

Delegación Internacional en Europa - Madrid - España.  
No 343 Registro de Fundaciones Comunidad de Madrid.  
Inscrita ante la Agencia Española de Cooperación al Desarrollo – AECI  
Inscrita Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos – OEA.  
Inscrita Ministerio de Interior y Justicia – Colombia.

## **DISTINGUISHED GUEST**

### **DEAR Mr, Mrs, FRIENDS and COLLEAGUES**

We are addressing the European Commission, legislators of the European Parliament, European, African, Asia, American and Caribbean governments, the AU, the international institutions: ONU, UNESCO, UNICEF, BID, FMI, OEA, SEGCIB, NEPAD, ACP, and the COALITION AGAINST THE RACISM OF EUROPEAN, AFRICAN, ASIA, AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN CITIES MEMBERS to discuss the 2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS in October 26 to 31 and 01 Nov to 06 2008 in the context of the European Year of Inter-Cultural Dialogue 2008 sponsored by UNESCO. In this context, we would like to request your support to the initiative of the aforementioned summit of Africans and Their Descendants, your economic and scientific backing being vital to the success of this meeting.

The summit wants to bring together the representatives of 50 countries, 500 representatives of organizations representing Africans and their descendants in Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean, and leaders defending human rights, allowing them to strengthen a space of exchange, divulgation and presentation of their practices and realities.

The FUNDACION VIDA GRUPO ECOLOGICO VERDE / FEDERACION PANAFRICANISTA, after the contacts it has maintained with your organisation, wishes to express the confidence and admiration we feel towards you as facilitators of positive changes for humanity. We feel that the 2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 2008 is an opportunity for your government to start spearheading politically affirmative measures with the community of Africans and their descendants in fulfilment of the Chíncha/Peru report of February 27, 2007 (follow-up of the Durban Plan) and in empowerment of African people and people of African ascent in uprooting poverty (10DM).

We invite you to be part of a Honorary Round Table of institutions and experts, calling on European Governments and institutions to help to highlight this initiative and to urge the CES following the application of the Durban Plan to examine and legitimize our proposal as necessary, fair and expressing solidarity.

We appreciate the good will and action of the members of your governments and institutions in promoting congresses and initiatives allowing disadvantaged peoples to gain strength and exercise leadership.

We hope you enjoy reading the supplement we are sending you on our project. We are open to any proposals allowing us to improve it.

We thank you in advance for your economic and scientific support. We hope to get a prompt response from you, setting a date for a meeting, in the hope that the year 2008 will bring sustainable hope to all.



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## **SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT**

**2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 2007 – 2008 - [www.cumbreafroeuropa2007.org](http://www.cumbreafroeuropa2007.org)**

## **ABOUT US**

The Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde, with the CIF G85343454, was created in 1990 on the social basis of BLACK COMMUNITIES. It was legally established in 1996 in Santiago de Cali (Colombia) as an environmental and non-profit non-governmental organization, neither religious nor political, which works for international cooperation in favour of disadvantaged and vulnerable population groups, the protection of natural resources and the defence of the environment. In 2000, the Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde established its international delegation in Spain and Europe, which has been legally constituted and registered by the AECI (Spanish Agency of International Cooperation). The foundation promotes the reinforcement of the EUROPEAN NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, working with the African diaspora in Europe and the Fundamental Agency of Human Rights (FRA). The Fundacion Vida – Grupo Ecologico Verde is also a member of the EUROPEAN COALITION OF CITIES AGAINST RACISM (UNESCO) and of the MADRID FORUM FOR DIALOGUE AND COEXISTENCE, which has been registered by the OEA (Organization of American and Caribbean States). The NGO currently has 42 CEREX Committees (External Relations Councils) on the international level. We contribute to community initiatives seeking to generate a sustainable and integral social development which reduces poverty, hunger, disease, lack of education, underdevelopment and its causes: injustice, social inequality, lack of opportunities for people and nations, ignorance, prejudice, discrimination and racism. We are seeking a solidarity and a sensitivity allowing communities to satisfy their needs and to consolidate their aspirations without distinctions of race, creed or sex. **Our ONG is entirely autonomous in its management.**

## **MISSION**

To prioritize the divulgation, application and defence of constitutional mechanisms of participation, equality, social justice; to act towards helping disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access rights and benefits contributing to their full development, nourishment, health, education, employment, housing and human rights. To take measures to protect natural resources and the environment.

