



PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22 March 2022

Excellency,

I have the honour to invite you and members of your delegation to a Special Event on Equiano.Stories on 29 March at 1.15pm – 2.00pm in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, immediately following the commemorative meeting of the General Assembly to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the General Assembly Hall.

The event is to introduce the film “Equiano.Stories”, which asks the question: What if an African child in 1756 had a cell phone when he was enslaved? Equiano.stories reimagines the historic childhood saga of Olaudah Equiano, who bought his freedom and wrote compellingly about his experiences in the book - “The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, Or Gustavus Vassa, The African”. The epic story is captured as a self-recorded, first-person account, within the format of Instagram Stories, using video, still images, and text. The story reveals the strength, tenacity, and resistance of African people during the Middle Passage, captured on a ship, headed to the New World.

The event will feature remarks from special guest Mr. Eric Adams, Mayor of New York, the Permanent Representatives of Jamaica, Senegal, Israel and the United States, and the Permanent Observer of the African Union, as well as the Chair of the Task Force on Addressing Racism and Promoting Dignity for All in the United Nations Secretariat, USG Catherine Pollard. The producer of the film, Mr. Mati Kochavi, will introduce an excerpt from the film.

A flyer for the event is attached. Further details on the film can be found at <https://www.instagram.com/equiano.stories>. I am grateful to the Permanent Mission of Israel for its support for this event.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Abdulla SHAHID

All Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York