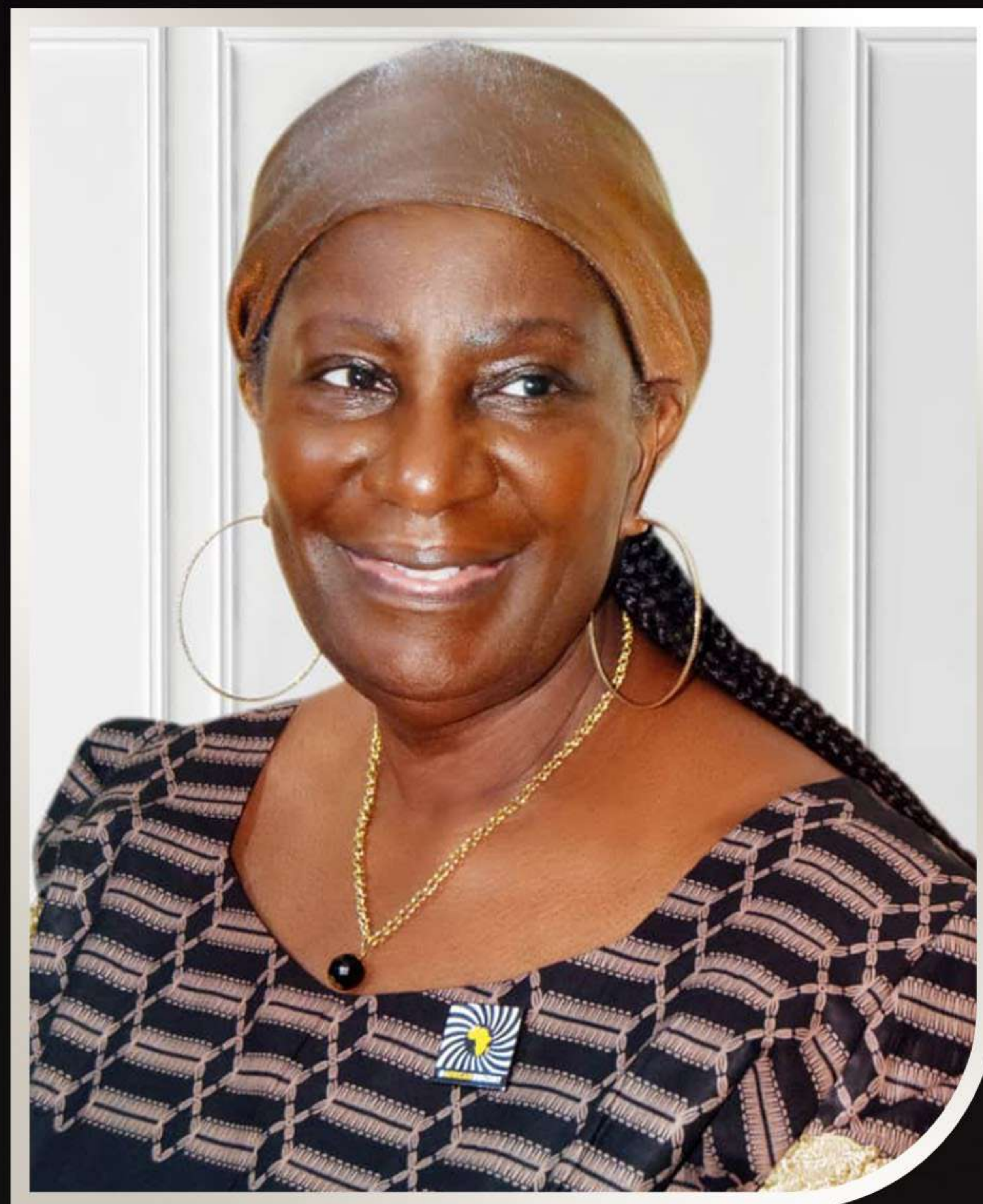


**Barryl Alexandrina
Biekman (Dr)**



**Lifetime
Achievement**

Barryl Alexandrina Biekman (Dr) lifetime achievement *General information:*

Netherlands citizen; born in Paramaribo, Suriname; a retired civil servant from the municipality of The Hague, specializing in Public Administration, Organization Strategy, Human Resources, Education, Labor Market, Business-in-the-Community, Housing, and International Affairs and Cooperations.

