

SECOND PART: APPLICATION FORM IN WORD

Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, member from Latin American and Caribbean States [HRC resolution 27/25]

*Appointments of special procedures mandate holders to be made
at the 30th session of the Human Rights Council (14 September - 2 October 2015)*

How to apply:

The entire application process consists of two parts: **1. online survey** and **2. application form in Word format**. Both parts and all sections of the application form need to be completed before the deadline for the application to be processed.

First part: Online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/onlinehrc30th>) is used to collect information for statistical purposes such as personal data (i.e. name, gender, nationality), contact details, mandate applying for and nominating entity.

Second part: Application form in Word can be downloaded from <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/HRC30.aspx>, completed and saved in Word format and then submitted as an attachment by email. Information provided in this form includes a motivation letter of maximum 600 words. The application form should be completed in English only. It will be used as received to prepare the public list of candidates who applied for each vacancy and will be made available to concerned parties, including through the OHCHR public website.

Once fully completed (including Section VII), the application form in Word should be submitted to hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org (by email). A maximum of three reference letters can be attached in Word or pdf format to the email (optional). No additional documents such as CVs or lists of publications will be accepted.

Please note that for Working Group appointments, only citizens of States belonging to the specific regional group are eligible. Please refer to the list of United Nations regional groups of Member States at <http://www.un.org/depts/DGACM/RegionalGroups.shtml>

- **Application deadline: 19 August 2015 (12.00 noon GMT)**
- No incomplete or late applications will be accepted.
- Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a later stage.

General description of the selection process is available at <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Nominations.aspx>

In case of technical difficulties, or if encountering problems with accessing or completing the forms, the Secretariat may be contacted by email at hrcspecialprocedures@ohchr.org or fax at + 41 22 917 9008.

An acknowledgment email will be sent when we receive both parts of the application process, i.e. the data submitted through the online survey and the Word application form by email.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Human Rights Council.

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I. PERSONAL DATA

1. Family name: Reid	5. Sex: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
2. First name: Ahmed	6. Year of birth: 1974
3. Maiden name (if any):	7. Place of birth: Jamaica
4. Middle name: Nyerere	8. Nationality (please indicate the nationality that will appear on the public list of candidates): Jamaican
	9. Any other nationality: No

II. MANDATE - SPECIFIC COMPETENCE / QUALIFICATIONS / KNOWLEDGE

NOTE: Please describe why the candidate's competence / qualifications / knowledge is relevant in relation to the specific mandate:

1. QUALIFICATIONS (200 words)

Relevant educational qualifications or equivalent professional experience in the field of human rights; good communication skills (i.e. orally and in writing) in one of the six official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish.)

I am an Assistant Professor of Caribbean History at the City University of New York. I gained my Ph.D. in Social and Economic History from the University of Hull, England. I have published extensively in peer-reviewed academic journals such as *Slavery and Abolition*, as well as *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*, Oxford University Press. I have an extensive background in advocating for the rights of marginalized peoples. I have conducted research for Professor Sir Hilary Beckles that sought to highlight the contributions of Caribbean nationals to global development. My work covers areas such as the Transatlantic Trade in Africans and its legacies, gender and reparatory justice. As a result of my work in these areas, I have been invited to pertinent Conferences as guest speaker including at the 12th Annual Session of the Working Group in Geneva Switzerland in 2013, where I presented on the "Transatlantic Trade in Africans: Recognition through Data Analysis."

2. RELEVANT EXPERTISE (200 words)

Knowledge of international human rights instruments, norms and principles. (Please state how this was acquired.)

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Knowledge of institutional mandates related to the United Nations or other international or regional organizations' work in the area of human rights.

(Please state how this was acquired.)

Proven work experience in the field of human rights. (Please state years of experience.)

My experience in the field of human rights and my knowledge of international human rights instruments dates back to 2007, when I started as a researcher for Jamaica's National Bicentenary Committee on issues relating to history and social justice. Since then, I have merged my love of teaching and research with that of public advocacy with the aim of improving the lives of people of African descent across the diaspora. I have also conducted research for Jamaica's National Reparations Commission which led me to investigate the UN's various mandates. Also, having presented before the Working Group in 2013, and most recently at a UNESCO Sub-Regional Conference, I am very knowledgeable with the UN system and its Conventions relating to human rights. Chief among these are the:

Declaration on the Right to Development (1926)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) (1965)

Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1969)

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1979)

Declaration on the Right to Development (1986)

World Conference against Racism, 2001 (Durban Declaration and Programme of Action) (2001)

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007)

3. ESTABLISHED COMPETENCE (200 words)

Nationally, regionally or internationally recognized competence related to human rights. (Please explain how such competence was acquired.)

My public advocacy for the rights of people of African Descent, and my research and publications on related issues have been recognized nationally, regionally and internationally.

My work in the spreading of history education in the print media and on radio in Jamaica is widely acknowledged. As a result of my work in areas of history education and social justice, I was invited to be the guest speaker at the 12th Annual Session of the Working Group in Geneva Switzerland in 2013, where I presented on the "Transatlantic Trade in Africans: Recognition through Data Analysis." That presentation is currently listed on the OHCHR's website (<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Racism/WGEAPD/Session12/AhmedReid.d>)

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ocx). Most recently, I was invited by UNESCO to present at a UNESCO Sub-Regional Conference, Basseterre, St. Kitts, July 7-8, 2015. My presentations, entitled, "The Legacy of the Transatlantic Trade in Africans and the Institution of Slavery" and "Imperative to Educate: Importance of Pedagogy, Creation and Production of Educational and Public Resource Materials" centered on issues of social justice and how education can be used as an important tool for social development, which is in keeping with the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development.

