

**Nord-Sud XXI statement on Item 6  
UPR of South Africa**

Nord-Sud XXI welcomes the UPR Report on South Africa.

Nord-Sud XXI has a longstanding and strong appreciation for the people of South Africa. We assisted their struggle for self-determination and the end of apartheid had as our honorary President for a short time before he became President of South Africa, His Excellency Nelson Mandela.

Nord-Sud XXI recognizes that South Africa is still a State emerging from a long and arduous past and in this spirit we welcome the committed efforts of the government to ensure respect for the social, economic, political and civil human rights of its people.

As its laudable efforts to overcome past discrimination indicate, South Africa has been a beacon in the fight against racial discrimination. We urge it to continue to be so, by leading a renewed effort to encourage attention, support and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action that was proudly adopted by the consensus of the international community in Durban, South Africa, more than ten years ago. While some would like to belittle this document, we urge South Africa to champion it and to encourage the office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which is of course led by a South African activist who struggled against apartheid, to be a leading force in this effort.

Finally, Nord-Sud XXI urges the government of South Africa to ensure the legacy that inspired so many activists to work to rid the world of racial discrimination and other associated forms of discrimination, by enhancing its policies to ensure equal social and economic development for all in South Africa. In a modern South Africa obtuse income and wealth inequalities have no place and constitute a threat to human rights for all South Africans.