



FWCC Oral Statement for 51st Session of the Human Rights Council

Interactive Dialogue with Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers) thank the Working Group for their report which contains concerns about the linkages between racism and the treatment of children of African descent in migration. We also thank the Working Group for their communications this year highlighting the impact of systemic racism in migration governance on human rights of people of African descent.

The Progress Declaration of the first International Migration Review Forum, which was adopted and endorsed by consensus earlier this year, contains a commitment from States to *“eliminat[e] all forms of discrimination, including systemic racism ... by reviewing, developing and implementing relevant legislation, policies and practices ...”*

We welcome this language and call on all States to build from these words with effective action to

- recognize manifestations of systemic racism and discrimination in migration governance,
- acknowledge the impact on the human rights of migrants
- and demonstrate determination to prevent and address this.

Our questions for the Working Group are:

- 1) What tools are needed to hold States to this commitment and support participatory policy reviews and systemic change at the national, regional, and international levels to better understand the challenges and inform action towards racial justice in migration governance?
- 2) Alongside the expertise of migrants themselves what role can you and other and relevant UN mandated independent experts and bodies play to inform, guide and monitor this?

*** ENDS ***

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