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“If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet depreciate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters. This struggle may be a moral one; or it may be a physical one; or it may be both moral and physical; but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”

— Frederick Douglass

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In order for Black people—people of African descent to move forward, we must understand the need for a collective purpose. We are unified as one body, one people, and one spirit. As we move forward, our collective consciousness, epistemology and will, must align itself in order to reconstruct our destiny.

This Black Agenda is birthed out of the necessity of a powerful people to reclaim its freedom from the oppression of those who wish to do us harm. With one voice we say no more—as we move onward in the struggle, we are on the cusp of a great victory.

To those who have contributed to the authorship of this document, to our children, to our families, to future generations, the memory of our forebears, and the countless others who have died in the struggle, we say thank you. We acknowledge your sacrifices and applaud the great victories. We are resilient people, we are overcomers, we are committed to this work, and with the power of God—we will finish the course because this is our time.



The NBAC Chicago Board of Directors wishes to first acknowledge those that have come before us and developed a Black Agenda ; we build upon the work of those that stretch back to the first National Black events held in Cincinnati, Ohio in the 1820's and the first National Black Political Convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1830 (followed in 1832, 1833, 1835 and 1855).

At key junctures in American history, African American communities have hosted political conventions as a means to organize, focus on important issues, and demand effective action. Outstanding among them are conventions in 1840 in Albany, NY; 1875 in New Orleans, LA; 1905 in Niagara, NY; 1972 in Gary, IN; the 2004 National Black Agenda Conference held in Boston, Mass; and the 2012 National Black Agenda Convention – Virtual Conference in Chicago, Ill.

We further acknowledge, with deep appreciation, the following individuals who worked closely with NBAC Chicago and contributed to the initial draft and/or this latest update of the Black Agenda:

Dr Mustafa Ansari (American Human Rights Institute), **Ron Barker** (Author of “The Perfect Score”), **Kristen X Bell** (10.10 Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Chicago), **TJ Crawford** (10.10 Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Chicago), **Rev. Doris Green** (Men and Women in Prison Ministries), **Kamm Howard** (Legislative Committee Chair, N’COBRA, Reparations Working Group Chair – BIBC, Commissioner, NAARC), **Pastor Tyrone Johnson** (Christ Lives in Me Ministries), **Corey Mason** (Co-founder of Fearless Leading by the Youth (FLY)), **Leah Mabery Esq.** (10.10 Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Chicago), **Yusufu Mosley** (Individual contributor), **Imam Abdullah Muhaiman** (Dinal Fitrah), **Randy Ryder** (Keepin It Real Law Project), and **Rev. Joel Washington (Khunanpu Sangoma)** (Reformation Church). Please see updated list of contributors at WWW.NATIONALBLACKAGENDA Consortium.ORG.

And lest we forget, the NBAC Chicago Board of Directors acknowledges the work of Board Member Paula Green as Contributing Editor and Board Member Craig Wimberly as Digital Editor, for the National Black Agenda 2016.

Revisions:, 2016,2017, 2020 - 2021

Comments in support of NBAC Chicago and the National Black Agenda

"It is my distinct honor and privilege to congratulate Dr. Gale Frazier – Chair; and the National Black Agenda Consortium. Your perseverance in seeking equity for Black Americans – particularly at this time – is commendable and much appreciated....for your vision, and willingness, to actively engage in this much needed endeavor - at this much needed time."

Senator Bill Owens (Rtd), Convenor NBAC 2004

This letter comes in support of the proposed partnership between the National Black Agenda [Consortium] and the HBCU academic community; of which I have served for over 26 years, As a faculty member and agenda moderator, I pledge my support to this effort and stand ready to assist in any way that we can.

Dr. Robert White, Alabama State University

"...is written on behalf of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) to express our complete solidarity and collaboration with the great vision and work of our sister organization the National Black Agenda based in Chicago, IL."

Zaki Baruti, President / General, UAPO

"...since producing the 2016 National Black Political Convention, the NPA has coordinated activities with NBAC, working steadily to discuss, plan and present viable national strategies. We anticipate doing so for many years to come."

**Honorable Johnny Ford, Mayor (former), Tuskegee,
Founder, WCM and NPA Co-Chair**

**Linda Haithcox Taylor, Executive Director
National Policy Alliance**

Dear Dr. Frazier, This note comes to commend you for the continuing work you do to sustain an incredible stakeholder process of inclusion towards the development of a National Black Agenda..... As you know this has been an especially difficult year for our communities across the nation..... This all makes your work so very necessary.

Dr. Iva E. Carruthers, General Secretary, SDPC, Inc.

COAL commends and supports the work of the National Black Agenda Consortium Chicago (NBAC), as a critically needed component in addressing this "missing ingredient" towards moving the Black Agenda forward. NBAC's efforts to build and sustain a vehicle that we all can use to develop, discuss, collaborate, and drive a black agenda, is impressive.

Craig K. Wimberly, President & Chair of Public Policy, COAL

We at TACTS support NBAC's efforts to educate, organize, and mobilize Black people here and in the diaspora. We have accepted the responsibilities to ensure that this generation is building on the previous Black Agendas for the advancement and the sustainability of our people.....We are following the first step for 'what can organizations do' in that we are collaborating with NBAC to promote Health Equity campaigns, events, and forums.

**Sista Yaa Simpson, M.P.H., Your Favorite Community Epidemiologist TACTS
Baba Charles Patton, CADC, The People's Counselor, Vice-President, TACTS**