal System

*Although law enforcement and the judicial system are intended to defend values of equality and to uphold the principle of non-discrimination, race continues to affect the way in which police forces deal with certain groups, lawyers carry out their work and judges and juries reach their verdicts.*

- In many societies, members of racial, ethnic and religious groups are more likely than others to be mistreated or arbitrarily arrested by police officers and other law enforcement officials. The UN Special Rapporteur on torture has reminded States of their obligation to ensure the right of individuals to be protected against bodily

harm and violence by government officials, individual groups and institutions, in accordance with **Article 5 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).**

- In Nicaragua, members of the National Police from regions inhabited by indigenous peoples took an OHCHR training course in human rights. OHCHR's **“Police-community relations and human rights project”** also brought indigenous community representatives and local police authorities together to come up with ways of preventing crime and human rights abuses in their regions.

- The Avon and Somerset Constabulary (UK) produced a “Cultural Guide for Policing Diverse Communities” for its staff, providing information on the cultures, customs, social and religious backgrounds of local communities. Police officers in Lancashire participated in an **awareness-training programme focused on Islam.**

- The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination identified the recognition of its competence to consider communications from individuals and groups concerning violations of the Convention (on the basis of **Article 14 of the ICERD**), as a way of increasing legal support available to victims of racial discrimination.

- Providing advice and representation to Romani victims of human rights violations, the Budapest-based **European Roma Rights Center** works to ensure respect for their human rights. It also supports the legal training of Romani students through study grants and internships in the field of human rights as a way to empower them and teach them how to represent themselves in courts.

- Language and customs can often limit access to justice by minorities and indigenous peoples. In North and South America, several communities with a large number of indigenous peoples offer interpretation services in the legal process, and support **alternative models of justice** by establishing community courts that apply both criminal law and local practices and cultures.

- The University of Tel Aviv, with the financial support of UNESCO, has published and will widely disseminate “Anti-Discrimination Norms: A Survey of Legal Responses to Racism, Xenophobia, Anti-Semitism, and other Forms of Related Intolerance Worldwide”, a **compilation of anti-discrimination laws** and constitutional provisions of 180 UN Member States.

## 4. Politics, Policy and Decision-making

*Everyday, decisions are made and policies carried out which affect the lives of everyone, of every group – but not everyone is included or represented in the process, nor is everyone taken into account when these decisions and policies are made. Race is often a factor which determines who participates in the decision-making process and*

whose needs and interests are considered in policy-making.

- The Slovak Republic has created the position of Deputy Prime Minister for Human Rights, Minorities and Regional Development, who acts as the **coordinator for national minority issues**, to increase representation of ethnic minorities in key government and political positions.

- Data disaggregated on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, language, and gender significantly improves the identification of problems and the development of policy at the national, regional and international levels which are effective and inclusive. The UN Secretary General recommended that States, national human rights commissions, and other relevant institutions, collect and disseminate data specifically related to the situation of children of minorities and migrant workers in the fields of education, training and employment.

- The UN Commission on the Status of Women recommended that governments, IGOs and civil society conduct research on how racial discrimination is reflected in laws and policies and contributes to the marginalization and discrimination of women and girls, as a way to address racial discrimination against women and girls.

- The Technical Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs (SETAI) was created by the Chilean Government to promote, coordinate, direct, supervise and evaluate **gender-sensitive policies and programmes** for the development of indigenous communities, while respecting their ethnic and cultural identity.

- The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) collects, records and analyses information gathered from EU member States, community institutions, NGOs and international bodies, and disseminates it through the **European network of information on racism and xenophobia** (known as "RAXEN").

- The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), a forum of major bilateral donors working to support sustainable development in developing countries, **frequently consults with civil society, including minority populations**, when establishing its policy guidelines aimed at helping people to overcome poverty and participate in the global economy.

## 5. National Institutions

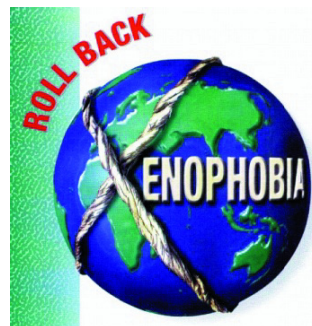
National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights across the globe work actively through education, prevention, mediation and conciliation to combat racism.

