



PUBLICATION



EDUCATION, CULTURE OF PEACE
AND AFRICAN CITIZENSHIP
AS TOOLS FOR THE CONTINENT'S
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



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OUTLINE

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AU COMMISSION



H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat
AU Commission Chairperson

More than ever today, and all around the world, peace is on the mind of each and every one of us. Indeed, one can say that the world is in turmoil! Nevertheless, glimmers of hope continue to illuminate our minds to dispel the deafening, devastating and awful fracas. That is why the 3rd edition of the Luanda Biennale, is a timely opportunity, indeed a corridor of hope with, as its theme “Education, the Culture of Peace and African citizenship as Tools for the Sustainable Development of the Continent,” for the advancement of the Africa we want. Particularly as ‘Silencing the Guns by 2030’ forms one of the AU flagship programmes.

Furthermore, the African Union remains a listening portal for all, while working in close collaboration with key stakeholders such as our Regional Economic Communities and Member States, including all institutions dedicated to peace in order to respond to the urgent expectations of African citizens and all people around the world.

In addition, our Continental Organization appreciates the full value of all actions leading towards lasting and sustainable peace for our planet. In this regard, the remarkable initiative by the Government of the Republic of Angola, and as adopted by the 24th Session of the AU Assembly in 2015 by Decision 558/XXIV of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, came at the right time. What could be more commendable than to see the Republic of Angola taking the lead by organizing a Pan-African biennale promoting the Culture for Peace, in order for the continuous and progressive working towards the implementation of the 7 aspirations of the AU’s Agenda 2063 on peace and security in Africa and Goals 16 and 17 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

The tripartite collaboration between the AU, UNESCO and the Republic of Angola to sustain the momentum of the peace agenda is a powerful indicator that our collective action can achieve results. In this regard, the intergenerational dialogue on the programme of the Luanda Biennale remains a unique opportunity for frank and conscious dialogue with African youth, which also constitutes a valuable contribution that is decisive and central to the development of our Continent.

This 3rd edition is also being held in a special and welcome context characterized by the recent admission of the AU as a member of the G20.

Hope remains, and indeed our peoples stand ready to support our collective action that will bring lasting and sustainable peace together with innovative development that correspond to the ambitions of our dear Continent.

Let us unite for peace in Africa, for Africa’s peace, for peace in the service of Africa!

WORD OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF UNESCO



Mr Xing Qu

UNESCO Deputy Director-General

successful realization of the third edition of the Biennale of Luanda.

Maintaining peace has become increasingly complex in the face of escalating global political tensions. In a world where conflict resolution and peace-building are paramount to the well-being of nations and the pursuit of global sustainable development, the Biennale of Luanda shines as a symbol of hope. With the resounding success of its previous editions in 2019 and 2021, UNESCO reaffirms its steadfast dedication to strengthening collaborations and networks that promote the culture of peace throughout Africa.

Therefore, the Biennale of Luanda 2023 is set to be a landmark event focused on the crucial theme of “Education, Culture of Peace and African Citizenship as tools for the sustainable development of the continent”.

We must prioritize education and constructive dialogue over conflict, ensuring that every individual naturally assumes the role of a peace advocate. Through this Forum, we encourage more initiatives engaging families, schools, political organizations, religious institutions and society in general in the effort to instill the culture of peace in young Africans.

We firmly believe that, with perseverance, we can take another step forward on the path to the Africa we aspire to see - a continent that is more prosperous, developed, and where peace enriches the lives of all.

Over the course of these three days at the Biennale of Luanda, we anticipate a fruitful exchange of experiences and knowledge from various geographies. Our collective aspiration is to collaborate in promoting education as a key factor in the development of regions. May it be possible to bring together the various actors involved, with a particular emphasis on engaging young people and women, recognizing their important role in promoting peace across the continent.

In a world marked by turbulence and uncertainty, UNESCO, in collaboration with the African Union and the Government of Angola, is proud to announce the upcoming third edition of the Biennale of Luanda - «Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace.» This event, scheduled for November 22nd to 24th in Luanda, Angola, holds the promise of becoming a pivotal moment in the pursuit of development and peace across the African continent.

I would like to express our deep gratitude, representing Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, to His Excellency, Mr. João Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, for graciously hosting this vital continental and global event once more. Furthermore, I wish to emphasize our unwavering dedication to strengthening the partnership between UNESCO and the African Union, under the leadership of His Excellency, Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission. Together, we are committed to ensuring the

MESSAGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA



**H.E. Dr. Dalva Mauricia Calombo
Ringote Allen**

*Minister of State for Social Affairs of the
Republic of Angola*

Dear Readers,

With each edition of the Biennale of Luanda - Pan-African Forum for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, we select a central theme that aligns with the aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and, simultaneously, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals-2030.

In November 2021, the African Union's focus on "Arts, Culture, and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want," coupled with the determination to "Silence the Guns in Africa by 2030," took precedence.

In this 3rd edition, our attention is drawn to the topic: "Education, Culture of Peace, and African Citizenship as Tools for the Continent's Sustainable Development"

It is indeed an honor for me to address a subject that His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola and Champion of the African Union for Peace and

Reconciliation in Africa, regards as vital for fostering peace and progress on our continent: "Intergenerational Dialogue."

We find ourselves in an era of rapid change and profound social transformation.

Technology, the economy, politics, and society are constantly evolving.

In this context, it is essential for older and younger generations to communicate, interact directly, and learn from each other.

The older generation possesses a wealth of experience and wisdom to share, having weathered numerous challenges and experienced triumphs and failures. They have valuable lessons to impart on resilience and perseverance.

The younger generation brings fresh ideas, energy, and a more audacious perspective.

