## Society for protection of African children in the Republic of Moldova



Societatea de Protectie Copiilor de Origine Africana din Republica Moldova

Thank you Madam Moderator,

My name is Fatima Djalo and I represent the organization "Fatima"-Society for Protection of children of African descent in the Republic of Moldova.

The organization was founded in 1999 by African immigrants with a defined aim to integrate children of African descent and their families in the society. Elaboration of strategies and programs allow us to implement this goal through various educational, social and cultural activities such as: Sports against Racism, trainings on anti-discrimination for both African and Moldovans, and providing educational resources for youth.

Even though, the situation of people of African descent in the Republic of Moldova is better, discrimination still persists. That is why, it is very important to be here today and to bring up the issues people of African descent face to such a level. It is vital for all OSCE participating States to implement their commitments regarding tolerance and non-discrimination, as well as support NGOs working to empower minority communities.

We are very grateful to have this opportunity to participate in the Training on Hate Crime against people of African descent organized by the Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Unit of ODIHR. The last two days have been very inspirational, it once again motivated us to speak up, to have a better understanding and to come up with recommendations to our common problems, and most important no matter how hard are the challenges, to continue the work against racism and xenophobia, As one of our panelists in the training Mr. Michael Simmons said, "If it would have been easy, it would have been done."

Thank you.

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