

Annex II

Biographical data form of candidates to human rights treaty bodies
(Please respect the specified amount of lines when filling out this form and
return it electronically in word format)

Name and first: SHEPHERD, Verene Albertha

Date and place of birth: April 16, 1951, St. Mary, Jamaica

Working languages: English; Spanish (good facility in reading; functional in speaking)

Current position/function:
(5 lines maximum)

- 1] Professor of Social History at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica, focussing on subaltern history
- 2] University Director of the Regional Institute for Gender & Development Studies, University of the West Indies
- 3] Member (and former Chair) of the United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent.
- 4] Member of the Board of Atlantic Studies; Slavery & Abolition; International Journal of African Renaissance Studies
- 5] Member of the International Women's Forum & Radio Host of "Talking History" (Nationwide 90 FM, Jamaica)

Main professional activities:¹
(10 lines maximum)

My main position is University Director of the Institute for Gender & development Studies. This requires supervising staff on the 3 main campuses of the University of the West Indies (UWI), administering a Graduate Programme in the Regional Coordinating Unit of the Institute for Gender & Development Studies and overseeing the development of a Gender Policy for the University that fits within the Strategic goals of the Institution. I am engaged in research and publications, Human Rights Outreach activities and serve on the Advisory Board of the Police Staff College in Jamaica. I also participate actively in the work and mandate of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (WGEPAD), of which I am the representative of the Latin American and Caribbean States Group (GRULAC) & immediate past Chair.

Educational background:
(5 lines maximum)

Academic Record

- 1988: Ph.D (History), University of Cambridge
- 1985: M.Phil (History), University of the West Indies
- 1976: B.A. (History), University of the West Indies

I also have formal training in Teacher Education

Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the treaty body concerned:
(10 lines maximum)

Currently, my main human rights /anti-racial discrimination work is as a member of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent (WGEPAD). Our mandate relates directly to anti-discrimination as well as the fight against xenophobia and related intolerance. We are actively involved in the fight against racial discrimination, especially Afrophobia. Our country visits provide us with opportunities to review the human rights records of various countries and ascertain best practices and challenges in the area of racial discrimination. I am affiliated with the work of two non-governmental organisations, Jamaicans for Justice and Jamaica's 51% Coalition, that lobby for gender justice in

¹ It should be noted that membership in the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination requires participation in three annual sessions (April/May and November/December of three weeks and August of four weeks duration).

leadership positions. I use my radio programme to focus on human rights issues. I also participate in radio interviews and documentaries (locally, regionally and internationally) that focus on racial discrimination and subaltern studies; and deliver numerous public lectures that intersect with the mandate of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the WGEPAD. I also participated in the Vienna+20 Conference in Austria, in June 2013.

List of most recent publications in the field:

5 lines maximum

1. **2011:** Verene A. Shepherd (ed.), *Engendering Caribbean History: Cross-cultural Perspectives* (Kingston: Ian Randle)
2. **2007:** Verene A. Shepherd, *I Want to Disturb My Neighbour : Lectures on Slavery, Emancipation & Postcolonial Jamaica* (Kingston: Ian Randle).
3. **2006:** Verene Shepherd/Hilary Beckles, *Freedoms Won: Caribbean Emancipations, Ethnicities, and Nationhood* (Cambridge UP)
4. **2004:** Beckles/Shepherd, *Liberties Lost: Caribbean Indigenous Societies and Slave Systems* (Cambridge UP);
5. **2002:** Verene A. Shepherd, *Maharani's Misery* (Kingston: UWI Press)