



Global Afrikan Congress uk (GACuk)

27th Session of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

Statement for Item 3, Section 6 Reparations – Remedies, Accountability and Justice, 2nd December 2020

Global Afrikan Congress (GAC) is an international network of organisations formed after the work by Afrikans at the UN World Conference Against Racism 2001 who successfully encouraged nation states to recognise our enslavement as a crime against humanity. Our key objective is to achieve Reparations for these crimes which still continue today, including neo-colonialism, genocide and racism.

GAC organises from the grassroots offering local, regional and international community solidarity, co-operation and empowerment. It offers organisations and Afrikans across the world the opportunity to work together in a unified fashion to demand Reparations. We aim to mobilise the human, economic, political, spiritual and cultural resources of Afrika and the Afrikan Diaspora in the interest and to the benefit of Afrika and her people. GACuk is the UK Chapter of GAC.

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The term 'Afrikan' in this document refers to the indigenous people of Afrika and their descendants throughout the Diaspora in all corners of the world. We spell Afrika with a 'k' based on the following insights:

- it is a Pan-Afrikan spelling which relates both to the Afrikan continent and the Diaspora;
- it reflects the spelling of 'Afrika' in Afrikan languages and
- it includes the concept of 'ka', the vital energy which both sustains and creates life, as expressed in ancient Kemetic (Egyptian) teachings



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DDPA Declaration 13 acknowledges that 'slavery and the slave trade ... are a crime against humanity and should always have been so, especially the transatlantic slave trade.' African people 'were victims of these acts and continue to be victims of their consequences'.

Declaration 108 recognises the necessity for special measures to promote full integration into society. The aim is to correct the conditions that impair the enjoyment of rights to bring all onto an equal footing.

The Abuja Proclamation of 1993 came from the first Pan-African Conference on Reparations, sponsored by the Group of Eminent Persons (GEP); the Commission for Reparations of the Organization of African Unity and the Federal Republic of Nigeria. They were 'convinced that the issue of Reparations is ... worthy of the active support of the rest of the international community... Fully persuaded that the damage sustained by the African people is not a "thing of the past" but is painfully manifest in the damaged lives of contemporary Africans'.

We have research from University College London and others showing who profited from enslavement. Universities such as Glasgow are able to show how they benefited, eg from endowments. The murder of George Floyd and BLM protests have encouraged beneficiaries like Lloyds of London and Greene King to say they will make Reparations but they are talking to groups whose ancestors were not enslaved.

English tort law concerns the compensation for harm to people's rights to health and safety, their economic interests, or their reputations. That usually requires a payment of money to make up for damage that is caused. Reparations requires a readjustment of the relationship agreeable to both parties. What is lacking is the will.

7.8 billion Afrikans are not waiting to be repaired. We are changing the narrative.

Afrika is not poor. About 15 years ago \$30 billion went into Afrika as aid. \$192 billion came out - \$46.3 to multinationals; \$21 in debt repayment and \$17 in illegal logging. Stop stealing from Afrika.

Return artefacts, documents and body parts to their rightful owners as per DDPA Programme of Action 158.

Give us the patents for our inventions.

Remove the names of those who fought against enslavement from criminal records.

Support debt repudiation not cancellation. We owe the west nothing.

Support the Centre for Reparation Research at UWI.

Support the 12 Point Reparations Plan developed at the Caribbean Pan African Network Festival 2018.

Encourage nation states and Regions to establish their own Reparations Commissions as CARICOM has.

Establish the UN Permanent Afrikan Forum.

This is not an exhaustive list but it will help in the journey to return Afrikan people and Afrika to the position we would have been in 'if not for' enslavement. That way we start to achieve Reparations.