



DR. BARRYL BIEKMAN, Netherlands

Dr. Barryl Biekman holds a doctorate degree in Social Sciences and is a renowned politician, lobbyist, networker and broker. A pan-African and women's activities for almost 47 years, she joined the student movement at the age of 14. By age 21, she was a freedom fighter and activist for the independence of Suriname, the country of her birth. She is founder of the African European Women's Movement 'Sophiedela', and under her leadership the issue of the Dutch Parliament in 1998. She was appointed to lead the process towards the establishment of the National Platform of Dutch Slavery Past, and complete the building of the National Slavery Institute and the National Institute of Dutch Slavery Past.

During the UN World Conference against Racism, in Durban, SA, 2001, Biekman was the NGO Liaison on the Dutch Governmental Delegation appointed by Pan African organizations, the women's movement and relevant Dutch NGOs. She lobbied to declare the trans-Atlantic Slave trade, slavery and colonialism as crimes against humanity, initiated the Pan African Roundtable on Durban Plus 5, and led the Addis Ababa Roundtable of 2007. She was among a group of activists that lobbied for the creation of the "Decade for People of African Descents 2015-2024", which has been adopted by the G77, the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly.

Dr. Biekman is one of the leading activists for the implementation of the African Diaspora 6th region policy and has dedicated her life to fulfill the mission of the African Union for the interest of Africa and global African descendant, particularly in Europe, Netherlands and Republiek Suriname. Biekman has received several awards for her longstanding work with women, youth and multicultural society. She was crowned as a "Knight (Ridder) in the Order of Orange Nassau" by the Dutch Queen for her longstanding track record on multiculturalism, and recognized by KRO (Dutch TV station) as one of the 365 Heroes of the Global World. In Decembe 2008, she received the Premios Emilio D. Castellar Award in Spain acknowledging the 60-year anniversary of the UN Human Rights Declaration.

Biekman also received the "Gouden Zebra (Golden Zebra) 2011, Lifetime Achievement Award" for her longstanding track record on Anti-Racism activities. She is committed to the implementation of the DDPA and the fight against Afrofobia.