



NAASD

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICAN SLAVERY DESCENDANTS

Statement April 16, 2024: Reparations, Sustainable Development and Economic Justice

Dear Secretariat,

Bonjour and Greetings to Members of the United Nations Permanent Forum on People of African Descent. In the Reparations Space people know me as Friday Jones, and my name is Khansa Jones-Muhammad. I have tried unsuccessfully 3 times to cross the Atlantic Ocean - due to the events of 911, due to the Saudi United Arab Emirates airspace ban against Qatar, and due to the COVID travel ban. It is not lost on me that I stand here today, a free woman on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, a Descendant of the Mende people of Sierra Leone on my Mother's Side, and the Bamileke people of Cameroon on My Fathers Side – Ancestors who live through me that were "victim survivors" of the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade, enslaved in the United States of America as Chattel. It is my privilege to remember them here as a testament to their survival. I am the President of the National Assembly of American Slavery Descendants. I am the Los Angeles Reparations Advisory Commission Vice Chair as appointed by former Mayor Eric Garcetti.

As this Forum looks for Reparations Sustainability, NAASD asks the United Nations to include an NGO accountability inter-agreement to do no harm with member NGO's. The leadership of NAASD particularly the Coalition for a Just & Equitable California are the grassroot thought leaders that successfully championed the first State Reparations Commission in California and we ask that the UN consider the recommendations of the AB3121 Commission as a blueprint for other reparations efforts due to the vastness of the legislative recommendations.

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Maryland



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In closing I also invite you all to NAASD's Virtual Side Event Thursday April 18 at 5:00PM "African Americans: The Pursuit of Recognition of Humanity, Self and Distinct Peoplehood where you can learn more about our work in the United States.

Thank you.

Khansa Jones-Muhammad,

President, NAASD