I am well-known for my dedication as a Human Rights activist, diplomatic strategist, and a strong networker, broker and bridge builder. I have received awards for my campaign efforts towards the full implementation of the United Nations (UN) Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA 2001) and all other affiliated resolutions such as the UN International Decade for People of African Descent; Article 3q (2003) of the African Union (AU) Constitution and the 2012 AU African Diaspora Declaration. Put first behind African Union (AU)

EDUCATION

PHD IN SOCIAL & PUBLIC SCIENCE (2024)

I hold a doctorate degree in Social & Public Science.

I have defended the Thesis: "Competence management in Republic Suriname" at the Suriname Anton de Kom University. A *"study of the state of affairs with regard to competence management in the Governmental Departments of Home Affairs, Education and Community Development and Public Works"*. (Promotors: Professor dr. L.C. van Beierendonck, University of Antwerp; Prof. dr. J.C. van der Wolf, University of Amsterdam and the University of ADEK).

University of Leiden (1995)

Master's in Pedagogic & Adult Education Sciences Main direction: Adult Education and Education Science. Graduation assignment: *"Practice of career guidance within the municipality of The Hague aimed at ethnic cultural minorities: fact or fiction."*

My specializations included:

- Information-, Public Affairs- and Public relations;
- Professionalization and the promotion of expertise;
- Labour-; Education and Career Perspective;
- Additional Differentiations: Women and Youth Studies.

The Hague Social Academy (1976)

Study on Organization, Human Resource and Competence Management

Graduation assignment: "De Heilige Harmony ter aarde besteld" (*The Sacred Harmony ordered to be buried*). A study about the process of institutionalization and statization of the workers' guilds in the Netherlands.

Additional Professional Skills Training on higher management level

- Employment law issues (Institute of Administrative Sciences);
- Social Insurance legislation Part 1 and II (Social Insurance Bank);
- Retirement laws (School of Public Administration Zuid Holland);
- Study Women and Management (Municipality of The Hague);
- Women and Empowerment (Professor Dr Essed/INDRA=Faculty University of Amsterdam)
- Governmental/Public Administration, Constitutional and Administration law;

- Study Organization Science;
- Leadership, coaching and mentoring;
- Conflict management;
- The Professional Manager;
- The Spiritual Manager;
- Cooperation and Coaching (Police Academy Zutphen);
- Presentation techniques (Netherlands Centre for Advice, Training and Guidance);
- Project-cycle management (Various training Institutes and in company training at the municipality of The Hague);
- Gender, ethnicity and intercultural management;
- Various in company training on Human Resource Management, Local and Good Governance and International Cooperation;
- Lobby and Network Strategies and Management

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

I have spent 46 years in management positions at the municipality of The Hague (Netherlands). I began my career in April 1971 in administrative positions at the Central Department of Personnel and Organization Affairs. My early responsibilities included: 1. Assistant responsible for postal and archive affairs, monitoring deadlines for handling letters, nominations, and appointments. 2. Assistant of the Secretary of the City Council's Commission on Human Resources and Employment Affairs. This City Council's Commission was also responsible for the Negotiations between the City Council and the Civil servants' unions about Legal status affairs of municipal civil servants.

I later served for almost nine years as Head of Personal Administration within The Hague Police Organization.

Over my career, I held leadership roles in Project and Policy development, Human Resources Management, Social Policies and Organizational Strategy, and Working Conditions within the Hague Directorates of Housing and Regional & Economic Affairs.

After working for 20 years in the personnel and organization fields, I continued my career at the same municipality in the Labour Market and employment Branch. In the role of project leader I coordinated activities in the field of job prospects, competence management, consulting, mentoring and tutoring of employers, and the reintegration of long-term unemployed people.

From the Labour Market, I got involved in National/Governmental Policies related to self-employment and the promotion of independent entrepreneurship.

