



AfroResistance Solidarity Journey Delegation WorkGroups: Key Points and Next Steps

Key Points and Next Steps Group 1: Migratory Justice and Human Rights

Objective: To approach the legal frameworks regulating migration in Panama and their connections to other regional systems.

Strategy: Identify or create mechanisms to ensure the protection of human rights from an intersectional perspective for migrants.

The legal frameworks regulating migration in Panama and their connections to other regional systems will be examined. It is important to highlight the most suitable mechanisms for protecting the human rights of migrants from an intersectional perspective.

Responsible facilitator:

Eusebia "Chevy" Solis Research coordinator for AfroResistance.

Assigned interpreter: Alicia Tejada

Profiles of delegates:

- **Imani Cruz:** Global Policy Coordinator for Migratory Justice at the American Friends Service Committee in Washington, D.C.
- **Haddy Gassama:** advocate deeply committed to supporting asylum seekers, particularly Black migrants navigating the U.S. immigration system. As part of the **UndocuBlack Network**. She works closely with individuals who have endured the challenging journey through the Darién Gap.
- **Emem Maurus:** Attorney and Legal Director of the Transgender Law Center (TLC), leading initiatives aimed at supporting LGBT migrants through the Border Butterflies project.
- **Delsy Valera:** Part of the Migrant Women Collective of the Encuentro Espacio de Mujeres. She is a migrant woman from Colombia and naturalized in Panama for over 23 years.

Meeting with Panamanian stakeholders

Carlos Justiniani is an attorney with an outstanding academic and professional career in law. He currently serves as legal advisor to the legislator Walkiria Chandler and the National Council

for Evaluation and University Accreditation of Panama. With experience in various law firms, he has gained extensive knowledge in civil proceedings, mediation, arbitration, and precautionary measures. His trajectory and dedication position him as an expert in the legal field, providing legal advice to key institutions in the country.

Gustavo Peralta is a prominent immigration lawyer. Since 1986, he has worked at the Centro de Asistencia Legal Popular (Cealp) in Panama, an NGO committed to defending human rights since 1986. In recent years, his focus has shifted towards people in need of refuge. In a context where vulnerability is a constant, he provides a safe space where every individual is welcomed and defended, no matter the time.

He created the Orientation and Legal Assistance Program for Refugees and People in Need of International Protection, funded by the Norwegian Refugee Council and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Peralta and his team's work not only provides legal support but also emphasizes the importance of solidarity and respect for human rights in a world where many lives are at risk.

María Luisa Olmos is an attorney with a long-standing career in defending women's rights. She served as Director of the Office of Human Rights at the Ministry of Women starting in 2021. In 2024, she was appointed as an attorney in the newly established Women's Office of the Attorney General's Office of Administration, with the aim of ensuring equitable opportunities for female public servants through institutional mechanisms that support the implementation of gender equality policies an

Key Points

Fragmented Legal and Institutional Framework:

- Panama operates under a fragmented system, where entities such as the National Migration Service, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Government, and the Ministry of Security (National Border Service) enforce their own laws independently.
- This lack of cohesion leads to inefficiencies, overlaps, and gaps in migration management. Migrants face complex, contradictory, and discretionary regulations, particularly when obtaining work permits and regularizing their status.

Legal barriers to employment and economic burdens:

- Constitutional restrictions limit certain jobs, such as retail, exclusively to Panamanians, preventing migrants and refugees from engaging in self-employment.
- Recent decrees have drastically increased the cost of work permits, with fees reaching up to \$2,000, making them inaccessible to most migrants.

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- These barriers are compounded by systemic delays, with migrants waiting up to five years to obtain refugee status or work permits, leaving them in precarious situations.

Systemic inefficiencies and abuses:

- Lack of coordination among agencies such as the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Government, and the National Migration Service exacerbates delays and inefficiencies in processing permits.
- Migrants, especially vulnerable groups like the LGBTQ+ community, face labor exploitation, including wage theft and unsafe working conditions. Fear of retaliation or deportation often deters them from reporting abuses.

Inadequate role of international organizations:

- International organizations, such as UNHCR and the Norwegian Refugee Council, primarily focus on meetings and training sessions without effectively addressing systemic challenges or advocating for concrete policy changes. Their limited impact on the ground results in missed opportunities for meaningful reforms.
- Additionally, migrants from marginalized countries are left vulnerable and defenseless because they are associated with terrorism, making them migrants who fail to garner interest from international organizations.

