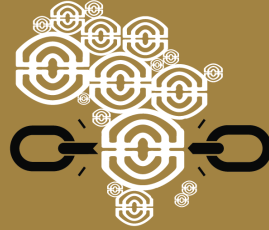


# NEXT STEPS



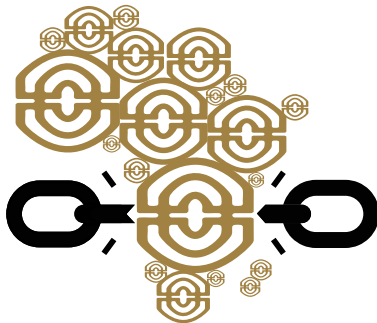
HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE ON THE NEXT STEPS TO  
THE LANDMARK UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION A/RES/80/250 DECLARING  
THE TRAFFICKING OF ENSLAVED AFRICANS AND RACIALIZED CHATTEL  
ENSLAVEMENT OF AFRICANS AS THE GRAVEST CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY



## THE ACCRA NEXT STEPS COMMITMENTS ON REPARATORY JUSTICE

19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2026

# NEXT STEPS



THE ACCRA NEXT STEPS  
COMMITMENTS ON REPARATORY JUSTICE



# **Adopted at the High-Level Consultative Conference on the Next Steps to the Landmark United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/80/250 on the Trafficking of Enslaved Africans and Racialised Chattel Enslavement of Africans**

**Accra, 17th – 19th June 2026**

At the invitation of His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana and the African Union Champion on Advancing the Cause of Justice and the Payment of Reparations to Africans, the High-Level Consultative Conference on the Next Steps to the Landmark United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/80/250 entitled “Declaration of the Trafficking of Enslaved Africans and Racialised Chattel Enslavement of Africans as the Gravest Crime against Humanity” was convened in Accra, Ghana, from 17th to 19th June 2026.

2. We, the Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Senior Officials participating in the Conference, including the 123 United Nations Member States that voted in support of Resolution A/RES/80/250, representatives of regional bodies, People of African Descent, civil society organisations, academic institutions, activists and non-governmental organisations adopt this outcome document on the next steps for the implementation of the Resolution and advancing the reparatory justice agenda.

3. We recognise and honour the extensive efforts undertaken over generations by several governments, intergovernmental organisations, our forebearers, individuals and civil society partners across Africa, the Caribbean, the Americas, as well as in Europe and Asia in shaping the global reparations agenda. We adopt this document as a basis for global collaboration and commit to engaging in transparent, constructive and good faith dialogue in advancing reparations and reparatory justice among all state and non-state actors.

4. We acknowledge the historic importance of the landmark Resolution A/RES/80/250 which declares the trafficking of enslaved Africans and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans as the gravest crime against humanity. We consider the United Nations General Assembly’s adoption of this Resolution as a reflection of the broad global consensus on the need to address and repair the legacies and enduring consequences of historical injustices.

5. We recognise that Resolution A/RES/80/250 specifically addresses racialised chattel enslavement of Africans as the gravest crime against humanity. We also recognise the historical and ongoing injustices perpetrated against African peoples and People of African Descent, including colonialism, apartheid, genocide, systemic racism, structural inequality and all other current systems of exploitation and dehumanisation. We welcome the Resolution’s contribution to advancing existing global, political and legal efforts for reparatory justice for Africans and People of African Descent as well as Indigenous People and Indentured Labourers.

6. We express concern about the legacies and enduring consequences of the trafficking of enslaved Africans and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans which continue to manifest in structural inequalities, development disparities, epistemic injustices, cultural erasure, systemic racism and discrimination against Africans and People of African Descent globally.

7. We recognise that these historical and ongoing injustices also constitute violations of Human and People's rights, including the right to self-determination, development, culture and free disposition of natural resources, and affirm that reparatory justice constitutes an essential pathway toward the realisation of the right to development, as recognised under Article 22 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development, and the Sustainable Development Goals. The persistence of these historical injustices continues to undermine equitable and meaningful participation of Africans and People of African Descent in economic, social, cultural and political development.

