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Chapeau

Embarking on a journey through the chapters of sustainable development, international peace, science and technology, youth empowerment, and global governance, this comprehensive exploration underscores the imperative need for addressing racial disparities and fostering true equity. From recognizing racial inequality as a barrier to sustainable development goals to advocating for inclusive digital cooperation and empowering future generations, each chapter unveils a critical facet of the collective pursuit of a global society that leaves no one behind. In this narrative, the call for racial equity resonates as a unifying thread, weaving together the varied chapters of our shared commitment to a just and inclusive world.

Text proposal for the Pact of the Future

We commit to stepping up our efforts to fight against racism, all forms of discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stigmatization, hate speech, through cooperation, partnership and inclusion and respect for diversity. (as per the 2023 political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development - A/HLPF/2023/L.1)

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

In the pursuit of global sustainable development, it is imperative to address racial disparities, recognizing that equitable access to financial resources plays a crucial role in this process. Concerning people of African descent, it is essential to focus attention and resources to ensure fair and meaningful participation in the path to sustainability. We explicitly recommend recognizing racial inequality as a barrier to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizing the need for measures to ensure active inclusion of the people of African descent in all decisions and development processes. Furthermore, urgent measures are required against systemic racism, addressing disparities in access to financial resources, education, and employment opportunities. To promote more equitable economic inclusion, we propose the creation of specific funding lines, incentive programs, and partnerships aimed at strengthening enterprises led by people of African descent . These actions, coupled with monitoring and accountability mechanisms disaggregated by race and ethnicity, aim to ensure that sustainable development is genuinely inclusive. We underscore the critical importance of funding for the economic empowerment of the people of African descent, a crucial step toward a sustainable future that leaves no one behind.

Text proposal for the Pact of the Future

We urge States in their national efforts, and in cooperation with other States, regional and international organizations and financial institutions, to promote the use of public and private investment in consultation with the affected communities in order to eradicate poverty, particularly in those areas in which victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance predominantly live; (as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para. 1)

We encourage States, regional and international organizations, including financial institutions, as well as civil society, to address within existing mechanisms, or where necessary to put in place and/or develop mechanisms, to address those aspects of globalization which may lead to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; (as per the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA para. 152)

We urge States and encourage all sectors of society to empower women and girls who are victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, so that they can fully exercise their rights in all spheres of public and private life, and to ensure the full, equal and effective participation of women in decision-making at all levels, in particular in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and measures which affect their lives. (as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para. 53)

Chapter II. International peace and security;

The pursuit of international peace and security demands an unwavering commitment against racism, a scourge that represents a significant obstacle to lasting peace. Racism not only intolerably violates human dignity but also hinders the full development of its victims, corrupts those who perpetrate it, and distorts human progress. To overcome this challenge, universal recognition of the unity of humanity is essential, implemented through appropriate legal measures. Racial equity emerges as a fundamental piece in this puzzle, linking the eradication of racism to establishing a solid foundation for building genuine and lasting peace.

Text proposal for the Pact of the Future

We urge States to recognize the challenges that people of different socially constructed races, colours, descent, national or ethnic origins, religions and languages experience in seeking to live together and to develop harmonious multiracial and multicultural societies; also urge States to recognize that the positive examples of relatively successful multiracial and multicultural societies, such as some of those in the Caribbean region, need to be examined and analysed, and that techniques, mechanisms, policies and programmes for reconciling conflicts based on factors related to race, colour, descent, language, religion, or national or ethnic origin and for developing harmonious multiracial and multicultural societies need to be systematically considered and developed, and therefore request the United Nations and its relevant specialized agencies to consider establishing an international centre for multiracial and multicultural studies and policy

development to undertake this critical work for the benefit of the international community. (as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para. 171)

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

Addressing Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Digital Cooperation is crucial, necessitating the recognition and appreciation of the ancestral knowledge of communities of African descent. Their contributions transcend the traditional Western scientific paradigm, preserving valuable traditions and wisdom while offering unique perspectives and innovative solutions to contemporary challenges. Promoting inclusive digital cooperation requires ensuring that scientific and technological advancements incorporate and respect these contributions, thus strengthening racial equity in the global landscape of science and innovation.

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We urge States to facilitate the participation of people of African descent in all political, economic, social and cultural aspects of society and in the advancement and economic development of their countries, and to promote a greater knowledge of and respect for their heritage and culture.(as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para. 4)

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

In addressing the theme of Youth and Future Generations, it is imperative to recognize and address racial inequalities impacting the youth of African descent. The opportunities and challenges faced by youth of African descent often reflect deeply rooted social structures. Investing in inclusive education, equitable employment opportunities, and empowering the voices of youth of African descent not only promotes racial equity but also lays a solid foundation for a more just and resilient future capable of breaking through structural barriers hindering sustainable development. By

prioritizing policies that address the specific needs of this population, we can aspire to a tomorrow where future generations benefit from a truly egalitarian and inclusive society.

Text proposal for the Pact of the Future

We urge States to encourage the full and active participation of, as well as involve more closely, youth in the elaboration, planning and implementation of activities to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and calls upon States, in partnership with non-governmental organizations and other sectors of society, to facilitate both national and international youth dialogue on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through the World Youth Forum of the United Nations system and through the use of new technologies, exchanges and other means. (as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para. 216)

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

The promotion of truly inclusive global governance requires an unwavering commitment to racial equity, recognizing the voices and perspectives of people of African descent as essential for shaping global decisions. The implementation of policies and governance structures reflecting ethnic and racial diversity is fundamental to ensure that all communities are represented and actively participate in decision-making. Embracing an approach that values the unique contributions of different races and ethnicities establishes the foundation for global governance that genuinely respects the plurality of experiences, thus promoting equity and justice on a global scale.

Text proposal for the Pact of the Future

We urge all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect

for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. (as per Durban Declaration and Programme of Action - DDPA, para.148)