

**Executive Summary**  
**Alternative Report to the CERD Committee. URUGUAY<sup>1</sup>**  
**Narrative Report**

The present report focuses on relevant aspects for the implementation of the recommendations issued by this Committee in 2011 to Uruguay, with the purpose of enhancing the constructive dialogue between the Committee and the State at the occasion of the Committee's review of the State party report (CERD/C/URY/CO/16-20). It includes various approaches: the gender perspective, religious diversity, sexual orientation and gender identity, conforming a plural and diverse coalition. Our report is structured according to the provisions of Arts. 1, 2, 2.2.; 5 and 6 of the Convention, in chapters related to:

**I.- COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES**

The Interinstitutional Commission created by Presidential Decree (522/2011, 25/10/11) has not functioned effectively, nor has it reported any conclusions.

**II.- NATIONAL PLAN AGAINST RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION**

The State fails to take account of Art. 2 of the Convention by not providing a specific Plan, despite its ample experience in the design and implementation of such policies.

Measures taken within the framework of the International Decade for People of African Descent do not substitute an articulate macro policy for the prevention of racism and discrimination.

**III.- AFRODESCENDANTS**

According to the Census 2011, 255.000 respondents identify themselves as people of African descent (8% of the national population). This population, especially women, has not been benefited by the reduction of poverty.

The most visible inequalities refer to education, where dropout rates of Afro descendent children remain high compared to Caucasian children aged over 15 years old.

In terms of employment, people of African Descent are underrepresented in management, decision-making and executive positions (0.8% of the total). Afro Uruguayan women are heavily concentrated on less qualified and low wage jobs, representing 12.6% of the total of women (99.4% female) in domestic service. The Temporary Special Measures (Law No. 19.122) have failed to reverse this situation.

Prejudice against religious manifestations of people of African Descent persist by the trivialization of monuments and lack of respect for religious practices.

**IV. LGBTI PEOPLE**

The First Census on transgender people carried out by the Ministry of Social Development in 2015 registered 853 people without disaggregation by ethnicity or race.

**V.- ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

The Judicial System's Plans and Programmes do not incorporate the ethnicity/race dimension. Judicial operators are not trained nor sensitized on racism and discrimination.

The dissemination of theories of racial superiority or inferiority is not criminalized.

The First National Prison Census conducted by the Ministry of the Interior and the University of the Republic, which registered 10.416 people deprived of liberty, did not include the ethnic and racial dimension.

A research conducted in 2010 by the Service for Peace and Justice (SERPAJ as per its Spanish acronym) and the Judicial Observatory of the Law and Justice Foundation (OSJ as per its Spanish acronym) included a question on racial perception, and based on self-identification 27.3% persons deprived of liberty declared to have African descent.

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<sup>1</sup> Submitted by: COLECTIVA MUJERES (feminist organization of afro uruguayan women), CLADEM (Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean), COLECTIVO OVEJAS NEGRAS (organization that defends the rights of uruguayan lgbti people), CLAN CHONIK (Organization of uruguayan people of indigenous origin), UTRU (Uruguayan Trans Union), ATABAQUE (afro religious organization), AFROGAMA (cultural group).

## **VII- RACIAL EQUITY MECHANISMS**

The fragmentation and overlapping of multiple offices that function without any coordination shows lack of political will to advance in ensuring substantial equality.

## **VIII.- PEOPLE OF INDIGENOUS ORIGIN**

According to the 2011 Census, 159,324 people declare to possess indigenous origin, of which 87,162 are women that are not recognized in the Interinstitutional Mechanisms. There is no indigenous representative to the Honorary Commission against Racism, Xenophobia and all forms of Discrimination (CHRXD as per its Spanish acronym). Despite the existing legal framework, the school curricula incorporates historic events without harmonizing the historical indigenous legacy with the existence of descendants of indigenous people.