8. We underscore the importance and urgency of addressing historical injustices consistent with the inherent sovereignty and dignity of Africans and People of African Descent and their inalienable right to self-determination. We affirm our collective commitment to promote racial justice, climate justice, gender justice and the reform of the current global architecture for a more equitable and inclusive world.

9. We recognise the African Union's Agenda 2063: "The Africa We Want" as a strategic continental framework for translating reparatory justice into transformative development outcomes, economic empowerment, cultural renaissance and continental integration for Africans and People of African Descent.

10. We also recognise the African Union's establishment of the African Union Committee of Experts on Reparations (AUCER) with a mandate to develop a common African position and African Reparatory Programme of Action. We further recognise the establishment of the African Union Reference Group of Legal Experts on Reparations (AULER) which is mandated to provide legal counsel, guiding principles and Afro-centric frameworks for the continent of Africa's pursuit of reparatory justice.

11. We equally recognise the work of the CARICOM Reparations Commission and the revised CARICOM Ten Point Plan for Reparatory Justice as a concrete and conceptual actionable framework for advancing reparatory justice. The revised Ten Point Plan serves as an important blueprint for advancing reparations settlement.

12. We agree to build upon regional framework documents in addressing the histories, needs and aspirations of different regions and communities affected by the trafficking of enslaved Africans and racialised chattel enslavement.

## A. Normative Regional and Multilateral Frameworks

13. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

14. We recall the Abuja Proclamation on Reparations for African Enslavement, Colonisation and Neo-Colonisation (1993) which recognised the existence of a unique and unprecedented moral debt owed to African People and People of African Descent and affirm that the claim for reparations represents a concrete step towards remedying historical wrongs and fostering healing among the people of Africa and People of African Descent.

15. We further recall the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (2001) which acknowledged the Transatlantic Slave Trade as crimes against humanity that “should always have been so” and further acknowledged that enslavement, colonialism and genocide have contributed to underdevelopment and economic disparities affecting developing countries in particular. We recall the African Union’s Decision 934 (XXXVIII) of 16 February 2025 on the qualification of enslavement, deportation and colonisation as crimes against humanity and genocide against the peoples of Africa.

16. We reaffirm the Accra Proclamation on Reparations (2023) which underscored the urgency of advancing a coordinated and sustained global response to the legacies of chattel enslavement, colonialism and racial discrimination.

17. We welcome the designation by the African Union of 2026 –2035 as the Decade of Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations and the United Nations Second International Decade for People of African Descent (2025–2034). We affirm our support for the renewed commitment to advancing the reparations agenda.

18. We recall the Assembly of African Union’s Decision 942 of February 2026 which welcomed the Algiers Declaration under the theme: “International Conference on the crimes of colonialism in Africa: Towards the reparation of historical injustices through the criminalisation of colonialism” and designated 30th November as the African Day of African martyrs and victims of the transatlantic slave trade, colonization and apartheid.

19. We recall the United Nations’ Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Resolution 1514 (XV)) as well as the United Nations General Assembly’s Resolution A/RES/80/106 (2025) by which 14th December was proclaimed as the International Day against Colonialism in All Its Forms and Manifestations, recognising the significant knowledge gap of the 500-year long period of racialised enslavement colonialism and their enduring consequences felt throughout the world.

20. We appreciate the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and other United Nations Human Rights mechanisms, advancing dialogue towards reparatory justice, return, restitution, promoting education and preserving collective memory.

21. We commit to the implementation of Resolution A/RES/80/250 through transparent, collective, constructive and structured dialogues and measurable steps on reparatory justice.

## B. Shared Principles and Values

22. Inspired by the enduring ideals of solidarity and shared humanity, we affirm our unity and common destiny and recognise that the aspirations of Africans and People of African Descent are inextricably linked across continents, territories, and generations, and that their strength lies in purposeful solidarity, coordinated action, and shared strategic vision.

