



EPAF-PAD
Europe Pan-African Forum for
People of African Descent



2026
DURBAN
PLUS25

RECOGNITION,

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
UN DURBAN DECLARATION
& PROGRAMME OF ACTION

REPAIR,

JUSTICE

NOTHING
ABOUT US
WITHOUT US

&

IMPLEMENTATION

THE HAGUE ROUNDTABLE DIALOGUE
FROM THE DURBAN DECLARATION,
THE HAGUE OUTCOME STATEMENT
TO POP LEO XIV

08-09
AUG 2026

The Hague
Netherlands

02 BACKGROUND

Context and the Road to 2026

At the heart of transatlantic chattel slavery and the slave trade was the dehumanization of persons on the basis of race - a social construct that to this day shapes access to fundamental human rights.

UN DURBAN DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION, 2001

The year 2026 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the World Conference against Racism in Durban, South Africa. The Durban Declaration recognized the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans and slavery as a crime against humanity - though its practical force has since depended entirely on political will, channeled through the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024). The modest results of the first Decade made a Second Decade (2025-2034) necessary.

Unga Resolution A / 80 / L.48 - 25 March 2026

Declaration of the Trafficking of Enslaved Africans and Racialized Chattel Enslavement of Africans as the Gravest Crime against Humanity

Tabled by Ghana on behalf of the African Group, supported by the African Union and CARICOM. Where Durban used the conditional ("should"), the 2026 Declaration uses the indicative ("is"), creating a formal political record to which states can be held in subsequent advocacy, diplomatic and legal processes.

The advance is declaratory rather than legally binding, but decisive in one respect: where Durban used the conditional ("should"), the 2026 Declaration uses the indicative ("is"). It creates a formal political record to which states can be held in subsequent advocacy, diplomatic and legal processes.

The European states that bear the greatest historical responsibility largely abstained. Giving the Resolution practical effect within those states therefore depends in significant part on the African Diaspora communities already established there - recognized under Article 3(q) of the 2003 Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union as Africa's Sixth Region.

123

IN FAVOUR

3

AGAINST

52

ABSTENTIONS

03 PURPOSE

Objectives

The following six objectives guide the convening. Every strategy adopted is to be judged by whether it advances actual repair.

i PAN - AFRICAN SPIRIT

To affirm and renew the Pan-African spirit that has driven change across generations - rooted in the belief in the unity, common history and common purpose of the peoples of Africa and the African diaspora, as defined by Professor Dr. Hakim Adi.

ii REPARATORY JUSTICE AS THE MEASURE

To keep reparatory justice as the objective and measure of success. An apology or declaration is a necessary step, but not the goal; the goal is reparations as set out amongst others in the CARICOM Ten-Point Plan and the UN Basic Principles (A/RES/60/147).

iii IMPACT OF RESOLUTION A / 80 / L.48

To present and assess the Resolution's implications for African Diaspora communities in Europe, particularly in the Netherlands, as part of Africa's Sixth Region.

iv CONCRETE STRATEGIES & STEPS FORWARD

Situational analysis and reports from the Europe Countries Facilitators: the Netherlands, Luxemburg, UK, France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Hungary and the Holy See; examine the concrete strategies available to the organized African Diaspora in Europe across community spaces, media, courts, institutions and parliaments. Sharing the state of action toward Reparation and Reparatory justice.

v SIXTH REGION OPERATIONALISATION

To advance the operationalization of the African Union's Sixth Region architecture, ensuring Diaspora communities in Europe are genuine co-architects of reparatory frameworks.

vi SHARED CAPACITY

To strengthen partnerships, align programmes and build shared capacity among African Diaspora organizations and their allies across Europe for the sustained advocacy ahead.

04 AGENDA

Dialogue Topics

The six dialogue topics below run across both days and are designed to build cumulative understanding, moving from a shared definition of reparations through legal and strategic analysis to concrete capacity-building.

What is Reparations?

