



STATEMENT

Brussels, 21 May 2008

ENAR statement on Durban Review Conference

The European Network Against Racism (ENAR) welcomes the Durban Review Conference, which it sees as an important opportunity to address the problems of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances. ENAR therefore pledges full support and commitment to the entire Durban process, including its preparatory stages.

ENAR calls for the process to be transparent, inclusive (including being open to the greatest level of NGO participation possible) and appropriately regulated/moderated - to ensure robust discussions and debate but in a safe space for all. ENAR is committed to assisting and participating in the Durban process in order to achieve its high level vision, objectives and work towards the purposes of realising full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all minority and vulnerable individuals and groups.

ENAR works for all oppressed groups and against all forms of oppressions, without taking sides or favouring one group over another. ENAR is primarily a non-governmental anti-racism and anti-discrimination organisation - and as such, as a matter of both principle and practice, wherever there is racism and racist practice, ENAR affirms its stand that none is above criticism - whether they are an individual, a group or a government/state. It is solely on this basis and precisely with this understanding that ENAR extends support to or shows solidarity with victims of racism, discrimination and related intolerance.

The European Network Against Racism (ENAR) is a network of European NGOs working to combat racism in all EU member states and represents more than 600 NGOs spread around the European Union. Its establishment was a major outcome of the 1997 European Year Against Racism. ENAR aims to fight racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, to promote equality of treatment between EU citizens and third country nationals, and to link local/regional/national initiatives with European initiatives.

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