Growing up in the digital age, they are adept at using new technologies, which play a pivotal role in shaping our world. They champion innovation, safeguard the environment, and can bridge gaps between diverse social backgrounds.

Acknowledging their demographic significance and recognizing the importance of involving young people in the process of building peace and sustainable development on the continent, a special moment will be dedicated to dialogue between the leaders present at the 3rd edition of the Biennale of Luanda and youth representatives. This interaction will take place during the opening session on November 22, under the theme: “Young People, Actors in the Promotion of a Culture of Peace and Social Transformations on the Continent.”

During this session, we anticipate insights from political leaders about the strategic vision embedded in their respective public policies for engaging young people in violence prevention and peaceful conflict resolution. It will also provide an opportunity for young people to share best practices related to the promotion of the Culture of Peace – innovative ideas and impactful actions already implemented within their communities that can be scaled up.

The young participants will voice their perspectives and pose questions to the leaders regarding pressing challenges such as encouraging youth entrepreneurship, advocating for increased civic engagement and citizenship rights, enhancing employability and technical-vocational training, elevating the quality of education at all levels, fostering connections between diverse social groups, promoting investments in cultural and creative industries, as well as green and blue economies.

In addition to the 18 young individuals who will have the privilege of direct interaction with continental leaders during the inaugural session, others will participate in the scheduled thematic debates, considering the event's hybrid format (both face-to-face and virtual).

By fostering Intergenerational Dialogue in this edition, we firmly believe that we are paving the way to create an environment conducive to harnessing the potential of youth in the pursuit of a lasting and sustainable peace for the African continent.

Thank you very much.



ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE AS CATALYSTS FOR SILENCING THE GUNS IN AFRICA



H.E. Amb. Bankole Adeoye
*Commissioner for Political Affairs,
Peace and Security,
African Union Commission*

The African Union's focus on harnessing education, culture of peace, and African citizenship for sustainable development highlights the commitment to promoting holistic and inclusive development across the continent. This approach recognizes the importance of peace education, and a sense of identity in fostering sustainable growth and stability.

The African Union Agenda 2063, is the strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent, along with the A Silencing the Guns program, supported by the promotion of good governance, the respect for human rights, Rule of Law, and Constitutionalism continue to guide the AU Member States.

Indeed, promoting peace, stability, and social cohesion is essential for sustainable development. The AU has scaled up conflict prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding initiatives,

encouraging dialogue, reconciliation, and the peaceful resolution of disputes. By fostering a culture of peace, the AU aims to create an enabling environment for development, where people can live in safety and, harmony.

The culture of peace must be anchored on learning, knowledge and quality education as crucial factors to drive community co-existence and sustainable development. The African Union aims to enhance human capital, empower individuals, and build a skilled workforce that can contribute to peace and economic progress. A whole society approach that is inclusive of the rights and welfare of children, especially girls, is fundamental to the African Renaissance. By equipping African citizens with knowledge and skills, the AU aims to enable them to actively participate in their countries' development and create a better future for themselves, their communities, and the continent.

The concept of African citizenship promoted by the African Union seeks to foster a sense of belonging, shared identity, and solidarity among Africans. It emphasizes that individuals

are not only citizens of their respective countries but also part of a larger African community. The AU encourages regional integration and cooperation, promoting initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the Free Movement of people, goods, services and capital to enhance economic integration, and promote cross-border collaboration. By strengthening African citizenship and integration, the AU will harness the collective potential of African nations and promote sustainable development at a continental level.

The African Union recognizes that achieving sustainable development requires collaboration and partnerships among various stakeholders. In this regard, the AU will step up engagements with Member States Regional Economic Communities (RECs), civil society organizations, the private sector, think tanks and international partners to share best practices and promote synergies for coordinating efforts and ensuring coherent approaches to education, peacebuilding, and citizenship across the continent.

The Third Edition of the Pan-African Forum on the Culture of Peace – Luanda Biennale.

In line with the AU commitment to promoting synergy through collaboration and with Decision 558 / XXIV of the 24th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union the AU Commission continues to collaborate with the Government of Angola and UNESCO to create the conditions for the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace - the Luanda Biennale. The 34th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) adopted, in February 2021, the Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.811(XXXIV)), by which it « reiterated its commitment to make the Biennale a key initiative to address the multiple crises and conflicts facing the continent and the AUC Chairperson, Moussa Faki Mahamat, pledged to strengthen the Biennale's strategic orientation around peace education.

This is also an opportunity to appreciate the effort of the Government of Angola in organizing the Third edition of the Pan-African Forum on the Culture of Peace – Luanda Biennale and the role His Excellency President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, as AU Champion “for Peace and Reconciliation in Africa” .

These insights highlight the African Union's multidimensional approach to harnessing education, culture of peace, and African citizenship for sustainable development. By integrating these elements into its policies, programs, and initiatives, the AU is positively contributing to creating a prosperous, peaceful, and united Africa that leaves no one behind.



ENHANCING THE CULTURE OF PEACE THROUGH CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES IN AFRICA



H.E. Amb. Minata Samaté Cessouma
*Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian
Affairs and Social Development,
African Union Commission*

As we mark the Third Edition of the Luanda Biennale, a Pan-African Forum for a Culture of Peace we would like to share the achievements we have made in the area of cultural and creative industries (CCIs) in the continent. Since the last biennale held in Luanda, Angola in 2021, we have made great strides in revising and improving our continental policies aimed at supporting cultural and creative industries.

The approval by the 43rd Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Nairobi, Kenya in July 2023 of the revised AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) is one of the key milestones. The AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) is a guide towards the development and strengthening of the African CCIs in order to facilitate delivery of wider social and economic impact. The Plan of Action provides a framework that allows for effective coordination of inputs from Member States, strategic partners and stakeholders towards the goal of uplifting the CCIs sector on the continent.

