



OIDEL

Interventions devant le Conseil des droits de l'homme

Septembre 2009

Sur le Programme mondial pour l'éducation en droits de l'homme

We welcome the High Commissioner's Report entitled the consultation on the focus of the second phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (A/HRC/12/36). We also support the initiative of the Platform for Human Rights Education and Training, comprised by six Member States (Costa Rica, Italy, Morocco, Philippines, Slovenia and Switzerland,) of preparing a draft resolution to determine the focus of the second phase.

As the High Commissioner's report clearly indicates, specific rights holders are in need of human rights education in order to be able to defend their rights. They include deprived and rural communities and all vulnerable or marginalised populations not only children and women but also migrant workers, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, the elderly, persons in detention, refugees and internally displaced persons as well as minorities.

Human rights education is also a sustainable approach to democracy particularly through human rights training programmes of officers of government, law enforcement and judicial systems, as well as health and social workers.

Mr. President, for the effective implementation of the World Programme through all consecutive phases, we call upon the Member States to take necessary action for the following.

- First of all, actions and programmes initiated during each phase must be maintained and developed. The shift from one phase to another is not meant to end the implementation of the former phase, but is aiming at establishing a sustainable means of the effective implementation of human rights education for all sectors and on various themes.
- Secondly, a national plan of action must be formulated in each country in order to set up concrete objectives and clearly identify indicators for evaluation, duty bearers and rights holders in each of the focused phases.
- Thirdly, in all consecutive phases, civil society actors including NGOs must play a vital role. The ultimate purpose of human rights education is the full realisation of human rights for all through building upon a universal culture of human rights. The national budgetary allocation for

human rights education must be ensured and this can never be over-emphasized. In the UN framework, we believe that establishing a voluntary fund for human rights education referred for consideration in several resolutions¹ of the former Commission on Human Rights would substantially assist civil society for the purpose.

To conclude, Mr. President, we would emphasize the importance of the national evaluation report of the first phase to be prepared and submitted by all Member States according to the Plan of Action of the first phase. It would indicate the extent of the fulfilled accountability by the respective Member State that we will closely monitor in this first vital process of the World Programme in shifting from the first phase to the second phase.

Sur le projet de Déclaration sur l'éducation aux droits de l'homme

We appreciate the current status of the work carried out by the Advisory Committee on preparation of a draft UN declaration on human rights education and training.

Regarding the preliminary draft prepared by the drafting group of the Advisory Committee, we would like to highlight the efforts of many civil society actors that have made valuable contributions by responding to the questionnaire circulated by the Advisory Committee, and by making presentations at the Seminar in Marrakech.

It has become clear that the declaration should adopt the rights-based approach to human rights education and training. All marginalised and vulnerable populations are in need of human rights education and training to defend their own rights. The aspect of gender equality and the role of women should also be included in the drafting process.

We appreciate that all stakeholders are invited to submit their comments on the preliminary draft for which the deadline is set to 25 September. Yet, we find it necessary that the following modalities be considered for all stakeholders throughout the drafting process.

- First, between the January 2010 session of the Advisory Committee and the March 2010 session of the Council when the first draft is expected to be ready, all stakeholders should be invited to provide comments on the first draft.
- Second, an interactive dialogue, specially focusing on the first draft of the declaration should be considered to be held at the March 2010 session of the Council.

Mr. President, To ensure that the draft declaration is formulated in truly meaningful terms, we will continue monitoring the entire drafting process and contribute comments and suggestions..

¹ E.g., Commission on Human Rights Resolution 2003/70 (April 2003) on the UN Decade for Human Rights Education.