



Headquarters: OIJ International Youth Organization

- Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía -

Senate of Spain-

PREAMBLE

We gathered in Madrid, on the occasion of the **II World Conference AFROMADRID 2025** in the context of the Second International Decade of People of African Descent (2025-2034) and **in line with the concept note calling for the Conference, as well as as the results of the interventions, Presentations and discussions.**

And, welcoming the participation of institutional, religious, governmental, political, academic, diplomatic and business delegations,

We make the following statement.

1. CONSIDERING:

That the world is currently going through a period of changes and transformations such as climate change, authoritarianism and a great crisis of humanity that puts at risk the future of universal society.

That the crisis of humanity is also expressed in the gradual dismantling of the multicultural and multilateral system of responsible concertation between States to achieve peace in society based on equality, equity and justice.

That African descent is a concept that embraces the entire African diaspora and its descendants, with an ancient history, crossed by processes of enslavement and colonialism and which has given great contributions to the world in sublime values such as freedom, equality, solidarity, the *Ubuntu*, and a vision of human development based on balance with nature, its resources and the common good of humanity.

That at present the population of African descent in the Americas is more than 230 million, according to censuses. Other populations descended from African migrations are mainly in Europe 14.2 million (1.64% of the European population), in Spain alone we are 1.8 million (3.8% of the population) and in other parts of the world.

That, starting from the enslavement and transatlantic trafficking of African persons, which constituted crimes against humanity imprescriptible, Afro-descendants in any part of the world still suffer from structural and systemic racism, which undermines their human dignity and their right to development.

That this enslavement used physical, moral and spiritual violence to create the economic system that generated the wealth of the West at the expense of the brutal exploitation of human beings. Colonialism was a systematic extraction of resources, primitive accumulation of capital, formation of the foundations of global capitalism, and also cultural domination.

That hate crimes cannot be understood as isolated acts, but rather as the result of a social context where racist discourse finds room for impunity.

That the heritage of resistance and resilience of African and Afro-descendant peoples guides the defense of the inherent dignity of the human being, positioning against any situation that could threaten, violate or violate life in dignity.

That reparative justice must include ethical, historical, material, symbolic, cultural, educational and spiritual dimensions, recognizing that reparation not only compensates for the harm but also reconstructs dignity, the knowledge and history of peoples and people of African descent. International cooperation has an ethical and political responsibility to contribute to reparations and racial equality.

That women of African descent are the foundation of the work that sustains the world; pillars of resistance, cultural transmission and social justice.

That ancestral knowledge, African spirituality and Afro-descendant cultural and religious expressions are living heritage of humanity and forms of rooted cultural and spiritual resistance.

That young people of African descent are active subjects of change and protagonists in the construction of a more just and inclusive shared present and future.

That children of African descent throughout the world are victims of extreme poverty, school dropout, police violence, early incarceration and institutionalization in shelters.

That a pan-African vision is essential to articulate a new architecture of inter-State relations based fundamentally on values and multiculturalism.

That education is an essential tool for cognitive, ethical and historical repair, in so far as it is based on decolonized, reconstructed and inclusive knowledge.

2. RECOGNIZING that:

The Programme of Action of the Third World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban 2001).

Resolution 62/122 of 17/12/2007; United Nations Resolutions 63/5, 20/10/2008, and 64/15 of 16/11/2009 concerning the permanent memorial and remembrance of the victims of slavery and transatlantic trafficking in enslaved persons.

Resolution 64/169 declaring 2011 the International Year for People of African Descent, the Declaration and Plan of Action of the First World Summit (La Ceiba, Honduras, 2011), the First World Summit of the African Diaspora, South Africa (2012), the Declaration at the XXII Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, Cádiz (2012) proclaiming the Decade of Afro-American Descent 2013-23, gave impetus to the proclamation of the **First International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024)** resolution A/66/460 of the United Nations, with the first event of the First World Conference AFROMADRID 2015

The Human Rights Council adopted the resolution *"Promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and people of African descent against excessive use of force and other violations of human rights by law enforcement officials"* (19/06/2020). It is also decided to proclaim 31 August as the International Day of People of African Descent (A/res/75/170).

The General Assembly of the United Nations (AG 75/314, August 2021) launched the Permanent Forum on Afro-Descendants as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council.

