

# Press Release

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## PFPAD3 Session Chair Honorable Dr. June Soomer receives Statement from Experts-Side Session on Accra Proclamation



*Handover of the Statement from Dr. Barryl Biekman to Chair Honorable Dr. June Soomer*

On 17th April, 2024, several Global African Diaspora delegates attended a side session on Reparatory Justice: “Implementing the African Article 3Q Constitutive Act Towards The Full Participation of the Sixth Region African Diaspora & The Right to Return, in Concert of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action”.

The Expert session recalled and emphasized the Accra Proclamation on Reparations, which stated in section 7 an increased role for the United Nations: and specifically, “Conference Members call on the United Nations Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, to convene, in close coordination with the African Union Commission, an International Conference, involving former colonial powers on the issue of reparations ...”

During the discussion, it was noted that the African Diaspora has two claims: 1) that the African Union recognize the African Diaspora’s Right to Return to their ancestral homeland, as stated in the Durban

Declaration and Program of Action and 2) that the “colonial powers” take responsibility for the crimes against Africa and African people.

And whereas the African Diaspora, constituted as the African Union 6th Region, is a distinguished constituency of international society; And Whereas African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region (AUADS) High Council has been established over a twenty-year period by the people lead by Dr. Barryl A. Biekman in constant communication with the AU through its Citizens and Diaspora Directorate, then led by Dr. Jimni Adisa, and other organs of the AU as well. Therefore, the Experts Side Session on Reparatory Justice at PFPAD3 recommend that the Forum utilize the AUADS High Council as the AU 6th Region/Diaspora Civil Society partner in the planning of the Conference with the African Union Commission.



*Reverend Kobi Little, NAACP Congratulates Chair Dr. June Soomer on behalf of the team.*

### ORGANIZED IN COOPERATION WITH

Africa Culture International Human Rights; the African Union African Diaspora 6th Region High Council Facilitators; National Monument Dutch Slavery Past (associated member of the Caricom Reparation Commission); Tiye International; African European Women’s Movement ‘Sophiedela’; AWA Connect; Africa Solidarity Centre Ireland; African Diaspora Union; Balanta Society; Global Coalition for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent; Durban plus 20 Coalition; Global Afrikan CongressUK; The Drammeh Institute; Pan African and Strategic and Policy Group International; Pan African Strategic and Policy Group Brazil; The Right To Return Alliance; The Sixth Region Diaspora Council WHS (SRDC); Teaching Artist Institute; The Global African SHEROES Union; The Pan African Federalist Movement Europe; Norway Center Against Racism; Reparations Finance Lab; Caricom Reparation Commission Guyana & Caricom; OHCHR, Secretariat Anti-Discrimination Section; NAACP Maryland; Kingdom of Kush; IDPAD COALITION U.K.; Black Europe; Espace Afrique Internationale; Glass Association of Afrodescendants; Global Circle for Reparations and Healing; International Civil Society Working Group; Koromanti Arts; H Patten Dance; PAD Belgium; Platform for People of African Heritage; Malcolm X Center for Self Determination.

For any questions about this press release, please email our Secretariat AUADS department at [secretariat@auadshighcouncil.org](mailto:secretariat@auadshighcouncil.org)