



General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 August 2020

English only

Human Rights Council

Forty-fifth session

September–October 2020 (TBC)

Agenda item 9

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Written statement* submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[23 August 2020]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.

Item 9: General debate Racism in the United States

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) expresses its deepest regrets over the systemic racism in the United States including the rampant pattern of police brutality.

The systematic and historical racism, which is occasionally translated into arbitrary murder or torture of Americans of color is highly regrettable. ODVV also regrets the failure of President Trump to use a rhetoric that encourages solidarity. It is unfortunate that the president and political leader of the country has ignited more violence and failed to encourage leniency and patience.

Expressing gratitude to the recent joint statements by the United Nations mandate holders on recent racial developments in the United States,¹ ODVV condemns the systemic racism in the country, urging the authorities to end the “systemic ideology of racism” that maintains and continues the “domination of one group over another” negatively affects the “civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of African Americans” as approved by the report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on United States on 2016 and reinforces the institutionalization of impunity.

ODVV requests UN Special Procedures including the Special Rapporteur on Racism to push the United States discriminatory justice system towards fundamental reforms in order to terminate the legacy of institutional violence and racism in the country.

ODVV echoes the demand expressed by the UN Special Rapporteurs² on “launching independent investigations and ensuring accountability in all cases of excessive use of force by police” in the US, Because continued impunity of the Police staff who commit crimes leads to continuation of violence by the people of African descent.

ODVV notes the attention of the UN mandate holders to the report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent on United States on 2016 and their call on the US government to implement the recommendations of the Working Group. Also, ODVV urges the US administration to implement the recommendations offered by the Committee on Elimination of all forms of Racial discrimination.

¹ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25933&LangID=E>

² *ibid.*