

**UNODC inputs on Human Rights Council resolution 47/21 on
*Promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of
Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other
human rights violations by law enforcement officers through transformative
change for racial justice and equality***

The UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

In 2022, UNODC, as a member of the UN Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, substantively contributed to the development of a guidance note on intersectionality, racial discrimination and protection of minorities, to support UN efforts to end discrimination, inequality and exclusion. The note encourages an intersectional perspective in policy development, programming and project implementation to bolster UN action towards the elimination of racial discrimination and strengthen the protection of minorities.

In January 2022, on behalf of the Network and in collaboration with OHCHR and UNICEF, UNODC organized and led an Inter-Agency webinar for all UN Staff on “*Equal access to justice for all - combatting racial discrimination and enhancing protection of minorities in criminal justice systems.*” The webinar raised awareness of the normative frameworks in this area, intersectional forms of discrimination, as well as global responses to the challenges posed by racial discrimination. UNODC also presented the challenges connected to its programmes in Brazil and Mexico on addressing and responding to racial discrimination in criminal justice systems, as well as those faced in post-apartheid South Africa in tackling racial discrimination in the criminal justice system.

The International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the context of Law Enforcement (EMLER)

In 2022, UNODC continued its active support to the International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the context of Law Enforcement (EMLER) towards the implementation of the Mechanism’s mandate and will contribute to its upcoming report entitled “Reimagining policing”.

In May 2022, UNODC, jointly with OHCHR, organized a high-level side event on “[Addressing and Responding to Racial Discrimination in the Criminal Justice System](#)” at the 31st Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). Justice Mokgoro, Chair of the International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in the context of Law Enforcement (EMLER), presented the rationale and mandate for the EMLER, including the discrimination and barriers to access to justice faced by people of African descent in the criminal justice system. The event raised awareness of the necessity of ensuring equal access to justice for all and of the urgent need to address and respond to racial discrimination within criminal justice systems.