



**Asociación para las  
Naciones Unidas  
en España**

United Nations Association of Spain

## **To whom it may concern**

### **Letter of Endorsement for Olasubomi Iginla Aina MBE**

I, Eulalia Pascual Lagunas, President of the United Nations Association of Spain (ANUE), am pleased to provide this letter of endorsement for Olasubomi Iginla Aina MBE. During the 60th Anniversary of ANUE in September 2022, Olasubomi was invited to deliver the opening speech at our event in Spain. Recognizing her outstanding achievements, we extended a special invitation which she honored by delivering an exceptional address on that day—an occasion that followed, by only a few months, the tragic Melilla killings at the Spanish border that claimed the lives of over 30 irregular migrants.

Upon her arrival, Olasubomi immediately expressed her determination to address the issue of irregular migration. She proactively sought a meeting with the Government of Catalonia to obtain the investigation report on the Melilla killings and to explore actionable steps to avert future tragedies. Despite significant challenges in receiving a response, her persistence paid off when she secured a meeting with Ester Sara Cabanes, General Director of the General Directorate of Child and Adolescent Care of the Department of Work, Social Affairs and Families, Government of Catalonia, accompanied by an ANUE representative. This pivotal meeting marked the turning point that led both my organization and the Government of Catalonia to collaborate with Olasubomi on addressing irregular migration.

Impressed by her passion and determination, the Director General promptly enlisted her to participate in a high-profile meeting attended by the President of UNICEF, the Minister of Social Justice, the Minister of Health, members of the Spanish press, and other key stakeholders. The purpose of this meeting was to sign an agreement ensuring that young irregular migrants would receive improved health care upon their arrival in Catalonia—a critical need given that many young African migrants develop post-traumatic stress disorder and various mental health

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challenges upon arrival. Remarkably, Olasubomi was the only African person invited to this meeting, and she was given the opportunity to speak, leaving a profound impression on all present.

Motivated by her zeal and strong commitment, ANUE embraced her vision, and the Government of Catalonia recognized her dedication to combating this menace. Before her departure, arrangements were made for her to visit some of the migrants at their residence. I had the privilege of accompanying her on this visit, during which she took the time to reassure and encourage the African youths. This visit laid the groundwork for our ongoing collaboration on the “Creating Awareness and Alternatives Mission (CAA Mission)” on irregular migration. Launched in October 2023, the CAA Mission has been a resounding success with active representation in 25 African countries already in less than a year after it was launched—an outcome achieved through her history of success, positive attitude, and steadfast commitment to the project.

At the CAA Mission launch, Olasubomi demonstrated her remarkable ability to forge strategic partnerships. She successfully brought on board Gonsel Cars, who have committed to empowering African youths with the skills to produce and service electric cars. Additionally, she secured the involvement of the First Female Chair of the African Union, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma; the Chief of the Civil Society Unit of the UN Department of Global Communications; the Prime Minister of the State of African Diaspora; and many other influential stakeholders who are now dedicated to launching the project.

Despite challenges in fundraising, Olasubomi has consistently invested her time, energy, expertise, and networks to combat the crisis of irregular migration. Most recently, during the United Nations Civil Society Conference in Nairobi in May 2024, even in the absence of funding,



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she mobilized volunteers to create awareness projects in Nigeria, Ghana, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Uganda and Kenya through six major events. Remarkably, aside from C4UN one of the NGOs that organized and sponsored some events, the Lightup Foundation CAA Mission event hosted the highest number of activities during the 2024 UN Nairobi conference. Notably, the current President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) participated at that TRNC event which took place few months ago—a further testament to her global influence.

Olasubomi Iginla Aina MBE is a visionary and transformative leader—a true catalyst for change. Her foresight, leadership, and compassionate nature make her an irreplaceable asset in the fight against irregular migration and in the empowerment of African youths. I wholeheartedly endorse her work and have complete confidence in her capability to bring about meaningful change on the world stage.

For further details, please find my contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

Eulalia Pascual Lagunas

President, United Nations Association of Spain (ANUE)