Reparations are what is owed and what must be returned for the harms of the Maangamizi — the continuum of racialised chattel enslavement, colonialism and their continuing legacies. Those responsible, enriched by them, must repair what was damaged, restore what was destroyed, give back all that was taken, and guarantee the harms are never repeated. The plural traditions of the movement are grounded in Ubuntu and Ma'at, and hold that reparations must be defined by the peoples against whom these harms were and are committed.

Impact of Resolution A/80/L.48

Where do we go from here in Europe? Examining what the Resolution's legal architecture opens, and addressing its principal challenge - non-binding status and the doctrine of in temporality - with clear eyes and a persuasive counter-strategy, taken into account the results of the June High Level Summit in Ghana.

Strengthening Voices and Partnerships

Deepening collaboration across European African Diaspora organizations and building the shared infrastructure required for sustained, credible engagement over the decade ahead.

The AU Sixth Region Diaspora in Europe

Giving practical effect to rights enshrined in AU law; advancing the Sixth Region Diaspora Advisory Board; and asserting the Diaspora's standing as a self-determining political force already organizing within European states, and holding the African Union to its own commitment to the Sixth Region.

Pope Leo XIV's Apology in Magnifica Humanitas

What an acknowledgment of the Church's role - a plea for pardon, though not yet an endorsement of reparations - opens a channel to press the Church toward reparations, holding its acknowledgment to its logical conclusion.

Four Thematic Workshops

Reparatory Justice; Pan-Africanism and the Sixth Region; Ubuntu and participatory method; and Confronting Afrophobia - each producing a concrete written output.

05 SCHEDULE

Programmes

DAY 1 Saturday 8 August 2026 **Foundation and Assessment**

Moderators

Dr. Angela Sayles

Board of Directors AUADS
6th Region High Council

Dr. Lazare Ki-Zerbo

EPAF-PAD France Chapter

TIME	SESSION
09:30-09:55	Registration
10:00-10:07	<p>Libation</p> <p>Rooted in ancestral traditions and in recognition of those who came before us in the struggle for justice.</p> <p>Under guidance of Mrs. Modi Ntambwe EPAF-PAD Belgium Chapter</p>
10:07-10:20	<p>Welcome Remarks by: Mrs. Sirelda Jackson</p> <p>Board of Directors of the Platform of the Dutch Slavery Past; Chair of the Aruba National Reparations Commission & representing the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Caribbean</p> <p>Set the Tone Statement by: Dr. Barryl A. Biekman</p> <p>Chair National Platform Dutch Slavery Past / EPAF-PAD Europe</p>
10:20-11:20	<p>Opening Remarks by: Mrs. Esther Xosei</p> <p>Pan-Afrikan Internationalist Jurisconsult; Co-Founder & Co-Vice Chair PARCOE, Coordinator General of the <i>Stop The Maangamizi</i>; Co-founder & co-convenor of INOSAAR; Co-Chair of N'COBRA's International Affairs Commission, UK/Caribbean Mobiliser for the Restitution Study Group; Trustee of the climate-litigation charity Plan B. https://app.box.com/s/u3nixk7jbt8bl63o92xjwtxjtkq21q4j</p> <p>Statement on the importance of the Europe Region Diaspora in the Process towards Reparatory Justice.</p> <p>Context Setting</p> <p>Main principles of The Hague Declaration: "Nothing About Us Without Us"; material versus descriptive representation; rights under international law; grounding in Ubuntu and Ma'at.</p>

