

NORWAY , UESTJORN HEINES

- Thanks to Ambassador Najat Al-Hajjaji, Ambassador Martabit and the Deputy High Commissioner for introducing their reports.
- Let me start by congratulating Ambassador Juan Martabit for his excellent work as chair of the IGWG on the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action. Under his able leadership, the WG has already made important progress, and we believe it can contribute substantially to the preparatory process for the Durban Review Conference.
- Let me also thank the chairperson of the prep.com., Ambassador Najat Al-Hajjaji for her leadership in the Durban Prep Com
- In the view of my delegation it was due to the excellent work of the chairperson as well as the facilitators, that we during the organisational session were able to reach concrete, realistic and constructive decisions by consensus.
- Norway remains fully committed to the fight against racism and intolerance, as well as to the follow up of the decisions made in Durban. We will therefore continue to participate actively in the preparations for the review conference, i.a. through our membership in the bureau.
- We need a common approach to effectively fight against racism and intolerance. The Durban review process should therefore be agreed by consensus and carried out as a joint effort by the international community.
- The Durban review process has created high expectations. It is our joint responsibility to meet these expectations through innovative approaches and a consensual and transparent process. We look forward to continue to contribute in this process.