Need for Legal Expertise and Advocacy:

- There is an absence of structured collaboration among lawyers and legal organizations working on migration issues. This lack of a unified legal approach hampers collective action, weakens advocacy efforts, and reduces opportunities to challenge systemic barriers through litigation or policy proposals.

Lack of representation and advocacy for migrants:

- Advocacy organizations have not achieved significant progress in reducing barriers for migrants, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation and systemic neglect.
- Legal and institutional gaps perpetuate the lack of protection of migrants' rights, further deepening their marginalization in Panamanian society.

Creation of increasingly punitive measures against migrants:

- The cost of transporting migrants from the Lajas Blancas Shelter to Costa Rica has risen from \$40 to \$60.
- Decrees have been established to increase fines for irregular entry into Panama.

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- Six migratory routes in the Darién Gap have been closed off with barbed wire, reportedly to protect migrant populations.
- More than 30 deportation flights have been conducted, financed by the United States following an agreement with the president-elect José Raúl Molino.

Possible Next Steps

Strengthening Community Networks

- Create a support network among grassroots organizations to share resources, strategies, knowledge, and best practices in defending migrants' rights.
- Establish direct connections with migrant communities to identify their needs and priorities through participatory methods.
- Develop a mapping of stakeholders and their intervention strategies along the migration route, from the Darién Gap to the Mexican border, to identify organizations and their resources in migration matters.

Promoting Intersectoral Coordination

- Facilitate regular meetings between grassroots and international organizations to foster collaboration and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Coordinate with educational institutions, health centers, and local employers to ensure migrants' access to essential services.

Direct Assistance and Support

- Create a network along the migration route to provide legal and psychological assistance, supporting migrants in regularizing their status and accessing basic rights.
- Assist migrants with administrative processes, such as applying for work permits and completing procedures with the National Migration Service.

Community training

- Offer workshops for migrants on labor rights, complaint mechanisms, and self-employment strategies.
- Train leaders within local and migrant communities to serve as human rights promoters, mediators, and representatives in dialogues with authorities.

Advocacy for public policy

- Document cases of rights violations and share this information with key stakeholders to advocate for legal and administrative reforms.

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- Actively participate in public consultations and governmental forums to ensure migrants' voices are heard and represented.

Resource mobilization

- Seek partnerships with foundations, local businesses, and international organizations to fund migrant support programs.
- Promote fundraising campaigns to address urgent needs, such as transportation, food, and legal assistance.

Awareness campaigns and combating xenophobia

- Organize community events and communication campaigns that highlight migrants' contributions to Panamanian society.
- Educate and encourage media outlets to share positive stories to help eradicate stereotypes that perpetuate discrimination.

Monitoring and evaluation

- Establish a tracking system to evaluate the impact of actions taken and adjust strategies based on results.
- Generate regular reports reflecting progress and challenges in addressing migrant communities' needs.

Key Points and Next Steps Group 2: Social Innovation and Community Development

Objective: To explore and promote innovative strategies and social technologies that strengthen the prevention, intervention, and risk mitigation for the migrant population, with an intersectional approach considering race, gender, sexuality, and ability.

Strategy: Develop and apply endogenous solutions that respond to the specific needs of migrant communities, integrating local knowledge and community practices to address the challenges of human mobility from an inclusive and sustainable perspective.

Various strategies and social technologies will be identified to help prevent, intervene, and reduce the risky situations faced by the migrant population, particularly through an intersectional analysis of race, gender, sexuality, and ability. It will be crucial to seek endogenous responses to the issues of human mobility.

Facilitator:

Janvieve Williams Comrie, Executive Director, AfroResistance

Profiles of delegates

- **Lukee Forbes:** Interested in gathering information about Panamanian culture and politics to build connections within the diaspora.
- **Oluchi Omeoga:** Works with Black, queer, and trans migrants, interested in how U.S. policies affect migrants in Panama.
- **Isa Noyola:** Activist and organizer with decades of experience supporting trans communities in the United States.
- **Evelyn Alvarez:** President, Board of Directors.