TIME	SESSION
10:20–11:20	<p>Chief Eric Philips Vice Chair Caricom Reparations Commission and Chair of the Guyana National Reparations Commission Statement from the CARICOM Reparations Commission. The Essence of the Caricom Reparations Manifesto.</p> <p>H.E. Dr. Ekwow Spio-Garbrah Ghana Presidential Special Envoy for Reparations The Next Steps with Regards to the implementation of Resolution on the gravest crime.</p> <p>Ms. Ndeye Fatou Ndiaye EPAF-PAD Chapter Spain The African Youth Perspective</p>
11:20-11:50	<p>Solidarity statements</p> <p>H.E. Ricardo Panka Ambassador of Republic Suriname to the Netherlands</p> <p>H.E. Eddison Mensah Agbenyegah Ambassador of Ghana to the Netherlands (TBC)</p> <p>Member(s) of the Dutch Parliament</p>
11:50-12:40	<p>Keynote</p> <p>Prof. Hakim Adi https://www.hakimadi.org/</p> <p><i>Pan-Africanism and the European Diaspora: the Historical Foundation</i> A 50-minute keynote address including 15-minute Q and A and discussion. The 1945 Manchester Congress documented record of the Diaspora’s role in building the Pan-African movement, the historical ground of the Sixth Region.</p>
12:50–13:10	<p>Plenary Session: The Framework of Central Points of Care</p> <p>Dr. Nii Hammond National Reparations Commission NL</p> <p>The central concerns from the perspective of various stakeholders, including Member States; the role of civil society in enriching public debate on slavery history in perspective of Our Legal Status: Africa’s Sixth Region</p> <p>Article 3(q) of the 2003 Protocol; Global African Diaspora Summit Declaration 2012; Accra Proclamation 2023; ACHPR Resolution 616 (2024).</p>
13:10-13:55	<p>Break</p>

TIME	SESSION
14.00-14:20	<p>The Europe Pan African Forum for People of African Descents in Action. Set the Tone Statement by: Dr. Glenn Thode</p> <p>Assistant professor Criminal Law Rijksuniversiteit Groningen; Academic advisor to the Slavery History Dialogue Group Advisory Board - Co-author of Recognition, Apologies and Restoration, a report on the legal aspects of transcendence of the slavery past (2021)</p> <p>The Case of the Netherlands abstention in context of the Kingdom.</p>
14:20-15:55	<p>Followed by Reports on Europe countries Assessment and Situational Analyses with regards to the Europe Region Country’s developments on Reparatory Justice.</p> <p>Europe Region Chapter Facilitators from the Netherlands, Luxemburg, UK, France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Spain, Switzerland, Norway, Hungary and the Holy See, Presenting the highlights of the written Reports</p> <p>References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The implementation of the September 2025 EPAF-PAD Declaration: reporting the results of the implementation strategies. The mobilizing strategies; - The States respond after the adoption of the UN Resolution A/80/L.48: EPAF-PAD responds towards the States Government and Parliaments with regards to the abstentions to the Resolution; - The implementation of the UN 2nd Decade for People of African Descent; the implementation of the “Berlin (2025) EPAF-PAD Declaration on the 20th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action.
15:55-16:15	<p>Plenary Session: Strategic Analysis - Understanding the Challenge Mrs. Esther Xosei</p> <p><i>Topics</i> How state-driven processes can dilute community-led advocacy; the 9th Pan-African Congress as a case study; protecting integrity of civil-society advocacy. Conceptual frameworks, institutional infrastructure (PARCOE, national platforms, INOSAAR, ENGOCCAR, EPAF-PAD/EPAC-RJ) and anchoring in African philosophical traditions.</p>
16:15-16:30	<p>Break</p>
16:30-17:00	<p>Our Distinctive Contributions and Close of Day by Moderators</p> <p>Libation Under guidance of Mr. Yaw Guno Mac Intosh Sabi Yu Rutu Weekend School</p>