- In December 2000, the **Malawi Human Rights Commission** brought together representatives of the Government, NGOs and other interested parties to launch the National Programme on Peace-Building and Conflict Prevention, which includes concrete action, such as peace-building and

conflict prevention workshops; research on the extent of discrimination and intolerance; public hearings and enquiries relating to discrimination and intolerance, and the receipt of related public submissions by the Commission.

- The French National Consultative Commission for Human Rights annually publishes its report "The Combat against Racism and Xenophobia" containing specific action undertaken by the Government to combat racism and xenophobia as well as the recommendations issued by the Commission.

- In the context of the World Conference against Racism, the Mexican Human Rights Commission, through funds received from OHCHR and the Rockefeller Foundation, is undertaking a national awareness-raising campaign against racism, joining forces with national NGOs, and the private sector.



- To counter xenophobia, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, NGOs and the South African Human Rights Commission launched the **"Roll Back Xenophobia" campaign** in December 1998, aimed at raising public awareness of the plight and rights of refugees and asylum-seekers and the difference between refugees and economic migrants. This campaign is a multi-year effort seeking to mobilise all actors – Government and civil society – in this major initiative.

## 6. Employment, Labour Market and Economic Development

*Ensuring that everyone has access to employment and just and favourable working conditions, and that vulnerable communities have the resources necessary for economic development, is linked to the enjoyment of fundamental human rights.*

- Many governments have adopted legislation prohibiting racial discrimination in employment and have taken positive legislative measures to combat racial discrimination in the labour market. The Canadian Government adopted the **Employment Equity Act** to guarantee equal treatment at work and equal access to employment in both the private and public sectors.

- In Guatemala, the National Civil Police Act states that "the processes of recruiting, selecting, training and deploying staff [...] include **consideration of the multi-ethnic and multicultural nature of Guatemala**".

- Migrant workers face racial discrimination

and xenophobia in many regions of the world. The **International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families** was adopted to protect their human rights. The Steering Committee for the Ratification of the Convention on Rights of Migrants, made up of representatives of intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and independent experts, is campaigning for ratification by at least twenty UN Member States, in order for the Convention to enter into force.

- Talking about employment equity and equal treatment of workers without including the business sector in the discussions is like talking about education without consulting teachers. As part of its commitment to the **UN Secretary General's Global Compact Initiative**, the Volvo Car Corporation has taken the lead in encouraging the business community to promote diversity, and build partnerships between corporations, governments, trade unions, NGOs and the UN to combat discrimination in the workplace and the wider community. Volvo's **"Corporate Diversity"** project includes a high-level dialogue at the Durban Conference with a number of Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), the UN Secretary General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

- Adequate training and education are necessary to successfully enter the labour market. The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) of the Philippine Department of Labour and Employment, with the assistance of the International Organization of Migration (IOM) offers skills upgrading and language training courses for migrant workers. The Danish Government assists with placement services and **vocational training courses for immigrants and refugees** to facilitate their entry into the labour market.

- Victims of racial discrimination in the workplace are very often members of groups with limited resources and support to claim remedies. The Women's Aid Organization, based in Malaysia, provides **women foreign domestic workers** who are abused by their employers with shelter, legal counseling and assistance in obtaining legal representation. Established networks, like the Japan-based National Network for Solidarity with Migrant Workers and RESPECT, a European network of migrant domestic workers associations, give out information so that workers can assert and defend their rights.

- Access to natural resources and protection of land and resource rights allow communities to provide for themselves. The Governments of Costa Rica, Norway, Mexico and Peru, among others, ratified the **ILO Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Populations (No. 169)**, which recommends the adoption of special measures by governments to safeguard the persons, institutions, property, labour, cultures and environment of the peoples concerned (Article 4).

*Continued on page 12*

# Parallel Events in Durban

Friday, 31 Aug.