23. Drawing on African norms and values, we affirm that the pursuit of reparatory justice cannot be advanced by any one country, continent, region, or institution acting alone. The historical injustices of enslavement, colonialism, and their enduring legacies affected people dispersed across nations and continents. We hold that, the response must be rooted in a shared sense of peoplehood, common purpose, and collective action.

24. We affirm sovereignty as the inalienable and inherent right of all peoples and affirm that the collective future of Africans and People of African Descent, including those in settler colonial states is dependent on equity, justice and sovereignty. We further affirm our freedom to govern, create, produce, and develop according to our aspirations and interests free from external domination and conditionalities.

25. We affirm a shared commitment to advancing reparatory justice as a comprehensive and multidimensional process grounded in relevant regional jurisprudences and the international law doctrine of satisfaction, full and formal apology, restitution, compensation, rehabilitation and cessation of ongoing harm, and guarantees of non-repetition.

26. We recognise the need for sustained political will, international cooperation and inclusive participation of Africans and People of African Descent in reparatory justice processes and highlight the importance of building upon existing transcontinental partnership frameworks and international initiatives that enhances consultative processes, including the CARICOM-AU Bilateral Cooperation Agreement (2024), the Addis Ababa Declaration on Transcontinental Partnership on Reparations adopted at the 2nd Africa-CARICOM Summit in November 2025, the 1st CELAC-Africa High-Level Forum, the 9th Pan African Congress and other frameworks, while promoting coherence and synergy across efforts.

27. We emphasize the centrality of dialogue, partnership and mutual respect in advancing a common approach to implementing the reparatory justice agenda. We commit to work towards enhancing advocacy for a common position on reparations which would incorporate therein a Programme of Action taking into consideration the revised CARICOM Ten Point Plan for Reparatory Justice. We resolve to forge a common front and commit to ensure that the voices and perspectives of Africans and People of African Descent shall be fully reflected in all such processes.

28. We affirm that reparatory justice is fundamentally a human rights and development imperative aimed at restoring the inherent dignity, rights and development opportunities of Africans and People of African Descent.

## C. Global Strategic Framework for Reparatory Justice

29. We commit to the full and effective implementation of Resolution A/RES/80/250 through a coherent and coordinated global framework on reparatory justice for Africans and People of African Descent, structured around the following strategic pillars:

i. **Acknowledgment of Truth and Apology:** We call upon States and non-state institutions yet to do so, to issue acknowledgment of their role in the trafficking of enslaved Africans and African Descendants and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans and to offer full, formal and unconditional apologies as a foundational step towards reconciliation, trust-building and reparatory justice. We affirm that apology should be unconditional and accompanied by guarantees of non-repetition, including the repeal of legal and ecclesiastical codes, in recognition of the intergenerational legacies and enduring consequences. We undertake to strengthen our collective efforts to ensure that concerned States and non-state institutions yet to do so offer full and formal apologies.

ii. **Law and Justice:** We commit to strengthening legal and institutional pathways for reparatory justice, including the utilisation of international, regional and domestic mechanisms to advance accountability and redress. We also commit to supporting generational victims to access justice for historical wrongs. We urge the urgent reform of criminal justice systems to address the challenge of systemic racism against People of African Descent.

iii. **Compensatory Reparations:** We reaffirm that the trafficking of enslaved Africans and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans and People of African Descent is the gravest crime against humanity and a violation of peremptory norms of international law. Such violations generate obligations erga omnes and we remain resolved to ensure fair and adequate compensation for the people of Africa and People of African Descent, including those affected by the legacies of enslavement, colonialism genocide and apartheid. We further affirm that the obligation to compensate exists as a matter of international law and therefore commit to support the development of a comprehensive approach to determine the appropriate modalities for compensation in remedying the existing obligations for historical injustices.

