

45th session of the UN Human Rights Council – 1 October 2020

HRC General Debate Item 9

Delivered by: Salma El Hosseiny

Thank you Madame President.

I'm reading this statement on behalf of Collectif Urgence notre police assassine who couldn't be with us today due to travel restrictions.

Breonna Taylor's life matters. George Floyd's life matters. Adama Traoré's life matters. Amin Bentounsi's life matters. The lives of Amadou Koume, Abdourahmane Camara, Hamid Ait Omghar, Wissam El Yamni and all victims of police violence, in the US, in France and beyond, matter. The voices of their families and their defenders matter.

That is why, while deploring that no commission of inquiry was established into racially motivated police violence in the US and elsewhere, we expect the report to be based primarily on the experiences and contributions of victims and their families, as well as those of defenders and civil society working on police violence and systemic racism.

It is essential that civil society is proactively consulted throughout the drafting process of this report.

The report must highlight not only the institutional causes and manifestations of racially motivated police violence, but also the individual responsibilities of the perpetrators, in order to ensure that justice is done for the victims and their families, and that such violations can be prevented in the future. The report should issue precise recommendations to States to address and end police violence and systemic racism and provide effective remedies to victims and their families.

Madam High Commissioner, we consider this report to be a first stone in the international community's commitment to finally tackle the problem of racially motivated police violence and to put an end, once and for all, to this scourge in the US, France and elsewhere. Our contributions are at your disposal, our eyes are on you.

Thank you .