Notes for PAD Meeting 9/17/2019

Resources for Attendees:

Landing page for PAD: http://www.idpad.org

UN UPR Information Page: https://www.upr2020.org

To join a working group: https://www.upr2020.org/join-a-working-group

I. Purpose

a. You are the Network. In order that USHRN know what people are working on, members should inform the network of work that is being done within their organizations.
b. To organize around a permanent forum and establish a declaration for the Rights of People of African Descent.
c. Establishing the validity of anti-blackness as a discrimination issue.
d. Building on the work of past advocates working on uniqueness of problems experienced by People of African Descent.

II. Goals

a. Permanent forum at the UN
b. Multiple forms of advocacy around the permanent forum
   a. Needs to take place prior to the November decision as to location.
c. Where should it be housed at the UN? Under which mechanism?
   a. A decision is expected in November.
d. What do USHRN members want to see in a permanent forum? We need input from the various member organizations.
e. Declaration on the rights of PAD for fighting for rights internationally

III. Other Talking Points

a. HR 40 Slavery Reparations
   i. We’ve heard from the UN Special Rapporteur on Racism
b. Regional meeting in Senegal Oct 23-24 on African Diaspora and the special problems experiences by people of African descent in diaspora
c. CSW64/ NYC in March 2020  
d. Beijing +25 Paris in July 2020  
e. Mid-year review of Decade of People of African Descent at Howard University has been postponed. New date expected soon.

IV. **Member Hershel Daniels - Friends of the African Union** asks why USHRN are not using the procedures set forth by the African Union on the issue of discrimination in diaspora  
a. Meetings on September 21 and 28th with AU  
b. HR 40 does not call for a report, which is needed

V. **Member Marian Douglas-Ungaro - AfroAmericas**  
Facebook: AfroAmericas  
Stated that we need formal recognition of the American black population as a diasporic group  
a. This is necessary for justice and development  
b. What are the steps under the Inter-American Council?

VI. **Member Loren Taylor – Chicago, IL – mail@loren-taylor.net**  
a. Stated that there are opportunities for massive change in the next election cycle  
b. Reparations may be an election issue

VII. **Member Tana Meadows**  
646 308-1438  
Discussed black invisibility and a non-entity policy amongst government agencies  
a. Denial of rights of descendants of African diaspora as an imbedded policy  
b. Language has to be changed so that people of African descent can tell their own stories free from the master narrative of the American government.