Cultural and creative industries play a significant role in engendering inclusive development, good governance, economic empowerment, poverty alleviation, job creation, trade and regional integration. The development of African cultural and creative industries cannot be achieved without prioritising education to African children and citizens at large. During the analysis of the CCIs, education, capacity building and sustainability were identified as some of the factors which affect the performance and growth of CCIs in Africa. The theme of the third edition of the Luanda Biennial, planned to be held from 22th to 24th November 2023 is: “Education, Culture of Peace and African Citizenship as tools for the Sustainable Development of the Continent”. Hence in order to strengthen the CCIs in Africa, we have to educate the citizenry on the benefits of this untapped resource. This will also support efforts to build social cohesion and a culture for peace on the continent.

In line with the above, we at the AUC are in the process of drafting a Continental Arts Education Policy to ensure that the arts, culture and heritage are enhanced in the school curriculum.

In order to support our cultural and creative workers in securing markets for their products, the African Union has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Handicrafts and Cultural House Association of Turkey, in September 2023. The Africa House of Culture as popularly known, is a unique opportunity for women in Africa to access markets beyond Africa and get skill-based trainings to improve their creativity in the arts and crafts. It is our utmost belief that the MoU with the Africa House of Culture in Turkey will provide a platform for knowledge and skills sharing for African and Turkish women in the cultural and creative sectors. It is through this collaboration, that we will be able to connect women in the fashion industries, arts and craft and in film to enhance quality, quantity and distribution of our creative products.

Cinematographic and audio-visual works occupy an increasingly growing place in our societies, and they therefore constitute a powerful educational tool for the promotion of the culture of non-violence and peace. Therefore, promoting peace involves also encouraging film producers to promote the culture of peace, as anchored in the Memorandum of Understanding signed in the 28th December 2012, establishing a the AU special Peace and Security Award for the Ouagadougou Pan-African film and Television Festival.

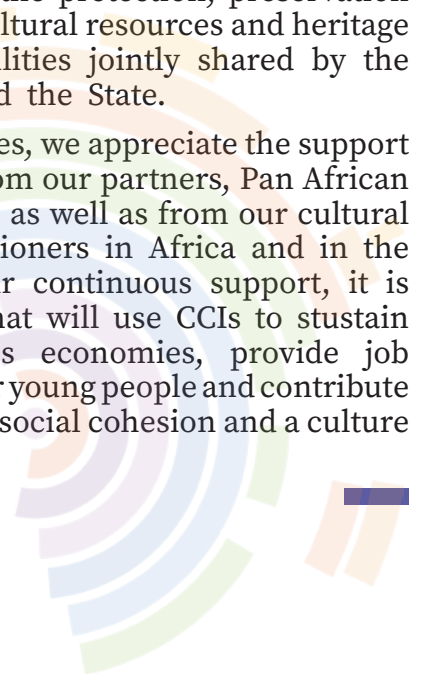
We have also signed the host agreement with the Republic of Kenya on the hosting the Temporary Secretariat of the African Audio-visual and Cinema Commission (AACC) on the side-lines of the 36th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2023. The aim of the African Audio-visual and Cinema Commission is to develop and strengthen the African audio-visual and cinema industries in Africa. The signing of this important instrument will enable the operationalization of the AACC so that it can perform its main role which is the advocacy campaign for the ratification of the AACC Statute and the promotion of the development of the audio-visual and cinema industry on the continent.

The launch of the temporary site of the Great Museum of Africa (GMA), a flagship project of the AU Agenda 2063, which was held at Villa Boulkine in Algiers, Algeria on 14 June 2023 is another remarkable landmark in the cultural sector of the continent. The launch event was accompanied by the launch of the first continental exhibition titled: ‘Music: The Heartbeat of Africa’ which was held at Bardo Museum. The exhibition highlighted musical instruments from five regions of Eastern, Western, Northern, Central and Southern Africa

The launch was followed by the signing ceremony of the Host Agreement between African Union and the Government of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria. The Great Museum of Africa (GMA) is a dynamic and interactive contemporary museum for the collection, preservation, study and engagement with Africa’s history, tangible and intangible and heritage. The African Union, in partnership with the Government of Algeria through the Great Museum of Africa (GMA) and other Pan-African Museums are putting structures in place for preserving, promoting and showcasing restituted heritage resources.

The establishment of the Great Museum of African is driven by the recognition of the intricate relationship between the protection of cultural diversity and promotion of cultural pluralism, on the one hand, and development of the continent on the other. It is anchored on the understanding that the protection, preservation and promotion of cultural resources and heritage are vital responsibilities jointly shared by the citizens, society and the State.

With these milestones, we appreciate the support we have received from our partners, Pan African Cultural Institutions as well as from our cultural and creative practitioners in Africa and in the diaspora. With their continuous support, it is our sincere hope that will use CCIs to sustain our Member States economies, provide job opportunities for our young people and contribute to building stronger social cohesion and a culture of peace in Africa.



THE EFFORTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION



H.E. Josefa L. C Sacko

*Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment,
African Union Commission*

The Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (ARBE) of the African Union (AU) is responsible for implementing policies, programs and strategies in accordance with the aspirations of Agenda 2063, medium-term plans and other continental legal and policy frameworks. The ARBE department aims to promote peace and security on the continent through initiatives aimed at preventing violence and resolving conflicts related to natural resources, climate and the environment.