- Room 7** 11.00-13.00 'War-Affected Children and Racism: Challenges and Prospects for Prevention?'- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict panel
- Room 7** 13.00-16.00 'Early Warning and the Resolution of Racially-Motivated Conflicts - The Role of National Institutions' – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and South Africa Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) panel
- Room 3** 14.00-16.00 'Discrimination in Adolescent Reproductive Health' – United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) panel
- Room 3** 16.00-18.00 Workshop on NGO consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) – organized by ECOSOC Division/NGO Section of Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) (Continues on 1 and 4 September)
- Room 7** 16.30-18.00 'Discrimination is Everybody's Business - Global Compact High-Level Dialogue'

Saturday, 1 Sept.

- Room 3** 10.00-13.00 & 15.00-18.00 'Cooperation for the Better Protection of the Rights of Minorities'- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) international seminar (Continues on 2 and 5 September)
- Room 7** 10.00-13.00 'Discrimination is Everybody's Business: A Multi-Stakeholder Workshop'- a business initiative by Volvo Car Corporation
- Room 3** 13.00-15.00 'Indigenous Media Dialogue' - OHCHR panel
- Room 7** 13.00-15.00 'An Exploration of the Convergences between Racism and Religious Belief, with Particular Emphasis on Islamophobia' - Al-Khoei Foundation panel
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims: Human stories of racial discrimination with firsthand accounts from every region of the world - International Human Rights Law Group (IHLRG) in co-operation with the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), treaty bodies and national human rights institutions (Daily at the ICC until Thursday, 6 Sept.)
- Room 7** 15.00-18.00 Eminent Personalities on 'The Impact of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on Sustainable Development' - UNDP panel
- Room 3** 18.00-20.30 Workshop on NGO consultative status with ECOSOC– organized by ECOSOC Division/NGO Section of DESA (Continues on 4 September)

Sunday, 2 Sept.

- Room 7** 9.00-12.30 & 14.00-18.30 'Action of Parliaments and their Members in the Fight against Racism' - Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)/ South African Parliament one-day parliamentary meeting
- Room 3** 10.00-13.00 'Cooperation for the Better Protection of the Rights of Minorities' - OHCHR international seminar (Continues on 5 September)
- Room 3** 13.00-15.00 'Addressing Racism through Peace Education and Conflict Resolution- Lessons from Experience' - United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) panel
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims - IHLRG in co-operation with SAHRC, treaty bodies and national human rights institutions (Daily at the ICC until Thursday, 6 Sept.)
- Room 3** 15.00-16.30 'Impact of Multiple Forms of Discrimination on Women' - OHCHR/ Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) roundtable
- Room 3** 17:00 -18:00 'The Intersectionality of Gender and Race Discrimination' - OHCHR panel

Monday, 3 Sept.

- Room 7** 9.00-13.15 & 15.00-18.15 'Racism and Public Policy' - United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) conference (Continues on 4 and 5 September at the Durban Royal Hotel)
- Room 3** 10.00-12.00 'The New Aspects of Racism in the Age of Globalization and the Gene Revolution' - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) panel
- Room 3** 12.00-14.30 'Denied a Future? The Right to Education of Roma, Gypsy and Traveller Children' - Save the Children panel
- Room 7** 13.00-15.00 'Indigenous Peoples and Crisis: Approaches and Strategies for Building Peace' – UNDP/American Friends Service Committee roundtable
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims - IHLRG in co-operation with SAHRC, treaty bodies and national human rights institutions (Daily at the ICC until Thursday, 6 Sept.)
- Room 3** 15.00-18.00 'Elements of a Global Alliance against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: Roles and Responsibilities of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies, National Human Rights Institutions and Other Relevant Institutions' - OHCHR panel

**Racism and racial discrimination are not only discussed during negotiations at the World Conference in Durban: more than 40 events, organized by UN bodies, specialized agencies, and various other organizations, are taking place parallel to the Conference. They give participants a chance to consider in depth the many issues linked to racism and racial discrimination – often with the help of renowned panelists.**

