

## **AFRICAN UNION AFRICAN DIASPORA**

### **6<sup>th</sup> REGION EUROPE**

#### **SECRETARIAT**

**The Netherlands**

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Doctor (Ph.D.) in Social Sciences

Biekman graduated at the High School (Social Academy/Netherlands) as an Organization and Personnel Management Specialist. Graduated at the University Leiden as Master in Pedagogic & Adult Education sciences with specialties on the areas of Youth, Gender, Organization and Human Resource Management. Regarding the Ph.D. she defended the thesis 'Competence management in Republic Suriname' a study of the state of affairs with regard to competence management in the Governmental Departments of Home Affairs, Education and Community Development, and Public Works.

Biekman is a successful politician, lobbyist, networker, broker and educational trainer.

Other competences are on the following topics:

- \* Establishing Governmental Skills & Training Centre including the development and implementing education curricula for governmental administration skills;
- \* Integration Policy (multicultural & civil society);
- \* International Affairs & Development Cooperation;
- \* Project and Policy cycle management;
- \* Business in the Community
- \* Housing;
- \* Labour Market Policy (includes program & training development with specific focus on long-term unemployment people with a long distance to the labour market);
- \* Human Rights (has -from the perspective of the civil society- UN ECOSOC observer status)

City Diplomacy

During the first world conference on City Diplomacy in June 2008 in The Hague/Peace Palace Biekman moderated the Session that was focused on the role of local governments in the implementation of the UN Peace building Commission (PBC) Frameworks that were agreed upon with the governments of Sierra Leone and Burundi. As was stated in the session outline, the Sierra Leone Peace building Cooperation Framework has more attention for local governments than the Burundi Framework. The session entered into detail on what local governments can do in both processes to ensure clear involvement and partnership with the central governments of Sierra Leone and Burundi, and the UN Peace building Commission representatives in both countries. The conference closed by adopting the "The Hague Agenda on City Diplomacy – towards a stronger role for local governments in conflict prevention, peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction" ("The Agenda"). The Agenda is meant to be an inspiring action programme for local governments and their associations, and also addresses other stakeholders like international organizations, national governments and NGOs.

Politician

During eight years she was involved in active politics and she was an elected Member of Province South Holland Regional Parliament. 2

### Involvement in Civil Society Movements

In 2017 Biekman was for about 53 years active in the Civil Society Movements. This includes Youth, Women's, Multicultural, and Pan African. Anti-Racism and Human Rights Movement. She:

- started when she was 14 in the Youth Movement in Suriname and by the age of 21 she was one of the freedom fighters for the independence of Suriname. She was member of "Prasarasibi" and also involved in the Student Movement.
  
- Is President of the Pan African, Strategic and Policy Group Europe Region, based in Holland with the Head office in Nigeria;
  
- Is the Chair of the African European Women's Movement Sophiedela (Sophiedela is a combination of the names of Dr. Sophie Redmond & Winnie Mandela). In this position she initiated the enslavement of African people by the Dutch on the Political Agenda of the National Dutch Parliament. Sophiedela is member of Tiye International (a Federation of 21 Black, Migrant & Refugee women's organization & Youth movements) Tiye is one of the initiators of the Black European Women's Council. Tiye International has consultative status to the UN/ECOSOC. In Tiye Biekman is the coordinator of the Human Rights Commission on the topics Justice, Peace & Stability;
  
- Is the Founder (1998) and Chair of the National Platform of Dutch Slavery Past and its Effects. In this position she is the Initiator and the important founder of the (static) National Slavery Monument (Statue in the Oosterpark/Amsterdam Watergraafsmeer) and the (dynamic) National Institute Dutch Slavery Past (NINsee). The Platform is a Federation, a Network of various Pan African Organizations. Involved; (Pan) African Leaders from divers Networks and African Scholars/Scientist on issues regarding THE PAST (Slavery, Slave trade and Colonialism and its effects);
  
- Is the Chair and one of the founders of the African World Studies Institute based in the Netherlands;
  
- She was the NGO Liaison in the Dutch Governmental Delegation from the perspective of Pan African, Women and all other relevant Dutch NGO's During the UN WCAR Conference in Durban 2001;
  
- Is one of the freedom fighters for the Durban Declaration concerning Slavery, trans-Atlantic Slave trade and Colonialism, declared in 2001 during the WCAR as Crimes against Humanity;
  
- Is one of the Initiators and the Organizers of the Pan African Roundtable on Durban plus 5 in Addis Ababa Roundtable April 2007;
  
- was an important coordinator of the Process (January 2008 until April 2009) towards the United Nations Durban Review 2009;
  
- is (since April 2009) the coordinator of the Durban Review Monitoring Working Group & Durban + 10 (2011) and the UN International Year for people of African Descent;

□ is since 2005 one of the (key) initiators of the AU 6th Region African Diaspora Initiative; Liaison of the Europe Region and member/coordinator of the AU African Diaspora (AUADS/Europe Region) Facilitators Working Group; AUADS is a member of the SRDC Coalition (WHS/EUROPE) and the Pan African Diaspora Union (PADU);

