Towards a United Nations Declaration on the Promotion and Full Respect of the Human Rights of People of African Descent

Monday, 2 July 2018, 13h00 – 14h30
Geneva, Palais des Nations, Room XXIV

In 2013, in order to overcome racism, xenophobia and structural discrimination faced by people of African descent and promote full respect of their human rights, the General Assembly proclaimed the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024). The General Assembly also adopted a Programme of Activities for the implementation of the Decade. Among others, it requests States to consider the elaboration of a draft United Nations Declaration on the Promotion and Full Respect of Human Rights of People of African Descent. Human Rights Council’s resolution 35/30, adopted last year, requested the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (IGWG) to include in its next programme of work a one-day meeting to consider the elaboration of a draft United Nations Declaration on the Promotion and Full Respect of Human Rights of People of African descent. In preparation for the next session of the IGWG¹, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Haiti and Peru, with the support of OHCHR, will organize the meeting entitled “Towards a United Nations Declaration on the Promotion and Full Respect of the Human Rights of People of African Descent.

Opening Statement

- Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

Panelists

- E. Tendayi Achiume, Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

- Pastor Murillo, Vice-Chairperson, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

- Michal Balcerzak, Chairperson, Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent;

- Elizabeth Kaneza, OHCHR Senior fellow of the fellowship programme for people of African descent.

Moderator: Ambassador MariaNazareth Farani Azevêdo, Permanent Representative of Brazil;

¹ The next session of the IGWG will take place from 27 August to 7 September 2018 in Geneva.

Organized by the Permanent Missions of Azerbaijan, Brazil, Costa Rica, Haiti and Peru, with the support of OHCHR