**Tuesday, 4 Sept.**

**Durban Royal Hotel**  
9.00-12.15 & 14.00-17.30

- 'Racism and Public Policy' - UNRISD conference (Yellow Wood Room)  
(Continues on 5 September)
- Room 7** 10.30-13.00 'Child's Right to Education: the WCAR and the General Assembly Special Session on Children' - OHCHR, UNICEF and Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) event
- Room 3** 11.00-12.00 'Root Causes of Racial Discrimination and their Impact on Peace-Building' - United Nations University for Peace roundtable
- Room 3** 12.00-15.00 Workshop on NGO consultative status with ECOSOC – organized by ECOSOC Division/NGO Section of DESA
- Room 7** 13.00-15.00 'Discrimination is Everybody's Business – Implementing Equality and Diversity Policies: Private Sector Action' - International Labour Office (ILO)/OHCHR panel
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims - IHRLG in co-operation with SAHRC, treaty bodies and national human rights institutions (Daily at the ICC until Thursday, 6 Sept.)
- Room 3** 15.00-17.00 'Voices of Indigenous Women' - OHCHR roundtable
- Room 7** 16.00-18.00 'The Slave Route: Slavery and Racism' - UNESCO panel

**Wednesday, 5 Sept.**

**Durban Royal Hotel**  
9.00-12.15

- 'Racism and Public Policy' – UNRISD conference (Yellow Wood Room)
- Room 7** 10.00-12.00 'Indigenous Issues' - OHCHR roundtable
- Room 3** 11.00-13.00 'Exploring the Link: HIV/AIDS, Stigma, Discrimination and Racism' - panel organized by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), World Health Organisation (WHO) and OHCHR
- Room 7** 12.00-15.00 'Gender, Race and Ethnicity: Women at the Intersection of Peace, Justice and Human Rights' - United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) panel
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims - IHRLG in co-operation with SAHRC, treaty bodies and national human rights institutions (Daily at the ICC until Thursday, 6 Sept.)
- Room 3** 13.30-16.00 'Racism and the Impact and Role of Media' - OHCHR and UNESCO roundtable, in cooperation with the International Council on Human Rights Policy (ICHRP) and International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)
- Room 7** 15.00-18.00 'Cooperation for the better protection of the rights of minorities' - OHCHR international seminar

**Thursday, 6 Sept.**

- Room 3** 10.00-13.00 'The Millennium African Recovery Plan - Overcoming the Legacy of Racism' - SAHRC panel
- Room 7** 11.00-13.00 'Discrimination in Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights' - UNFPA panel
- Room 7** 13.00-15.00 'Race and Gender within the Context of CEDAW' - UNIFEM panel
- Room 1** 13.15-14.45 The Voices of Victims - IHRLG in co-operation with SAHRC, treaty bodies and national human rights institutions
- Room 3** 15.00-19.00 'Strategies to Combat Racism: A South African Case Study' - SAHRC panel

**Friday, 7 Sept.**

- Room 7** 9.00-12.00 'Racism and the Administration of Justice' - South African Human Rights Commission panel

**These events will take place in:**  
**Rooms 3 and 7 of the Durban Exhibition Centre (DEC),**  
**Room 1 of the International Convention Centre (ICC),**  
**or, at the Durban Royal Hotel.**



## China holds seminar on the Internet and the spread of racism

On 25 July 2001, in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, the Chinese Government held a seminar on the Internet and the spread of racism, which, in this era of rapid technological advancements, is an emerging issue which calls for the attention of the Durban Conference.

The Seminar was sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with participants from the Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Information Industry, Ministry of Education, State Ethnic Affairs Commission, scholars from Beijing University, Qinghua University, China Society for Ethnicity Studies and editors of Internet websites.

Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan sent a letter of congratulations on the holding of this seminar. He stressed the importance the Chinese Government placed on the World Conference and its significance for Internet study and racism, and he conveyed his best wishes for this seminar.

The Seminar noted the existence and persistence of Internet-based racist speech and its profound harm. It considered legal, moral and technical means of regulation required to combat racism on the Net. It called on relevant sectors in China and in all countries of the world to launch education and awareness-building campaigns to combat racism on the Net and to promote ethical ways of Net surfing.