DAY 2 Sunday 9 August 2026 Workshops and Action

Moderators **Dr. Nii Hammond** **Mrs. Connie Arnoldus**

National Reparations Commission NL

TIME	SESSION				
09:45-10:15	Registration				
10:15-10:22	<p>Libation</p> <p>Rooted in ancestral traditions and in recognition of those who came before us in the struggle for justice.</p> <p>Under guidance of Mrs. Modi Ntambwe EPAF-PAD Belgium Chapter</p>				
10:22-10:30	<p>Welcome Remarks and Short summary of Day 1 by:</p> <p>Ms. Mariama de Vries</p> <p>National Reparations Commission NL</p>				
10:30-10:50	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>The significance of 2026 as the 25th anniversary of the Durban Declaration and Program of Action</p> <p>Dr. Barbara Reynolds</p> <p>Member of the UN Working Group of experts on People of African Descents</p>				
10:50-11:50	<p>Keynote</p> <p>Mrs. Esther Xosei</p> <p>Reparations, A Pan-African approach grounded in Ubuntu</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>A 60-minute panel discussion including Q&A about the different aspects of Reparatory Justice.</p> <p>Panelists</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mrs. Ruth Piere EPA F-PAD France Chapter</td> <td>Dr. Dianko Lamin EPAF-PAD Switzerland Chapter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr. Hattem Ben Mansour EPAF-PAD Norway Chapter</td> <td>Mrs. Hetty Vrede National Reparations Commission NL</td> </tr> </table>	Mrs. Ruth Piere EPA F-PAD France Chapter	Dr. Dianko Lamin EPAF-PAD Switzerland Chapter	Mr. Hattem Ben Mansour EPAF-PAD Norway Chapter	Mrs. Hetty Vrede National Reparations Commission NL
Mrs. Ruth Piere EPA F-PAD France Chapter	Dr. Dianko Lamin EPAF-PAD Switzerland Chapter				
Mr. Hattem Ben Mansour EPAF-PAD Norway Chapter	Mrs. Hetty Vrede National Reparations Commission NL				
11:50–12:50	<p>Four Parallel Thematic Workshops</p> <p>1. Reparatory Justice: The African Union and the Caricom perspectives</p> <p>Lead Presenters</p> <p>H.E. Dr. Ekwow Spio-Garbrah & Chief Eric Phillips</p> <p>Rapporteurs</p> <p>Mrs. Sirelda Jackson & Ms. Mariama de Vries</p>				

TIME	SESSION
11:50-12:50	<p>2. Pan-Africanism and The Sixth Region</p> <p>Lead Presenters Prof. Dr. Hakim Adi & Dr. Lazare Ki-Zerbo</p> <p>Rapporteurs Dr. Angela Sayles and Mrs. Marissa Daruwalla EPAF-PAD Chapter Luxemburg</p> <p>3. Ubuntu and Participatory Method</p> <p>Lead Presenters Dr. Nii Hamond National Reparations Commission NL</p> <p>Rapporteurs Mrs. Modi Ntambwe & Ms. Ndeye Fatou Ndiaye</p> <p>4. Confronting Afrophobia</p> <p>Lead Presenters Dr. Yonas Endrias EPAF-PAD Germany Chapter</p> <p>Jan Lonn ISMUN and delegate EPAF-PAD Sweden/Denmark Chapters</p> <p>Rapporteurs Ms. June Lewis EPAF-PAD Chapter UK</p> <p>Dr. Armina Tall EPAF-PAD Germany Chapter</p>
12:50-13:50	Break
14:00-14:30	Plenary Session: Presentation of the Results of the Working Groups & Discussions
14:40-15:15	<p>Resolution Outcome Part 1: Ad option of the Hague Outcome Statement - the Perspective of People of African Descent Living in Europe</p> <p>Discussion in the four working groups</p>
15:20-15:50	Plenary Session: Presentation of the Results of the Working Groups on the Adoption of the Hague Outcome Statement
15:50-16:10	<p>The Adoption From Declaration to Accountability</p> <p>The Drafting Committee: Confirmation of focal points, the standing coordination mechanism, responsibilities, and the date of the next meeting.</p>
16:10-16:30	<p>Closing Libation</p> <p>Libation Under guidance of Mr. Yaw Guno Mac Intosh</p>

06 DEEP DIVES

Workshop Framework

Each workshop runs approximately 75 minutes with about 20 participants. They are structured to produce a specific written output - the raw material of the convening's deliverables, consolidated immediately into the Hague Outcome Statement.