The ARBE department is committed to preventing violence and resolving conflicts in rural areas of Africa. One of its achievements is the creation of the “Africa Multi-hazard Early Warning and Early Action System” (AMHEWAS), which aims to reduce disaster losses and damages in Africa by monitoring and alerting about various risks such as drought, floods and heavy rains. The AMHEWAS is to be linked with the Conflict Early Warning System of the AUC’s Peace and Security department, which will allow for a coordinated response to prevent or mitigate conflicts that

may arise from natural disasters or resource scarcity. The ARBE department is also working to establish a Continental Civilian Capacity for Disaster Preparedness and Response, which will help to respond to disasters in AU member states and avoid worsening the crisis, which can cause conflict if not well managed.

The ARBE Department also believes that water is a source of cooperation, not conflict, in Africa. It works to prevent and resolve disputes over shared water resources by fostering regional dialogue, building trust, and enhancing capacities. It supports the implementation of regional agreements and protocols on transboundary basins, such as the SADC Protocol on shared watercourses, and the establishment of basin organizations to facilitate joint management. It also promotes the development of basin-wide integrated water resources management plans (IWRM Plans) that assess the water and other natural resource potentials of the basin, as well as the climate vulnerability and risks.

The Department also helps to mobilize investments for water security in Africa, through the Continental Africa Water Investment Program (AIP), which was adopted by the African Union Heads of States and Government as part of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa – Priority Action Plan 2 (PIDA-PAP 2). The Department assists the Member States in developing water investment programs that address their water needs and

challenges. Moreover, the Department seeks to access climate finance for water projects, such as the Africa Multi-country GCF Readiness Program on climate resilient water security, which aims to strengthen capacities of 14 countries in preparing water investment projects for the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The Department of ARBE is also leading new and planned initiatives that will further enhance its role in transboundary water management in Africa. These include:

- Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Transboundary Water Management in Africa. A proposal has been submitted to the TEI with the main objective of strengthening Africa's institutional capacities for transboundary water management, including those of the AUC. It also has a component for preparing water investment programs.
- Africa Regional Climate Resilience Program. This project is for about US\$ 10 million where issues of disaster risk management, climate resilience, climate finance and water investment are included. World Bank is the target financing partner for this project. A proposal has been submitted for consideration by the World Bank.
- Training programs on international water law, transboundary cooperation, IWRM and conflict management. These programs aim to enhance the knowledge and skills of various stakeholders involved in transboundary water issues.

The Department of ARBE adopts a comprehensive and proactive approach to prevent conflicts related to water, natural resources, and climate change. The Department generates knowledge to understand potential conflicts related to natural resources, climate change and water security; and takes appropriate actions such as strengthening the institutional systems and facilitating investments towards inclusive and climate resilient water security considering fragility issues. The Department believes that by working together, Africa can achieve sustainable and peaceful management of its shared water resources.

The ARBE department also aims to leverage the potential of marine and coastal resources for inclusive green economic growth by supporting the development of strategic sectors of the blue

economy, such as fishing and aquaculture, promoting participatory and integrated governance of oceans, seas and coastal areas, as well as protecting the marine and coastal environment, thus also contributing to preventing and resolving conflicts related to access rights, use and management of marine and coastal resources.

The department also supports the implementation of community-based adaptation measures, such as sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem protection, and the promotion of renewable energy sources. The Department works on the implementation of best practices among Member States for adapting to climate change. These initiatives contribute to reducing conflicts arising from the scarcity of natural resources, food insecurity, forced migration, and poverty.

In conclusion, the AU's ARBE department has played an important role in preventing violence and resolving conflicts on the African continent through initiatives and programs aimed at promoting regional cooperation, sustainable management, adaptation to climate change and development of the blue economy. These initiatives contribute to strengthening peace and security in Africa, as well as achieving the objectives of Agenda 2063.



INTRODUCTION OF THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR 2024



H.E. Prof. Mohammed Belhocine
*Commissioner for Education, Science,
Technology and Innovation,
African Union Commission*

During its Summit of February 2023, the African Union adopted education as the theme of the year for 2024, under the following title: “Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa”.

Having Education as the Theme of the Year 2024 is a significant step that is expected to shine a continental spotlight on building resilient systems for increased access to inclusive, quality, and relevant Education in Africa. The implementation of the AU theme year 2024 will be, to the extent possible, through concrete and impactful activities and initiatives at national, regional, continental, and global levels.

This is a critical step forward in the AU’s commitment to improving the lives of citizens across the continent. Education is unanimously recognized as a key factor in helping to reduce poverty, improving public health, increasing

economic growth, and above all, enlarging the choices of people by empowering them, which is, centrally contributing to human and sustainable development. Thus, by making education the theme of the year for 2024, the AU is taking an important step towards creating a better future for all Africans.

The implementation of the theme of the year in 2024 will be dependent on the contribution of all partners in the education space in Africa, and how to impact on Education and Skills Development in AU Member States will be crucial. The African Union has developed a roadmap on the theme which identifies concrete and impactful actions having the potential to transform education systems in Africa, towards more inclusivity, equity, and relevance to the needs of the 21st century economy.

These include 10 priority areas such as foundational learning, reforming the teaching profession, STEM, upscaling evidence-based innovative, feasible and sustainable digital solutions, decolonizing the teaching of African history, placing attention on the level of the technical, vocational education and

training (TVET) programs, increased sustainable financing and systematic investment in Education as top priority areas, which will define its theme for the year 2024.

Having Education as the theme of the year 2024 will further drive momentum generated at the UN Transforming Education Summit (TES) and, working with Member States and partners, place a continental spotlight on recovery from COVID-19 and building resilient education systems.