Meeting with Panamanian stakeholders

Dr. Gerardo Maloney is an academic and intellectually recognized for his contributions in the fields of sociology, history, and Afro-Panamanian studies. He has played an important role in the study and promotion of Afro-descendant culture and its issues in Panama and Central America. Maloney has been involved in various academic and cultural initiatives, including his work as a professor and researcher, and has published works that address the socio-cultural and historical aspects of Afro-descendant communities. As the founding director of the Panamanian Journal of Sociology, he has made significant contributions to the field, and his role as president of the Afro-Panamanian Studies Center has been key in promoting the understanding and appreciation of Afro-Panamanian heritage. His work often intersects with broader discussions about race, identity, and social justice in the region.

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Rey Sidnez is a dedicated activist and the president of the French Mutual Aid Society *La Fraternidad*, a position he has held for over 20 years. This social association, founded in 1917 by Antilleans from Martinique and Guadeloupe, works to promote French Afro-Antillean heritage in Panama. As president, Sidnez plays a key role in fostering cultural awareness and is a prominent figure in the province of Colón.

Sidnez has actively participated in cultural initiatives, such as speaking on *La Ruta del Esclavo* (The Slave Route), highlighting the significance of colonial paths in Panama's history. His activism reflects a deep commitment to cultural preservation and community engagement in Colón.

Alberto Agrazal Reyes is a dedicated human rights and social justice advocate, with extensive experience in coordinating transnational initiatives focused on the protection of migrants, refugees, and victims of trafficking in Latin America. As the coordinator of the Clamor Network, a network that articulates efforts in favor of the life and dignity of vulnerable individuals, Alberto has played a key role in strengthening alliances among social, religious, and human rights organizations throughout the region.

With a deep commitment to service and a critical perspective on the structural injustices affecting Afro-descendant, indigenous, and migrant populations, Alberto leads efforts in political advocacy, education, and humanitarian support. His leadership is directed towards promoting public policies that guarantee the protection of the rights of the most marginalized individuals.

Alberto has a strong background in social sciences and has tirelessly worked to create spaces for dialogue and solidarity in contexts of humanitarian crisis. Under his coordination, the Clamor Network has implemented significant actions that have contributed to the building of more inclusive, just, and equitable communities.

Ileana Correa is an emerging figure in Panama's social mobilization. She holds degrees in Finance and Banking, as well as in Economics, and is a specialist in Higher Education Teaching. She teaches at UMECIT and the University of the Arts Ganexa.

Correa volunteers with *Rebelión Científica*, a chapter of the environmental movement "Ya es Ya," and leads the training program for the August 16 Revolutionary Youth Movement.

Her recent participation in a protest outside the National Assembly highlighted the growing role of youth in defending the right to protest. During the protest, in which participants removed the metal barriers surrounding the building, she was detained along with 27 others. She was released in less than 24 hours, generating significant social and academic repercussions.

Correa's experience symbolizes youth resistance in the face of repression and underscores the importance of student activism in defending fundamental rights in Panama

Ahmed Wynter is an active member of Juventudes Revolucionarias and currently leads the Afro Commission within the organization. As head of the commission, Wynter promotes

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initiatives focused on raising visibility, empowerment, and defending the rights of Afro-descendant people in Panama.

Committed to social change, Ahmed Wynter is a significant voice in the fight for racial and social justice, demonstrating that active youth participation is essential to transforming power structures in the country.

Mahogany Niles, known as "Myna," is a renowned multidisciplinary Panamanian artist specializing in fashion design, painting, poetry, and activism. In 2019, she won the 4th Young Fashion Designer Award in commemoration of Panama's 500th anniversary. In 2021, she was recognized by the Red de Jóvenes Afropanameños (Afropanamanian Youth Network) for her commitment to Afropanamanian youth. In 2024, she received her first international award from the Afro Unidad collective in the open category for her illustrated poem "Ser de color" ("Being of Color").

That same year, she co-created the audiovisual art exhibition "Nemnesia" or "Black Amnesia" with Ninna Ottey and Jhojaddy Ramírez, presented at the Museum of Freedom, which delves into the realities and challenges faced by Black women in Panama's social imaginary as a result of racism and discrimination. Through her personal brand, Myna tfc, she questions the representation of Black women in Panamanian society, drawing from her perspective as an Afro-descendant artist.

She has participated in events such as the Melanin Summer Fest, Afro-Antillean Fair, Afro Bazar, Panama Feminista, and Chiriquí Fashion Week. Among her initiatives are Myna, The Fresh Culture (art and fashion), and Alto&Claro (activism).

