



PROGRESSIVE UPDATES

Pan-African Progressive Front Newsletter

M O N T H L Y N E W S L E T T E R

APRIL 2026

THEME OF THE MONTH

The April edition of the PPF Monthly Newsletter presents the just ended Geneva Forum on Reparations and Colonial Accountability. Additionally, a curated compilation of statements and releases issued by African nations and progressive institutions, reflecting on key developments and events that unfolded throughout the month across Africa and the wider global landscape.

DISCLAIMER

This newsletter is issued by the Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF) for information, education and public engagement purposes only. The views, positions and analyses expressed reflect the political and policy perspectives of PPF and its leadership, and do not necessarily represent the positions of partner institutions, participating organisations or individual contributors (unless referenced). All materials contained herein are intended to support public dialogue, Pan-African solidarity and civic participation.

PPF PRESS STATEMENT

PPF-D Justice Taskforce Launched in Geneva

Pan-African Coalition Launches Global Justice Taskforce and Adopts Landmark Geneva Declaration



The Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF), in strategic alliance with the Ligue Panafricaine–UMOJA (LP-U) and the Université Populaire Africaine en Suisse (UPAF), has officially concluded the Geneva Forum on Reparative Justice & Colonial Accountability. This summit culminated in the formal establishment of the PPF-D Justice Taskforce and the unanimous adoption of the Geneva Declaration on Reparative Justice, the 12-Month Advocacy Calendar and the Reparations Advocacy Manual & Toolkit.

Held at Gandhi Hall, Maison Internationale des Associations, this high-level working meeting convened a formidable assembly of political leaders, legal experts, historians, and civil-society organizers from Africa, Europe, and North America. The forum's primary objective was to translate the United Nations' recognition of slavery and colonialism into a concrete, actionable framework for global reparations.

Moving forward, the Taskforce will convene its first operational meeting within 60 days to transition the movement "from declarations to delivery".

Visit pp-front.com for Full Information and Reparations Advocacy Manual.

[READ FULL RELEASE HERE](#)

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARIAT — Aggression against Iran and its consequences on Africa.



The old maps of empire are being redrawn again, not with ink this time, but with drones, sanctions, missiles, maritime blockades and televised outrage. The latest aggression against Iran may appear, at first glance, to be another distant Middle Eastern confrontation for evening news panels and diplomatic communiqués. Yet for Africa, this is not a distant war. It is another reminder that whenever powerful nations collide, African economies tremble first, and ordinary Africans pay the earliest price.

The language of modern warfare has become strangely antiseptic. Governments speak of “strategic deterrence,” “precision operations,” and “regional stabilization.” But beneath those polished phrases lies an uglier truth: every missile fired across the Persian Gulf ricochets into African markets, African ports, African farms, and African homes. The price of bread in Cairo, fuel in Accra, fertilizer in Nairobi, transport in Lagos, and electricity in Dakar begins to dance to the rhythm of conflicts Africans neither initiated nor control.

The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow corridor most Africans may never see, has become one of the invisible governors of African suffering. A disruption there instantly rearranges global oil prices. Insurance costs rise. Shipping slows. Fuel prices surge. Inflation follows with brutal predictability. Economists explain this clinically, but the market woman understands it better than any analyst: transport fares rise on Monday, food prices rise by Wednesday, and household hunger arrives by Friday.

And this is the cruel paradox of Africa’s place in global affairs: a continent rich in resources remains catastrophically vulnerable to conflicts elsewhere because its economic architecture was never designed for sovereignty. Many African states still export raw materials while importing refined fuel, industrial goods, fertilizer, wheat, machinery and even strategic food supplies. The result is a permanent condition of external exposure. One geopolitical spark thousands of miles away can destabilize entire national budgets here.

Yet beyond economics lies something deeper and more dangerous, the political consequences of prolonged instability. History has shown repeatedly that inflation and insecurity are not merely financial events; they are political explosives. When fuel prices rise sharply, governments lose legitimacy. When food becomes unaffordable, social anger mutates into unrest. In fragile democracies and unstable states, external wars can quietly become internal crises.

There is also an uncomfortable silence surrounding the selective morality of global power. International law often appears rigid when weaker nations act, but astonishingly flexible when powerful allies pursue military objectives.

