

CONCEPT NOTE

In 2022, UNOG Director-General, Ms. Tatiana Valovaya made a commitment to address the issue of racism and racial discrimination, following the reports of staff experiencing various forms of racial discrimination at the workplace. A UNOG Working Group on Addressing Racism in the Workplace was established, and Ms. Marie Diur was appointed Chair of the Working Group and anti-racism advocate.

One of the current priorities of the UNOG Director-General is to fight against racism and racial discrimination at the workplace through a comprehensive follow-up to the Secretary-General's [Strategic Action Plan on Addressing Racism and Promoting Dignity for All in the UN Secretariat](#).

Numerous consultations with staff strongly indicated the importance of creating a safe and equitable working environment for all personnel. With that objective in mind, the Working Group developed a set of targeted recommendations for the full implementation of the Strategic Action Plan at UN Geneva, which were endorsed by the UNOG Director-General in April 2023.

One of the recommendations proposed establishing a Geneva Alliance against Racism. The Alliance would be led by the Heads of Geneva-based entities and supported by the UN Working Group on racism. It would aim to share good practices across the organizations to address racism and racial discrimination at the workplace and to coordinate the ongoing activities or planned initiatives to maximize the desirable impact.

The Alliance will be officially launched during its first meeting on Thursday, 5 October 2023 at the Palais des Nations, in Room H-207 from 3 to 4.30 p.m. during which the Heads of Geneva-based entities will adopt and sign a Declaration to affirm their commitment to the objectives of the Alliance. Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General and Ms. Mojankunyane Gumbi, Special Adviser for Addressing Racism in the Workplace will take part as keynote speakers.

The Alliance will be supported by UNOG Working Group on Addressing Racism in the Workplace and the anti-racism advocate.