



Draft Agenda

REGIONAL MEETING FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ON THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

**Organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Hosted by the Government of Brazil
3 - 4 December 2015, Brasilia, Brazil**

The International Decade for People of African Descent launched by the United Nations General Assembly (2015 – 2024) is an opportunity to analyze and improve the human rights situation and well-being of one of the population groups most affected by racism and discrimination. By combating racial discrimination, Governments will also strengthen democracy, the rule of law and equality in societies. In 2014, by its resolution 69/16, the General Assembly adopted a Programme of Activities, identifying the objectives and outlining specific actions to be taken within the three themes of the International Decade: **Recognition, Justice and Development**.

As part of the awareness raising campaign for the International Decade, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will organize five regional meetings. The **first meeting** is for the Latin American and Caribbean region. The meeting will provide an opportunity for governments from the region, equality bodies, national human rights institutions, civil society, development agencies and regional organizations, to reflect on trends, priorities and obstacles at the national and regional levels to effectively implement the Programme of Activities for the Decade. The meetings will be also an occasion to exchange good practices.

The discussion at the meeting will be structured under the themes of the Decade and will reflect the priority areas identified by the Programme of Activities for the Decade among others:

Recognition: a) awareness raising and education measures to promote greater knowledge of and respect for culture, history, heritage and positive contribution; b) adoption of anti-racial discrimination laws and public policies, including action plans; d) establishment and strengthening of equality bodies; e) undertake data collection for the promotion of racial equality;

Justice: concrete and effective measures: a) to ensure it4(o)4ce:

THURSDAY, 3 DECEMBER

OPENING:

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| 11:00 – 11:15 | Opening statement by Minister of Women, Racial Equality and Human Rights of Brazil, H.E. Nilma Lino Gomes |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Statement by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, |
| 11:30 – 11:45 | Statement by Afro-descendant civil society, Diogenes Diaz |
| 11:45 – 11:55 | Election of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Vice-Chairperson/Rapporteur |
| 11:55 – 12:00 | Adoption of the agenda |
| 12:00 – 13:45 | Lunch |
| 13:45 – 14:30 | General remarks |

Please see **TOPIC ONE: DEVELOPMENT**

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| 14:30 – 14:45 | Presentation by Edna Santos Roland, independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action |
| 14:45 – 18:00 | General debate/interventions of participants |
| 18:15 – 19:45 | |