□ was the Secretary General of the National Anti-Racism Bureau in the Netherlands;

□ was (after the Durban WCAR 2001) appointed by the Dutch Government as member of the National Advisory Board on issues related to the Durban DDPOA;

□ has been invited a large couple of times as Speaker on International Conferences (Africa, Europe, The Americas, Caribbean, Middle East) regarding issues on different Topics of Concern (such as on Human Rights; Gender/also related to the DDPA UN/Beijing world conference 1995, (Good) Governance, Reparations, Pan Africanize, Human Resource & Competence Management, Organization development, WCAR/Durban review, AU6th Region Initiative in this regards. She was invited a couple of times by the South African Government to Speak during and by the AU National & Regional meetings and on the AU Ministerial and Senior Officials Conference November 2007, August 2008, February 2011 and May 2012 in South Africa, 2013 Washington DC resp. New York; and several times by the AU Permanent Mission in Brussels. Lastly in 2015;

□ Was one of the spokespersons of the International Platform regarding the 2011 VN International Year for people of African descents? In this position she has represented UN BONDRU (Suriname) and the Museum Tula (Curacao) during several occasions of the decision-making process within the United Nation relevant bodies. Related to the promotion of the UN Year for people of African Descents Biekman was invited by prominent foreign civil society/NGO & Governmental Bodies to present the objectives of the UN YEAR for people of African descents in historical perspectives;

□ delivered plenary statements during the UN Durban Review 2009 and during the commemoration of ten years WCAR Durban at the UN General Assembly High Level Panel on September 22, 2011 in New York and during several sessions of the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African descents, the UN Human Rights Council & the UN Intergovernmental Working Group, lastly in 2017;

□ Is one of the civil society activists for the creation of the “Decade for People of African descents 2015-2024”, that has been adopted by the G77, the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly. Regarding the Decade she delivered statements during several sessions (2012, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) of the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Working Group of Experts on People of African descents and the UN Intergovernmental Working Group;

□ Was nominated by the President of the UN General Assemblée to speak on behalf of the world wide civil society during the launching on the Human rights day December 10th, 2014 of the UN-decade for people of African descent. She was selected out of hundreds of candidates:

□ In April 2014 Biekman appointed as the AU ECOSOCC Delegate to Europe by the Presiding officer of the Commission.

#### Awards:

Biekman is the owner of several awards for her longstanding track records on issues of concern regarding women and youth and multicultural society, African heritage and integration policies. She has been:

□ Crowned as a 'Knight (Ridder) in the Order of Orange Nassau' by the Dutch Queen for her longstanding track record on activities regarding the Multicultural society;

□ Crowned as Officer in the 'Honoring Order of the Palm' by the President & Ministry Board of the Republic Suriname for her longstanding track record on divers issues of concern and for her role on international fora regarding positive sustainable developments of Republic Suriname;

□ She is the owner of The Raden A. Kartini Emancipation Award, honored by the governmental authorities of the City of The Hague for her longstanding track record on issues of concern regarding women. (Raden A. Kartini was an Indonesian Freedom fighter on (Gender) issues Concerning Indonesian Women);

□ Crowned as 'heroine of the century in 2000' by the oldest women movement (VrouwenBelangen) in the Netherlands;

□ Crowned as 'African Surinamese Women of the Century in 2000' by a coalition of African Surinamese NGO's in the Netherlands;

□ In 2002 she was recognized by KRO (a Dutch national TV station) as one of the 365 heroes of the Global World;

□ December 2008 related to the 60 year anniversary of the UN human Rights Declaration, she received the Premios Emilio D. Castellar Award in Spain;

□ May, 2011, Mrs. Biekman received the Gouden Zebra (Golden Zebra) 2011, Lifetime Achievement Award for her longstanding track record on Anti-Racism activities;

□ August 2014 she received in Washington DC the African Union African Diaspora Bridge Builders Award from the African Union African Diaspora Forum. She became a member of the prestigious Board Council of the African Union African Diaspora Leaders Forum;

□ December 2014 she was selected by the President of the UN General Assembly as the global civil society speaker during the UN launching of Decade for People of African Decade. In his invitation letter the President profiled Mrs. Biekman as follows: *'In view of your dedication to restorative justice for women, children and people of African descent, as well your work on the Durban World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and its preparatory and review processes.'*;

- January 2015 received the Phenomenal Women Life Time Achievement Award in Republic Suriname for the longstanding track record on issues regarding women and youth. Initiated and Organized by the Women's Organization ZAMI (Black & Migrant) the Netherlands;
- April 2016 awarded with the international certificate of the 'most influential contemporary African Diaspora Leaders';
- October 2016 she received the International UN-decade for people of African descent Dutch Award by the vice-minister President of the Netherlands, Lodewijk Asscher. In his statement Mrs. Biekman was recognized as one of the important initiators of the UN Decade;
- 2017 nominated for the Nobel Prize for Peace.
- 2018 Crowned as Commander in the 'Honoring Order of the Yellow Star ' by the President of the Republic Suriname for her longstanding track record on diverse issues of concern and her continuing dedication for realization of sustainable development Goals.