## **VISION**

The Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde, in the countries where it is present, will act as a permanent manager and bring appropriate methodologies of work and investigation guaranteeing the protection, conservation and sustainable development of natural resources and defence of the environment. The Fundacion Vida - Grupo Ecologico Verde will contribute to the consolidation of spaces of visibility, representation, participation and empowerment of African peoples and their descendants in conditions of equality, equity and social justice within the democratic framework and the exercise of universal citizenship.

fundación

VIDA

GRUPO ECOLÓGICO VERDE



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#### **PRECEDENT**

If we compare the maps of poverty and human settlement, we find that the world's most backward and poorest areas - with endemic hunger, extreme and generalized poverty, marginality and social fragmentation, high child mortality, high environmental risks and high vulnerability to natural and social disasters, unemployment, low education levels and illiteracy, etc - are those inhabited by African peoples and their descendants, a situation which is repeated in the African diaspora in Europe and the Americas. This situation is based on the current and historical responsibilities of the former colonial and imperialist powers and on the responsibility of the peoples in question in not being able to autonomously generate conditions to promote sustainable development. For black people and minorities like immigrants, the situation is made worse by the tenacious persistence of a culture of racial and xenophobic discrimination which passes through the entire society, creating a serious obstacle to progress.

The existence of peoples living beneath the poverty level (3/4) creates a restriction to growth and sustainable development, generating a backward movement and an obstacle to universal progress, pre-empting efforts to eradicate poverty.

#### **MILLENNIUM GOALS, FOCUSED DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST RACISM**

The above facts show that meeting the Millennium Goals, set by the United Nations for 2015, will only be achievable on the condition of carrying out local measures as expressed in the black settlement Development Plans to favour their development and progress, as was done earlier for a Europe devastated by economic crises and two world wars. Other examples also exist of expressions of political will to contribute to the development of a certain region or sector. We want to apply these experiences to the case of African countries and people of African ascent in the Americas, Caribbean and Europe, who now do not get to share in the progress achieved by humanity.

#### **RECOGNIZING THE PROGRESS**

The role of the European Union and the challenges ahead

We recognize the achievements of humanity in the fight against racism, highlighting the 2001 Conference of Durban and the subsequent Regional Conferences, as well as the important role of the European Union countries' official aid to Africa, and the political agreements reached at summits between the EU and African states. We also recognize the utility of the four summits of the European Union with Latin America and the Caribbean, which have defined an integral cooperation framework that only needs to launch a concrete dialogue with citizens to ensure its successful implementation.

#### **FOCUS OF THE SUMMIT**

On the occasion of the third centennial of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, the second centennial of the abolition of slavery and the European Year of Equal Opportunities, we invite African peoples and their descendants in America and Europe to actively participate in this 2nd Summit. We are seeking to create a natural space for meeting and dialogue in the worldwide fight against racism and for affirmative policies, together with indigenous peoples, descendants of Africans, immigrants and other minorities, allowing them to contribute to democracy and local development that is sustainable on the social and environmental levels.

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**JUSTIFICATION**

### **WHAT IS THE 2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 2007-2008?**

It is an opportunity to express ourselves and to seek international cooperation for the black social community, which has been MADE INVISIBLE and IGNORED by European institutions in the face of the important impact of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and all the ways of excluding the "other."

Despite three decades of European development cooperation, no significant progress can be observed in relation to the integral social development of the black collectivity, its exercise of leadership and its associative participation.

The lack of political and institutional engagement in Europe goes together with a downplaying and ironic treatment of the claims of the black community, in contrast to the good will shown towards other ethnic minorities such as indigenous peoples from the Americas and the Caribbean.