## Racism and development: the rights-based response

The courageous struggle of South Africa has taught the world much about human rights, and much about development. In many ways, South Africa's development remains unbalanced. But unbalanced development is not a reality that has been unique to South Africa. Similar assessments could be made of countries around the world. Racially distorted development is a global phenomenon. The answer – for all countries – can only be a rights-based approach to development. Economic growth, increased investment, and more trade opportunities are always welcome. But they cannot, in and of themselves, guarantee the human dignity – and human rights – that define true development. As Mary Robinson has put it: "Poverty eradication without empowerment is unsustainable. Social integration without minority rights is unimaginable. Gender equality without women's rights is illusory. Full employment without worker's rights may be no more than a promise of sweat-shops, exploitation, and slavery. The logic of human rights in development is inescapable." And so it is. Throughout history, booming economies have been built on racially-justified slave labour, colonial domination, military conquest, and the cruel exploitation of human labour. Plenty of economic growth, to be sure. But development?

Rights-based approaches to development and poverty eradication are built on the five mutually reinforcing elements of (1) free, active and meaningful participation; (2) accountability of all actors in the development process; (3) non-discrimination and attention to vulnerability; (4) empowerment, both political and economic; (5) and explicit linkage to human rights standards and obligations. The human rights imperative of such approaches means that they must also include particular attention to discrimination, equality, equity, and the situation of vulnerable groups, among them racial and ethnic minorities, indigenous peoples and others. There is no universal checklist of who is most vulnerable in every given context. Rather, rights-based approaches require that such questions be answered locally: who is vulnerable, here and now? This means that development data must be disaggregated, to the ex-

tent possible, by race, religion, ethnicity, language, sex and other categories of human rights concern. Alongside macroeconomic measurement, determinations must be made about how fairly the benefits of development are distributed, who in particular benefits, and who is excluded.

Rights-based approaches demand the incorporation of express safeguards in development instruments to protect against threats to the rights and well-being of the vulnerable and excluded, including "domestically unpopular" groups, such as particular ethnic groups, minorities and migrants. They mean as well that all development decisions, policies and initiatives, while seeking to empower local participants, must also expressly guard against simply reinforcing existing power imbalances as between ethnic and racial groups, women and men, landowners and peasants, workers and employers, and others.

**Throughout history, booming economies have been built on racially-justified slave labour, colonial domination, military conquest, and the cruel exploitation of human labour. Plenty of economic growth, to be sure. But development?**

The stubborn and destructive nexus between racism and development is undeniable. Equally self-evident is that de-linking development from the burden of racism cannot be achieved by promoting economic growth, or encouraging free trade alone. Rather, the focus must be on the conditions of human beings and human rights. In 1994, Nelson Mandela declared to the UN: "We have written this on our banners: that the society we seek to create must be a people-centred society." This month in Durban, the international community will have a unique opportunity to collectively raise that banner by recognizing rights-based development as a fundamental tool in the global struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

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## Dimensions, views and perspectives from Latvia

The Latvian National Preparatory Conference for the World Conference against Racism called "Integration of Society in Latvia: Dimensions, Views and Perspectives" took place in Riga on 11 May 2001. Several key speakers addressed the Conference including the President of Latvia, Mrs. Vaira Vike-Freiberga, the Ministers of Justice, Education, Welfare and Culture, and Mrs. Hanna Suchocka, the personal representative of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Europe. The Conference assessed progress on the implementation of the Integration Programme of Society in Latvia, one year after its adoption by the Government. The Programme was set up to help develop a harmonious and prosperous society in which all national and ethnic groups preserve and develop their cultural identity and linguistic specificity. The Programme

includes not only citizenship and language concerns, but also the need to address social exclusion by promoting integration of marginalized and vulnerable groups, strengthening civil society, lessening regional disparities and reducing public mistrust of state and government institutions. Integration has long been a priority in Latvia and this conference was another major step in the country's progress on these issues. The participants of the conference discussed the term "integration" in the broadest sense of its meaning and evaluated the increasing role and participation of NGOs and civil society in this process. The Conference focussed on education, which was identified as a key element of successful integration. In school, children learn to accept diversity and difference and are taught to honour different cultures, languages and traditions. They also learn different languages which is an important element of cultural acceptance and tolerance. Latvia has therefore put education at the center of its Integration Programme. The Conference participants stressed the importance of the Government's financial support to integration and encouraged

