

**QUESTIONNAIRE TO MEMBER STATES PREPARED BY THE
OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, PURSUANT TO DECISION PC.1/10 OF
THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE DURBAN REVIEW
CONFERENCE AT ITS FIRST SESSION (A/62/375)**

ANSWERS OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Core questions

Question 1: Can you assess the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in your country?

On the basis of the DDPA Liechtenstein implemented several measures and programs in the framework of a National Action Plan against Racism, concentrating on areas that have been identified as requiring improvement by international and regional expert bodies such as the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Commission against Racism and Intolerance of the Council of Europe. Improvreigners and migrants as well as in structural

ng body charged with questions of discrimination). On some
dy under way, e.g. in respect of the further the prevention and
encies, the gathering and disaggregation of official statistics on
e implementation of the DDPA in combination with the above-
ue with international and European expert bodies has been very
ed-up further.

_____ Can you assess contemporary manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as well as initiatives in this regard with a view to eliminating them in your country?

Manifestations of racism, racial discriminati

Question 5: What are the steps taken by your Government to ratify and/or implement the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and give proper consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination?

Liechtenstein ratified the Convention in 2000 and provided to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination three country reports without delay. The recommendations of the Committee are being implemented in the framework of the National Action Plan against Racism, taking into account the CERD-follow-up mechanisms as well as obligations under other international and regi

Annex

Measures of prevention, education and protection aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at the national level

1. What measures have been taken to prohibit racial discrimination in all its forms and to

Equal rights to freedom of religion and belief is guaranteed in article 37 of the Constitution. A

pension coverage abroad. The benefits of Old Age and Survivors' Insurance, Disability Insurance, and occupational pension plans are also paid out if the insured party's residence is

interpretation with regard to the public display of racist paraphernalia is under examination. In 2004, Liechtenstein accepted the individual complaints procedure defined in article 14 ICERD. In 2005 the promotion of integration of foreigners was codified in the revision of the Ordinance on the Movement of Persons (PVO). In 2005 the Government established the Office of Equal Opportunity aiming at promoting equal opportunity for all in Liechtenstein throughout all spheres of society. Several measures in this regard have been taken, inter alia a Working Committee on Integration² consisting of members of public administration as well as NGO's and foreigners' associations has been set up. In 2007 the Government adopted a position paper on Integration Policy setting forth the principle of equal opportunity for all inhabitants irrespective of their national, ethnic or social origin, their language, religion or color.

Equal participation in political, economic, social and cultural decision-making

3. Please indicate measures taken to ensure that your Government's political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within your society and improve democratic institutions so that they are fully participatory.

Political participation is bound to the Liechtenstein citizenship, irrespective of the ethnic origin of a person. The Liechtenstein national administration, including the justice administration, has an international composition - officials mainly come from Liechtenstein, Switzerland, and Austria: The judges of the Constitutional Court (StGH) are composed of six Liechtenstein citizens, two Austrian citizens, and two Swiss citizens. The Administrative Court (VGH) consists of nine Liechtenstein citizens and one Austrian citizen. The Court of Justice is composed of seven Liechtenstein citizens, five Austrian citizens, and two Swiss citizens. The Court of Appeal (OG) consists of 21 Liechtenstein citizens, six Austrian

mandate includes in particular issues of racial discrimination. The Office works towards centralizing all issues of discrimination and is mandated to lodge complaints against actions taken or omitted by the local and central authorities. While in financial terms it is not independent from the Government, it enjoys a central coordinating role within the national administration and offers direct and uncomplicated access to its services as well as nationwide networking and coverage.

Policies, practices and strategies

Action-oriented policies and action plans, including affirmative action to ensure non-discrimination

5. Has your Government established and/or implemented a national action plan to promote diversity, equality, equity, social justice, equality of opportunity and the participation of all? Please provide the High Commissioner for Human Rights with such action plan and other relevant materials on the measures undertaken in order to implement the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action or any other action considered.

The five-year National Action Plan (NAP) against Racism was approved by the Government in 2003 and implemented by a especially created Working Group against Racism, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia. It places its focus on prevention mainly through awareness raising and promoting integration of persons with foreign origin. Basic groundwork with regard to gathering and evaluating statistical data, fact finding reports and research projects are also part of the NAP. NAP-activities are being implemented on the basis of a rolling planning laid down in annual reports. The five-year mandate of the special Working Group implementing NAP ended in 2007. Its tasks were transferred to the regular mandate of the standing national Office of Equal Opportunity guaranteeing a long-term follow-up of the issues.

6. Has your Government established national programmes, including affirmative or positive measures, to promote equal access of individuals and groups of individuals who are or may be victims of racial discrimination to social services, employment, housing, education, health care, etc.?

See answer 10.

7. Has your Government adopted or strengthened national programmes for eradicating poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion and economic disparities taking

By establishing one central contact point for all forms of discrimination within the public

Education and awareness-raising

11. Please indicate ways your Government has taken to increase the level of awareness about the scourges of racism and promote the values of acceptance, tolerance and cultural diversity. In this connection, how effective are the measures, in the fields of teaching, anti-racism education, including programmes addressed to young people, culture, information, media campaigns and sports which have been undertaken to combat racism, racial

Over the course of 2003, lectures and discussions on the respect for human rights and the prevention of racial discrimination were held in the Office of Social Affairs and the Criminal Police. The Conference of Office Directors and the Conference of School Directors were briefed on the National Action Plan against Racism and asked for their cooperation. In 2004 and 2005, an awareness-raising event on racism was initiated and co-funded for the apprentices of the National Administration with an expert in intercultural conflict-resolution. In the same years two seminars were organized and co-funded within the National

(a) What are the considerations which may have prevented its ratification or its accession to the instruments?

(b) What steps have been taken or are being planned with a view to ratification of or accession to the instruments?

15. If your country has not yet made the declaration under article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, please indicate what are the considerations which may have prevented making the declaration.

Liechtenstein has ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in 2000. In 2004, Liechtenstein made the declaration under article 14.

Strengthen partnerships with civil society

16. What steps have been taken to strengthen cooperation and develop partnerships with non-governmental organizations and all other civil society actors to harness their experience and expertise combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance?

There is a close cooperation between governmental t mnaani.8(n1()-1.8(n1(-3.1(.000s)6.3(h).4(we.8(as-5

and institutions. All contributions, including those introducing proposals for amendment of the draft, are being considered by the Government. Based on the results of the consultation procedure the Government intends to submit the bill to Parliament in Summer 2008.

Refugee, asylum-seekers and displaced persons

25. What measures has your Government taken to comply with their obligations under international human rights, refugees and humanitarian law relating to refugee, asylum-seekers and displaced persons?

Liechtenstein is party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol of 1967 and has signed the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. The revision of the current Asylum Act (1998), aiming at the improvement of legal certainty, the clarification of competences and processes as well as definitions, is planned to be submitted to parliament by spring 2009. The revision is in line with relevant international humanitarian law, with EU-standards and takes into account the positions of UNHCR. The Revision of the Act on Acquirement and Loss of Citizenship, taking into account the concerns of stateless persons is planned to be discussed by Parliament in Summer 2007.

Other victims

26. What steps have been taken to guarantee the rights of persons belonging to minorities, including Roma/Gypsy/Sinti, to enjoy their own culture, to profess or practise their own religion, to use their own language and to participate effectively in7(a)2.9/e te3h3(i)6.(r o(f)-2.acj.3(ow)r10

