

# LEST WE FORGET

## THE TRIUMPH OVER SLAVERY



### Lest we Forget: Triumph over Slavery Exhibition

Place: **UNON Exhibition Space**

Date: **17 – 24 November, 2014**

UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa would cordially like to invite you to ***Lest We Forget: The Triumph Over Slavery*** exhibition. The exhibition is unique in that it focuses less on enslaved Africans as victims and more on the ways in which they reshaped their destinies and place in history through the creation of distinct cultures. In addition, Lest We Forget explicitly demonstrates the huge economic impact of the slave trade and enslaved African labor on the development of the Americas and Europe and the concomitant disruption of Africa's economic, political and social life. Some of the lasting cultural contributions explored include language, religion, music and institutions.

The exhibit features thirty-two full-color riveting panels that reflect the experience of the transatlantic slave trade and slavery through topics including the long march, the slave trade, labor and systems, the struggle against slavery and its abolition, and the triumph over slavery. Highlights of the stirring collection include images of the **Log of the Slave Ship *Lawrance*** (1730-1731), the hourly record of the transatlantic voyage of the slave ship from Angola to Argentina documenting the deaths of sixty-four enslaved men and woman and one child; a **slave auction broadside** (1849) announcing the sale of "6 Negro Slaves" along with ox teams and fox hounds; a **slave branding iron** (1790) used to brand enslaved Africans at the point of purchase; a **slave shackle** (1780); a photograph of **enslaved Africans returning from the cotton field in South Carolina** (ca. 1870); a **two dollar bill** featuring the signature of U.S. Treasury Registrar Blanche K. Bruce, a former slave who reclaimed ownership of himself by escaping during the Civil War; and a **slave whip with a wooden grip** (ca. 1840) advertised and sold for the use of punishing slaves; and **Le Code Noir, ou Recueil des Règlements Rendus** (1742), a collection of French laws enacted to govern blacks in French colonies in the Americas and one of the most comprehensive slave codes ever published.

#### About UNESCO Slave Route Project

- Ignorance or concealment of major historical events constitutes an obstacle to mutual understanding, reconciliation and cooperation among peoples. UNESCO has thus decided to break the silence surrounding the slave trade and slavery that have affected all continents and have caused the great upheavals that have shaped our modern societies.
- Contribute to a better understanding of the causes, forms of operation, issues and consequences of slavery in the world (Africa, Europe, the Americas, the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, Middle East and Asia);
- Highlight the global transformations and cultural interactions that have resulted from this history; and
- Contribute to a culture of peace by promoting reflection on cultural pluralism, intercultural dialogue and the construction of new identities and citizenships. The project has played a significant role in securing recognition by the United Nations, at the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban in 2001, of the slave trade and slavery as crimes against humanity.