March 7, 2011

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 78th Session, 14th of February-11th of March, 2011 Geneva

<u>Re</u>: Thematic Discussion in the Context of the International Year for People of <u>African Descent</u>

Dear Members of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination:

The undersigned groups represent major civil and human rights organizations in the United States dedicated to the eradication of racial discrimination against people of African

- 1) "...establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure a coordinated approach towards the implementation of the Convention at the federal, state and local levels," and
- 2) "...take all necessary steps to guarantee the right of everyone to equal treatment before tribunals and all other organs administering justice, including further studies to determine the nature and scope of the problem, and the m M d h he T s z

We commend the Committee for its longstanding work and fight against racial