Repairing the World for the Future of Children of African Descent

UN WGEPAD 30th SESSION
Grounding: Concept of Reparatory Justice

remedying  rectifying  repairing  reconstructing  regenerating

just  behaviour  or  treatment
Why?

• Historical and contemporary wrongs - slavery, colonization, segregation, discrimination resulting in dehumanization, degradation, disadvantage

• Wrongs egregiously, repeatedly meted out to Africans with severe cumulative effect

• Cumulative effect that is irreversible, *if* left unaddressed

• Reparatory justice is a moral imperative that has civil, political, economic, social and cultural ramifications

• Duty of care to future generations to disrupt the systems and structures that perpetuate discrimination and maintain the status quo ante
Caveats and Considerations

- People of African descent are not monochromatic or monolithic
  - Diversities which lead to
  - Complexities and
  - Intersectionalities

- People of African descent are on different trajectories in their shared journey

- Which means there is no single, undisputed way of knowing or being or learning or living together, necessitating continual discourse, dialogue and discussion to advance the common agenda!
What states (governments leading) must do...

01 Recognition of historical and contemporary wrongs

02 Remorse for loss and harm

03 Reparation - material restitution

04 Return of artifacts and assets

05 Reform of laws, policies, structures, systems, practices
What people of African descent must do...

- Transform animosity to awareness and alliances
- Prioritize education, social and economic emancipation
- Fully exploit IT - to connect people, ideas and initiatives
- Own the research - data, data, evidence, evidence
- Find the people of African descent missing from the conversation and the enterprise...
Basic toolkit for people of African descent

At the level of the individual and the community, to keep enhancing and deploying

- Agency
- Alliances
- Audacity
- Diversity of professions
- Perspicacity
- Resilience
Education - Acquisition of Essential Literacies

- Health
- Financial
- Digital
- Scientific
- Cultural
- Information
- Human rights

- Media
- Social
- Religious
- Critical
- Legal
- Organisational
- Developmental
Economic emancipation

Pursuing the fundamentals of
• Land, land ownership and land title
• Access to credit - for enterprise and home ownership
• Taxation and disposable income management
• Investment and retirement planning
• Enterprise (business, social, cultural) and innovation
• Insurance
Social emancipation

• Decolonise spaces, narratives, images
  • Advertisements
  • Entertainment
Existential Threats

- Non-white governments that unleash the same brutal harm
- Black governments indifferent to their peoples’ well-being
- Traitors in the midst and wolves in sheep’s clothing
- State-sponsored/funded violence and toxic industries
- Internecine warfare
Thank you!