

The Pan-African Coalition on



<https://www.un.org/WCAR/durban.pdf>

and

The Europe Region Civil Society Coalition for the Implementation of the



<https://undocs.org/A/RES/68/237>

Joint Position Statement

On the UNGA Political Declaration aimed at mobilizing political will at the national, regional and international levels for the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and its follow-up processes. This includes “Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent.

<https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/237>

SEPTEMBER 15th 2021

Uniting

The fifteenth day of September 2021

We,

The Pan-African Coalition on Durban+20; the European region Civil Society Coalition for the implementation of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent; Participating representatives of Pan-Africanists and People of African Descent organisations, together with civil society, friends and people of goodwill,

Taking note of the draft Political Declaration dated September 10th for the adoption of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly in perspective of the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Our statement is made on behalf of global African People who share the residual effects and abhorrent impact of current and historical trauma by institutionalized racist systems, economic marginalization, and a planned underdevelopment.

1.We acknowledge and Jointly respect

The subsequent outcomes inspired by the:

- Durban Declaration and Program of Action 2001 (DDPA) and affiliated resolutions:
 - Outcome Document of the Durban Review 2009,
 - High Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly in 2011 to commemorate the tenth year anniversary of the adoption of the DDPA,
 - UN International Decade for People of African Descent (2015 to 2024) and the Programme of Activities,
- UN Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030,
- African Union African Diaspora 6th Declaration 2012,
- European Union Parliament Resolutions on People of African Descent 2019 and 2020

as well those resolutions that were driven exclusively by Civil Society Pan-African initiatives.

2.We reaffirm

Our commitment and determination to uphold, defend and promote the fully implementation of the DDPA which is the strongest universal

document of the United Nations' programs to realize the rights of all victims of racism including Afrophobia, racial discrimination, and reparatory, restorative and climate justice.

Our position is crystal clear, we will not accept any denial of the DDPA in the name of People of African Descent neither shall we settle for anything less than our birth right and our human rights.

3. We salute

All those who campaigned for the holding of the 3rd World Conference against Racism (WCAR) by ensuring the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action through a broad-based democratic process. Without the DDPA we would not have been as close as we are today in having a global platform positioned to recognize the unfulfilled rights of Africans and People of African Descent at the United Nations and global society.

The establishment of the Durban follow up mechanisms at the UN in 2002 including, in particular, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent have made important contributions to implementing the Durban WCAR agenda.

4. We welcome

and stress the importance of paragraph 1. of the Political Declaration of the UN high level meeting on September 22, 2021 whereby the General Assembly will state that: the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted in 2001 and the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, adopted in 2009, as well as the Political Declaration of the tenth years anniversary of its adoption, provide a comprehensive United Nations framework and solid foundation for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance commitment to their full and effective implementation has been reaffirmed;

We do think however that a special paragraph should be devoted to 'Reparations' as it is already mentioned in the DDPA.

5. We condemn

The structurally persistent negative campaign to defame and undermine the DDPA and its implementation as the DDPA in no way shows that it proclaims anti-Semitism. In fact the DDPA expresses concern at the increase in anti-Semitism and encourages all nation states to take effective measures to counter anti-Semitism.

We realize that the real reason of the consistent demonization of the DDPA by the Major Western Countries lies in its historic declaration that the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery were Crimes against Humanity for which reparations are due the descendants of the victims. They deny the reality that these crimes are the basis for their own economic development and current position in the world. The campaign to “disappear the DDPA” is tied to their refusal to provide reparations.

Unfortunately the campaign to reject and undermine the DDPA has been successful largely because the United Nations has never made a recognizable and impactful effort to inform about the clarity of the DDPA and advocate for its full implementation despite many resolutions.

We strongly deplore the consistent non-implementation of main UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council resolutions over the past 20 years.

