



**DENISE ANITA HILL, LLC**  
Love. Freedom.  
Justice. Flourish.

**Statement at Meeting 6 on Adoption of the Preliminary Conclusions &  
Recommendations of the 2nd Session  
at The 2nd Session on Peoples of African Descent**

And so, we leave this place. We leave this place with the charge & in the spirit of the conclusions & recommendations of this 2nd Session, yes, and let us also leave this place reminded that, in the meantime, we have work to do. There are boats traversing Mediterranean waters in hopes of a better life, right now. There are folks sifting through garbage cans in downtown Chicago, looking for a bite to eat because no one will stop to even acknowledge their presence. There are children, sitting in jail cells, right now, far away from their families because they did or didn't do something that they pled to, not because they were guilty, but out of fear that if they couldn't prove they weren't and they asserted their full rights & failed, the sentence would have been greater. There's a mother somewhere whose doctor is ignoring her pleas of something not being quite right as she gives birth to her child. Somewhere there's another woman taking flight to a forest for refuge, or taking flight through South America navigating borders and treacherous crossings on the road to the freedom & dignity she knows deep in her soul is her right, while another is trying to figure out how to feed herself & her children because inflation is breaking their pockets. Somewhere there's a transwoman, who has disappeared simply because they showed up in the world in the beauty of the fullness of their worth & dignity. Somewhere there's a man who is contemplating suicide because even though all the noise around him says he's the one with the power, somehow, there just can never seem to be enough -- enough time, enough resources, enough space to dream, let alone realize one -- for him as a being of beauty & worth, for his family, for his people.

And the faces behind all these folks somewhere, they look like our cousins, their laugh, it reminds us of our siblings, their gait looks a bit like our parents, their hopes, their dreams, sound just like each of ours here today. Our people need us, now, in the time between this session & the next, to make real the freedom, to make real the justice, that give them the necessary conditions for the

possibility of the realization and flourishing of all their billions of dreams. They cannot wait any longer.

Finally, I would recommend that this forum would add to its recommendations in terms of process & procedures, the equitable recognition of those from civil society who participate remotely. It is equally important to hear from those within civil society who are remote, as it has been prioritized to hear from members of states who were remote. All of our voices, no matter how they show up, matter.

Let us continue in our work. Let us keep our hand at the plow and not look back. Let us not grow weary in well-doing. Let us right the wrong. Let us secure reparations now. Let us make real their dreams. Thank you.

Denise Anita Hill  
Founder