From 2002 until my retirement in October 2015, I have been actively involved in International and Development cooperation activities.

My expertise in Personnel and Organizational Policies led to a freelance contract with VNG International (the international department of the cooperation of local governments in the

Netherlands) in 2005 as a project leader for the development and implementation of projects aimed at strengthening local governments (Districts and Resorts) in the Republic of Suriname.

Meanwhile, I provided my expertise for projects in South Africa (on Housing and Health issues) and in Curacao, where I developed the skill training curricula for governmental employees in context of the 10-10-2010 Government Decentralization Process with regards to the Political Reform of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

I have served in the context of the new UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) Local Concept City Diplomacy. During the first world conference on City Diplomacy in June 2008 in The Hague/Peace Palace, I moderated the session that focused on the role of local governments in the implementation of the UN Peace building Commission Frameworks that were agreed upon with the governments of Sierra Leone and Burundi. The conference closed by adopting the "The Hague Agenda on City Diplomacy - towards a stronger role for local governments in conflict prevention, peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction".

I served as a guest scholar at several Institutes in the Netherlands, in the Republic of Suriname and in Curacao in the field of their competences of human resources, organisation and education science.

SPECIFIC TASK AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE AREA OF

- ACP (the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS). In this context in my capacity as Policy advisor International Affairs at the municipality of the Hague, I did an internship at the 'Lobby' Bureau of the four major Dutch cities (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht) in Brussels. An Internship on strategies regarding networking and maintaining networks for the interests and benefits with regards to the area of specific concern. In Brussels where governments, business people, permanent diplomatic and academic missions and non-governmental organisations from all over the world are coming together to promote and reach agreements with regards to their own interest of concern.
- The general LOGO (Local Governments) South Country Programme developed by VNG (Foundation of the Dutch Municipalities) International and specifically the LOGO South Country Programme Republic of Suriname. This Programme was developed during my Project-leadership through a participatory process of all relevant governmental stakeholders in Suriname (Top, Higher, Middle management and the Workers level) and relevant external stakeholders. Important topics were in the field of decentralisation and de-concentration of government power and actions, capacity building, institutional strengthening and on organisation and human resource management with the dignity and participation of the citizen in mind.
- Furthermore, expertise has been gained in the area of creating city to city twinning relationships.

- I gained a lot of experience in the context of organizing world conferences and exchange activities (expertise exchange) of foreign expert to The Hague and from Hague experts abroad. Also acted more often as a delegation leader.
- Professional trainer in many areas of government skills. Integration civil society in context of decision-making processes.

POLITICS

IN DUTCH PERSPECTIVE

I was appointed as Secretary of the Regional Board of the Political Party D66 (Democrats 66) after years of functioning in the Committee concerning the multicultural society.

From 1995 to 1999, I served as an elected member of the Regional Council of the Province Southern Holland and became the first parliamentarian with African Surinamese roots in this Parliament.

My main concentration was creating awareness, implementing strategies and policies towards an 'inclusive' provincial state organisation. My scope was all focussed on (internal) human resource management, combatting institutional discrimination, racism and intolerance. I have successfully defended an initiated proposal whereby I did not limit myself to the provincial organization but also to the province (public and private) partners and stakeholders and the Interprovincial Overleg (IPO).

In International perspective

I consider myself as an active extra-parliamentary politician in the area of human and people's rights, anti racism issues and Afrophobia with special focus on women, youth, Africans and African Descendants. A strong proponent of the introduction of language, terms and concepts that advocate the African Cause and of issues that require the Political Will to implement UN Declarations such as the DDPA (2001) and other UN mechanisms and instruments as well on Reparatory Justice. ***This paragraph has to read in connection with my achievements on AU, UN, EU level.***

In Suriname perspective

I started by the age of 14 in the Youth (student) movement in Suriname. The main focus was the fight against the colonial-driven-relationship between the Netherlands and Suriname. My active involvement was inspired when the Suriname (Education) Budget plan was not approved by the Dutch Minister of Educational Affairs. Youth and Students in Suriname were mobilizing for a protest demonstration during which it was demanded that minister President Pengel, who was owner of several ministerial positions, should resign. Afterwards, it turned out to be a political setup by the Netherlands, by not approving the Budget plan to bring down the 'Pengel Cabinet'.

