



**Item 9: General Debate**

**Madam President,**

The problem of systemic racial discrimination, xenophobia and Islamophobia are on the rise. Recent police brutality in the US was just one example of the tragic history of racism and violence. Moreover, Following the outbreak of Covid-19, racists in the west are targeting migrants including Asians, religious minorities, Muslims and Jews more than before, especially on social media.

Attacks on migrants and Muslims are deeply-rooted and have increased due to media coverage of news and political statements. In particular, following September 11 attacks, political leaders in west and east have been using Islamophobic rhetoric in their remarks and advocated policies that contribute to demonization of Muslims. These expressions have led to many cases of harassment and hate speech against Muslims and mosques in the World.

**Madam President,**

Being seriously concerned about the on-going discrimination against the black people, migrants, Asians, and Muslims ODDV calls on member states to condemn all types of ethnic violence and to make efforts on combat hate speech.

ODVV urges the Council to create an international commission of inquiry to investigate systemic racism in the United States.

We call on the SR on racism and SR on freedom of religion to pay special attention to the rise of anti-Muslim expressions and to study and report on causes and effects of Islamophobia on fundamental rights of Muslims around the world.

ODVV also requests all states to make effort to train journalists to avoid using ethnic and religious clichés in their reports.