Focus will be on promotion, development and implementation of effective, long-lasting, system-wide transformational strategies for education in Africa, riding on the global momentum. It is also expected to spur implementation of the declarations emanating from the key continental and global education moments including the fourth ordinary session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Education, Science and Technology (STC-EST4), the declarations from both the UN Transforming Education Summit and the High-level Side Event on Transforming Education in Africa.

The AU has also called for the commitment of AU Member States to investing in education and improving access to quality education for all. This includes investing in infrastructure, training teachers, and providing scholarships to students. This investment will help ensure that everyone has access to the skills and knowledge they need to succeed.

Though there will be focus on education during year 2024, actions initiated will continue to be monitored, supported and fine-tuned in the future, for the fulfilment of Agenda 2063 aspirations.



WOMEN AND THE CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA



H.E. Mrs. BINTA DIOP

*Special Envoy of the Chairperson of
the African Union Commission on Women,
Peace and Security*

The African Union Office of Special Envoy for Women, Peace and Security, in its unwavering dedication to the Luanda Biennale, endeavors to acknowledge and celebrate the dialogues initiated through this Biennale. This third edition is yet another proof of the Angolan leadership's solid commitment to silencing the gun in our Continent.

Since the conception of the ground-breaking resolution 1325 in 2000, the understanding of the gendered nature of conflict and peacebuilding globally has grown significantly. Not only do we now know that conflicts are experienced differently by women and girls but also that their roles in conflict and peacebuilding are varied and complex.

Similarly, the African Union has shown the political commitment to addressing issues relating to gender equality on the continent through the adoption of various frameworks demonstrating strong commitment to gender equality and gender mainstreaming.

The office of Special Envoy (OSE) which is now institutionalized reflects the Commission's Chairperson and the Union efforts toward peacebuilding while emphasizing the relevance of women in all process of conflict resolution and reparation. Its mandate includes promoting the participation of women in peace and security processes, advocating for the protection of women's rights in conflict and post-conflict settings, and supporting the integration of gender perspectives into all peace and security initiatives on the African continent.

To track the implementation of the WPS Agenda OSE developed the Continental Result Framework to monitor the implementation of the WPS Agenda by African Union Member

States. This has helped countries report on policies and instruments put in place to ensure adequate implementation of the WPS agenda. over 50% of countries on the continent has adopted National Action Plans and 6 Regional Action Plans much more than the rest of the world demonstrating, at least, political commitment to progress.

The African Union also established FEMWise, a network of African woman in conflict prevention and mediation. Similarly, the African Women's Leadership Network (AWLN) was established by women leaders, with the support of the African Union Commission and UN Women, as an Africa wide women movement to drive women leadership across spheres for the transformation of Africa.

The Africa we want prosperous in peace with itself and the world can only be built in an inclusive way, with well educated women and young citizen enshrined in all spheres of activity. Women and young people of Africa need to participate in the implementation of the development agenda.

This is where lies the relevance of the initiatives and tools put in place by the OSE.

Education capacity building and mentorship

An important factor which is important in moving forward the WPS agenda is the need to encourage the broadening and the deepening of the WPS agenda by encouraging national and international actors in expanding their knowledge and expertise of gender. Since the passing of resolution 1325, research institutions have played a vital role in advancing the WPS agenda through knowledge production. Research institutions such as center of excellencies need to partner with policy institutions in carrying out research which will enrich policy work thereby covering the knowledge gap and increasing knowledge of contemporary pressing issues on WPS.

The OSE in this regard have established partnership with centers of excellencies throughout the continent.

Under the auspices of the Emerging Women Leaders' Pillar AWLN hosts an annual Intergenerational Retreat which facilitates exchange between seasoned and upcoming women leaders to create a pipeline of women in

leadership. AWLN's mentorship platform sustains this exchange throughout the year by giving women in the network opportunities to stay engaged in the wake of the Intergenerational Retreat. The Emerging Women Leaders pillar engages young women advocates and practitioners across the AWLN 6 pillars.

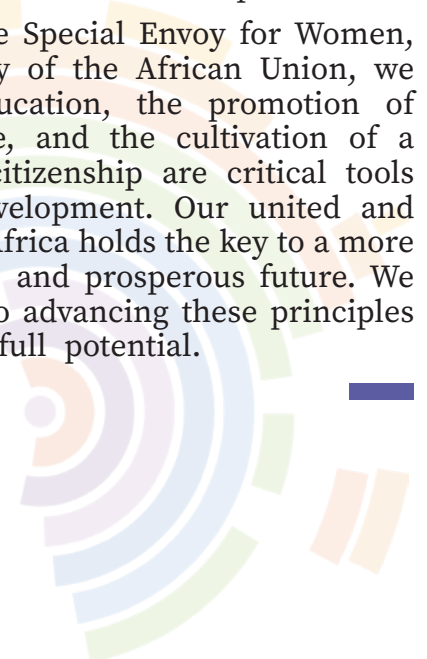
African citizenship as vehicle for peace

It is important that we continue to support and listen to women leaders often working in civil society organizations. Women led organizations and women groups often have much better understanding of the lived realities of women particularly in periods of crises.

It is in this perspective that the OSE in collaboration with UNESCO, Femme Afrique Solidarity did a mapping study of organizations and institutions involved in research on women and the culture of peace has made it possible to list these structures, to draw up an inventory of their operations, and to identify their programmatic projections. The study has led to the formation of Pan-African Women's Network for a Culture of Peace.

We encourage the following when working towards the expected outcomes for the Biennale: The inclusion of themes of peace, tolerance, and cooperation in educational curricula; The promotion of women's involvement in decision-making processes related to education and peacebuilding; Advocacy for the rights and identity of African women in order to contribute to the notion of African citizenship.

