

## **Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent**

### **Request for data**

#### **Guidance note**

In accordance with its mandate, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, (WGEPAD) studies the problems of racial discrimination faced by people of African descent<sup>1</sup> and gathers all relevant information from Governments, non-governmental organizations and other relevant sources.

In this context, the WGEPAD is gathering all available data and analysis to conduct a mapping exercise and prepare a baseline report on the human rights situation of people of African descent.

This report will serve as a tool to increase visibility, identify gaps and guide the formulation of policies and actions to prevent, combat and eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Afrophobia and related intolerance faced by people of African descent. It could also serve as a baseline to measure progress in the realization of the human rights of people of African descent in accordance with international human rights obligations, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the International Decade for people of African descent: Recognition, Justice and Development (2015-2024).

As part of its preparatory work for the mapping exercise, the WGEPAD requests any and all available data on the human rights situation of people of African descent at the international, regional and national level from Governments, non-governmental organizations, national institutions and all interested stakeholders. A data template is attached to this request you may directly enter the data if you so wish.

In your submissions, please include the data source for example administrative data, census, statistical surveys, non-governmental organization, civil society etc. If data is available, please interpret the data, provide an analysis of any disparities and inequalities faced by people of African descent, and attach the data in a table format with reference or link to the source publication.

In particular, the WGEPAD requests any and all available data and analysis regarding people of African descent as follows:

#### **A. Data, analysis and statistics on composition of the population.**

The WGEPAD, like other international human rights bodies<sup>2</sup>, encourages the disaggregation of data on the basis of the prohibited grounds of discrimination<sup>3</sup> to reveal the situation of the most disadvantaged groups and those groups affected by discrimination like people of African descent and they recommend a human rights-based approach to data<sup>4</sup>.

1. Please provide data on people of African descent disaggregated by sex, age, economic and social situation, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin,

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<sup>1</sup> People of African descent are those referred to as such by the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and who identify themselves as people of African descent.

<sup>2</sup> For example General Comment 34 of CERD on discrimination against people of African descent (2011), General Recommendation 9 of CEDAW on statistical data (1989) and Article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

<sup>3</sup> A non-exhaustive list of these grounds includes sex, age, economic and social situation, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, health status, nationality, marital and family status, sexual orientation and gender identity, place of residence, and other status.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/HRIndicators/GuidanceNoteonApproachtoData.pdf>

property, birth, disability, health status, nationality, marital and family status, sexual orientation and gender identity, place of residence, and other status.

2. Please provide the total number of people of African descent living in the country.
3. Please provide data on locations where persons of African descent live (e.g., specific cities/towns, or broad designations (urban, rural, specific regions/locations)).
4. Please provide information on how data on people of African descent is collected.
5. Please provide data on race or ethnicity based on voluntary self-identification, for example, as a person of African Descent, Black, or relating to national origin or other relevant classifications.
6. Please provide data on people of African Descent in this country, classified under the following categories:
  - a. Numbers or percentages relating to the status of persons of African Descent (i.e., citizen, resident, migrant, refugee, asylum-seeker, internally displaced, stateless and undocumented persons, etc.)
  - b. The number of people of African descent of the first generation, of the second generation, of the third generation and so forth.
7. If no data exists specific to persons of African Descent please explain why disaggregated data is not collected.

**B. Data, analysis and studies on the human rights situation of people of African descent.**

8. Please provide data on whether the economic, social and cultural rights of people of African descent, are being realized and/or racial disparity in the realization of these rights, specifically but not limited to the areas of:
  - a. education
  - b. health
  - c. employment
  - d. housing
9. Please provide data on the protection of civil and political rights of people of African descent and/or disparities, including but not limited to:
  - a. Non-discrimination;
  - b. Access to justice;
  - c. Self-determination;
  - d. Protections for childhood and the family;
  - e. Enjoyment of own culture, religion, and language
10. Please provide data on any contact and/or racial disparities of people of African descent within the criminal justice system, including but not limited to stops, searches, seizures, arrests, detentions, prosecutions, convictions, sentencing, solitary confinement, capital punishment, access to legal aid and representation by counsel, appeals, etc.
11. Please provide data on the use of force, injuries, and/or deaths of persons of African descent in state custody and/or committed by law enforcement officials, accountability and remedies.
12. Please provide data on racially motivated acts of violence, hate crimes, and hate speech, accountability and remedies.

13. Please provide data on access to justice, protection of victims of racial discrimination, and the legal aid system.

14. Please provide data on the situation of youth and children; and women and girls, including information on racial disparities among children, youth, women, and girls, and multiple/intersecting/intersectional forms of discrimination faced by people of African descent.

15. Please provide data on representation and participation in public affairs (elections and public appointments), law enforcement and judicial institutions;

16. Please provide data on the protection of human rights of migrants and refugees of African descent.

### **C. Information on measures to address disparities**

17. Please provide data on measures (including but not limited to laws, policies, action plans, special projects, special measures (affirmative action, quotas, etc.), programmes or other initiatives) and the effectiveness thereof to:

- a. address racial disparities and existing gaps
- b. prevent racial discrimination
- c. protect victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Afrophobia and related intolerance
- d. improve the human rights situation of people of African descent
- e. redress and remedy, including through reparatory justice, for racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Afrophobia and related intolerance; historical injustices constituting crimes against humanity, including enslavement, the transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans, colonialism, neo-colonialism, etc.

18. Please provide data on activities related to the implementation of the Programme of Activities of the International Decade for people of African descent.

This information may be sent to the WGEPAD through its Secretariat at the Anti-Racial Discrimination Section of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva [africandescent@ohchr.org](mailto:africandescent@ohchr.org) and OHCHR Registry [registry@ohchr.org](mailto:registry@ohchr.org).

Please note that we would like to receive submissions **by 28 February 2019**.