



2015 - 2024

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF

AFRICAN DESCENT



Confronting the Silence:

Perspectives and Dialogue on Structural Racism against People of African Descent Worldwide

Tuesday, 3 November 2015
UN Secretariat Conference Building, ECOSOC Chamber
1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Mr. Ivan Šimonović, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights

VIDEO MESSAGES

Mr. Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Ms. Michaelle Jean, Secretary-General, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Mr. Harry Belafonte, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
Ms. Mireille Fanon-Mendes-France, Chairperson, Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
Mr. Mutuma Ruteere, Special Rapporteur on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

PANEL DISCUSSION

International perspective:

Ms. Gay McDougall, Member-elect, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Latin American and Caribbean perspective:

Ms. Cheryl Sterling, Ph.D., Director, Black Studies Program, The City College of NY
Ms. Ramona Hernández, Ph.D., Director, CUNY Dominican Studies Institute & Professor of Sociology, The City College of NY

North American perspective:

Ms. Alicia Garza, Black Lives Matter
Mr. Steven W. Hawkins, Executive Director, Amnesty International USA
Ms. Samaria Rice, mother of Tamir Rice who was fatally shot by police as a 12-year-old
Ms. Nicole C. Lee, Mothers against Police Brutality

European perspective:

Mr. Christian Ahlund, Chair, European Commission against Racism and Intolerance

MODERATOR

Mr. Bruce Knotts, Director, Unitarian Universalist Association United Nations Office

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