As the Office of the Special Envoy for Women, Peace, and Security of the African Union, we recognize that education, the promotion of a culture of peace, and the cultivation of a sense of African citizenship are critical tools for sustainable development. Our united and inclusive vision of Africa holds the key to a more peaceful, equitable, and prosperous future. We remain dedicated to advancing these principles to unlock Africa's full potential.



REFLEXION ON THE CULTURE OF PEACE IN THE CONTINENT: UNESCO AND THE BIENNALE OF LUANDA FOR THE AFRICA WE WANT



Mrs. Rita Bissoonauth

*Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office to the
AU and ECA in Ethiopia*

Because of the current crises our world is currently facing, we seem to be increasingly operating under an emergency paradigm. If we look at the macabre spectacle of the deadly effects of terrorism, inter-community violence and latent wars that are part of the daily life of our States, strengthening the “Pan-African movement for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence” is a noble objective that is both existential and priority.

In this context, UNESCO must and intends, more than ever, to be, in its fields of competence and in accordance with its Charter, the bulwark of “Reason”, the refuge of re-humanization of international relations and their revitalization from “below”.

As we all gather for this 3rd Edition of the Biennale of Luanda, under the theme “Education, Culture of Peace and African Citizenship as tools for the sustainable development of the Continent”, I would like to reflect on what has been done.

The concept of Culture of peace was born in 1989 in Africa with UNESCO during the Congress on Peace in the Mind of Men in Yamoussoukro, Côte d’Ivoire, in the presence of several personalities from all over the world. In the 1990’s after a decade of experience in the field, mainly through national culture of peace programmes in Central America, and Africa (ex: El Salvador, Mozambic... amongst the most important ones), the idea of a culture became fully included in the United Nations Agenda, particularly in 1999 with the “Declaration and Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace” and with the celebration of the “International Year for the Culture of Peace” which took place in the year 2000.

Strongly inspired by UNESCO’s Constitution, the United Nations General Assembly defines the Culture of Peace as: “a set of values, attitudes and behaviors that reflect and promote conviviality and sharing based on the principles of freedom, justice and democracy, all human rights tolerance and solidarity, which reject violence and are inclined to

prevent conflicts by addressing their root causes and to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation, and which guarantee to all people the full enjoyment of all rights and the means to participate fully in the development process of their society”.

The year 2000, the International Year for the Culture of Peace, for which UNESCO served as the lead UN Agency, was a very important moment of awareness thanks to a tool launched at that time, the Manifesto 2000 for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, drafted by Nobel Peace Prize laureates and signed by almost all the Nobel Prize laureates of the time.

According to this Manifesto, the Culture of Peace is first and foremost: “a personal commitment, it means respecting all lives, rejecting violence, unleashing one’s generosity, listening to understand one another, preserving the planet, and reinventing solidarity”.

Six very simple principles that everyone can commit in their daily lives, in their family, in their neighborhood, in their city, in their region, in their country.

Between 1999 and 2000, 76 million people (almost 1% of the world population of today) around the world signed this manifesto.

The year 2000 gave birth to a decade/ the “United Nations decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children in the World”.

It is in the 2010s that a real programme concerning Africa begun. Africa, as you know, is one of UNESCO’s priorities along with gender equality. It is precisely within the framework of the implementation of the Operational Strategy for Priority Africa of which the Culture of Peace is one of the flagships programmes, that this Culture of Peace programme in Africa began.

As you know, the Culture of Peace is a concept specific to Africa, “indigenous” to Africa. It draws on all values, systems of thought, forms of spirituality, transmission of knowledge and endogenous technologies, traditions, and forms of cultural and artistic expression that have allowed for millennia in the peaceful coexistence of very different populations and cultures, and, when necessary, the resolution of conflicts and

differences through ways that are specific to the African continent.

The call for the creation of a “Continental and Sustainable Movement for a Culture of Peace” is already contained in the “Plan of Action for a Culture of Peace in Africa: Make Peace Happen” which was adopted in Luanda during the first forum, the forum “Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace” organized by the Government of Angola, UNESCO and the African Union Commission in March 2013. The idea of creating a Biennale of the Culture of Peace came at the very moment so that there would be a recurrent event bringing together actors and partners who could exchange their experiences, their good practices, and develop programmes and projects for the future.

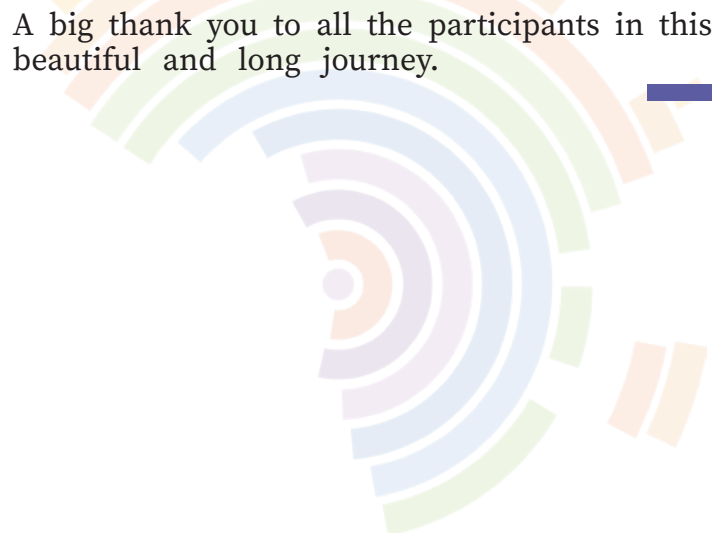
I seize this opportunity to pay tribute to the commitment of Angola, which since 2013, has not ceased to commit itself to Culture of Peace programmes. Thus, in September 2019, the first Biennale of Luanda was held.

