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**2020**  
**Civil Society Midterm Survey regarding the  
implementation of the UN International Decade for  
People of African Descent**

**PLEASE SEND BEFORE MARCH 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 TO  
[decade@people-of-african-descent.nl](mailto:decade@people-of-african-descent.nl)**



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## Initiated by Dr. Barryl A. Biekman

UN Decade Coordination & Monitoring Working Group, The Netherlands

## In collaboration with Dr. Roland Holou

DiasporaEngager / Global Diaspora News

## Supported by

- SRDC (The African Union African Diaspora 6<sup>th</sup> Region Sub regional Community Council of the Americas, Caribbean, Canada and the Affiliated Pan African & Activist Movements: <https://app.box.com/s/zzy8kv3k6kvnq54mls03xvevthtspwvf>);
- ERCSC\_IDPAD (The Europe Region Civil Society Coalition on the Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent<sup>1</sup>);
- National Forum Civil Society of African Descent (Netherlands);
- ENGOCCAR (The Europe Wide NGO Community Council for African Reparations) (Europe);
- African Australian Azia Federation (Australia);
- African Diaspora Union (South Africa);
- AfroAtlantic Theologies & Treaties Institute;
- MIR (Mouvement International de la Réconciliation);
- The Drammeh Institute (USA);
- PANAFSTRAG International; and
- Global African SHEROES Union.

## Background and Purpose of the Survey

Proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in a Resolution (68/237) and adopted on 23 December 2013, the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024) is about recognition, justice, and development for People of African Descent. This survey aims

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<sup>1</sup>This Coalition includes the Dutch speaking countries, France, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, Luxemburg, England, Ireland, Poland, and Russia.



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at capturing the achievements, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations during the first 5 years of the “International Decade for People of African Descent” (further Decade POAD) so that a proper plan of further necessary actions can be strategically developed to make the remaining 5 years and the whole decade a success.

Civil Society Respondents to the Survey are required to look at their own area - national, regional and local - and report the actions that they and their (national) governments have been carried out during the past five years according to the Decade POAD Programme of Action. Actions included but are not limited to efforts to end Afrophobia, Institutional Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances and any best practices learned. Facts, figures additional documents and photos to illustrate the report are welcomed. This survey is meant for Civil Society Respondents in the Netherlands but it can be used as a format for other UN Nation States.

If you have additional materials or information not mentioned in the survey, feel free to let us know.

Please be reminded that the UN International Decade for People of African descent is not isolated, nor does it function in a vacuum. It has been adopted by the UN after the recognition of a worldwide lack of political will to implement the Durban Declaration and Program of Action in 2001 (DDPA), which was adopted by consensus during the United Nations World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR), Durban, South Africa, 2001.

The focus of the Decade Programme of Activities is the DDPA, which was developed after the intervention of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African descent, including input from the African Target Group. The adoption of the DDPA and the acknowledgement of the transatlantic slave trade as a crime against humanity was clearly the greatest victory during the UN WCAR 2001. This was also the result of the significant role of the Africans and (Descendants) and other people of Good Will, from all over the world, who attended the UN



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Third World Conference on Racism in Durban in 2001. Many declarations of key principles, demands, project proposals, and fundamental to the nations and peoples of Africa and the African Diaspora found a place in the DDPA.

This Decade POAD recognized an “urgent need to incorporate the objectives of the Durban Decade and Program of Action (2001) (<http://www.un.org/WCAR/durban.pdf>) into a practical and workable Local, National & Regional Programmes of Action that can be implemented, monitored, and measured.

During all these processes, the National Platform of the Dutch Slavery Past in cooperation with Tiye International, the African European Women’s Movement ‘Sophiedela’ and many more organizations and experts, greatly improved the mobilization process in the Netherlands (including the other Dutch Speaking countries) and the production of Civil Society Position Papers. Your input for the midterm review will also improve our productivity.

During the Midterm RootsSynergy Family Roundtable scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 in the Netherlands, under the auspices of the UN Decade Coordination & Monitoring Working Group, in cooperation with the National Forum Civil Society POAD, we will present the results of the survey.

I would also like to advise all others outside the Netherlands to do the same by organizing Roundtables to discuss the achievements or progress made during the past 5 years.

Thank you in advance for your time and energy.

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UN Decade Coordination & Monitoring Working Group, The Netherlands.



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## Part A: Identification

### A1: Name of Your Organization

#### A2: Accessibility data

Name of Contact person:

Position in the Organization:

Email:

Telephone number:

Other:

### A3: Geographical location

Geographical Area	Country
Africa	
Americas	
Asia	
Australia	
Caribbean	
Europe	

### A4: Organization Type

Which of the following best describes you and/or your organization?

- Civil society
- Diaspora association
- Other (Specify)



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## Part B: Engagement Situation

**B1: Did you or your organisation do any work or activity related to the International Decade for People of African descent during the period of 2015-2020?**

- Yes (If Yes, please go to the questions of Part C)
- No (If No, please continue to question B2)

**B2: Were you or your organisation involved in any work or activity related to the preparation meetings of the “International Decade for People of African Descent” before 2015?**

- Yes
- No

**B3: What were the reasons for not doing any activity related to the International Decade for People of African Descent?**

- No interest
- Lack of resources
- Other reasons (PLEASE SPECIFY)

**B4: Prior to 2015, when did you last initiate or organize an activity related to the “recognition, justice, and development” of the “People of African Descent”**

- Never
- Month / Year (PLEASE SPECIFY)

**B5: What was the title of the last activities you participated in related to the “recognition, justice, and development” of the “People of African Descent” prior to 2015?**

