

Greetings,

Presidents, Your Excellencies, Dignitaries, distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen. My name is Davisha L. Johnson, I am representing the African Diaspora Collective USA Inc as the Ambassador to the United States of America. Today, I am honored to have the opportunity to come before this global body to speak to you on issues affecting the safety, quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent. Specifically, those of the trans-Atlantic slave trade from the United States, the African Diaspora as a whole and those African descendants that are returning to Africa as it relates to the racial discrimination and inequalities we see today, as THIS, IS the CHALLENGE to sustainable development.

The 2014 session of United Nations and the draft resolution on the program of activities was supposed to provide focus and synergy needed to address the matter globally at the time. The former President of the General Assembly, which introduced the draft text, said and I quote “that after decades of slavery, one could only be humbled by how far people of African descent had come. However, discrimination persisted. Many of African descent had limited access to good quality education, employment, housing, healthcare, fair justice systems, and safe living environments.” Almost 10 years later we are still here.

He went on to say...” By adopting “recognition, justice and development” as the resolution’s theme, the Assembly could take a bold step towards ensuring the respect, protection and human rights for those people of African Descent.

So, as we discuss the last 8 years of what this Declaration has accomplished and how we will actualize the goals we set for the future I ask that this body should look at organizations like the African Diaspora Collective USA Inc. and others to give be given diplomatic status so we are rid of the burdens that hinder our travel, access to decision makers and ability to have recognition, justice and to create sustainable development. When we do not fully include those of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade, specifically those from the United States and the African Diaspora we are missing an opportunity to actualize the goals of this Declaration.

As a global citizen, a Black woman, a descendant of a slave, an African and the little Black girl born in Houston, Texas, raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada, living between the United States and now Ghana and now as the Ambassador to the African Diaspora Collective USA Inc. I request that this body think of how we are giving the justice recognition and chance for sustainable development to those of African Descent in 2022? It starts today with this body and the decisions you make as elected leaders, Ambassadors, dignitaries, and as global citizens.

I thank you for your time and hope that we find a resolution for tomorrows challenges today for all black people globally.

Thank You