

Adjoa A. Aiyetoro
Biographical Sketch

Adjoa A. Aiyetoro is an activist attorney with extensive experience working domestically and internationally to obtain remedies for historic and present day wrongs to people of color, women, prisoners and other oppressed groups. She is a lifetime member of the National Conference of Black Lawyers and has served as co-chairperson of its Board and as its national director. Aiyetoro as Co-Chair of NCBL was a founding member of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (NCOBRA) and served as its first woman co-chair. NCBL was one of the three founding organizations of NCOBRA, including the Republic of New Afrika (RNA) and the New Afrikan People's Organization (NAPO). She also served as chair of N'COBRA's Legal Strategies Commission and as a legal consultant to the organization. Aiyetoro represented N'COBRA and NCBL on the Reparations Coordinating Committee, co-chaired by Charles Ogletree and Randall Robinson, and served as co-counsel on the landmark reparations case filed by the Committee seeking reparations for the survivors and their descendants of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre - *Alexander v. State of Oklahoma*. Currently, she serves on a legal team representing some descendants of enslaved Africans sold in 1838 by the Society of Jesus to save Georgetown University from bankruptcy - Legacy of the GU272 Alliance.

Aiyetoro represented the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), 2000-2001, at the World Conference Against Racism (WCAR), serving as a leader of the African and African Descendants Caucus. She also represented WILPF at the Hague Appeal for Peace in 1997. In 1995 she coordinated the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law's delegation to the United Nations' Conference on Women in Beijing and also represented the organization at the 2000 Beijing Plus 5.

Ms. Aiyetoro obtained an A.B. degree from Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts; an M.S.W. from George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis; and, a law degree *cum laude* from St. Louis University. Aiyetoro began her legal career in 1978 as an attorney with the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division in the Special Litigation Section. She left the Department of Justice in 1981 to join the ACLU National Prison Project where she worked for 11 years as a staff attorney and later as the Associate Director for Administration. Aiyetoro is Professor Emeritus at University of Arkansas Little Rock William A. Bowen School of Law, retiring from the law school faculty in 2016 after 12 years at the University. She was the inaugural director of the University of Arkansas Little Rock's Institute on Race and Ethnicity, serving from July 2011 – January 2013.