- Not Applicable, this is my first activity
- Example: Diaspora engagement
- Other (specify)

**B6: Although you may have been doing activities related to the “recognition, justice, and development” of the “People of African Descent”, did you quit doing any such activities before 2015 because of problems you encountered?**

- Yes
- No



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## Part C: Principal Activities

**C1: What were your principal activities related to “International Decade for People of African Descent?”**

- Recognition
- Justice
- Development

**C2: How many people have you reach because of your activities?**

- 1-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- Other (specify)

**C3: Did the activities you mentioned above come into being as new activities within the past 5 years as specific parts of the “International Decade for People of African Descent” and were they funded by external bodies?**

- Yes (Please describe)
- No





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## Part D: Principal Governmental Activities

**D1: What were the principal activities related to the “International Decade for People of African Descent”.**

- Recognition
- Justice
- Development

**D2: Are you aware of any active policy implemented by the Government to promote the “International Decade for People of African Descent”?**

- Yes (Please describe)
- No
- Other (specify)

**D3: Did the activities you mentioned above come into being as new activities within the past 5 years as specific parts of the “International Decade for People of African Descent”?**

- No
- Yes (Please describe)

**D4: Has a National Action Plan been made to address specifics about the “International Decade for People of African Descent”?**

- Yes (If Yes, please attach proofs such as documents, reports, and plans)
- No (If no, why?)

**D5: How much progress of the Plan has been made?**

- Not much
- Other (specify)

**D6: What are the titles of the principal legislative measures taken concerning the “International Decade for People of African Descent”?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**D7: What kinds of monitoring and complaint mechanisms have been established or done during these last 5 years?**

- None
- Other (specify)



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**D8: What kinds of awareness raising and institutional strengthening activities have been done during these last 5 years?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**D9: What kinds of research or implementation related to the “International Decade for People of African Descent” have been done these last 5 years?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**D10: What community engagement activities organised by the Government have you participated in during the last 5 years?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**D11: What measures have been developed to combat Afri/Afrophobia and the other forms of discrimination and injustice on African peoples?**

- None
- Yes (please describe)

**D12: What has been done to help “adopt and strengthen national, regional, and international legal frameworks for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and to ensure their full and effective implementation”?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**D13: What concrete activities have been taken toward Reparatory & Restorative Justice for violations and crimes against humanity during the enslavement of African Peoples and the colonization of African Lands?**

- None
- Other (specify)



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## Part E: Principal Activities by the Civil Society

**E1: What national actions or policies have been initiated, implemented or organized during the last 5 year?**

- None
- Other (specify)

**E2: During the past 5 years, how many trainings, workshops, conferences, or seminars, have been organized as part of the activities of the “International Decade for People of African Descent”?**

- None
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- Other (list them all)

**E3: Were those conferences related to the “International Decade for People of African Descent” effective in addressing the implementation of the Program of Action of the Decade?**

- No
- Yes (please specify)

**E4: What activities have been done to promote a “greater knowledge of and respect for the diverse heritage, culture, and contribution of people of African descent to the development of societies”?**

- None
- Other (specify)



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## Part F: Challenges or Problems Faced

**F1: What challenges surrounding your activities related to the “International Decade for People of African Descent” did you face these last 5 years?**

- Lack of engagement of political leaders
- Lack of funding
- Lack of collaboration
- Lack of communication from leaders and other participants
- Disunity among the diaspora and their leaders
- Ignorance of the leaders
- Other (specify)

**F2: What did you do to address those challenges?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**F3: Were you able to overcome those challenges?**

- Yes
- No

**F4: Do you think other people or organizations involved in the programs of the decade are facing similar challenges or issues?**

- Yes
- No

**F5: How did these challenges block you from achieving your goals for the decade?**

- They prevented me from doing anything
- They made it difficult for me to do the work
- Other (specify)

**F6: Did you win any grants or get a significant sponsor that helped you achieve your goals for the decade?**

- Grant (specify)
- Sponsor (specify)
- Personal funding (specify)



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**F7: What percent of your expenses related to the activities of the decade were covered by yourself?**

- 0%
- 10%
- 50%
- 100%
- Other (specify)

**F8: Do you consider the lack of funding and support by the AU, the UN, or the member states a big factor that blocked the achievement of the programs of the decade?**

- No
- Yes (please specify)

**F9: Beside what you already said above, what else do you think is affecting or blocking the rights and fundamental freedoms of people of African Descent**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)



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## Part G: Recommendations and Best Practices

**G1: What can be done to make the “International Decade for People of African Descent” a success?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G2: What can be done to help to achieve your goals for the Decade?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G3: What do you think governmental authorities can do to meet the objectives set for the Decade?**

G3a: At the National Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G3b: At the Regional Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G3c: At the Local Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G3d: Other Stakeholders

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G4: What do you think the UN and its member states need to better do or know to achieve the goals of the decade?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)



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**G5: What improvements can the human rights institutions do?**

G5a: Anti-Discrimination Bureau

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G5b: National Commission on Human Rights

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G6: What can the Diaspora associations better do?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G7: Among all the things you recommended, what do you think is the most crucial one which must be done first?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G8: What did you learn specifically during the first 5 years of the decade as best practises that you would like to share?**

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

**G9: What recommendations do you have for the Program of Action for the next five years?**

G9a: UN Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9b: EU Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9c: AU Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)



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G9d: National Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9e: Regional Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9f: Local Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9g: CS Level

- Nothing
- Other (specify)

G9h: Other Stakeholders

- Nothing
- Other (specify)