My Second involvement as a young activist (at the age of 15) in Suriname was related to the process of the establishing of the first "General Surinamese Women's Movement" (ASVO) lead by my mother, †Wilhelmina Gerardina, Petronella Pufflijk and inspired by the wife (Nelemans) of the Resident Dutch ambassador to Surinamet.

My Third experience as active, extra-parliamentary politician, is related to the debates regarding the Political constitutional stately Independent of the Republic Suriname. I was actively involved in the 'Prasara Sibi'-movement until the independence of Suriname in 1975. Prasara Sibi stands symbolic for a broom to sweep the yard clean. According to the vision of the initiators of the name it was necessary to "wipe out The Netherlands out of Suriname", so to speak.

CIVIL SOCIETY

From **1974 to 1994**

I held several positions in the ABVA/KABO (The General Union representing civil servants, including postal and telecommunication workers, in The Netherlands). The Union was founded in 1947, when the Central Dutch Union of Civil Servants merged with the Dutch Union of Personnel in Government Service.

From **1984 to 1990**

First, I served as Board member and three years later as Secretary of the Social and Cultural Football Club "Robin Hood". In this position, I was the first Black Woman in the Hague Football Union of the Southern Holland Football Foundations.

From **1988 to 1992**

Board member of the non-governmental Emancipation Support Movement in The Hague. The mission was aimed to support the interest of all women of The Hague. My concentration was the position of Black, Migrant and Refugee Women.

From **1992 to 1995**

Member, then Secretary and Vice-Chair of the Board of the semi-governmental Emancipation Advisory Council in The Hague. The mission was aimed to support the interest of all women of The Hague. My concentration was the position of Black Migrant and Refugee Women.

During my years of experience, in the predominantly white women's movements, I gained enough expertise to start focusing on the role and position of African Black women in several areas of concern. Areas such as the non-participation of black women in the decision-making

process on governmental policies; institutional discrimination and racism. Emancipation in perspective of the de-colonization process and empowerment strategies where topics that most of the time strongly diverge of the white women's interests.

1992

Co-founder of and Chair of the foundation 'Sophiedela', an African European Women's Movement that started in 1986 as a sport and social cultural organization for African Surinamese women, but which soon grew up to a Pan-African women's organization. Under my Leadership as Chair of 'Sophiedela', the Trans-Atlantic slave trade and the enslavement of African people became a serious issue on the national agenda of the Dutch Parliament in 1998 the members of 'Sophiedela' handed over a petition to the Dutch government for recognition of their part in the trans-Atlantic Slave trade and the enslavement of African people.

1993-1994

I was actively involved in the process regarding the establishment (1994) of Tiye International, the umbrella NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) of 21 national women's and youth organizations in the Netherlands. Its mission is to raise awareness, promote and protect the human rights of Black, Migrant and Refugee women. 'Sophiedela' is one of the central organizations in Tiye International from the perspective of African women. Since the creation of Tiye International until today, I coordinated the Commission on Human and Women's rights, Peace and Stability.

From 1994 to 2004

On behalf of 'Sophiedela' I functioned as member, later as Board member until 2004 of the Women's Alliance for Economical Independence and Work Redistribution (a Platform of 44 national umbrella organizations with 2 million members) based in the Netherlands. In this position, one of my key roles was the preparation of the United Nations World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995. Due to the dissolution of the Women's Alliance, an alternative had to be found. This was realized by the newly formed organization ARACHNE, where I functioned as a co-founder and Board member until the establishment of E-quality. ARACHNE, a semi-governmental knowledge center for consultancy and advice regarding gender issues and governmental policies. A center that was established to bring together supply and demand in the field of emancipation. E-quality was the Centre of Excellence for Emancipation, Family and Diversity,

1999

Because of my "longstanding track records" on the issues regarding the enslavement of African People, I was appointed by the involved Civil Society NGOs of People of African Descents and organisations of Indigenous Peoples in The Netherlands to lead the process towards the establishment of the Foundation National Monument Dutch Slavery Past. This includes the process towards the Dynamic National Institute of Dutch Slavery Past and its effects (NiNsee).

