

ATACS

Asociación Tribal Afrodescendiente Caribe Sur

My name is Layli brown

I am a member of the tribal association of African descent of Costa Rica's Caribbean coast. The communities of Cahuita, Puerto Viejo, Cocles, Manzanillo, known as el Caribe Sur de Costa Rica.

African Descendant territories are under constant attack **everywhere**, by disguising systemic racism as environmental concerns the state has and is openly committing genocide as described in Article II of the Convention, destroying the ethnic, racial and religious group of the people of African descent of the Caribe Sur, even though our community has always lived in harmony and protected the environment.

The state has a set of laws and decrees promulgated in order to implement affirmative action and measures for people of African Decent, ~~yet~~ the implementation has been limited or null.

Our parents worked eighteen hour days on our ancestral lands. They have **also** stood in front of bulldozers sent by our local government to demolish our homes and business, continuously violating our human rights, denying our ownership of **our own** property.

Due to systemic racism and discriminatory laws

We face serious obstacles in the exercise of our human rights. As a mother my heart sinks into despair at the thought that my son must stand in front of bulldozers with me to defend his birthrights.

WE REQUEST THE INTERVENTION OF THE FORUM, IN ORDER TO:
DEMAND THAT THE STATE:

1. Immediately and permanently cease all regressive actions and measures that affect people of African descent.
2. Comply with the commitments acquired, and adopted in treaties, conventions and international instruments referring to people of African Descent.
3. Take concrete actions to regulate and implement the laws and decrees that favor affirmative actions to the population of African Descent.

United Nations, New York

June 2, 2023