

RESOLUTION
12th CRO Summit, Queen's Park, Barbados

**CARIBBEAN GOVERNMENTS' AND PEOPLES' INVOLVEMENT IN THE UN WCAR
REVIEW, GENEVA – APRIL 20-24, 2009**

We the members and affiliates of The Caribbean Rastafari Organisation (CRO), gathered for its 12th Summit in Barbados on December 4-8, 2008, call on Caribbean Governments and People to prioritize implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as agreed by 168 Member Countries of the United Nations (UN).

Whereas the UN Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and other Related Forms of Intolerance (WCAR) held in Durban in 2001, acknowledged the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (TAST) as a crime against humanity and will be reviewed in Geneva in April 2009

And Whereas the CRO has been lobbying members of the Caribbean Community and African Union who are also Members of the United Nations, to implement the special measures contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (POA), with special interest in the **“Facilitation of welcomed return and resettlement of the descendants of enslaved Africans;”**

And Whereas Section IV of the Durban PoA recommends “provision of effective remedies, recourse, redress, and other measures at the national, regional and international levels”;

And Whereas Articles 157 of Section IV of the Durban (POA) recognizes the efforts and challenges of developing countries to address poverty and underdevelopment and call for additional financial resources

And Whereas Article 158 of the said section links “historical injustices” with “the need to develop programmes for the social and economic development of these societies and the Diaspora, within the framework of a new partnership based on the spirit of solidarity and mutual respect,

Be it resolved that the Caribbean Rastafari Organisation strongly encourages governments of the CARICOM to:

- (i) urgently review progress on the Durban POA at the national level and
- (ii) enable Rastafari representation on the delegations of government and/or civil society organizations at the UN WCAR Review in Geneva in April 2009.
- (iii) engage with the Rastafari community in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in the way forward.

9th December 2008