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## Input for the preparation of the report of the UN Secretary-General pursuant to the UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/78/234 “A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”

Excellencies, friends, brothers and sisters of the world,

When Her Excellency Marie Robinson was High Commissioner I was 19. She believed in Youth and in me. Together we put together the first ever International Youth Summit Against Racism to be accredited by the UN. These were busy times as it took place in Durban parallel to the conference proper of the WCAR, back in 2001. Through our good work, we gave the closing speech of the plenary sessions at the WCAR.

But in that speech there was an agreement. That the Historical work of young people at that conference would not be swept aside in the annals of History. We demanded a living relationship. One, where young people and Youth Organizations would play an important role in the mechanisms of the OHCHR.

Youth Against Racism ([www.youthagainstracim.com](http://www.youthagainstracim.com)) has been working with the OHCHR since Durban. At various levels and on various dossiers. However one subject that has evaded us has been the follow-up to the aforementioned summit. It is why we are contributing today. The comprehensive implementation of and follow up to the DDPA cannot be complete without follow-up mechanisms for the aforementioned summit and youth organizations in general.

Besides that I should say that YAR’s main concern right now is with Social Media Algorithms that reinforce racist biases. Besides the gross objectification of women and the body in general that takes place on social media, there is an underlying line of code that clearly hones in on users’ racialised view of other users.

Thank you.

Saeed Fotohi Nia

Founder and President

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