**4. FLEXIBILITY/READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF TIME (200 words)
to perform effectively the functions of the mandate and to respond to its
requirements, including participating in Human Rights Council sessions in
Geneva and General Assembly sessions in New York, travelling on special
procedures visits, drafting reports and engaging with a variety of
stakeholders. (Indicate whether candidate can dedicate an estimated total
of approx. three months per year to the work of a mandate.)**

If selected to become a member of the Working Group I will dedicate the necessary time to facilitate the Group's fulfilling its mandate. The importance of the Working Group's mandate cannot be overstated, and so if it means dedicating more time to complete drafts or engaging with stakeholders then I am available to do that. I have a flexible schedule and will be ready when called upon to engage with stakeholders or to embark on country visits.

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III. MOTIVATION LETTER (600 word limit)

The mandate of the Working Group is an important one. We have seen where racism, xenophobia and related intolerance continues to impact marginalized groups globally, and it is for this reason why I want to become a member of the United Nations Working Group of Experts for People of African Descent. This would enable me to continue the United Nations' rich tradition in advocating for the rights of marginalized peoples, and to contribute to ending discrimination against people of African descent and other marginalized groups globally. I have merged my love of teaching and research with that of public advocacy with the aim of improving the lives of Caribbean nationals in particular, and more broadly people of African descent across the diaspora.

Central to my career has been harnessing my expertise to advocate for issues of history and social justice. Chief among them has been the spread of history education through various forms of media throughout the Diaspora as well as delivering public lectures on topics relating to slavery, reparatory justice, and the importance of history education in facilitating development across the diaspora. My unwavering commitment to improving the opportunities to secure the human rights of people of African descent, and to highlight their cultural and scientific contributions to the modern world makes me an ideal candidate.

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IV. LANGUAGES (READ / WRITTEN / SPOKEN)

Please indicate all language skills:

Mother tongue: English

Arabic: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or Not easily:

Write: Easily or Not easily:

Speak: Easily or Not easily:

Chinese: Yes or no: **NO** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:

Write: Easily or not easily:

Speak: Easily or not easily:

English: Yes or no: **Yes** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily: **Easily**

Write: Easily or not easily: **Easily**

Speak: Easily or not easily: **Easily**

French: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:

Write: Easily or not easily:

Speak: Easily or not easily:

Russian: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:

Write: Easily or not easily:

Speak: Easily or not easily:

Spanish: Yes or no: **No** If yes,

Read: Easily or not easily:

Write: Easily or not easily:

Speak: Easily or not easily:

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V. EDUCATIONAL RECORD

NOTE: Please list the candidate's academic qualifications (university level and higher).

Name of degree and name of academic institution:	Years of attendance (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2003):	Place and country:
Ph.D. History, University of Hull	2003-2008	England
BA History, University of the West Indies	1995-1999	Jamaica

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VI. EMPLOYMENT RECORD

**NOTE: Please briefly list ALL RELEVANT professional positions held,
beginning with the most recent one.**

Name of employer, functional title, main functions of position:	Years of work (provide a range from-to, for example 1999-2005):	Place and country:
City University of New York, Assistant Professor of History	2011 - Present	New York, USA
Georgia College and State University, Assistant Professor of History	2008 - 2011	Georgia, USA

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**VII. COMPLIANCE WITH ETHICS AND INTEGRITY PROVISIONS
(of Human Rights Council resolution 5/1)**

Section to be completed by the candidate or the nominating entity on his/her behalf.

1. To your knowledge, does the candidate have any official, professional, personal, or financial relationships that might cause him/her to limit the extent of their inquiries, to limit disclosure, or to weaken or slant findings in any way? If yes, please explain.

No

2. Are there any factors that could either directly or indirectly influence, pressure, threaten, or otherwise affect the candidate's ability to act independently in discharging his/her mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

3. Is there any reason, currently or in that past, that could call into question the candidate's moral authority and credibility or does the candidate hold any views or opinions that could prejudice the manner in which she/he discharges his mandate? If yes, please explain:

No

4. Does the candidate comply with the provisions in paragraph 44 and 46 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1?

Para. 44: The principle of non-accumulation of human rights functions at a time shall be respected.

Para. 46: Individuals holding decision-making positions in Government or in any other organization or entity which may give rise to a conflict of interest with the responsibilities inherent to the mandate shall be excluded. Mandate holders will act in their personal capacity.

Yes

5. Should the candidate be appointed as a mandate holder, he/she will have to take measures to comply with paragraphs 44 and 46 of the annex to Council resolution 5/1. In the event that the current occupation or activity, even if unpaid, of the candidate may give rise to a conflict of interest (e.g. if a candidate holds a decision-making position in Government) and/or there is an accumulation of human rights functions (e.g. as a member of another human rights mechanism at the international, regional or national level), necessary measures could include relinquishing positions, occupations or activities. If applicable, please indicate the measures the candidate will take.

Not applicable