What is also important is to see what opportunities the two previous editions have created.

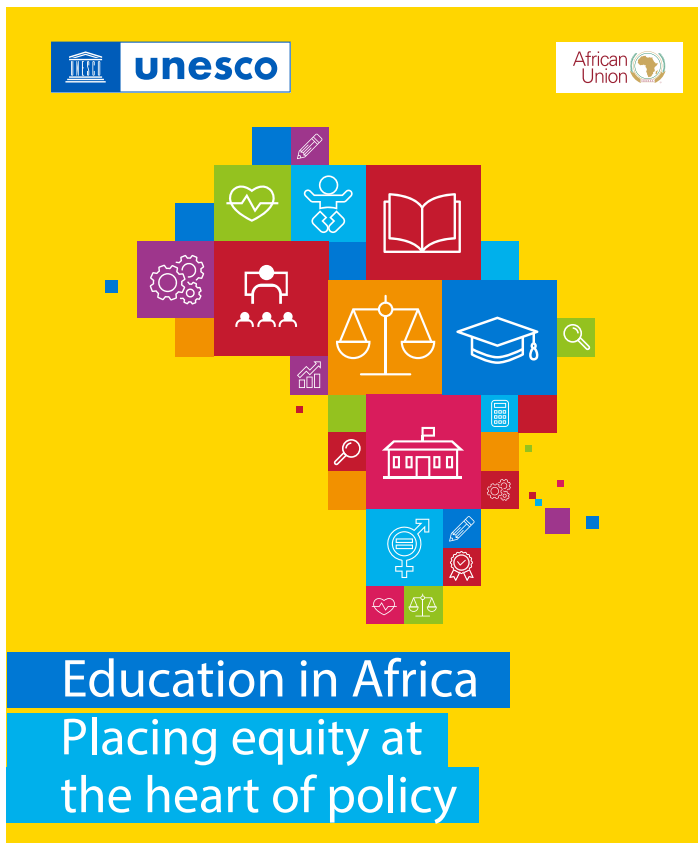
With the launch of the Alliance of Partners, supported by the very important leadership of the regional Economic Communities, from all regions of Africa and the commitment of several partners, the Biennale of Luanda is thus much more than an event.

This 3rd Edition is the culmination of the adventure of a Culture of Peace which continues for each of us in our daily lives first through our inner transformation, and then through our commitment the world around us.

A big thank you to all the participants in this beautiful and long journey.



Placing equity at the heart of education policy



The report “Education in Africa: Placing equity at the heart of education policy”, jointly conducted by UNESCO and the African Union, marks the inaugural edition of what will become a periodic assessment of education in Africa.

The Continental Education Strategy for Africa 2016-2025 (CESA 16-25) was officially adopted by African Union leaders during their 26th Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa on January 31, 2016. CESA serves as the guiding framework for transforming education and training systems across the continent. It brings to life the vision outlined in Agenda 2063, aiming to empower citizens to become effective agents of change in pursuit of the “Africa We Want.” Furthermore, it contextualizes the global Sustainable Development Goal on education (SDG 4), set for 2030, within the specific priorities and challenges faced by Africa.

Following the 2018 Pan-African High-level Conference on Education (PACE), member states requested that the African Union and UNESCO produce regular continental reports to monitor progress in implementing CESA 16-25 and SDG 4. These reports are meant to contribute to the acceleration of strategic objectives and targets set forth in both agendas for African countries.

“Education in Africa: placing equity at the heart of education policy” is firmly grounded in an emphasis on equity, aligning with the commitment outlined in Agenda 2030, CESA 16-25, and the 2018 Nairobi Declaration and Call for Action on Education. All of these emphasize the imperative of ensuring that no child is left behind. Employing a comprehensive approach that considers multiple dimensions, this report examines disparities in education and explores the interconnections among factors such as household wealth, geographical location, gender, primary language spoken at home, crises and displacement, disability, and a child’s access to high-quality education and learning.

The report underscores the crucial importance of making equity a top priority in political agendas, policy development, and investment strategies. Additionally, it aims to offer guidance and recommendations to African governments in their efforts to address these challenges and work towards equitable education systems.

Here are the five key messages:

- Numerous policies have been implemented, and we have gained valuable insights into what works and what does not. To build on existing policy experiences, pan-African initiatives that promote mutual learning among countries, offering more opportunities for experience sharing, require increased attention and investment.
- Planning and progress are hampered by limited data, especially regarding disparities. It's crucial to continue efforts to improve the quality, coverage, and frequency of data collection and analysis. The challenge is twofold: to support countries in improving data availability and quality, as well as promoting strategies for its consistent use in decision-making and implementation.
- A rising tide does not lift all boats. To ensure that no child is left behind, equity must be a central consideration in policy planning and investment decisions at all education levels.
- Timely and accurate information on the state of education provision, with a focus on the challenges faced by implementers and available resources and capabilities, is crucial to formulating ambitious yet achievable strategic plans.
- The disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic poses a real threat to hard-earned progress in education. African governments are now confronted with a dual challenge: investing in system-level components to build resilience into the foundations of their education systems, and investing in the capabilities and motivations of key stakeholders, particularly teachers, to ensure their readiness and adaptability in the face of future challenges.



CALL FOR PAPERS

AUECHO 2024 Edition

The Year of Education



Theme

“Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa.”

Introduction:

2024 is the year of education. Recent reviews of the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) and Education 2030 Framework for Action, the AU-UNESCO continental report of the CESA and SDG4 and a joint AU-UNICEF report on Transforming Education in Africa, point to the fact that over the past ten years, African governments have undertaken a wide range of programmes and policy-level efforts to ensure that no child is left behind in access to education. There have been substantial efforts on the continent to ensure access, completion, and quality of basic education for all.