iv. **Restitution of Cultural Property and Heritage:** We recognise the importance of protecting cultural properties, preserving cultural heritage and antiquities and the need to safeguard cultural properties from trafficking. We resolve to accelerate the return of cultural property, human remains, archives and heritage to countries of origin and commit to support cultural restoration and preservation initiatives. We recognise the importance of the restitution of cultural identity and heritage and reaffirm the Common African Position on the Restitution of Heritage Resources (2023). We also commit to strengthen coordination at UNESCO and other multilateral fora to advance the renewal and updating of the existing framework related to the return of cultural heritage.

v. **Decolonisation:** We urge the reparations movements to support the ongoing campaigns to secure the decolonisation of European and American colonies or non-self-governing territories, in keeping with the aims and objectives of the 4th United Nations International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

vi. **Global Governance Reforms:** We remain committed to the urgent reform of the global governance architecture in addressing historical injustices and agree to accelerate our common efforts for the reform of the United Nations Security Council and International Financial Institutions to ensure equitable representation and meaningful participation in global decision-making in furtherance of the United Nations Pact for the Future (A/RES/79/1). We re-commit to support initiatives aimed at reforming the international debt architecture and the international tax regime, including efforts to secure fairer, more responsive and affordable finance for vulnerable and historically disadvantaged countries.

vii. **Transforming Global Economic and Development Architecture:** We resolve to address structural inequalities and imbalances affecting Africa, the Caribbeans, Latin America, and Peoples of African Descent in settler colonies. We reject the current imbalanced and unequal global economic and development architecture and affirm our commitment to strengthening South-South cooperation for sustainable and equitable economic transformation for all our people including through building appropriate economic and financial institutions, structures, systems and equitable development partnerships that reflect the values of Africans, Peoples of African Descent and all Peoples. We resolve to move past colonial era power structures and define for ourselves a central role in global governance. We commit to intensify efforts to achieve just and fairer trading terms and would work amongst ourselves to strengthen trading ties.

viii. **Debt Relief and Financial Justice:** We recognise that the enduring socioeconomic consequences of enslavement, colonialism and related historical injustices have contributed to persistent development challenges, including heightened debt vulnerabilities and constrained fiscal space in many developing countries. We therefore call for concrete, predictable and development-oriented multilateral measures to address sovereign debt burdens, including comprehensive debt relief, debt restructuring and cancellation where necessary, debt-for-development swaps, enhanced access to concessional financing, expanded liquidity support, and meaningful reforms of international financial architecture. We further call for the establishment and strengthening of fair, transparent, inclusive and development-oriented sovereign debt resolution mechanisms, under the auspices of the United Nations, to address these burdens to enable affected countries to pursue their development priorities without undue debt constraints. We call for reforms in sovereign credit rating mechanisms which impose high risk on countries in the Global South and fully support the activities of the African Credit Rating Agency. We underscore the urgent need to consider restitution for countries in special situations such as Haiti.

ix. **Global Reparations Fund:** We commit to continue dialogue and consultations on the establishment and operationalization of a Global Reparations Fund in this and other relevant fora. We note that such mechanisms must be anchored on a transparent, consultative, and inclusive process.

x. **Corporate Accountability and Business Responsibility:** We deplore the roles played by commercial actors and enterprises in the enslavement and trafficking of enslaved Africans, systems of colonial exploitation and racial discrimination, and encourage measures that promote accountability, responsible business conduct, access to remedy and equitable investment partnerships consistent with international and regional Business and Human Rights standards.

xi. **Technology Innovation and Capacity Building:** We call for concrete measures to advance technology innovation, digital inclusion and capacity-building for developing countries as a means of addressing persistent development gaps arising from the enduring consequences of enslavement, colonialism and related historical injustices. We further call for enhanced access to emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and urge the removal of barriers that limit developing countries' ability to harness the benefits of technological progress. We underscore the importance of cooperation as well as increased investment in digital infrastructure, education, skills development and institutional capacity-building. Such efforts are critical to promoting digital justice, accelerating sustainable development, and ensuring that developing countries are not left behind in the rapidly evolving global technological landscape.

