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## ORAL STATEMENT

### Item 5: Thematic Discussion: **THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT: EXPECTATIONS AND CHALLENGES**

#### **Make the second International Decade for People of African Descent a reality**

Permanent Forum on People of African Descent  
Third session  
16 April – 19 April 2024

Madame Chair,

Amnesty International congratulates the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent on its important work so far on the protection of the human rights of people of African descent and advancing the cause of reparatory justice for slavery, the slave trade, colonialism & apartheid.

As this Forum has reiterated, people of African descent throughout the world continue to face systemic and structural racism and inequality. The persistence of global anti-Black racism, rooted in the historical legacy of slavery, the slave trade and colonialism, presents a serious impediment to the full realization and enjoyment of the human rights of people of African Descent in every part of the world.

Amnesty International welcomes and fully supports the Forum's recommendation to proclaim a second International Decade for People of African Descent. We call on all UN Member States to support this recommendation including at the UN General Assembly and to make the second decade a reality.

We urge Member States to meaningfully address the question of reparatory justice for slavery and colonialism as well as the full implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and to make this a priority during a second International Decade for People of African Descent.

We thank the Forum and extend our commitment to support its ongoing work and success.

Thank you.