



Rally Against Racism

Support UN World Conference Against Racism

April 3, 2009 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Federal Building - E. 9th St. Cleveland

Lambros Federal Building - Youngstown

Federal Building - Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh

Sign the Pledge Against Racism! Leading Voices from concerned communities will speak.

Ohio & Pennsylvania Committees to Support WCAR, AACCESS-Ohio, Congregation St. Joseph Justice Committee Cleveland, Coalition for Peace In The Middle East, Council On American Islamic Relations Cleveland, Immigrant Support Network, AACCY, Sociology Club - Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Ohio Valley PEACE, St. Paul's Community Church UCC Cleveland, Pittsburgh Palestine Solidarity Committee



ISSUE BRIEF - World Conference Against Racism

- 1) The World Conference Against Racism began in 2001 in Durban, South Africa. On April 20, 2009 in Geneva Switzerland, delegates from all over the world begin the Review Committee for the World Conference Against Racism. This conference is the culmination of eight years of work, under U.N. mandate to define, plan & act to fight the growing scourge of racism.
- 2) In 2001 the Bush Administration joined the state of Israel as the only two countries in the world who boycotted the World Conference Against Racism.
- 3) Since the election of President Barak Obama, the USA has tentatively re-joined the World Conference Against Racism. But there is political resistance seeking to block the United States' participation in the World Conference Against Racism.
- 4) The Israel lobby, has mounted a campaign to pressure the USA and other world governments to boycott the World Conference Against Racism, by calling it an "anti-Semitic hate-fest" because six paragraphs mentions Israel's oppressive treatment of Palestinians, amongst hundreds of pages of findings on racism in the world.
- 5) Boycotting the World Conference Against Racism sends a powerful message to the world that racism is judged by a double standard, one set of rules for the wealthy and powerful and another rule the poor. African Americans, Hispanic Americans, women, indigenous people, LGBTI and religious or cultural minorities, it is in your community's vital interest to counter this boycott and press the United States to be a full participant in the World Conference Against Racism.
- 6) **President Obama wants to fight racism but he needs our help.** Now is the time for the voices of tolerance, equality, and human rights to speak up and be heard. Now is the time for YOU to make some noise. The USA must fully participate in the World Conference Against Racism. Time is running out, the week of April 20th is the final review.