On 31st of December 2020 the UN General Assembly allocated more than 300 000 USD for the 20th anniversary of the DDPA, including for the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Global Communications “to launch a public information campaign” to mobilize public support for the 20th anniversary. Up to this date nothing has been seen of the General Assembly decided and budgeted decision on “various high-visibility initiatives, aimed at effectively increasing awareness at all levels, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action”

The lack of public information on the realities of the DDPA from the United Nations secretariat during the past 20 years has been a great obstacle to getting it implemented at the national and local level. **It is people who has suffered and died from a situation when the DDPA has not been known and available to them to strengthen their work against racism.**

6. We agreed

To jointly protect the DDPA from further undermining and actively campaign for the full implementation of the Programme of Activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent and therefore reaffirm the following call for global African society, Pan-African actors and stakeholders to keep campaigning in support of the DDPA and claim the rights to be recognized:

1. Strengthen our campaigns for the implementation of the DDPA and raise awareness about the value of the DDPA for combatting Afrophobia against Africans and people of African Descent and especially in relation to the demand for reparations.
2. To the particular African Nation States, the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) States and Governments and all of the UN member States to support campaigns for the full implementation of the DDPA and the Affiliated Resolutions.
3. To the UN General Assembly to deliver an actual, transparent and participatory Mid-Term Review of the Decade as was promised in the Programme of Activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent.
4. To the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to publish the Programme of Activities for the International Decade in an easily available brochure forms as has been requested by NGOs and UN member states since the start of the Decade.
5. To the Human Rights Council to finally do what the General Assembly has repeatedly asked it to do, namely to establish a well-resourced outreach programme in the OHCHR for DDPA information and advocacy. We consider this as the highest priority matter for 2021 because the DDPA cannot be implemented if the UN does not inform about its existence and real content. To refuse such urgent action to give the global audience the facts and truth about the DDPA is democracy denied.
6. To recognize the declarations across local and state leaders in the United States of America declaring racism a public health crisis or emergency. These declarations are an important first step in the movement to advance racial equity and justice and must be followed by allocation of resources and strategic action.

We sign this Joint Statement

- CAPSDH (African Commission of Health Promoteurs and Human Rights)
- AFRIDU (African Diaspora Union/International, South Africa)
- DCAPPHRC (Aging People in Prison Human Rights Campaign)
- AV_NSDC (African Views The Netherlands, Suriname, Dutch Caribbean)
- AUADS_FWG (African Union African Diaspora 6th Region Facilitators Working Group EUROPE)
- Astrid Runs (Republic Suriname)
- A.T.I. (Afro Atlantic Theologies & Treaties Institute/USA/Benin)
- BRIGHTON AND HOVE BLACK WOMEN'S GROUP (UK)
- C.A.A. (Celebration of African Australians/Australia, Pacific)
- CCACG (Central Council of the African Community in Germany)
- CRT (The Colonialism Reparation Team/UK)
- CSCMG (Civil Society Coordination & Monitoring Working Group DURBAN+ 20/The Netherlands)
- DECEMBER 12th MOVEMENT (USA, NYC)
- ENGOCCAR (European-Wide NGO Consultative Council on African Reparations/ Europe, UK)
- GAC UK (Global African Congress UK)
- GC_IDPAD (Global Coalition for the implementation of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent/ International, Europe, USA)
- 'JUSTICE. AFRIKAN HISTORY' (UK)
- GASU (Global African SHEROES Union/International, USA)
- THE JOSEPH KI-ZERBO CENTRE
- IAAT (International Association Against Torture, USA)
- LBOCSAAN (Foundation National Forum Civil Society of African Descent/The Netherlands)
- LPS (National Platform Dutch Slavery Past/The Netherlands)
- SOPHIEDELA (African European Women's Movement/International, Europe, The Netherlands)
- SRDC (Sub Region Diaspora Council WHS/The Americas including Brazil & Canada)
- SRDC-FCC (Sixth Region Diaspora Caucus French Caribbean Chapter, includes Guadeloupe, Martinique and French Guyana)
- SUSSEX RACIAL EQUALITY ACTION PROJECT (UK);
- MEADUC (Middle East African Diaspora Unity Council/Israel-Dimona)
- NCOBRA HEALTH COMMISSION

- **NSARC (Non-State Actors Reparations Commission INC/Barbados)**
- **PAADN (Pan-African Australian Diaspora Network/Australia)**
- **PANAFSTRAG (Pan-African Strategic and Policy Group/International, Nigeria)**
- **PARCOE (Pan-Afrikan Reparations Coalition in Europe/UK)**
- **S.T.A.W.S.I. (African World Studies Institute/The Netherlands, Curacao)**
- **THE DRAMMEH INSTITUTE, INC (USA/Sierra Leone)**
- **THE SONGHAI FEDERATION 2025**
- **TIYE INTERNATIONAL/The Netherlands**
- **UEF (Ubad Educational Foundation/Belize)**
- **UCF (Ubuntu Connected Front/ The Netherlands)**

For information and Contact via: <https://www.durbanplus20.org/>