For over 400 years, more than 15 million men, women and children were the victims of the tragic transatlantic slave trade, one of the darkest chapters in human history.

Every year on 25 March, the International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade offers the opportunity to honour and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system. The International Day also aims at raising awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

This year's theme, "Victory over Slavery: Haiti and Beyond" pays tribute to the fight against slavery in nations around the world. Haiti was the first nation to become independent as a result of the struggle of enslaved men and women led by Toussaint Louverture. 2014 marks 210 years since the Republic of Haiti was established on January 1, 1804.

2014 also celebrates the 20th anniversary of the UNESCO Slave Route Project.

In order to more permanently honour the victims, a memorial will be erected at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The design - titled, *The Ark of Return* - by Rodney Leon, an American architect of Haitian descent, was selected through an international competition and announced in September 2013.

For more information or to register for our events

Twitter @rememberslavery

Facebook www.facebook.com/rememberslavery

Website www.un.org/en/events/slaveryremembranceday/

Contact: Laurence Gerard

Department of Public Information, gerardl@un.org

Remember Slavery

Victory over Slavery: Haiti and Beyond

Programme of Events 2014

Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

Commemorative Programme of Activities

A number of worldwide activities will be organized throughout the year in addition to the official observance of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, on 25 March. Activities include a solemn commemorative meeting of the General Assembly, roundtable discussions, a film festival, an exhibit, an NGO Briefing, and a global video conference with students living in countries affected by the transatlantic slave trade.

Friday, 24 January, 6:00 pm An Evening with Haitian Author Dany Laferrière,** *ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations, New York.* Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Haiti to the United Nations.

Wednesday, 26 February, 6:15 pm Film Screening and Discussion: *Twelve Years a Slave*,** with British director Steve McQueen, *ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations, New York.* (By invitation only)

Saturday, 8 March, 1:00 pm Film Screening and Discussion: *Toussaint Louverture*, by French-Senegalese director Philippe Niang, *African Burial Ground National Museum.*
Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Haiti to the United Nations, and in partnership with International Organization of La Francophonie.

Tuesday, 18 March, 6:30 pm Film Screening and Discussion: *Tey*, with French-Senegalese director Alain Gomis, and actors Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman, *Conference Room 1, Conference Building , United Nations, New York.*
Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations, and in partnership with International Organization of La Francophonie.

Thursday 20 March Soirée de la Francophonie
Concert with Manu Dibango, *Delegates Dining Room, United Nations, New York.* (By invitation only)
In partnership with International Organization of La Francophonie.

Tuesday, 25 March, 3:00 pm **General Assembly Commemorative Meeting, *General Assembly Hall, United Nations, New York.*

For the updated Programme of Activites, visit our website
www.un.org/en/events/slaveryremembranceday/

Tuesday, 25 March, 6:30 pm Cultural Event with Haitian artist Emeline Michel, *Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium, United Nations, New York.* (By invitation only)

Wednesday, 26 March, 9:30 am **Student Global Video Conference, with remote sites in Haiti, Spain and Senegal, *Conference Room 2, United Nations, New York.*

Thursday, 27 March, 11:00 am **NGO Briefing: *Victory Over Slavery?* with Kenneth Morris, Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, Sandra Arnold, Burial Database Project of Enslaved African Americans, Fordham University, Dr. Deborah Willis, Chair, Department of Photography & Imaging, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, . *Conference Room 2, United Nations, New York.*

Wednesday, 2 April 6:30 pm Film Screening and Discussion: *Belle*, with British director Amma Asante and actor Gugu Mbatha-Raw, *Trusteeship Council, United Nations, New York.*

Tuesday, 15 April 6:30 pm Film Screening and Discussion: *Coeur de Lion* by Burkina Be director Boubacar Diallo, *Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium, United Nations, New York.*
In partnership with International Organization of La Francophonie.

Mid- June- August, Exhibit: *Haiti: history and culture*, *United Nations, New York.*

Friday, 5 September, Round-table on the representation of slavery in film.

Monday, 8 September, Presentation of the UNESCO publication "The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery: New Directions in Teaching and Learning", *United Nations, New York.*

****Watch the event live on the UN webcast**
(http://webtv.un.org)