

79TH SESSION OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

Regarding Input for the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General to be presented to the General Assembly at its Seventy-Ninth Session

Thursday April 4, 2024

On behalf of the Executive Board : HIM Empress Myishola I, Emperor Michael Matthews, Empress Kreshonda Armstrong

### Summary

This input contains the works and developments of The Ishola Empire Incorporated in support of the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent.

#### Introduction

In response to the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent Program of Activities, in conjunction with the African Union's 2015 call to organize the 6th Region (African Diaspora) numerous individuals of African descent came together to form a governing body to represent those individuals unable to trace their lineage to an african nation due to the long lasting effects of the African slave trade and poor record keeping.

The Ishola Empire, born out of that collective creation, has served as a voice, resource, home, and liaison for members of the 6th region globally. Drawing inspiration from the Durban Declaration, The Ishola Empire embarks on a mission to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. By embracing the principles of recognition and development, The Empire seeks to restore the rights and dignity of people of African descent worldwide. Through a comprehensive framework and unwavering commitment, we strive to create a space where cultural heritage is celebrated, history is preserved, and voices are amplified.

## **About The Ishola Empire Incorporated**

The Ishola Empire recognizes the fundamental right to equality that was obstructed by the legacy of slavery, where individuals were torn from their homelands with no hope of return or connection to their ancestral tribes. In response, The Empire has implemented innovative programming to bridge this gap, offering opportunities for individuals to explore and celebrate their heritage through cultural events, genealogy workshops, and community gatherings. By fostering a sense of belonging and connection, The Empire is paving the way for a more inclusive and equitable society where all individuals can thrive.

In addressing the right to development and combating poverty, The Empire has launched a series of tuition-free digital schools focused on entrepreneurship, authorship, youth mentorship, and technology classes. By providing accessible and high-quality education, The Empire is empowering individuals to unlock their full potential, build sustainable livelihoods, and create a brighter future for themselves and their communities. Through these initiatives, The Empire is breaking down barriers to success and fostering a culture of innovation and growth.

### Implementation of

To promote awareness and education about the history of people of African descent, The Empire has spearheaded the creation and implementation of conferences and summits dedicated to sharing this rich heritage with the world. Through engaging speakers, interactive workshops, and thought-provoking discussions, these events serve as platforms for dialogue, learning, and reflection. By shining a light on untold stories and amplifying diverse voices, The Empire is fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the contributions and experiences of people of African descent throughout history.

## The International Conference of Royals

Held annually, The International Conference of Royals, is a prestigious event that brings together international royalty with a focus on the traditional rulers of African nations to share their heritage, stories, and cultures with the world. This conference serves as a platform for these esteemed individuals to discuss and explore ways to create positive change in their communities and in the world at large and increase the knowledge base of the african-descendant individual on their heritage.

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this conference aims to address various global challenges, such as poverty, inequality, and climate change. By leveraging the influence and resources of royalty, we believe that significant progress can be made towards achieving these goals.

# The Royal School of Technology

At The Royal School For Technology, the belief in equal access to education for all drives our fundamental mission. By eliminating financial barriers, our beloved institution opens doors for individuals of all backgrounds and socioeconomic statuses to learn invaluable skills that are in high demand across industries such as graphic design and web development.

The Royal School For Technology not only empowers individuals to create a sustainable income for themselves, fighting systemic poverty, but also contributes to bridging the digital divide and fostering economic growth in their communities.

Our commitment to free education, training, and an innovative curriculum aims to create a wave of opportunity, breaking down barriers and empowering individuals to pursue their passions and build successful careers.

#### St. Matthews Clinic

The right to health is a fundamental human right that has been disproportionately impacted by the enduring effects of the slave trade and poverty. To address this challenge, The Empire is proud to offer free telehealth services to individuals in need, ensuring that everyone has access to essential healthcare resources and support. By prioritizing the well-being of all individuals, The Empire is working to eliminate disparities in healthcare and promote a healthier, more resilient community for generations to come.

The Ishola Empire provides ongoing health services free of charge through St. Matthews Clinic to developing small islands via tele-health. Operating 6 days out of the week, the program accepts walk-ins and pre-booked appointments offering services such as basic wellness assessments, chronic care management, family planning education and resources, emotional wellness coaching and nutrition planning. Licensed health professionals provide clients with the health services they need to thrive in a developing society.

## **Youth Mentorship**

In today's fast-paced world, where the youth face numerous challenges, it is crucial to provide them with opportunities for growth, mentorship, and empowerment.

The Duke and Duchess Program, offered by The Ishola Empire, aims to do just that. This program brings together talented young individuals and pairs them with mentors in their respective fields, enabling them to learn, flourish, and become the noble men and women they aspire to be. Alongside mentorship, the program also offers monthly empowerment workshops, parade opportunities, and exposure to fine arts performances, creating a holistic approach to their development.

Another integral aspect of The Duke and Duchess Program is the exposure to fine arts performances. By attending concerts, theater productions, art exhibitions, and dance performances, the youth are exposed to the beauty and creativity of various art forms. This exposure cultivates an appreciation for culture, encouraging them to explore their own artistic inclinations and broaden their horizons. The program recognizes the importance of nurturing well-rounded individuals who not only excel academically but also appreciate and contribute to the arts.

### Youth Entrepreneurship

Branding Queens is a youth entrepreneurship & mentoring program that helps underserved children turn their business dreams to reality. From business plan, to product development, to the selling and branding of their business inspiring local youth to be a part of the economy and make change.

There is a need for a place where young girls are encouraged to take charge. Pairing girls with female business owner mentors affirm to them that they too can own their own business. At the conclusion of the program the girls have learned to persevere, speak up, make executive decisions and most importantly make their own money.