xii. **Public Health and Well-being:** We recognise the multigenerational health impacts of enslavement and colonialism and commit to addressing the global health inequities that disproportionately affect Africans and People of African Descent. We resolve to address the historical and ongoing legacy of inequities and abuses in medical, public health and mental health systems, including the exploitation of the bodies and the genetics of Africans and People of African Descent in scientific research and experimentation, disparities in responses to public health crises, and systemic patterns often described as medical apartheid. We commit to advance healthcare response systems for such affected groups of people and communities. We further recognise the need to assert the health sovereignty of Africans and Peoples of African Descent and commit to fully embrace indigenous and traditional health practices. We, therefore, welcome the objectives of the Accra Reset Initiative.

xii. **Gender Justice:** We recognise that the trafficking of enslaved Africans and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans had distinct and enduring gendered impacts, including the exploitation of African men, women, boys and girls through sexual violence, reproductive coercion, family separation and other forms of dehumanisation. We acknowledge that these historical injustices continue to manifest in intersecting forms of discrimination and inequality, especially affecting women and girls of African descent. We therefore affirm that the pursuit of reparatory justice must be gender-responsive, human rights-based and informed by the principles of equality, non-discrimination and the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and girls in all justice reparatory processes.

xiii. **Climate Justice:** We further recognise that the enduring consequences of racialised chattel enslavement, colonialism and racial discrimination intersect with contemporary global challenges, including climate change, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss, which disproportionately affect developing countries, small island developing states with communities of African descent as well as peoples and communities. We take note of the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on climate change and the subsequent United Nations General Assembly resolution welcoming the Opinion, which clarified that States have obligations under international law to protect the climate system and that breaches of such obligations may give rise to legal consequences, including reparations. We, therefore, affirm the importance of advancing reparatory justice in a manner that promotes climate resilience, environmental sustainability and intergenerational equity, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Paris

Agreement and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. In this regard, we underscore the need for equitable access to climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building to address vulnerabilities rooted in historical and structural injustice, including through practical reforms to improve access to climate finance, reduce the cost of capital, expand pre-arranged finance for climate shocks, and support investment in resilience and sustainable economic transformation.

xiv. **Multi-Generational and Inter-Generational Dimension:** We recognise that reparatory justice must be shaped to benefit present and future generations. Reparatory justice processes must include the meaningful participation of the youth and young people in the design, implementation and monitoring of all processes.

xv. **Spiritual, Psychological Rehabilitation and Social Healing:** We highlight the importance and urgency of addressing psychosocial trauma suffered by Africans and People of African Descent as a result of the trafficking of enslaved Africans and the racialised chattel enslavement of Africans. We commit to inclusive and culturally grounded initiatives to restore broken connections and communities including as a result of the legacy of untreated trauma that is multi-generational. We acknowledge that a healing-centred framework is essential to the reparations process.

xvi. **Education, Knowledge and Cultural Renewal:** We underscore the importance of reparatory justice education, memorialisation and truth-telling and the development of knowledge systems that accurately reflect historical realities, promote human dignity and cultural identity, support research, public awareness and conscientisation. We commit to addressing knowledge gaps and knowledge distortions on the history of Africans and Peoples of African Descent. We recall the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Routes of Enslaved Peoples project and support its objectives for research, memory transmission and intercultural dialogue.

xvii. **Truth, Documentation and Public Memory:** We commit to advancing truth-telling processes, including access to archives, historical documentation, research and public acknowledgment of the trafficking of enslaved Africans, racialised chattel enslavement, colonialism and their enduring consequences. We encourage the preservation, digitisation and accessibility of relevant records and support memorialisation initiatives that honour victims and survivors, restore historical truth and strengthen public understanding. We commit to a renewed effort of preserving the forts and castles across the coast of Africa as well as the Caribbean as an enduring memorialisation, truth-telling and veritable tool to combat erasure and denialism.

xviii. **Diaspora Engagement, Citizenship and Right of Return:** We recall the Abuja Proclamation (1993) which exhorts all African States to grant rights of entry and residence to all persons of African Descent if there are no disqualifying grounds. We commit to strengthening connections between Africans and People of African Descent, including through cultural exchanges, knowledge exchanges, inclusive investment policies and programmes, and the introduction, strengthening and expansion of voluntary return, citizenship and reintegration initiatives pathways, drawing on existing and national experiences, best practices and institutional frameworks in receiving communities, with a view to developing coherent and adequately resourced approaches across the Continent and the Diaspora.

