

32nd Session of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
Economic Empowerment of People of African Descent
Geneva, Switzerland, *May 1-5, 2023*
Proposals presented by Geledés – Instituto da Mulher Negra - Brazil

Topic 2

The World's 600 years Black Debt: from Exploitation to Economic Emancipation

a) Considering the historical inequalities and systemic racism that the Afro-descendant population is subjected to, and how this impedes economic advancement, **States should adopt policies to guarantee a conditioned universal basic income.** This income guarantee as a fundamental right has the potential to contribute to the construction of citizenship, insofar as access to monetary income also triggers a social process of autonomy and freedom for individuals, and advances in the enjoyment of civil, social, and political rights.

b) Ancestral Afro-descendant communities recognize the human vulnerability and the interdependence of ecosystems through knowledge passed down through generations. Considering that these communities are among the groups most affected by the climate crisis, recognition of ancestral knowledge is key to adopting adaptation and mitigation policies. Valuing and learning from this knowledge and practices is crucial for sustaining life and continuously improving well-being, whether through guaranteeing human rights