Africa watches this contradiction carefully. The continent has lived too long under a world order where sovereignty is preached selectively and humanitarian concern arrives according to geopolitical convenience. Many Africans, therefore observe the aggression against Iran not simply as a regional conflict, but as another chapter in the continuing normalization of force in international politics.

There is a distinction between acknowledging geopolitical complexity and accepting a world permanently addicted to escalation. The bombardment of one nation rarely remains contained within its borders anymore. Modern conflict spreads through energy markets, shipping corridors, migration patterns, cyber systems, currencies and food supply chains long before soldiers cross frontiers.

For Africa, the greatest danger may not even be the immediate economic shock. It may be the gradual normalization of a new era where global tensions permanently destabilize developing regions. The Red Sea, the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and North African trade routes are already under mounting pressure. Maritime insecurity is growing. External powers are expanding military footprints. Africa risks becoming not merely a victim of imperial power aggression but one of its future battlegrounds.

Wars have a way of exposing illusions. The aggression against Iran has exposed once again how deeply interconnected and unequal the modern world remains. It has revealed that African vulnerability is no longer merely a developmental problem; it is a strategic danger.

And so, while missiles fly over the Gulf, Africa must resist the temptation to watch as a spectator. Because in the modern world, there are no distant wars anymore. There are only different distances from the explosion.

CASUALIZATION OF LABOR IN MINING SECTOR —Ghana’s Mining Sector.

The Ghana Mineworkers’ Union in April, strongly opposed a directive by the Minerals Commission requiring major mining companies to transition to contract mining by the end of 2026. The Union warns that the policy will lead to job insecurity, lower wages, and worsening working conditions, noting that contract workers often earn significantly less and lose key benefits such as pensions.

In its statement, the Union described the directive as “injurious” to workers and cautioned that it could open the door to greater exploitation, casualization of labour, and erosion of hard-won protections, while also criticizing the lack of consultation with workers on decisions that directly affect their livelihoods.

From a Progressive perspective, this development reflects a broader structural problem: policies framed as “local content” must not become tools for labour exploitation or elite capture. While the Union calls for suspension, it must insist that any reform in the extractive sector must prioritize workers’ rights, fair wages, and democratic participation.



This report is based on an article published by *Citi Newsroom* titled “Mineworkers Union demands suspension of contract mining directive” ([April 2026](#)).

KEY 2026 DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UN REPARATIONS MOVEMENT

The global movement for reparatory justice has gained significant momentum in 2026, marked by a historic vote at the United Nations General Assembly. Resolution A/80/L.48 was adopted with 123 countries voting in favor, following sustained advocacy led by Ghana and the African Union. The resolution signals growing international recognition of the need to address the enduring legacies of slavery, colonialism, and systemic injustice.

However, the United States, Argentina, and Israel voted against the resolution, while 52 countries including the United Kingdom and several European Union member states abstained. The United States described the resolution as “highly problematic,” citing concerns over implementation and the identification of beneficiaries.

Looking ahead, Ghana is set to host a high-level consultative conference from June 17–19, 2026, aimed at developing a structured global framework for reparatory justice. The conference is expected to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a Global Reparations Fund, a key mechanism for translating commitments into tangible outcomes.

In parallel, progress is being made on cultural restitution. Germany and Netherlands have formally communicated their intention to return looted African artifacts to Ghana, according to Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa. These efforts represent a growing acknowledgment of historical injustices and the importance of restoring cultural heritage.

KEY 2026 UPDATES ON THE UN REPARATIONS MOVEMENT
JUSTICE. RESTITUTION. REPARATIONS. NOW.

1. LANDMARK UN VOTE
Resolution A/80/L.48 was adopted with 123 votes in favor at the UN General Assembly, following strong advocacy by Ghana and the African Union.

A/80/L.48 Adopted	
IN FAVOUR	123
AGAINST	3
ABSTENTIONS	52

2. OPPOSITION & ABSTENTIONS
The United States, Argentina, and Israel voted against the motion. 52 nations, including the UK and EU countries, abstained. The US described the resolution as “highly problematic,” citing uncertainty over beneficiaries.

3. NEXT STEPS & GLOBAL CONFERENCE
Ghana will host a high-level consultative conference from June 17–19, 2026 in Accra. The conference will develop a structured framework for reparatory justice and establish a Global Reparations Fund.