## D. Implementation

30. We commit to translating these strategic ambitions into concrete national, regional and global actions that are aligned, coherent and reinforcing of our shared principles and common objectives.

31. We underscore the importance of sustaining global political engagement at all multilateral institutions, including within the wider United Nations system especially the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent and the international financial institutions.

32. We encourage enhanced cooperation among the relevant institutions of the African Union, the CARICOM and CELAC in advancing the implementation and monitoring of reparatory justice commitments.

33. We appreciate the role of existing regional institutions such as the CARICOM Reparations Commission, AU Commission, African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights, African Committee of Experts on Rights and Welfare of the Child, National Human Rights Institutions, and other relevant regional organs in advancing the implementation and monitoring of reparatory justice commitments.

34. We welcome the President of Ghana's decision to establish the underlisted global multistakeholder panels as supportive institutional mechanisms to operate in close coordination with and complement existing mechanisms and initiatives to advance the reparations agenda and thereby, foster transcontinental synergy, coherence and the optimal utilisation of global resources:

- a) **High-Level Global Advisory Council on Reparatory Justice,**
- b) **Global Expert Panel on the Restitution of Cultural Heritage, and**
- c) **Global Legal Panel on Reparatory Justice**

35. We also agree to convene this Consultative Conference annually, during which we shall, among others, discuss the work of the established Council and Panels.

36. We recommend that all reparatory justice measures be designed in consultation with affected communities through inclusive and accessible processes, ensuring meaningful participation and local ownership in their implementation. We encourage the enhancement of the activities of citizen rights movements on the reparatory justice agenda and commit to actively support the global reparations movement.

37. We encourage States to establish museums to promote memorilastion, truth-telling and creat a reliable repository of returned artifacts and objects of cultural significance.

38. We call for the mobilisation of adequate and sustainable financial and technical resources, including through international cooperation and innovative financing approaches to support reparations efforts and initiatives.

39. We encourage all States to integrate reparatory justice considerations into national development strategies, educational curricula and international cooperation frameworks.

## **E. Partnership, Cooperation and Solidarity**

40. We reaffirm the importance of inclusive dialogue, good faith engagement and solidarity among all stakeholders. We emphasise the importance of unified efforts, strengthened transcontinental cooperation and international partnerships, and commit to sustain engagement with civil society, academia, the private sector and affected communities towards the full and effective implementation of Resolution A/RES/80/250.

## **F. Follow-Up and Review**

41. We request that the outcomes of this High-Level Consultative Conference on the Implementation of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/80/250

be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for consideration in relevant reports to the General Assembly and the wider United Nations system in the implementation of programmes.

42. We call on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and other United Nations entities to facilitate inclusive and good faith dialogue among their member states and other stakeholders including descendant communities.

43. We commit to strengthen multilateral and civil society coordination through ongoing, structured dialogue aimed at advancing participation, accountability, and effective implementation of Resolution A/RES/80/250.

44. We emphasise the need for monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress and ensure effective implementation. We therefore, resolve to utilise subsequent annual Consultative Conferences and other relevant processes to take stock of progress and make recommendations for addressing any challenges or gaps.

45. We commend the commitments from this process to form part of ongoing processes in the context of the AU Decade of Action on Reparations and African Heritage and the United Nations Second International Decade for People of African Descent.

## **G. Conclusion**

46. We, now, therefore, in the spirit of solidarity, partnership and shared responsibility, reaffirm our collective determination to transform the historic recognition embodied in Resolution A/RES/80/250 into concrete, meaningful and sustained action to advance reparatory justice, healing and equitable development for Africans and people of African Descent.

Accra, 19th June 2026

**NEXT**  
**STEPS**