Workshop 1 Reparatory Justice: What We Mean and What We Ask

FOCUS

Aligning the diaspora's understanding of reparatory justice with the CARICOM Ten-Point Plan Manifesto and the legal architecture opened by Resolution A/80/L.48, in the specific situation of descendant's resident in the states that bear historical responsibility.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

What does reparatory justice mean in the European diaspora context?
Which of the Ten Points are most actionable in Europe in the next 24 months?
Who benefits, and who is eligible?

OUTPUT

Agreed core positions mapped to the CARICOM Ten-Point Plan.

Workshop 2 Pan-Africanism and the Sixth Region: From History to Operational Asks

FOCUS

Translating the historical foundation set out in Prof. Adi's keynote into concrete, achievable asks for AU engagement.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

How is Article 3(q) given practical effect?
What does meaningful diaspora participation in AU structures require?
Which two or three asks would make the greatest difference?

OUTPUT

A short, prioritized list of specific asks for the African Union.

Workshop 3 Ubuntu and Participatory Method: “Nothing About Us Without Us” in Practice

FOCUS

Turning the ethical framework of Ubuntu, Ma’at and the Hague Declaration into a working method for engaging state-led processes while keeping them genuinely community-led.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

What distinguishes genuine participation from consultation that is later set aside?
What practical safeguards keep a process community-led?
How do we engage constructively without being absorbed?

OUTPUT

A participation-and-integrity checklist: criteria for assessing any state or institutional reparations initiative before engaging with it.

Workshop 4 Confronting Afrophobia: Evidence and Advocacy

FOCUS

Anti-Black racism across European states as both a present harm and a dimension of reparatory justice, and the advocacy and legal levers available (ICERD, EU anti-racism frameworks, national mechanisms).

GUIDING QUESTIONS

How is Afrophobia documented across different national contexts?
Which advocacy and legal channels have proved most effective?
What evidence do we still need, and who gathers it?

OUTPUT

A shared Afrophobia advocacy agenda and a practical evidence-gathering plan across participating countries.

07 OUTCOMES

What This Convening Will Deliver

The convening is designed to end with tangible products that participants can use immediately - not only a sense of solidarity. Each product advances the Pan-African purpose and the practical operationalization of the Sixth Region.

Pan-African Affirmation

A short statement renewing the bond of common history and purpose among the peoples of Africa and the diaspora, and affirming the European diaspora's standing as Africa's Sixth Region under Article 3(q).

Standing Coordination Mechanism

A confirmed working group of European African Diaspora organizations, with focal points, a communication channel and the date of the next meeting.

Participation and Integrity Framework

The checklist produced by the Ubuntu workshop, to safeguard community leadership in any state-led process.

Hague Outcome Statement

A concise consensus document recording shared analysis and agreed key messages, suitable for publication and transmission to partners.

AU and CARICOM Briefing Document

Carrying workshop outputs as specific, prioritized asks - including Sixth Region operationalization, reparatory-justice positions mapped to the CARICOM Ten-Point Plan, and the Afrophobia evidence-gathering plan.

24-Month Engagement Roadmap

A timeline with named focal points, beginning with the reparations movements' own community and coordination focal points, then those for engagement with the African Union (via ECOSOCC and CIDO), CARICOM and the European states concerned.

08 FOR PARTICIPANTS

Preparation

Participants are asked to come prepared - to raise the level of shared knowledge of Dutch and European policy on the Dutch slavery file, and in particular the meaning of Article 3(q) and the Sixth Region framework.

Each participant should bring concrete examples of recent developments in their own national or regional context, and should consider in advance which workshop they wish to join so that each workshop can begin its drafting promptly.

Supporting papers circulated with this note: (1) Partners in Liberation: The European Diaspora and Africa's Sixth Region - a historical brief for AU engagement; and (2) Part XVIII: The Unseen Infrastructure: Diaspora Self-Financing and the Sustainability of Pan-Africanism.