**Concept Note**

**CERD’s Day of General Discussion on a Proposed General Recommendation on**

**The Right to Health**

During its 106th session, the [Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cerd) (“CERD”) decided to hold a Day of General Discussion with a view to develop a General Recommendation on Racial Discrimination and the Right to Health under Article 5 (e)(iv) of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (“ICERD”). The Day of General Discussion will build upon the questions, circulated in May 2022, designed to consult the various stakeholders on the topic.

**Modalities and themes**

The Day of General Discussion will take place on **Tuesday, 23 August 2022,** during the Committee’s 107th session at the United Nations Office in Geneva, Palais des Nations, Conference Room XX, from 10:00 to 13:00 and 15:00 to 17:00.

The Day of General Discussion will be divided into three panels, each of which will aim to clarify the obligations related to health under the Convention.

The first panel will shed light on how individuals and groups protected under the Convention experience the impact of racial discrimination in practice.

The second panel will discuss the legal obligations with regard to the prohibition and elimination of racial discrimination and the right to health; and the applicable standards for preventing and mitigating the impact of racial discrimination on health.

The third panel will discuss how obligations on monitoring, accountability and redress for racial discrimination in health can be effectively implemented.

**Participation**

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination invites State parties to the ICERD, United Nations entities and specialized agencies, other United Nations and regional human rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions, civil society and grassroots organizations, academia, individual experts, and other relevant stakeholders (i.e., health-related entities or laboratories) to participate in the Day of General Discussion and to provide written and/or oral contributions.

Please contact the CERD secretariat at the following email address <[ohchr-cerd-gr37@un.org](mailto:ohchr-cerd-gr37@un.org)> to submit written contributions or to make an oral intervention during the Day of General Discussion.

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**Draft Agenda**

**Morning session 10:00-13:00**

**10:00-10:10 Opening remarks**

Ms. Tina Stavrinaki, Vice-chairperson CERD (5min)

Representative OHCHR (5min)

**10:10-11:30 Panel discussion: Racial discrimination in health as experienced by individuals and groups**

Moderator: **Mr. Bakari Diaby**, member of CERD

Panellists: **Mr. Iakovos Iakovidis**, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**Ms. Sanhita Ambast**, Economic and Social Justice Team on Right to Health, Amnesty International

**Mr. Rodey Kort**, Senior technical lead for human rights, World Health Organisation

10:10 – 10:40 Introduction of the discussion by panellists

10:40 – 11:20 Discussion

11:20 - 11:30 Final remarks of panellists

**11:30-13:00 Panel discussion: Legal obligations regarding the prohibition of racial discrimination and the right to health under international human rights law**

Moderator: **Ms. Gay McDougall**, member of CERD

Panellists: **Ms. Shara Duncan Villalobos**, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations Office at Geneva

**Prof. Shantha Kumari**, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics

**Ms. Christie J. Edwards**, Deputy Head, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

11:30 – 12:00 Introduction of the discussion by panellists

12:00 – 12:50 Discussion

12:50 – 13:00 Final remarks panellists

**13:00-15:00 Lunch break**

**Afternoon session 15:00-17:00 (Hybrid)**

**15:00-16:40 Panel discussion: Monitoring, accountability and redress for racial discrimination in the right to health**

Moderator: **Ms. Chinsung Chung,** Vice-chairperson of CERD

Panellists: **Mr. Michael Windfuhr**, Deputy Director of the German Institute for Human Rights and Vice-Chair of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Ms. Paola Salwan Daher**, Associate Director of Global Advocacy of Centre for Reproductive Rights

**Mr. Maximiliano Nitto,** Chief Section on Health, Social Action, Education and Culture, Defensoría del Pueblo de la Nación Argentina

**Ms. Rossalina Latcheva**, Head of anti-racism and non-discrimination sector, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

15:00 – 15:40 Introduction of the discussion by panellists

15:40 – 16:30 Discussion

16:30 – 16:45 Final remarks panellists

**16:45-17:00 Wrap-up of discussions and closing remarks - Ms. Tina Stavrinaki**