Key Points

1. **Intersectional risks in migration:**

Migrants, especially Afro-descendant and LGBTQ+ individuals, face unique challenges stemming from compounded discrimination. These challenges include limited access to essential services, heightened vulnerability to violence, and systemic exclusion.

2. **Endogenous and contextualized solutions:**

Addressing migration issues requires solutions rooted in local knowledge and cultural practices. These should draw from the lived experiences of migrant communities and their historical resilience.

3. **Innovative social technologies:**

Technology can play a pivotal role in addressing migration challenges. Tools such as mobile apps for legal aid, resource mapping, and community alert systems can provide critical support to migrants in transit and settlement.

4. **Collaboration with grassroots and institutional stakeholders:**

Effective solutions demand a unified effort between grassroots organizations and larger institutions. This collaboration ensures that interventions are both locally relevant and scalable.

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5. Policy and advocacy for structural change:

There is an urgent need for policies that reflect the intersectional realities of migrants, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds. Advocacy efforts should push for inclusive and equitable systems at national and international levels.

Possible Next Steps

1. Develop and pilot social technologies:

- Create digital platforms for legal assistance, healthcare access, and safety alerts tailored for Afro-descendant and LGBTQ+ migrants.
- Launch pilot programs to test these technologies in key transit and settlement areas.

2. Capacity building and community training:

- Train community leaders and organizations in using social technologies and implementing intersectional support strategies.
- Host workshops on community organizing and advocacy to transfer knowledge to migrant networks.

3. Policy engagement and advocacy:

- Develop advocacy campaigns to influence policy changes that ensure the protection and empowerment of marginalized migrants.
- Engage with policymakers to prioritize intersectional approaches in migration governance.

4. Sustainable funding and partnerships:

- Seek funding from international organizations and partners to support the development and scaling of social technologies.
- Build long-term partnerships with institutions like the UN to sustain community-driven initiatives.

Key Points and Next Steps: Group 3 - Health, Well-being, and Spirituality

Objective: To analyze the implications of the migratory crisis on the physical and mental health of migrants and propose strategies for differential treatment that promote their emotional and spiritual reconstitution.

Strategy: Identify and promote self-care and collective care practices adapted to the migratory context, strengthening the resilience and overall well-being of migrants by integrating relevant cultural and spiritual approaches.

The implications of the crisis on physical and mental health will be examined, proposing strategies for differential treatment and the emotional and spiritual reconstitution of migrants. It will be important to identify the most suitable self-care and collective care practices for the migratory context.

Assigned Interpreter: Rachel Seales

Facilitator:

Yida Annette Bailey Board of Directors

Profiles of delegates

- **Maryika Stubbs:** Interested in women's health and learning about culture and politics to serve the diaspora.
- **Deborah Alemu:** Focused on community building and political education regarding forced migration, with an emphasis on avoiding a missionary approach.
- **Jamil Craig:** Pan-Africanist and Afro-feminist whose personal and professional journey has focused on building solidarity economies that promote the well-being and self-sufficiency of Black communities.
- **Girah Lundy-Joseph:** Human rights student and activist seeking to deepen the defense of human rights for the African and Latin American diaspora.
- **Carmelo Falu-Rodriguez:** Advocate for the rights of LGBTQIA+ migrants from the Black community.
- **Niesreen Mende:** Interested in bridging the gap with the diaspora through education in spirituality and well-being.

Meeting with Panamanian stakeholders

Janina Walters is a translator and interpreter fluent in English, Spanish, and French. She holds a BA in Languages & Business from Université de Bordeaux III Michel de Montaigne and has been an Authorized Public Translator and Interpreter of the Republic of Panama since 1999. She works as a freelance interpreter for international firms and UN agencies.

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In addition to her translation work, Janina is the President and Cultural Promoter at the Panamanian NGO Fundación Arnold Walters. She is the Director of Caras Afro Panamá (IG & FB Community Page) and serves as the Head Spiritual Coach/Healer at Healing Arts Egbe and APICS (Panama - USA - Nigeria). Her legacy includes healing through music, dance and Yoruba ritual.

Fray René Flores, originally from El Salvador, is a Franciscan brother working in Panama, where he focuses on human mobility and the defense of the rights of displaced individuals in the region. Appointed by the Franciscan Province of Central America, Fray René leads the Office of Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in Panama. He is also a member of the Advocacy Committee of the Franciscan Network for Migrants, actively working to defend the human and environmental rights of migrants.

