**FORUM:** Special Conference

**QUESTION:** Measures to Combat the Rise of anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) hate crimes during the COVID-19 pandemic

**SUBMITTER:** United States of America

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** ASEAN, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Norway, Australia, Portugal, Sweden, Canada, Denmark, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Thailand,

THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE,

*Deeply alarmed* by the increase in hate crimes and violence against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders following the spread of COVID-19 from its geographical location of origin,

*Recognizing* that xenophobic actions have not been limited to the United States of America alone but also in the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Greece, France, Germany, and others,

*Establishing* an abbreviation for “Asian American and Pacific Islander” as AAPI,

*Recalling* the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration to stress the efforts that have been made for the elimination of all racism, discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance,

*Recalling* the UN resolution A/75/237, entitled “A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”, where Member States committed to eliminating racism, discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance,

*Recalling* the UN resolution A/76/1, entitled “United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance”, where Member States recall the importance of eliminating racist discrimination through the International Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and where Member States recognize the progress that has been made in the fight against racism, discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance,

*Recognizing* the importance of social media companies in combating the rise of AAPI hate,

1. Encourages any countries with an Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) population greater than 2% to partake in the following clauses of this resolution;
2. Urges Member States to work with its legislative branch and revise their current legal framework regarding hate crimes, AAPI in particular, through means such as but not limited to:
	1. undergoing a critical review of their current legal framework in collaboration with a specialized NGO, such as Amnesty International, with the intentions of improving laws and regulations against racial discrimination,
	2. the revising of Member State’s crime reporting program to improve the accuracy of data regarding hate crimes and to have a more complete understanding of the national problem of hate crimes, AAPI in particular, and will, therefore:
		1. establish a standardized system for the collection, analysis, and reporting of incidents,
		2. collect and analyze the information provided to develop policies regarding the problem mentioned above,
		3. create yearly reports, published on the first day of each year, with the information collected and analyzed,
	3. using the report system mentioned in the sub-clause above, reports must include a qualitative analysis of the relationship between:
		1. the number of hate crimes reported by law enforcement agencies or other organizations,
		2. the nature of activities of law enforcement agencies in response to hate crimes,
		3. hate crime reports rates and conviction rates,
	4. recognizing the various forms of AAPI hate, and determining which laws these violate for the revision of their repercussions, such as but not limited to:
		1. verbal harassment,
		2. physical assault,
		3. civil rights violations, including workplace discrimination, being barred from transportation and refusal of being served,
		4. online harassment,
	5. collaborating with local communities of AAPI where there has been an increase of discrimination, from statistics reviewed above to:
		1. form regulations from personal experiences,
		2. improve the safety and security of these communities,
	6. increasing methods of security in areas with communities of AAPI, with collaboration from the AAPI communities, such as:
		1. increasing the lighting in areas mentioned,
		2. establishing community watches,
		3. increasing security cameras,
	7. investigating the origin of the AAPI hate to see if there is any connection to extremist or terrorist groups,
	8. considering the legal frameworks in member states that have low AAPI hate;
3. Calls for all Member States to revise and if necessary increase methods of reporting AAPI hate crimes through methods such as:
	1. the creation of national hate crime hotlines which will help and guide individuals and ensure that it:
		1. will redirect callers to law enforcement or local support services depending on the gravity of the situation,
		2. will not disclose any personal information of the individual to any agency, organization, or any other person or entity without the consent of the individual to protect the safety and privacy of the individual,
		3. must be operated staff members who have been trained and are knowledgeable about the local hate crime laws and law enforcement resources,
		4. is accessible to individuals who have limited proficiency in the national language of the Member State and to individuals with disabilities,
	2. having mandatory law enforcement training on AAPI violence to provide safe and comfortable environments when victims or witnesses report cases in person at local law enforcement stations,
	3. the creation of national online services, such as websites, which allows individuals to report cases of online AAPI hate and attach a direct link for easier repercussions for offenders using “Stop AAPI hate” organization in the United States as a model for future government-led, community-based organizations throughout the world;
4. Encourages all Member States to reduce the spread of misinformation regarding Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and their relation to the COVID-19 pandemic through methods such as but not limited to:
	1. having Member States’ governmental bodies form a team of professionals tasked with the suppression of the spread of misinformation and untrue myths, with a focus on but not limited to prevalent social media platforms and other news platforms, by disseminating facts and accurate information through campaigns:
		1. on social media platforms,
		2. in newspapers,
		3. on television commercials,
		4. and other methods of communication;
	2. establishing policies that specify how organizations should promote accurate information within themselves by posting articles on company communications, such as newsletters and emails,
	3. collaborating with journalists and other prevalent social media figures to disseminate accurate and truthful information,
	4. having interviews with Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on platforms, such as radio stations and the national broadcasting television channels, about the gravity of the situation and the reality of what is happening;
5. Calls for a UN program, United Nations Internet Safety Programme (UNISP), to be formed in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and major social media companies to work together to combat racism (AAPI racism in particular), discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on social media platforms and websites, but would not limit ones freedom of expression, by:
	1. creating a list of derogatory terms that may be used in hateful messages when inciting racism, discrimination, or xenophobia that would constantly be updated,
	2. encouraging social media companies to remove features that allow users to be anonymous to hinder the spread of racist, discriminatory and xenophobic messages;
6. Strongly urges Member States to organize a funding program, through methods such as donations and taxation, to fund support programs, with collaboration from Amnesty International or other appropriate NGOs, for victims of AAPI hate where they will receive assistance:
	1. in medical bills, depending on the economic standing of the individual receiving aid and the expenses of the medical bill, including both:
		1. treatments for physical injuries deriving from physical abuse,
		2. treatments, such as therapy, after having been victims of verbal abuse and physical abuse if the victims so choose, however it should be highly encouraged,
	2. with the job search process, when assistance is requested, if the individual is unemployed and lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic or due to discrimination,
	3. in legal matters to achieve justice when facing their offenders;
7. Urges the formation of an educational unit, in collaboration with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to combat AAPI hate crimes that discuss topics such as, but not limited to:
	1. Asian cultural impacts on the country,
	2. Differentiation between Chinese and other AAPI nationalities,
	3. Asian contributions to globalization and the world economy,
	4. The origin of COVID-19;
8. Calls upon Member States to ensure that governmental organizations, government officials, and state parties should be held accountable for actions in promoting AAPI hate and should face legal actions depending on the government's judicial system.