

## ***Connecting the Past and the Future – Equality for All People of African Descent***

*Multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination have a compounded impact on people of African descent. This panel discussion will focus on the particular situation of women, children, youth, LGBTQI+, and migrants of African descent, and the intersectional discrimination they face based on race, colour, descent, sex, gender, disabilities, national and social origin, and economic status, among others. The panel will endeavour to make recommendations to close the inequality divide perpetuated by racial discrimination and offer real world solutions in support of the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms of people of African descent.*

Angelo, Damas – Brazil/ PAD former fellow

**Women, children, youth, LGBTQIA+ and migrants** of African Descent face discrimination based on race, colour, language, sex, gender, disabilities, economic status, social and national origins, among others.

The implementation of the Declaration on the Promotion, Protection and Full Respect for People of African Descent is a common responsibility.

The Declaration must address a plan of actions to be implemented by governments in dialogue with society and with indicators aligned to national standards with disaggregated data on gender, age, race and ethnicity.

When related to implementation, local communities - children, adolescents, their families and communities – are the main drivers of the process.

The role of civil society must also be included.

The main challenge is how to translate and engage local communities, children and adolescents as the main drivers of the process, in different levels of engagement. Adolescent and youth participation in social and political processes must be a driver of change.

For children, adolescents and youth – indicators shall address actions on education, protection (safeguarding system of the child), wash, health, and nutrition, among others.

The realisation of the 1<sup>st</sup> session of the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent represents a collective step to guarantee every right.

The root causes of violence – an integrated approach is vital to dismantling systemic racism.

Tomorrow is today, words must be translated into actions – children, adolescents, and youth are the most vulnerable to the prejudices and obstacles presented by racism.

Children, adolescents and youth of African Descent are the main victims of the discrimination and unequal chances in life.

Children, Adolescents, Youth, their families and communities need protection to fulfil their rights – those rights shall be reflected on the Declaration on the Promotion, Protection and Full Respect for People of African Descent.