

April 14, 2008

Daleep Mukarji
Christian Aid
35 Lower Marsh
London SE1 7RL

Dear Mr. Mukarji,

The United Nation's plan to hold the Durban Review Conference in 2009 has created a great deal of opposition. The debate on this event is taking place in the shadow of the 2001 Conference on Racism, which was characterized by the delegitimization of Israel, particularly in the NGO Forum. Beyond the virulent anti-Semitism, this behavior prevented discussion of real discrimination and human rights violations in other parts of the world.

As part of its mandate to analyze the behavior of NGOs, [NGO Monitor](#) is documenting the policies of NGOs with ECOSOC Consultative Status regarding their policies with respect to the 2009 Review conference. A growing number of NGOs have signed the joint statement issued by Magenta and the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, outlining core principles related participation at the Durban Review Conference. This text states that, "the global effort to eradicate racism cannot be advanced by branding whole peoples with a stigma of ultimate evil, fomenting hateful stereotyping in the name of human rights". (The text of the document can be found at this website [[here](#)], and is attached as a PDF file.)

On this basis, we would appreciate if you could send us information on Christian Aid policy regarding the Durban 2009 Review Conference. In particular, our questions include:

To what degree was Christian Aid involved in the NGO Forum of the 2001 conference, and what conclusions have been drawn from this experience?

If the 2009 Durban Review Conference includes an NGO Forum, would Christian Aid expect to participate? If so, within which guidelines and principles, if any?

Has Christian Aid considered adopting the Magenta/Jacob Blaustein statement on the Durban Review Conference, and if so, with what conclusions?

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue with you further, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Daniel Fink
Deputy Director of Government Affairs
NGO Monitor
+ 972 2 566 1020
daniel.fink@ngo-monitor.org

Cc: Prof. Gerald Steinberg, Executive Director, NGO Monitor