



General Assembly

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Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Bangladesh, Cuba, Egypt*, Malaysia, Morocco*, Pakistan*: draft resolution

18/... Panel on the promotion of multiculturalism as a means of protecting human rights and combating xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the pledge made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, in which the Assembly emphasized the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind, and acknowledged the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world,

Welcoming the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, to take measures to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies, and looking forward to its effective implementation at all levels,

Reaffirming that the landmark importance of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in the pursuit of the universal promotion and protection of human rights is strengthened by its evolutionary character, which seeks to respond to contemporary challenges, including the preservation of the multicultural and tolerant ethos of international order and respect for religious and cultural diversity,

* Non-Member State of the Human Rights Council.

Bearing in mind that both the formal and societal rejection of multiculturalism has underpinned the rise in xenophobia, violence and discrimination, as demonstrated by recent events in various parts of the world,

1. *Calls upon* all States to acknowledge the existence of national, ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity, and to ensure that the rights of individuals to retain their culture and values should go hand in hand with enjoying full access to, participation in and adherence to constitutional principles and commonly shared values prevailing in society;

2. *Also calls upon* States to adopt policies that ensure non-discrimination and equitable access to social, political and economic rights, thus reducing pressures for social conflict based on disadvantage and inequality;

3. *Decides* to convene, within existing resources, at its twentieth session, a panel discussion on the promotion of multiculturalism as a means of protecting human rights and combating xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance;

4. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to liaise with relevant special procedures and treaty bodies, States and other stakeholders, including relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, with a view to ensuring their participation in the panel discussion;

5. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to prepare a report on the outcome of the panel discussion in the form of a summary.
