

UPF Int'l: Advancing UNs 2nd International Decade for People of African Descent

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December 2025



At the start of the United Nations [Second International Decade for People of African Descent](#) (2025 - 2034), proclaimed by the General Assembly and established as a continuation of the [first decade](#) (2015 - 2024) to address racism, promote justice, and advance recognition and development for people of African descent, UPF recognizes the contributions of Africans and people of African heritage worldwide. We affirm the principles of equality, dignity, and recognition established for this decade, reflecting UPF's belief in the moral equality of all human beings.

UPF founders [Dr. Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Dr. Hak Ja Han](#) emphasized that prosperity must uphold human dignity and that strong families contribute to social stability. The founders' vision calls for respect for ancestral legacies and sustained efforts to address the long-term consequences of racism and colonialism.

UPF's peacebuilding work across Africa includes leadership conferences, interreligious initiatives, and programs facilitated through the [International Association of Chiefs for Peace and Prosperity](#), a UPF-affiliated regional initiative launched in West Africa in the late 2010s to engage traditional and customary leaders in peace and development efforts.

Other UPF associations like International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) and Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD), also worked to empower African youth. Activities in regions such as West Africa, East Africa, and the Sahel have supported dialogue, youth engagement, and community partnerships.

UPF has also consistently commemorated [Africa Day](#) alongside the United Nations, and on multiple occasions UPF's New York programs welcomed high-level UN participation, including an addresses by former UN Secretary-General [Ban Ki-moon](#). We encourage financial institutions and private sector actors to advance development approaches that prioritize ethical investment, financial inclusion, and social well-being. We also encourage Ambassadors for Peace of UPF of African descent to initiate cultural dialogues and youth exchanges that highlight African achievements in governance, arts, sciences, and social innovation. Through expanded access to education, ethical finance, and inclusive and sustainable development, we reaffirm the commitment of the international community to address the enduring consequences of slavery and colonialism.

Looking ahead, we envision Africa and its global diaspora advancing inclusive and sustainable development through strengthened cooperation. They held numerous dialogues with African leaders that resonated strongly with principles championed by Nelson Mandela, including reconciliation, inclusive citizenship, and social cohesion. In cooperation with the African Union and regional partners, UPF will continue supporting initiatives that reduce intercommunal tensions, strengthen civic participation, and expand opportunities for people of African descent as part of One Family under God.