



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA

August 4, 2020

Ahmed Reid

Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent

Leigh Toomey

Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Catalina Devandas-Aguilar

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

Agnes Callamard

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

David Kaye

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection
of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

Clement Nyaletsossi Voule

Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom
of peaceful assembly and of association

Baskut Tuncak

Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights
of the environmentally sound management
and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

Dainius Puras

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone
to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard
of physical and mental health

Balakrishnan Rajagopal

Special Rapporteur on adequate housing

Diego García-Sayán

Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers

Chris Kwaja

Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group

on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights

Fernand de Varennes

Special Rapporteur on minority issues

Claudia Mahler

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons

Nils Melzer

Special Rapporteur on Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman,
or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Olivier De Schutter

Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

E. Tendayi Achiume

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia

Victor Madrigal-Borloz

Independent Expert on protection against violence
and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

Nils Melzer

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel,
inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Dear Special Rapporteurs and Independent Experts,

We acknowledge the letter sent on June 8, 2020 regarding “Several Recent Killings of People with African Descent” and the concerns it raises. The United States is committed to accountability and transparency in its efforts to advance our nation’s commitments to equal justice under law and the protection of every person’s fundamental freedoms. The United States government is working with officials at the local, state, and federal levels to address claims of racial discrimination and excessive use of force by the police.

A substantive reply to your letter is forthcoming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line.

Daniel A. Kronenfeld
Human Rights Counselor