



**Presidência da República
Secretaria Especial de Políticas de Promoção da Igualdade Racial**

Aviso n° 094/09-SEPP/PR

December 11th, 2009.

Support of Nomination for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize

Dear members of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee,

I am most pleased to support the appointment of Abdias Nascimento, a black Brazilian citizen, to the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize, as indicated in the letter signed by Professor Clovis Brigagão.

If I am the Minister of State today – one of the very few black men and women to reach this position in these 121 years of abolition of slavery in Brazil – it has a lot to do with Abdias Nascimento's struggle in this cause.

The very existence of the Secretariat I coordinate, the Special Secretariat for Policies to Promote Racial Equality – SEPP/PR, the only one in the world to have a Ministry status, with the responsibility to advise the President and coordinate, with all the Ministries, policies for racial equality promotion, is also due to Abdias Nascimento's efforts to achieve equal opportunities for black people in Brazil, translated in public policies.

Therefore, the Abdias Nascimento nomination for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize recognizes 75 years of his struggle for the promotion of human rights, racial equality, social inclusion and protection of African descents, the majority of the population of Brazil. It recognizes his political activism, as a member of the Brazilian Parliament; his struggle for affirming African and its diaspora's culture and history, as a teacher and educator in the Americas, especially in Brazil. It highlights his work as an artist (poetry, theater and painting) and, finally, recognizes his devotion to the human dignity and freedom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Edson Santos de Souza', written over a light grey rectangular background.

EDSON SANTOS DE SOUZA

Minister of the Special Secretariat for Policies to Promote Racial Equality
Presidency of the Federative Republic of Brazil