The Static National Monument was unveiled in Amsterdam (capital of The Netherlands), on July 1st, 2002 in the presence of the (former) Dutch Queen Beatrix, the (former) minister President Kok, other authorities of the Cabinet and of the Parliament of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Representative authorities from the Kingdom, Republic of Suriname and some African nation

states. The dynamic part of the Monument, The Institute was founded on June 24th 2002.

On the date of the unveiling of the Monument on July 1st, 2002, the African Civil society communities came from everywhere in and outside Europe to be part of the unveiling event. Moreover, to commemorate their ancestors, heroes and heroines who struggle for the abolition of slavery. The crackdown by the police, towards the side of the community that couldn't show an access card, remains for me a great concern. I believe that the tragic events of 'nine eleven' have had a disproportionate influence on the safety aspects and the behavior of the police.

From **1994 to 2000**

I functioned as a Board member of the International Dialogues Foundation, a Dutch independent non-governmental and non-political organization that strives to improve dialogue for the promotion of just international relations.

In this regard in 1997 from September 9-10th, in perspective of the implementation of the 'Beijing Declaration 1995, Platform for Action', as the results of the UN World Women's Conference, I functioned as vice chair of the Dutch Delegation, during the International Conference that was held in Amman titled, 'Family Relations in Changing Societies'.

From all over the world women in leadership positions gathered on several critical issues of women's concern. The focus of my working group session was on the emancipation process in the women-men relationship with regards to the combination of family responsibilities and a paid job outside home. What has made a great impact on me were the debates between the very conservative male Muslim leaders and the highly educated very progressive Muslim women.

From **2000 to 2003**

I functioned as Secretary of the National Bureau against Racism, an NGO subsidized by the Dutch Government.

Besides that until 2004, I was involved as Secretary of the "Knowledge Centre Social Investing" Rotterdam.

In **2000**

I have functioned as co-organizer of the preparatory meetings in The Netherlands and in Europe related to the upcoming Durban World Conference Against Racism (WCAR), that was held in 2001 in South Africa. For the first time, people of African Descent through the Caribbean, Europe, North, Central and South America, and Asia came together to discuss the Topics of concern and to make sure that the Conference should succeed.

During the WCAR I functioned as the NGO Liaison in the Dutch Governmental Delegation. This as a result of the nomination process whereby I was unanimously appointed by the many involved Pan-African organizations and women's movements in The Netherlands.

During the WCAR, Africans and the African Diaspora joined forces to demand that all governments declare the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery, colonialism and apartheid as "crimes

against humanity" which lasted for more than 3 centuries. In my Liaison position, I was able to lobbied governments to declare the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery and colonialism as crimes against humanity.

In 2006, I was one of the initiators of the Pan-African Roundtable on Durban Plus 5 and functioned as coordinator during the 2007 Pan-African Global Roundtable in Addis Ababa where the "Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was discussed for further strategic actions.

African Union Sixth Region involvement: My awareness about the preparation and negotiations towards the development of Article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act started in 2001 during the WCAR in Durban. Later in 2004 through the Pan African Strategic and Policy Group 'PANAFSTRAG' (Ishola Williams) the enthusiasm growth. Since then I was appointed as Europe Civil Society Delegate in the AU Expert Commission during the whole decisionmaking process towards the realisation and adoption of the AU Diaspora 2012 Declaration. This includes the process towards the realisation of the AU Agenda 2063.

Europe: Together with Dr Tumenta Kennedy (Germany-Cameroon), we founded in 2007 the African Union African Diaspora facilitators Working Group and initiated the 'Leave No Community Behind Model' which invites all who are committed to the Pan African unification, regardless of religion, political ideology, sexes, disabilities or other group affiliations to join the organization. Together we coordinated the Roundtables regarding the structuring of the African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region Policy in Europe. This with the aim that the Diaspora should have a more structural contact and the reserved observers' seats at the Pan-African Parliament and the 20 Seats in the ECOSOCC Standing Committee. It is within this perspective we initiated the AU African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council Governance structure to fulfill the Gap of a Government Entity such as CARICOM for the Caribbean Region.

