



Oral statement at the ID with the SR on modern slavery – HRC45

History articulates that slavery remains a hot topic in Africa. As early as 7th century Africans were trafficked to other civilization in the name of globalization and migration. The historic slavery of Africans was ended through political agitation and diplomacy. Since then, African-descended people continue suffering from indignities that shame us all.¹

The executive director of Trace Kenya, says that calls for help are still coming in today. He reports, that in the last two weeks they have had three desperate calls from women [in the Gulf]. They had their passports and phones taken away, but they looked for a Kenyan face when their employers sent them to the mall and they asked for help and to call their organization. He estimates that there are at least 120,000 Kenyans in the Middle East, roughly one-third of whom have been trafficked.²

- We wish to appeal to the African Union to do more to look after the citizens of its Sixth Region – the Diaspora³ – by embarking on political agitation and diplomacy that will ensure that host countries accord civil and human rights to Africans in their midst.
- Review laws and structures regarding migration and hold states accountable for perpetrating human trafficking of all persons, and especially from African origin.

Thank you.

¹ Recalling Africa's harrowing tale of its first slavers – The Arabs – as UK Slave Trade Abolition is commemorated. [NEW AFRICAN](https://newafricanmagazine.com/16616/). 27/03/2018. <https://newafricanmagazine.com/16616/>

² The guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/oct/29/kenyan-women-gulf-despite-abuse-fears-domestic-workers>, 20th October 2019.

³ <https://newafricanmagazine.com/19283/>