Toronto Black Farmers and Food Growers Collective

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Good evening Permanent Forum of People of African Descent;

Thanks for the sharing request regarding United Nations Declaration on the promotion, protection, and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent: Call for inputs.

We are in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. We have not seen any changes regarding the Declaration on promotion, protection, and full respect of human right of people of African descent presently. The life of POAD is dire in a first world country such as Canada.

Poverty amongst POAD is an alarming situation, employment is not on the rise, no financial support for black entrepreneurs – black businesses are at the highest levels in closing for good. The health care system is falling apart post covid. Many black nurses have broken down, are sick, or have lost employment. The quality of medical services provided now is mediocre – many vaccinated patients are complaining of lack of treatment in hospitals. This is a recipe for disaster.

Food insecurity has risen for POAD has risen at alarming rates as it pertains to systemic anti-black racism. Black people have little or money to spend and our community who are trying to do their best to make a difference in the communities they reside, there are not support for those efforts. The individuals supported are usually the sone engaging in useless activities, they are noticed and are getting the support!

We could go on an on, but our recommendation is to follow up in person with your member state Canada to see what the accomplishments have been. Five recommendations were given to Canada in 2018 by the United Nations, were any of these recommendations met? How are the lives of POAD improved? Where is the Federal Institute for People of African Descent? These are a few questions we would like answers from the United Nations regarding POAD living in Canada.

The other recommendation we have for member state who are not following this declaration protocol should be dismissed from UN Assembly. All member states are gearing up for the 2030 Agenda, but they have not been able to accomplish tangible outcomes for the International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024. That is truly shameful!

We hope this shines some light on what Canada is not doing respectfully. We also need to see real time progressive legislation pass in the house of Canadian Parliament as it pertains to the Decade. We are tired of the colonial way, the legacy of slavery coupled with xenophobia being the trojan horse claiming to be our rescue.

In solidarity,

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