**48th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**General Debate Item 9:  Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance: Follow-up to and Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

FWCC (Quakers) welcomes the High Commissioner for Human Rights’ agenda for transformative change for racial justice as well as the establishment of the Human Rights Council’s International Independent Expert Mechanism and the Permanent Forum of People of African Descent.

We see racism deeply manifested in migration governance leading to human rights violations. The High Commissioner has called for an intersectional approach to understanding racism. This entails addressing interconnected discrimination and exclusion based on peoples’ social and political identities, including their migration status.[[1]](#footnote-1)

In line with this, the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva has released a briefing paper titled ***New Opportunities to Further Action on Racial Justice and Migration Governance***to briefly outline new mechanisms and highlight possible actions.

For instance, the International Independent Expert Mechanism can hold consultations with migrants on their experiences of law enforcement and systemic racism. The Permanent Forum of People of African Descent can develop specific recommendations on migration governance for States. The International Migration Review Forum, can create several opportunities, links and learning for advancing racial justice within the implementation of the Global Compact for Migration.

We urge States, the UN, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to use these as opportunities to advance stronger protection of the human rights of migrants.

\*\*ENDS\*\*

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1. <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Racism/A_HRC_47_CRP_1.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)