rapid adoption of the "Law on Integration Fund" by the Saeima (Parliament). This Fund would finance integration projects such as language training for those applying for Latvian citizenship, and support for NGOs, especially those of national minorities. Equally, the Fund would attract finances from international organizations, foreign governments and private foundations to support the process of integration in Latvia. During the Conference, the Latvian Government pledged to allocate the equivalent of \$320 000 US dollars to the Fund in 2001, bringing the total amount the Government has allocated for implementation of the Integration Programme in 2001 to \$17.5 million dollars. At the same time, the Conference participants urged the Government to double its efforts in promoting naturalization. They agreed that the Government should continue to develop its social security policy, ensuring better access to all groups in Latvia. The National Conference reinforced the Government's commitment to continue pursuing economic and social policies that will lead to sustainable development in all regions of Latvia.

## Racism and the administration of justice

The experiences of millions of people worldwide testify to a simple fact – racism undermines all human rights. Justice systems all too often perpetuate racism by mirroring prejudices in society. In July 2001, Amnesty International released a report called "Racism and the Administration of Justice", which illustrates how racial discrimination in the administration of justice systematically denies certain people their human rights because of their colour, perceived race, ethnicity, descent (including caste) or national origin.

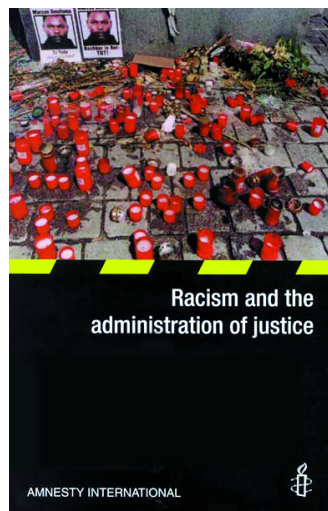
Based on research conducted by Amnesty International in recent years, the report shows that members of ethnic minorities often suffer torture, ill-treatment and harassment at the hands of the police. In many parts of the world they face unfair trials and discriminatory sentencing which puts them at increased risk of harsh punishments, including the death penalty. The report highlights particular countries and cases of relevance to the question of the administration of justice, focusing on law enforcement by security forces, the operations of the judicial system, and abuses in the context of asylum determination procedures.

For example, the report found that:

- In many western societies and in general terms, racial minorities are more likely than others to be detained on suspicion of offences such as drug dealing or theft. They also figure disproportionately in cases of excessive use of force by police and deaths in custody. Allegations of racist abuses by police are rarely investigated effectively, and few authorities adequately monitor com-

plaints of racist treatment by police or others in the justice system.

- In some societies, certain groups are often targeted for violence in the community and abuses against them frequently go unpunished, with local police often refusing to record or investigate complaints.



- The administration of justice remains heavily weighted against indigenous peoples. They are more likely than others to be imprisoned, and they are vastly over-represented in both the juvenile and criminal justice system and are more likely to die in custody.

- All over the world, the vulnerability of women to human rights abuses is heightened when they belong to ethnic or racial minorities suffering discrimination. In situations ranging from police interrogations to

civil wars, the rape and sexual abuse of women is deliberately used to systematically intimidate and traumatize women, families and whole communities.

- Around the world, asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants face xenophobia, sometimes directly encouraged by the authorities or political parties and almost always reflected in the administration of justice.

The Amnesty report calls on governments to adopt national strategies and plans of action to combat all forms of racial discrimination and to include specific measures relating to the administration of justice, such as:

- becoming party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, without making limiting reservations;
- ensuring that members of state agencies reflect the diversity of their societies, receive effective training and are disciplined or prosecuted whenever they commit racist abuses;
- providing protection against racist attacks by preventing and responding to all forms of racist attacks, and bringing those responsible to justice;
- ensuring that asylum-seekers and detainees are informed of their rights and receive effective legal and language assistance; and,
- ensuring that the conduct of trials and the imposition of sentences do not discriminate on grounds relating to racism. Countries where the death penalty is still imposed should investigate any disproportionate impact of such penalty on racial groups and declare a moratorium on executions pending such investigations.

