FOR A REPARATIONS AGENDA THROUGH A BRAZILIAN PERSPECTIVE

Brazilian Black Movements Letter to the Second Session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent- New York - 2023

We, organizations of the Black Brazilian movements and the Black Brazilian Women's movements that are participating in the 2nd Session of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent in New York, present this letter to highlight the historical fight against racism and the search for racial equality worldwide that has been sought by the Black Brazilian population. Among several areas, we highlight the fight for reparations, including the recognition of slavery as a crime against humanity, and the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, which are barriers to the access to fundamental human rights and result in genocidal actions against Black people. Based on the accumulated experience that was acquired by the Black Brazilian movements and the Black Brazilian Women's movements through the coordination and strategies to fight for reparations, we hereby present a list of recommendations to promote an agenda of reparations for the People of African Descent:

- **Promotion of Economic Justice and the Labor Environment:** Structural changes in the economic, tax, and fiscal systems to fulfill basic human needs, prioritizing sustainable development and positioning Brazil as a key actor on environmental issues.

- **Socio-environmental Rights and the right to land for rural, *ribeirinhas*, and *quilombola* populations:** Recognition of the key role of racial issues within the debates on the climate crisis, and the recovery and preservation of areas that are inhabited by Black, indigenous, and *quilombolas*, by directly including them in environmental policies.

- **Right to the city for Black communities in the *favelas* and peripheral areas:** Ensuring decent living conditions, with access to public services, investments in housing programs, provision of infrastructure, and political participation of the ones who are most affected by social inequalities. Fighting racism within the right to the city, including the use of facial recognition technologies which is based on a racist algorithm as a public safety tool.

- **Right to education, culture and memory:** Defense of cultural and educational policies with public investments that prioritize diversity, autonomy, and the protection of the memory of Black, Indigenous and peripheral people.

- **Strengthening the political representation and participation of Black people:** Increasing the presence of Black people in the Executive and Legislative branches, as well as in other spheres of political participation, with State actions to ensure there is space for civil society - such as Black Movements and Black Women's movements - in the process of creation, monitoring, and effective implementation of public policies.

- **Implementation of the action plan of the decade for people of African descent in Brazil:** Implementation of Resolution 69/16, by building a national policy of reparations with the participation of the Black movements and Black Women's movements in its creation, implementation and monitoring.

Based on the presented recommendations, we hereby request the **renovation of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent for at least three more years**, considering the challenges that are posed by the global crisis that was caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, we ask that **the next regional meeting of the International Decade be held in Brazil in 2024**, acknowledging the strategic role of Brazilian Black organizations and Brazilian Black Women's organizations in the global debate on a racial justice agenda.

This letter is signed by:

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