The countries of the 3rd CELAC - European Union Summit (2023), proposed language to articulate the right to *historical reparation* through the following text: *"Recognize and deeply deplore the untold suffering inflicted on millions of men, women and children as a result of the transatlantic trade in African slaves, and recognize the need to take appropriate measures to restore the dignity of the victims, including reparations and compensation to try to heal our collective memory"*.

The CARICOM 10-Point Reparation Plan, designed by the Reparations Commission, seeks to address the historical sequelae of slavery and colonialism in the Caribbean, promoting reconciliation and sustainable development.

The **Second International Decade of People of African Descent (2025-2034)** was proclaimed on 17 December 2024.

3. RESOLVES AND RECOMMENDS.

Denounce to the world the advance of racist and xenophobic ideologies that are endangering the stability of humanity.

Denounce the lack of global commitment to climate change.

Condemn the anti-democratic and authoritarian practices of many governments, which undermine the rule of law and social welfare and inclusive democracy.

Declare that structural and systemic racism, hate crimes, colonialism and neo-colonialism constitute serious violations of human rights.

Urge States to recognize transatlantic trafficking, the enslavement of African people, colonialism and neo-colonialism as crimes against humanity and make concrete and effective reparation commitments.

Renew our commitment to the adoption of an International Declaration on the Protection, Promotion and Full Respect of the Human Rights of People of African Descent, by recognizing them as peoples of African descent, as proposed by CERD (Council for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination).

Support the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent and ensure its strengthening and adequate funding.

Propose that Spain and EU countries host an annual meeting of the Permanent Forum, create the State Council of Afro-descendants, as well as the figure of the Ambassador or Delegate in Special Mission for African Diaspora issues.

Urge the French State to honour its historic commitment of reparations to Haiti, urging governments and multilateral agencies to implement a comprehensive development plan for Haiti.

Urge the international agencies to implement the Goals of the Fourth Decade for the Abolition of Colonialism (2021-2030).

Recommend compulsory training in human rights and non-discrimination for public officials, strengthening ethnic-racial statistical systems and affirmative action in education, employment and political representation, with a gender and youth/child perspective.

Strongly support the establishment of the Multilateral-Bilateral Development Fund for People of African Descent, as an international financial instrument for restorative justice, to receive contributions from state and non-state (private) actors subject to the reparations mechanism. The Fund should operate under principles of sustainability, participation, transparency and accountability.

Push for the convening of the IV World Conference against Racism in 2030.

Support Brazil's proposal to include SDG 18: Racial equality and justice for people of African descent, in the 2030 Agenda

Support initiatives of Reparation and Racial Justice in the Agenda 2063, Pan-Africanism in public policies and extension of citizenship to Afro-descendants of the AU diaspora.

Promote inclusive education with a gender, women, youth and sustainable development perspective.

Urge all Governments to collect valid and reliable ethnic-racial statistics that include people of African descent.

To the Government of Spain: that it promote the adoption of the Comprehensive Law against Racism and the Comprehensive Law for the Care and Protection of the Rights of Victims of Hate Crimes, including those of Racial Hatred.

International agencies: integrate the Afro-descendant perspective in their programmes and budgets, and prioritize South-South and triangular cooperation. Include in their teams people of African descent with the necessary qualifications.

To Civil Society of African Descent: strengthening transnational networks, political advocacy and participation in multilateral spaces; and assume a central role in social transformation.

Request UNESCO and governments to take measures to safeguard the material and intangible cultural heritage of African descent;

Establishment of an independent expert group on religious intolerance within the OAS, the UN and the EU.

That Spain and the European Union promote the creation of an Afro-Euro-American political space, both at government level and, in parallel, of civil society.

We urge governments to comply with the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration so that the Mediterranean Sea and other areas will no longer be graveyards for young people of African descent.

Urge the Spanish Government to support the Popular Legislative Initiative for the

Regularization of Immigrants, bringing before the EU the initiatives necessary for such regularization to have normative effect.

Create an Afro-descendant Youth Council of Spain to ensure their presence in decision-making processes.

Pursuant to the foregoing, we approve this "**Declaration of the II AFROMADRID Conference**" in Madrid, Spain, on October 16, 2025, being known as "**AFROMADRID Declaration 2025**".

DRAFTING COMMITTEE:

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