

Consultation on the modalities, format, and substantive and procedural aspects of the Permanent Forum on people of African descent.

The Permanent Forum on People of African Descent should ensure inclusive participation of representatives from United Nations member states, civil society, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of IDPAD's programme of activities. In that regard the Permanent Forum could take the form of a consultation mechanism provided by the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent or the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, in accordance with paragraph 29 (i) of UN General Assembly Resolution 69/16. It is therefore imperative that the Permanent Forum's format follows up on the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action as well as the International Convention for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in its activities.

Interactive Dialogue

a. Mandate and substantive objectives of the Permanent Forum

IDPAD Coalition UK suggests the Permanent Forum's mandate should include

- Tackling Afriphobia
- Eliminating deaths as a result of State Violence (deaths in custody, prison, immigration detention and mental health institutions)
- Tackling disparities in Maternal Death, overrepresentation in Prisons and Mental Health Institutions
- Supporting Reparations Campaigns and raising awareness of the importance of this overdue repair and restitution

b. Procedural aspects, structure and format of the Permanent Forum

The format, structure and content of the proposed forum should reflect the modalities of the African diaspora globally including aspirations for Agenda 2063, and the Resolution on the Fundamental Rights of People of African Descent adopted by the European Parliament in March 2019. The latter highlights historical and contemporary abuse of the African diaspora's universal human rights, and the necessity for reparative justice including reparations. The former aspires to an Africa including its diaspora, with a strong cultural identity, values and ethics. In this respect the Permanent Forum could advocate a legal framework of national action plans to address Afri-phobia/Afro-phobia to both international and regional public bodies as well as civil society and other stakeholders.

In addition procedural aspects of the Permanent Forum should take into account intersectionality e.g. as a result of immigration status, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and disability. These are vulnerabilities which further marginalise people of African descent globally from access to universal human rights as highlighted by the Resolution on the Fundamental Rights of people of African Descent. In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development "no one should be left behind".

IDPAD Coalition UK suggests priorities for the Permanent Forum should include:

1. Representation of Activists and grassroots African-led Community Organisations at strategic level. This includes ensuring participation of Activists and grassroots African-led Community Organisations in meetings by providing travel, accommodation and per diem.

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2. Facilitating learning and sharing of experience across regions and continents. This is in line with aspirations of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
3. Providing access to resources for carrying out projects identified from casework & research (i.e. national, regional and international project funding).
4. Support for ENPAD so it is sustainable and effective.

c. Reporting modalities

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be used for monitoring efforts to reduce Afriphobia/Afrophobia and inequality; fully disaggregated equality data collection and analysis by UN member states and shadow reports by civil society can facilitate policy development and policy implementation. For example implementation of targets for SDG 4 may be monitored to ensure that more equitable standards are being achieved in education. Likewise targets and indicators for SDG3 should be monitored to ensure reported disparities in health outcomes which disproportionately affect people of African descent are addressed. Climate change, environmental pollution and environmental degradation pose global risks for health outcomes of the African diaspora which should be adequately addressed by state parties. Moreover because sustainable development goals and their targets are universal, the 2030 Agenda should facilitate social, economic and environmental development including community participation and community empowerment of the African diaspora globally.

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& ENAR Steering Group on Afrophobia