Beat: Travel

Fact-finding mission to Germany by UN expert group on people of African descent

Official visit to Germany 20-27 February

Paris, Washington DC, 16.02.2017, 16:49 Time

USPA NEWS - The United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent will undertake its first official visit to Germany from 20 to 27 February 2017 to study the human rights situation of people of African descent in the country.

The United Nations Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent will undertake its first official visit to Germany from 20 to 27 February 2017 to study the human rights situation of people of African descent in the country. “We will gather information on any forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, Afrophobia and related intolerance, in order to assess the overall human rights situation of people of African descent in Germany,“ said Ricardo Sunga, who currently heads the expert group. The Group´s delegation, who visits the country at the invitation of the Government, will travel to Berlin, Dessau, Dresden, Frankfurt, Cologne, Wiesbaden, Dusseldorf and Hamburg, to meet representatives of the Government, relevant communities, civil society organisations and individuals working on issues of racism and racial discrimination.
Mr. Sunga, together with human rights experts Mireille Fanon Mendes-France and Sabelo Gumedze, will also study the measures taken to prevent racial discrimination and protect victims of racism and hate crimes, as well as mechanisms for the protection, integration and inclusion of migrants and refugees, intersectionality, and responses to multiple forms of discrimination, that specific groups of African descent may face.----------
“The visit will allow us to identify challenges as well as good practices on the basis of which we will provide concrete recommendations to fight racism and racial discrimination“, Mr. Sunga said. The Working Group will present a report containing its findings and recommendations to the United Nations Human Rights Council in September 2017.
The experts will also promote the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015-2024), which aims both to highlight the contribution of people of African descent to societies and to strengthen national, regional and international cooperation to ensure the human rights of people of African descent are respected, protected and fulfilled.
A press conference to share the delegation´s preliminary findings will be held on Monday 27 February at 13:00 in the Conference Hall, Federal Press Conference, Schiffbauerdamm 40, 10117 Berlin (corner of ReinhardtstraÃŸe). Access to the press conference is strictly limited to journalists. With APO, UNHCR

Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-10723/fact-finding-mission-to-germany-by-un-expert-group-on-people-of-african-descent.html

Editorial office and responsibility:
V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Rahma Sophia RACHDI

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