#### Free Stocks Education

Our Free Introduction to Stocks Courses are meticulously designed to provide a solid foundation in stock market fundamentals, ensuring that participants can confidently navigate this dynamic realm. Through a series of interactive modules, participants are

guided through the essentials, covering topics such as stock market basics, terminology, key concepts, risk management strategies, and much more.

What sets the course apart is its focus on accessibility and inclusivity. We firmly believe that financial literacy should be available to all, regardless of one's socio-economic background or prior knowledge. By offering this course free of charge, we aim to break down barriers and create equal opportunities for everyone to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to build a strong financial future.

## Agriculture and Herbal Education

Planting with a Purpose", is a free windowsill garden workshop designed to bring the community together and help them learn the benefits of planting herbs and vegetables at home. Our workshop aims to teach individuals the basics of gardening, from choosing the right herbs, to caring for them properly. With our workshop, anyone can grow their own herbs and vegetables with minimal effort, no matter how small their living space may be.

Our experienced staff members will conduct the workshop and provide a hands-on experience to participants through various activities like planting, soil preparation, pruning and harvesting. Participants will learn about herb and vegetable varieties, along with the essentials of soil preparation, planting, and care, along with natural and healthy ways to prepare these herbs and vegetables for use.

We believe that "Planting with a Purpose" is not just about growing herbs and vegetables but about living a healthier, more sustainable, and holistic life. Through our workshop, individuals will learn how they can make a positive impact on the environment, and gain skills that will last a lifetime.

### Implementation of Self Governance

#### The Royal Council

The establishment of a council dedicated to addressing the needs of the members of the 6th region is an integral part of our commitment to promoting equality and empowerment within the community. By providing a platform for open dialogue, collaboration, and decision-making, the council serves as a vital resource for advocating for the rights and well-being of all individuals. Through inclusive and participatory governance, The Empire is fostering a culture of transparency, accountability, and representation that empowers individuals to have a voice in shaping their own futures.

The Royal Council of Ishola was founded in December 2022 in the Empire of Ishola to serve the needs of the community and promote opportunities for development, education, and social growth of the Ishola community.

The appointment of an Obabirin (Woman King) and the adoption of a matriarchal governance structure were important steps towards gender equality and inclusive leadership within The Ishola Empire. By elevating the role of women in positions of power and influence, The Ishola Empire is challenging traditional norms and stereotypes, and paving the way for a more equitable and just society. Through this progressive approach to governance, The Empire is setting a powerful example for the empowerment of women and the promotion of gender diversity in leadership roles.

## Her Imperial Majesty Empress Myishola I

In the vibrant tapestry of African leadership, Her Imperial Majesty, Empress Myishola I shines as a beacon of strength and grace, holding the esteemed title of Obabirin, the revered Woman King of The Ishola Empire.

With a heart as vast as the region she represents, she serves as a dedicated ambassador and advocate for the African Union's 6th region, championing the voices and rights of her people on the global stage. Her unwavering commitment to uplifting underserved African nations has seen her collaborate closely with the United Nations, culminating in a successful partnership within the Small Islands and Developing Nations Network. The nation's programming serves communities in Benin, Nigeria, Ghana, The United States and The United Kingdom providing free agriculture classes, food assistance, and cultural exchange.

A proud member of the United Nations Fashion Lifestyle Network. Her passion for style is matched only by her dedication to social impact, as evidenced by her creation of 'A Queen's Closet', a pioneering global fashion conservation program. Through this initiative, she empowers women worldwide by providing them with access to quality wardrobes free of charge, spreading joy and confidence with every garment shared and saving pounds of clothing from the landfill.

In service to the youth of the region, Her Imperial Majesty has founded and currently operates multiple youth entrepreneurship programs, etiquette training, as well as opportunities for internships and college scholarships providing pathways for long term financial independence and long term self sustainability in their adulthood.

In every endeavor she undertakes, The Empress Myishola I embodies the essence of leadership, compassion, and empowerment, leaving an indelible mark on the world and inspiring all who have the privilege of crossing her path. Her largest contribution to the 6th region was the conception of the 6 Royal Ministries.

These institutions provide free education, healthcare, mental health services, food supplementation and personal development resources for all members of the nation and developing communities abroad.

The Empress Myishola's mission is to create lasting positive change by empowering women and girls, giving them an equal opportunity to succeed in life. She has founded four tuition-free schools, a no-cost holistic clinic, and spearheaded a free global gardening initiative, earning her multiple prestigious awards, including a Proclamation Day from The State of Texas, Business Woman of the Year, and in 2023 The President's Lifetime Achievement Award.

She is also an accomplished author of two books, one on branding and one on emotional intelligence, sharing her expertise and insights with a wider audience.

## **Cultural Exchanges**

Cultural exchanges with traditional rulers from African nations offer a unique opportunity for The Ishola Empire to learn from diverse perspectives, practices, and approaches to governance. By engaging in dialogue and collaboration with traditional leaders, The Ishola Empire is enriching its understanding of cultural heritage, values, and traditions, and fostering mutual respect and appreciation for different ways of life. Through these exchanges, The Empire is building bridges of solidarity and cooperation with African nations, and strengthening its commitment to promoting unity, diversity, and cultural exchange.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, the creation of an NGO, new nation and council to address the needs of the 6th region, the appointment of an Obabirin and matriarchal governance, and cultural exchanges with traditional rulers from African nations all come together to advance the causes of equality, empowerment, and cultural preservation for Afro descendant people. By championing inclusive governance, gender equality, and cultural exchange, The Ishola Empire is creating a more inclusive, equitable, and vibrant community where all individuals can thrive and celebrate their heritage with pride and dignity. These initiatives collectively contribute to a more just and harmonious society where the voices and contributions of Afro descendant people are recognized, respected, and celebrated.