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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Organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the co-sponsorship of the Unitarian Universalist Association, the United Nations Department of Public Information, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Black Lives Matter, and Amnesty International USA

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