The Netherlands: I'm the main architect and designer of the Organization Structure of the African Diaspora Sixth Region for the Netherlands chapter which we used as a format for the Europe Region Chapter and Regions worldwide.

Relevant publications on:

- Decentralization of governance
- Capacity building, Competency Management and Development;
- Local government;
- Developed several Business Plan for Skills Development Centers;
- Contributions to publications in the field of Intercultural Management and Diversity Policy; Ethnic Cultural Minorities
- Initiated several skills development Programs in the field of government action: project and policy cycle management, leadership, governance and city diplomacy; area-oriented and project-oriented strategies.
- Combating Racism (Afrophobia, Institutional Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance)
- On several Aspects of Reparatory Justice with regards to the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery and colonialism.

HONOURINGS

2000

I received from the Dutch Queen HM Beatrix an appointment as 'Ridder in the Order of Orange Nassau', for my "longstanding track record on activities regarding the Multicultural Dutch Society and in connection with the farewell as politician of the Provincial Council of Southern Holland.

Honoured by the oldest Dutch women's movement 'Vrouwen Belangen' (Women's Interest) as heroine of the century

Honoured by a Coalition of African Surinamese NGOs in The Netherlands as African Surinamese Women of the Century in 2000.

2002

Honoured by The Hague City Council with the 'Raden A. Kartini Emancipation Award', for my longstanding track record on issues regarding women. (Raden A. Kartini was an Indonesian Freedom fighter with regards to issues Concerning Indonesian Women).

Recognized by KRO (Catholic Broadcasting Station) as one of the 365 heroes of the Global World. This follows up to the realization and unveiling of the National Slavery Monument under her leadership as chair of the Platform of the Dutch Slavery past.

2003

I received during the 'Suriname National Day of the Black Civilization' that was organized in the District Brokopondo in the Republic of Suriname from the Federation of African Surinamese People the 'Certificate of Honor as a "token of appreciation for my "merits towards Reparatory Justice for the Dutch slavery past".

2008

Crowned as 'Officer in the Honouring Order of the Palm' by the President & Ministry Board of the Republic of Suriname for my "longstanding track record and expertise in various fields in the interest of the Republic of Suriname".

Related to the 60th anniversary of the UN Human Rights Declaration, honoured with the 'Premios Emilio D. Castellar Award' in Spain for the "merits that have led to the trans-Atlantic, slave trade and the enslavement of African people on the Dutch Parliamentary Agenda".

2011

Honoured by the "Eenheid is Kracht (Unity is Strength) organization" with the 'Gouden Zebra (Golden Zebra), Lifetime Achievement Award' for my "long-standing track record on the Anti-Racism struggle and with regards to the struggle for the implementation of the Durban Declaration and the Program of Action (2001), The UN Durban Review 2009 and the International UN Year for People of African Descent".

2014

Honoured by the African Union African Diaspora Forum in Washington DC, with the 'African Union African Diaspora Bridge Builders Award' and nominated as a member of the prestigious Board Council of the African Union African Diaspora Leaders Forum.

Selected by the President of the UN General Assembly as the global civil society speaker during the UN launching of Decade for People of African Decade on December 10th 2014. In his invitation letter, the President emphasized his decision with the following text: "In view of your dedication to restorative justice for women, children and people of African descent, as well your work on the Durban World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and its preparatory and review processes....."

2015

Honoured by ZAMI, an organization for Black and Migrant Women in The Netherlands, with the 'Phenomenal Women Life Time Achievement Award' for the "longstanding track record on issues regarding women and youth". The Award was presented in the Republic of Suriname.

Recognized amongst 30 African Diaspora Top leaders, by the International Diaspora Engagement Network Social Media Platform with the prestigious 'International Certificate of Honor' as the Most Influential Contemporary African Diaspora Leaders.