His work includes accompanying migrants traveling through dangerous routes such as the Darién Gap, between Colombia and Panama, and Paso Canoas, between Panama and Costa Rica. In this mission, Fray René collaborates closely with the Clamor Network, which focuses on strengthening church organizations throughout Latin America and the Caribbean that work on the reception, protection, promotion, and integration of migrants, displaced

Summary of Key Findings

- 1. Impact of migration on health and well-being:**
Migrants endure physical and mental strain due to trauma, displacement, and the arduous journey. The lack of familiarity with new environments exacerbates their vulnerability.
- 2. Role of spiritual and ancestral practices:**
Spiritual and cultural practices are essential in fostering emotional and spiritual resilience. Practices such as ancestral reverence, community healing, and rituals provide a grounding force for migrants.
- 3. Community and joy as healing pillars:**
Healing within Afro-descendant communities relies heavily on the interconnectedness of joy and community. These elements are crucial in addressing grief and trauma effectively.
- 4. Differential treatment and intersectional care:**
Afro-descendant and LGBTQ+ migrants face compounded challenges, requiring care strategies that acknowledge their unique vulnerabilities and intersectional identities.
- 5. Protective measures for migrants and advocates:**
The journey demands both spiritual and physical preparedness. Practices like offering rituals, cleansing, and protective measures help shield against the spiritual and emotional toll of migration.

Possible Next Steps

- 1. Develop Culturally relevant care models:**

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- Design programs incorporating spiritual and cultural healing practices tailored to the migratory experience.
 - Include rituals, community support circles, and art-based therapies to address trauma.
- 2. Capacity building for support networks:**
- Train organizations and individuals in spiritual and psychological care methods that align with Afro-descendant traditions.
 - Equip support networks with tools for their own emotional resilience and effective community support.
- 3. Policy and advocacy for inclusive health services:**
- Advocate for healthcare systems to integrate culturally sensitive practices.
 - Push for policies ensuring access to mental health and spiritual well-being services for marginalized migrant populations.
- 4. Documentation and sharing of ancestral practices:**
- Create a repository of healing practices and rituals, accessible to both migrants and organizations.
 - Use this as a foundation for workshops and community-based learning.
- 5. Immediate actions for migrants' protection:**
- Distribute guidelines on spiritual and emotional self-care, including practical tips for cleansing and protection.
 - Organize community rituals for collective healing and resilience building.

Key Points from the Workgroup: Socio-Political Education and Artivism

Facilitator:

Argelis V. Wesley Director of Operations of AfroResistance.

Profiles of delegates

- **Tsion Horra:** Works with Black LGBTQIA+ asylum seekers in the U.S.-Mexico border. She recognizes the increasing complexities of this humanitarian crisis as the border continues to shift further south in South America.
- **Aneiry Zapata:** Black trans migrant seeking to learn about immigration policies and find Spanish-speaking organizations.
- **Matías Heitner:** Film student focusing on documentaries about humanitarian crises.
- **Valerie Summer Herrera:** Race and Gender Coordinator for AfroResistance.
- **Juana Camargo:** Sociologist and feminist. Member of Encuentro Espacio de Mujeres.

Meeting with Panamanian stakeholders

Roberto Beteta is a prominent Panamanian activist and president of the Asociación Hombres y Mujeres Nuevos de Panamá (AHMNP), an organization he co-founded in 1996. AHMNP is a pioneer in his country and in Central America in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights. Under Beteta's leadership, the organization has achieved significant milestones, such as the decriminalization of homosexuality in Panama, which was accomplished on July 31, 2008. Additionally, AHMNP has been instrumental in organizing multiple LGBT Pride marches in Panama City, contributing to the visibility and advocacy of this community's rights.

Nyasha Warren Van Gronigen is the Research and Documentation Manager at the Panama Canal Museum. She has an outstanding professional background and a strong commitment to teaching, research, science, and technology, making her an invaluable addition to the museum community. She has conducted research focused on history and educational inequity.

Her experience encompasses various roles in education, museums, consulting, and management, and she currently serves as a board member of the Caribbean Museums Association, where she leads the organization of regional conferences. Additionally, she collaborates with the Friends of the Afro-Caribbean Museum of Panama on events and educational initiatives.

