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DURBAN REVIEW CONFERENCE

Preparatory Committee

First substantive session

Geneva, 21 April-2 May 2008

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations for the sessions of its Preparatory Committee

Note by the secretariat*

1. In accordance with decision PC.1/2 adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference at its preparatory meeting in August 2007, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 62/143, the following procedure was approved for the accreditation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to participate in the sessions of the Preparatory Committee.
2. Non-governmental organizations with consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to participate fully in all the sessions of the Preparatory Committee, pursuant to Council resolution 1996/31, which governs the consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. Those NGOs that do not have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council but that participated in the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Durban in 2001 are invited to participate in the Durban Review Conference and its preparatory process, unless there are observations made by Member States. In such cases, the secretariat will request further information from the NGO and present this information to the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee will then take a decision regarding accreditation of the NGO.

* Late submission.

- Buddha Smriti Sanathan
- Roshni
- Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society
- Rural Development Centre
- India Peace Centre
- National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
- The Krityanand UNESCO Club

6. After receiving the information on these NGOs from the secretariat, the Permanent Mission of India, on 18 February, requested further information on six NGOs, including five of the above-mentioned and one new NGO. The secretariat transmitted a request for further information to these NGOs on 29 February and received a response from one of them, the India Peace Centre. This response was transmitted to the Permanent Mission of India.

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7. On 7 September 2007, the secretariat received a note verbale from the Permanent Mission of Bhutan indicating its objection to the advertisement of the NGOs. For a full and complete information, please refer to the annexed copy of the note verbale.