The difficulty of accessing European goods and services contributes to a disproportionate INVISIBILITY and TUTELAGE, the use of degrading and pejorative images of children and the population, and a "traffic of misery" for the benefit of large ONGs which live outside the reality of Africans and their descendants.

The black community of Africans and their descendants comprises around 1,150 million human beings. 95 per cent of them live below the poverty level.

The significant number of Africans and their descendants living in Europe are victims of increasing racism, discrimination, xenophobia and all the related forms of exclusion of the "other." Cases of human rights violations are usually presented as isolated cases which are not regarded as important.

Despite the fact that the black community in Europe experiences a high degree of racism, the European institutions are reluctant to recognize it as a specific unit in need of affirmative action.

The slave trade has left the legacy of perpetrating conditions of exclusion and marginality for the black community in all the social spheres in Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean.

### **GOALS OF THE 2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 2007-2008**

#### **GENERAL GOAL**

In the framework of Human Rights, 500 representants of basic social organizations established by Africans and their descendants will evaluate the impact of European international cooperation on African peoples and their descendants, as well as European relations with black grassroots organizations, verifying the mechanisms of access to the goods and services of European cooperation to the benefit of disadvantaged and vulnerable peoples in agreement with the MILLENNIUM GOALS.

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**The participants will contribute to:**

1. To create a space of meetings and reflection on the **IMPACT OF INSTITUTIONAL RACISM**: segregation, the systematic elimination of the "other" over his or her political convictions, religion, sex, nationality or belonging to groups in Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean. **BASIC RIGHTS**: fundamental freedoms, sex, childhood, youth, citizenship, immigration, displaced people and refugees. **THE IMPACT OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**: armed conflicts, the criminalization of youth, wars, trafficking with humans, drugs, weapons, human organs and prostitution.

2. To discuss **SUSTAINABLE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS** in the social environment of black peoples. **CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES**: access to nourishment, health, medicine, education, science, culture, sports, housing, work, natural resources and the environment. **ETHNO-CULTURAL RIGHTS AND TRADITIONS**.

3. To boost policies of democratic participation, coexistence and cultural dialogue: **VISIBILITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND DESCENDANTS OF AFRICANS**: political expression, grassroots organizations of the black civil society in relation to the institutions. **MECHANISMS OF PARTICIPATION AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**.

**AIMED AT:**

Social agents of the organized civil society, NGOs, official and private institutions, political parties, students, leaders and activists representing the black community, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities and the population in general, campaigners for Human Rights, environmental, cultural, sports and religious organizations, study centres, universities and researchers.

**PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:**

400 to 500 members of the **COALITION OF CITIES AGAINST RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA** - Europe, Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean.

**METHODOLOGY**

The 2nd World Summit in Europe of Africans and Their Descendants 2007-2008 has been defined by us as a process comprising several phases which can be summarized thus:

**I. The phase of raising awareness:**

- ❖ Socio-economic diagnoses
- ❖ Identification of representative social organizations
- ❖ The mission of the black communities
- ❖ Social and academic activities in the year commemorating the bicentennial of the abolition of slavery
- ❖ Sub-regional seminars on local development and communities of descendants of Africans

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## **II. The phase of organizing the 2nd Summit of October 28 to 30, 2008 which comprises:**

- ❖ A cycle of conferences
  - ❖ Workshops on public policies and good practice
  - ❖ Presentation of relevant experiences
  - ❖ Round tables, panels on specific subjects and plenary sessions to evaluate the conclusions
- Cultural events

## **III. After the Summit:**

- ❖ Creation in Europe of a WORLD NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS OF SOCIAL EXPRESSION OF BLACK COMMUNITIES AND DESCENDANTS OF AFRICANS – "BLACK COMMUNITIES COUNCIL"

## **Evaluation of the Summit and publication of its "memoirs"**

There exists an INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE tasked with preparing all the aspects of the event, such as verifying the qualifications of the representatives, a fair and adequate geographical representation, the quality of the lectures and cultural events, and logistical aspects.

