

32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent  
Economic Empowerment of People of African Descent  
Geneva, Switzerland, *May 1-5, 2023*  
Proposals presented by Geledés – Instituto da Mulher Negra – Brazil

**Topic 1**

**Trade and Trafficking Routes: Then and Now**

a) Contemporary immigration has been greatly encouraged by poverty caused by natural disasters, particularly by the anthropogenic climate crisis, and political crises resulting from neoliberal practices that have dominated the global regime since the last decades of the 20th century. **As part of holding states accountable for the unequal way in which northern and southern countries have historically contributed to the current context, it is urgent that states review their restrictive immigration policies. In fact, to overcome environmental racism aggravated by the climate crisis and promote racial equality, it is necessary to guarantee equal, sustainable, and collective access to wealth and common goods, safeguarding the environment from predatory exploitation.**

b) Afro-descendant immigrant women unveil the nuances of the gender condition imposed by cultural, economic, political, and social barriers in each country. In this sense, Afrodescendant immigrants suffer from a total lack of equality that can be observed in voluminous cases of gender-based violence, lack of decent work, inability to lead a dignified life, lack of autonomy, issues related to mental and physical health, prejudice, racism, and xenophobia. The subalternization of the intellectual being is also verified, which can be evidenced by the difficulty in entering higher education courses and validating academic diplomas. **States should create policies and programs for welcoming Afro-descendant immigrant women, capable of promoting inclusion based on the specificities imposed by the gender condition.**