

Rio de Janeiro, January 19th 2010.

To the *Nobel Peace Prize* Committee
Geir Lundestad
Secretary General, Nobel Peace Prize Committee

Dear Mr. Lundestad,

It is with great pleasure that I write this endorsement letter on behalf of Mr. Abdias Nascimento in support of his nomination for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize. I have known the outstanding efforts made by Mr. Nascimento in the struggle for human rights, racial equality, and social inclusion for millions of African descendant populations in Brazil. He also deserves praise for his fight for the recognition and preservation of African and African Diaspora culture and history as a professor and educator in the Americas and particularly in Brazil. His achievements as a poet, playwright, actor, and painter are also an essential part of his unrelenting devotion to human dignity and freedom.

As a remarkable political activist, Mr. Nascimento has truly excelled in his leadership skills, critical thinking and unmatched talent for negotiation. In my several years as an NGO professional, I have rarely met such a gifted political activist, nor have I seen someone more deserving of such high-caliber public recognition for his 75 years of dedication to achieving democracy, diversity and human rights. If I have to highlight peak moments in his personal history, I would have to mention his several terms as a Senator and as elected representative in the Federal Congress. His elegance as an orator and fierceness as a defender of the democratic rights of Afro-Brazilian are largely acknowledged by his peers, politicians and high-level public officials.

I definitely recommend Mr. Nascimento for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize as I am certain he represents the essence of what this prize stands for and will continue to work as hard as he has always been in his wisest years yet to come.

Sincerely,



Candido Grzybowski
Director General