The committee will be enlarged with the representation of the organizers of sub-regional meetings which will take place before the First European Encounter.

## **DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES FOR THE 2ND SUMMIT IN EUROPE 2007-2008**

- ❖ We are not against governments, religious beliefs, ideologies, political parties or economic models.
- ❖ We are for peace and the early solution of conflicts.
- ❖ We are against the arms race, trafficking with people and drugs, and all types of illicit trade.
- ❖ We are against all types of discrimination, especially against women.
- ❖ We are for the elimination of all forms of child labour.
- ❖ We are for democracy, progress and a development that goes hand in hand with equality, equity and social justice.
- ❖ We are for a fair and environmentally sustainable economic order.
- ❖ We are for multilateralism, as expressed by the United Nations, whose existence we find useful and whose international role we would like to strengthen.
- ❖ We are for long-term improvement processes rather than mere temporary interventions.

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#### **DEFINITION OF THEMATIC CONTENTS**

- ❖ Analysis of structural, historic, social, economic and cultural conditions that determine poverty in black communities. Characterization and typology of black societies, comparative development analysis, satisfaction indicators and unsatisfied necessities.
- ❖ Workshops on the exercise of leadership for descendants of Africans focusing on participation, implementation of positive affirmation public policies, management of resources.
- ❖ Experiences in management and administration in a context of pluri-ethnicity and multiculturalism, solutions to problems of education, work, health, housing etc.
- ❖ Paradigms of development and a new international economic order.
- ❖ Financing of development and the role of international cooperation.
- ❖ Alternative models and the role of the New International Order.

#### **SPONSOR US**

In 2007, we stressed the importance of the European Year of Equal Opportunities, the role of the Coalition of European Cities Against Racism, and the increasing involvement of governments, companies, official organs and study centres.

2008 will be the European year for inter-cultural dialogue, during which we want to stage our 2ND WORLD SUMMIT IN EUROPE OF AFRICANS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 2007-2008 in Nuremberg (Germany) and Brussels (Belgium). This event will bring together leaders, activists and social agents from associations in the Americas and Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Europe.

#### **SUMMARY**

The goal is to evaluate influences and repercussions of the European Union development cooperation in the environment of descendants of Africans. We want to contribute to clarifying aspects of cooperation linked to sustainable social and environmental development. To help to unify policies and to launch measures of affirmative action facilitating the access of grassroots organizations to sources and resources aimed at subsidizing projects. To create a space of representation and management for the collectivity of descendants of Africans in conditions equal to those of indigenous peoples. To create an economic and social European fund and specific international cooperation programmes aimed at this group. To project our strengths. As a sponsor, we offer to include your name and logo in our publicity material, information, documents and the final report of the 2nd Summit in Europe of Africans and Their Descendants 2007-2008.

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**TYPE OF SUPPORT SOLICITED**

- a. ECONOMIC support to the operative and administrative administration of the 2ND SUMMIT
- b. Maintaining the administrative headquarters of the 2nd Summit
- c. Publicity material, invitations, information technology and communication
- d. ECONOMIC support for the overall management of the 2ND SUMMIT
- e. Logistical and infrastructure support - an auditorium for 500 participants, air and land transport, lodgings etc
- f. Support to the government in issuing visas for the participants
- g. Support to the back-up management and inter-institutional links (European institutions, political parties, embassies, universities, companies, officials etc)
- h. SCIENTIFIC support through participation, development, evaluation and follow-up of the 2nd Summit with links to experts in conference planning, interpreters (Spanish, French, English, German, Portuguese, Arabic) and in aspects you regard as relevant

**ORGANIZERS:**

COMSMET (Coalition of Social Movements of Ethnic Minorities)  
The International Delegation in Madrid of the Fundación Vida – Grupo Ecológico Verde  
The Pan-Africanist Federation of Spain's Black Communities  
The humanist association Africa Viva  
The youth corporation CORPOSILOE