

*Intervention from the floor at 2021 HLPF*

**"Coming together to help Small Island Developing States to get on a path to realize the SDGs"**

*On behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent -*

*Dominique Pierre from Mauritius*

**(2 min Speech)**

Thank you, Excellency,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to intervene in this important debate today:

***“Knowing where you come from does not make you less African, but knowing who you are now, will make you more Human. “***

My name is Dominique Pierre I am from the Rep of Mauritius and I represent the Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent and the Gran Lekol Filozofi. I speak on behalf of the Stakeholder Group of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent.

Heritage of Colonisation and Slavery is a real opportunity for all of us to build resilience and move forward in elevating each other as Human Beings with equal Rights.

Small islands like Mauritius, Chagos, Agalega, Rodrigues are examples of how limited and unequally distributed Natural resources, can create serious social tensions and damage. Human Rights Infringements caused by historical injustice arise a multi ethnic population where laws deprive a specific ethnic of its origin, its Power and Right to exist.

Any progress towards the 2030 Agenda must not leave Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent behind.

**WE URGENTLY RECOMMEND:**

- Prioritizing the collection of disaggregated data of all individuals and communities to enhance identification. –Human Resources are also essential
- Anti-discrimination and prevention of atrocity laws must be enacted and implemented properly in order to ensure the safety and protection of those who are most vulnerable to exploitation, violence and discrimination. Laws must also ensure the accountability of the State administrative mechanisms.

- Revamp the spending structures for relief, taking into consideration short term, medium term and long term needs for relief and recovery assistance.
- Representation of DWD communities in local government is necessary to ensure that their voices are heard and that necessary relief is afforded to the community members.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.