2016

Honoured by the Dutch vice-minister President, Lodewijk Asscher with the 'International UN-Decade for People of African Descent Life Time Award'. In his statement, he qualified me as one of the important initiators behind the adoption of this UN Decade.

2017

Honoured by the African Views Organization, in presence of a large number of African NGOs in Geneva, with the 'Africa Spirit Award' for my work in context of 'humanities'.

2018

Crowned as 'Commander in the Honouring Order of the Yellow Star' by the President and the Ministry Board of the Republic of Suriname for my longstanding track record on divers issues regarding the Suriname Diaspora and the continuing dedication for the realization of Sustainable Development Goals.

2019

I have been appointed by the African Diaspora Union Leadership (South Africa) as the African Diaspora Union Ambassador for the Europe Region.

I have been mandated by the Ghana National Commission on Culture and the Ghana Caribbean Chamber of Commerce, as coordinator of the Launching in Europe and the Dutch Speaking Countries of the Ghana Year of Return and affiliated Events in Kumasi and Accra. In this context, I was co-initiator of the Memorial Monument for Liberty and Reunification.

In this respect, I am the main initiator of the African Union African Diaspora Decade of Return (2019).

I was co-founder of the Global African SHEROES Union (2019) and the Global African Women's Day (March 16th);

2020 In July 2020, I was appointed as Chair of the Ghana Suriname Chamber of Commerce”.

2021 I was selected by the President of the UN General Assembly to deliver the Keynote Address as Civil Society Speaker on September 22, 2021 during the Plenary of the UNGA High Level Meeting on the 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action Session with the Theme: “Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent”.

I was honoured by the African Views Organization, with the ‘African Views Certificate of Excellence’ during the Launching of African Views Ghana.

2022 During The Pan African Diaspora Roots Synergy Roundtable in Addis Abeba/Ethiopia and related to the 10th anniversary of the African Union African Diaspora May 2012-Declaration, I was honoured by the Sheroes Sisterhood-International with the ‘Queen Mother Sheroes Award’ for the “lifetime contribution to the advancement of Pan African Solidarity”.

2023 Related to the 67e Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, I was honoured by the The Drammeh Institute with the ‘Global African Women of Distinction Award’ for my “longstanding track record in the field of Human Rights in general, rights of women and girls and in particular of African origin”. The Day (every year on March 16), marks a historic moment for women of African descent to honour and respect their rich diversity, languages, and cultures. Global African Women’s Day, according to its organizers will be “A day to celebrate a shared vision of unity, despite historical separations.”

I have been honoured by the Village of Peace in Dimona, Israel, with the ‘Distinguished Ben Ammi New Jerusalem Broken Spear Peace Symbol Award’ for my “longstanding dedication in organising and mobilising Global African Diaspora Community with regards to the African Union African Diaspora 6th Region Project”.

Honoured by the Voice African News Magazine, with ‘The Voice Achievers Award’ “with regards to her service to Humanity”.

In **2024** I received during the Black Achievement Month event in the Netherlands the “Black Life Time Achievement Award 2024”;

In **2025** I received the “Life Time Achievement Certificate of Honor” from the Kingdom of Kush and from the municipality of the Hague the Netherlands I received the “Life Time Community Impact Award 2025” related to The Black Hague Experience (TBHE), a cultural initiative that celebrates the contributions of the Afro-diaspora community in The Hague, focusing on remembrance, education, and empowerment.

In **2026** I was crowned as Officer in the Honoring Order of Orange Nassau by His Majesty King Willem Alexander, for my “longstanding track records on the issue of the Dutch Slavery Past”. In his Statement, the Mayor of Zoetermeer, who hand over de decorations that belongs to this High Recognition, refered to the merits in the field of human rights, anti racism policies, the apologies by the Dutch Cabinet and the Royal House for their part in the reprehensible slavery institute; the important contribution towards the raising of awareness in the Netherlands on the topic of the Dutch Slavery Past and my recommendation with regards to transformative justice to integrate the Ubuntu filosofie as a new political ideology for government functioning.