*This report is available on [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)*

# ... more “good practices” against racism

(Secretariat photo)



Continued from page 7...

- Helping out groups who are victims of racial discrimination to compete on equal terms with other groups in society, the non-profit corporation EcoLogic Enterprise Ventures (EEV) allocates **small loans to indigenous organic spice growers** in northern Guatemala to develop small business.
- In Belize, the Toledo Maya Cultural Council and the Toledo Alcaldes Association published the “Maya Atlas” in 1998, said to be the **first indigenous-produced atlas in the world**, in an effort to clarify the Maya Indian people’s land rights and win legal protection for Maya land.

## 7. Education

*Education is an area in which the impact and the consequences of racial discrimination are significant. It is also one of the most effective ways to promote social integration.*

- In the Tongogara settlement in Zimbabwe, refugee and local children attend the same pre-school where they are taught the alphabet and numbers, and play together. This **Pre-School Training Project** of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) not only prepares refugee children for regular primary school by allowing them to learn the local language, it also helps them integrate into the local community at an early age.
- The UNESCO International Textbook Research Network, in collaboration with the George Eckert Institute (Germany), is preparing an international directory of specialists working on the **revision of history textbooks and curricula**, removing prejudice and stereotypes against certain groups.
- The Polish Ministry of Education has introduced **integrated classes of Romani and Polish children** to combat the marginalization of Romani children at school.
- In Canada, the British Columbia Ministry of Education invited members of Aboriginal communities to help develop and implement, in the context of the **programme on Aboriginal education**, school curricula that include Aboriginal languages, cultures and history.

- Using the school environment to facilitate interaction between groups and persons of different cultures, the Campus Diversity Initiative, sponsored by the New Delhi office of the Ford Foundation, develops on-campus living arrangements for different religious, regional and caste groups on Indian college campuses.
- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Bolivian Ministry of Education, with the financial support of the United Nations Foundation, are carrying out the Quechua-Castellano Bilingual Literacy Project on Reproductive Health, in rural areas of the southern provinces of Potosí and Chuquisaca. In this region where the Quechua language is widely spoken, and where women’s illiteracy, maternal and infant death rates are among the country’s highest, the project is aimed at **reducing illiteracy among indigenous women**, while improving their bilingual skills and teaching them about their reproductive health and rights.

## 8. Arts, Culture and Sports

*Arts, sport and leisure activities can be used to draw attention to racial discrimination in a tangible way, and can be used as practical interactive workshops for respect and integration. These initiatives work particularly well in oral cultures or where literacy rates are low.*

- The **Danish National Olympic Committee**, together with the Danish Ministry of Social Affairs and the Sandholm Refugee Reception Centre, organizes sport and leisure activities to increase contact be-



© International Olympic Committee

tween refugees and the local population, and gets refugees involved in local sport clubs as a way to make the transition to life in a new country easier.

- “Ooh Ah Showab Khan”, a play on the life of the only Asian footballer in the British Premier League, was presented by the organization **“Football Unites – Racism Divides”** with the support of Midland Bank and the European Year against Racism. The play inspired “young people, teachers and youth workers to do further anti-racist work”.

- UNESCO premiered the film “Mirka” at its headquarters in Paris last April, and presented actors Gerard Depardieu and Vanessa Redgrave with the Fellini Medal for their cinematographic career and their participation in the film, which speaks out against racism, xenophobia and exclusion.
- With the final theater performance of “Askari”, a tragi-comedy by Ben Tomoloju, the **Nigerian Red Cross Society and the International Committee of the Red Cross regional delegation in Nigeria** concluded a three-month long campaign to promote humanitarian principles, which includes the principle of non-discrimination. The play was presented in popular neighborhoods in Lagos and in 20 of Nigeria’s 30 states. For each of the three main regions, it was adapted to integrate elements of local tradition and culture.

## Durban 2001

United against Racism

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