Nyasha is an honorary associate researcher at the AIP Educational Research Center and a member of the Panamanian Association of Educational Researchers. Her education includes a master's degree in Education from Harvard University, a master's degree in Environmental Health Sciences from New York University, and a bachelor's degree in Biology from Oberlin College.

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Efraín Guerrero is a cultural manager and founder of Movimiento Identidad, a sustainable tourism initiative in Panama that highlights the human heritage of historic neighborhoods such as Casco Antiguo and El Chorrillo. Guerrero has dedicated his work to preserving the memory and sense of community belonging through Movimiento Cultural Identidad, a non-profit organization.

Born and raised in Huerta Sandoval, in the district of Santa Ana, Guerrero promotes tourist tours in areas considered "unsafe," but which, according to him, have enormous cultural potential to generate economic development. His vision is to turn the streets of these neighborhoods into open-air museums by highlighting the local history, customs, art, and gastronomy.

He is the Director of the Immersive Museum of the Arrabal. and winner of the Conecta Pitch Fest Central America by BID Lab and Bridge Billion.

Objective:

To foster critical thinking and social advocacy through education and cultural and artistic production, with a focus on the migratory experiences of Afro-descendant populations.

Strategy:

Implement interdisciplinary and intersectional educational and creative processes to promote reflection, dialogue, and collective action. Use activism as a transformative tool to highlight the realities of Afro-descendant migrants.

Summary of Key Findings:

1. **Visibility and representation gaps:** Afro-descendant and trans migrants often face systemic invisibility and misrepresentation in both transit and destination countries.
2. **Critical challenges in transit zones:** The Panama migration experience highlights severe inadequacies, such as overcrowded shelters and hostile attitudes from local officials, including discriminatory practices against trans migrants.
3. **Intersectional vulnerabilities:** Migrants face compounded discrimination based on race, gender, and socio-economic status, with trans and Black migrants experiencing the harshest barriers to accessing rights and services.
4. **Disconnection between perceptions and reality:** Migrants often arrive with idealized views of their destination countries, only to face prolonged instability and systemic exclusion upon arrival.

Possible Next Steps:

1. **Educational campaigns and multilingual resources:**
Develop educational materials and awareness initiatives that reflect the lived experiences of Afro-descendant and trans migrants. These resources will include personal narratives and data-driven insights to foster empathy, challenge stereotypes,

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and expose systemic injustices. Use digital platforms to amplify these stories and broaden their impact.

2. Activism projects and storytelling initiatives:

Launch interdisciplinary activism projects to document and communicate the experiences of Afro-descendant migrants through visual arts, theater, and music. Collaborate with local artists and community leaders to organize public exhibitions, performances, and dialogues that spark critical reflection and collective action.

3. Capacity building and solidarity networks:

Train facilitators, community leaders, and local authorities on intersectional approaches to migration advocacy. Strengthen solidarity networks by fostering partnerships with organizations like UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and other regional bodies to integrate Afro-descendant perspectives into broader social justice frameworks.

4. Policy advocacy for systemic change:

Advocate for policy reforms that improve conditions and ensure the rights of Afro-descendant migrants, especially in transit zones like Panama. Focus on enhancing shelter conditions, combating discrimination, and securing equitable access to services for marginalized groups.

5. Continuous monitoring and feedback:

Implement regular evaluation processes for educational and activism initiatives. Collect feedback from participants, stakeholders, and impacted communities to refine strategies and ensure programs remain relevant and effective.

Possible commitments from AfroResistance:

Amplify migrant voices:

AfroResistance will commit to creating platforms for Afro-descendant and trans migrants to share their stories, ensuring their voices shape public narratives and policy discussions.

Advocacy for policy reform in transit zones:

AfroResistance will actively engage with local and international policymakers to improve conditions and rights for migrants, particularly in key transit hubs like Panama.

Invest in activism as a tool for social change:

AfroResistance will fund and support activism projects that spotlight the challenges and resilience of Afro-descendant migrants, using these as tools to foster community dialogue and drive systemic change.

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Creation of a migrant healing toolkit:

Develop and disseminate a toolkit offering practical and spiritual guidance for emotional and physical well-being during the migration journey.

Training and resource development:

Provide training for support networks on implementing culturally and spiritually aligned care practices. Create and share resources to strengthen community support.

Advocacy for holistic migrant support policies:

Lead efforts to influence health and social policies to recognize and address the unique needs of Afro-descendant and LGBTQ+ migrant populations.