4. AU DECADE EXTENSION
The African Union has extended its thematic focus on reparations for another decade (2026–2036). President John Dramani Mahama serves as the AU Champion for Reparations.

5. RESTITUTION OF ARTIFACTS
Germany and the Netherlands have separately informed Ghana they will return looted artifacts, according to Ghanaian Foreign Minister Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa.

REPARATIONS IS NOT CHARITY. IT IS A DEBT. IT IS A RIGHT. IT IS OVERDUE.

Sources: United Nations (UNGA) | African Union (AU) | Government of Ghana | Other Media Reports

(PPF)

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PALESTINIAN EMBASSY IN ACCRA CONDEMNS ISRAELI LAW IMPOSING DEATH PENALTY ON ARBITRARILY DETAINED PALESTINIANS

The Palestinian Embassy in Accra issued a strongly-worded statement condemning newly enacted Israeli legislation, calling it a direct assault on Palestinian human rights, international law, and the foundations of the global legal order.

The Embassy's statement, addressed to governments, regional bodies including the African Union, parliaments, trade unions, and civil society organizations, describes the law as part of a deliberate and systematic campaign to entrench Israel's illegal occupation while shielding it from accountability.

The statement pulls no punches in its framing; the law, the Embassy argues, is not an isolated legislative act but a pillar of a broader apartheid architecture, one designed to silence resistance, starve humanitarian relief, and normalize the killing and imprisonment of Palestinians on the basis of identity alone.

The statement closes with an unambiguous declaration of resolve, that no policy of oppression will break the Palestinian people's commitment to statehood, sovereignty, and self-determination on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.



[READ FULL STATEMENT HERE](#)

SAHRAWI ARAB DEMOCRATIC ANNIVERSARY

The Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic has renewed its firm stance on the Western Sahara question, with President Brahim Ghali emphasizing that the struggle for self-determination remains central to the Sahrawi people's national cause. According to the Sahrawi Press Service, recent developments highlight continued diplomatic engagement, regional solidarity efforts, and reaffirmation of the Polisario Front's commitment to advancing independence and international legal recognition of the Sahrawi state.



[CONTINUE READING →](#)

GHANA SOCIALIST MOVEMENT CONDEMNS U.S.–ISRAEL ACTIONS AGAINST IRAN

The **Socialist Movement of Ghana (SMG)** issued a strong condemnation of what it describes as “U.S.–Israeli aggression” against Iran, calling for an immediate and permanent end to hostilities and renewed diplomatic efforts. In a statement dated April 13, 2026, the Accra-based group argued that continued conflict risks further loss of life and destruction, insisting that peace efforts must be sustained despite setbacks in negotiations.

The SMG expressed solidarity with the peoples of Iran and Lebanon and called on governments, civil society organisations, and trade unions—particularly across Africa and the Global South—to advocate for peace and adherence to international law.



[READ THE FULL STATEMENT →](#)

Socialist Movement of Ghana (SMG)

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA ON THE DEMAND FOR THE REPEAL OF THE 2018 USGHANA DEFENSE CORPORATION AGREEMENT

A coalition of citizens, residents, and civil society organizations in Ghana has submitted a formal petition to Parliament calling for the repeal of the 2018 U.S.–Ghana Defence Cooperation Agreement. The petition, grounded in constitutional provisions on civic participation, demands a full review or termination of the agreement and the removal of all associated foreign military infrastructure from Ghanaian territory, citing concerns over national sovereignty, transparency, and long-term security implications.

This is an initiative of the Youth Wing of the Socialist Movement of Ghana (S.M.G)



SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN PETITION

[READ FULL STATEMENT HERE→](#)

ABOUT PPF

The Pan-African Progressive Front (PPF) is an international non-governmental organisation headquartered in Accra, Ghana. It stands at the forefront of the fight for Africa's unification and is committed to coordinating and supporting progressive movements across Africa and the diaspora, with the goal of advancing the true interests and future of the continent.

Inspired by the vision of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah and other Pan-Africanists, PPF believes that Africa's destiny must rest in the hands of its own people, and that its future lies in its political and economic unity — serving as the bedrock of our strength and continental sovereignty.

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I S S U E D B Y

PAN-AFRICAN PROGRESSIVE FRONT (PPF)

SECRETARIAT

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