Overall, the proportion of out-of-school children had decreased until around 2010. The completion rates had improved in primary and lower secondary education, as well as the access to and the participation in Technical and Vocational

Education and Training (TVET). There was also noticeable progress in the access to pre-primary education and in adult literacy and lifelong learning. With regards to school feeding, low-income countries have doubled their national budget expenditures to Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF) from 17 percent to 33 percent between 2013 and 2020. In lower middle-income countries, national budgets now account for 88% of school meals financing, up from 55% in 2013.

However, despite efforts and progress made, three main indicators ring a warning bell:

- Although the out of school rate, i.e. the “proportion of children and young people in the official age range for the given level of education who are not enrolled in pre-primary, primary, secondary or higher levels of education” keeps steadily decreasing, especially for the primary level, the absolute



number has reached the alarming global estimate of 98 million in Africa.

- The learning poverty rate, i.e. “the share of children who cannot read a simple text with comprehension by age 10 was the highest in sub-Saharan Africa before the COVID-19 pandemic, at 86%. This rate is likely to have worsened after the pandemic, estimated now at 90%. This means that nine out of ten children cannot read a simple text with comprehension by age 10.
- Africa will need 17 million additional teachers in order to achieve universal primary and secondary education by 2030.

At the global level, and within the Global Education Coordination Mechanism framework, led by UNESCO, the African Union has been a key player in the regional coordination of CESA and SDG4 support for and cooperation among countries. This is through convening Member States and partners and making critical contributions to promoting evidence use, priority setting, peer learning and monitoring mechanism.

Similarly, at the African Union’s Specialized Technical Committee on Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (STC-EST4) held on 1st and 2nd September 2022, Ministers, in their declaration on Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, requested the AU Commission to facilitate the adoption by the AU of an education related theme for the year for 2024, to address the burden and disruptions caused by COVID-19 on education systems, promote the systematic implementation of transforming education in Africa and for accelerated implementation of CESA 2016-2025 and SDG 4.

Progress in education has a far-reaching impact on all the other aspects of human capital development. The large population of young people in Africa is a powerful source of economic growth and progress, provided it receives quality education and skills for the 21st century job opportunities. Investing in education is thus, the most effective investment in the fight against poverty, reducing gender inequalities, enabling people to survive and thrive, and helping to improve socio-economic development.

Education is also associated with more peaceful communities, greater civic engagement, and stronger democracies.

Year 2024, dedicated to education in Africa, will be an opportunity for the African Union to re-galvanize Member States towards the achievement of CESA and SDG4 targets. Importantly, this will come as a follow-up to the STC-EST4, AU Declarations, the Urgent Call for Action by the SDG4 High-level Steering Committee and the UN Secretary General’s Vision Statement on Transforming Education. It will engage the AU Commission to mobilize governments and development partners to rethink the models of education and skill development needed for the Africa We Want in the 21st century.

• The Call:

Referencing decisions or declarations of the AU as well as other documented pronouncements and actions by the African Union, and in line with the theme of the year, interested parties are hereby called upon to submit for the 2024 edition of the AU ECHO, incisive and evidence based articles on the potential of and progress made in the implementation or mainstreaming of AU decisions in the field of education as well as initiatives that are being undertaken at institutional, country and continental levels to promote education, based on the AU’s decisions and declarations. Articles may also be dedicated to activities held to celebrate the African Day of School Feeding i.e. 1st March in their countries or regions.

Submissions should be based on the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25). <https://au.int/node/29514>

To support their arguments, writers should reference

- Agenda 2063, available here <https://au.int/agenda2063/overview>
- Relevant treaties of the AU <https://au.int/en/treaties>
- Other useful source documents are:
- Statute of the Pan-African University (PAU) <https://au.int/node/33127>

- The Continental TVET Strategy <https://au.int/en/documents/20181022/continental-strategy-technical-and-vocational-educational-and-training-tvet>
- Statute of the African Union International Centre for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA) <https://cieffa.au.int/sites/default/files/files/2022-04/statuteau-cieffaeng.pdf>
- The AU Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment <https://au.int/node/36195>
- View previous editions of the AU ECHO here
- Submission Requirements & Deadline:
- Original contributions will be accepted from institutions, organs and employees of the African Union, AU member states, African academic institutions, think tanks, civil society organisations and representative groups (e.g. women, youth), industry experts and the wider African public. The editors reserve the right to reject papers they deem to be inconsistent with the guidelines outlined in this call for papers.
- A connection should be made to the theme outlined on this concept note, and its objectives
- Languages: Articles for publication may be submitted in English or French.
- Word count: Not more than 1500 words per article.
- Images: Pertinent photographs and other illustrations that enhance the articles are welcome and should be sent in the same email as the article. These must be original to the author and/or be under a creative common license. Authors must confirm their ownership of such illustrations and captions must be provided. Photographs should be a minimum 1mb in resolution and should be sent as a separate attachment to the article. Embedding photographs in a word file may lead to disqualification. No PDF submissions will be accepted.

- All submissions must contain the full name and contact details of the sender, his/her organization / job title (if applicable), and a brief summary of the article.

- Submissions will only be accepted through email which must be titled as given below and can only be submitted through the email accounts listed below for consideration.

- Title / subject of email: SUBMISSION – AU ECHO 2024- (INSERT TITLE OF ARTICLE)

- Receiving emails:

Send all manuscripts and correspondence to GamalK@africa-union.org, copying the Managing Editor at MusabayanaW@africa-union.org and DIC@africa-union.org

- **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION**

- o Manuscripts must be received before or by 17.00 East African Time (GMT+3) on 30th November, 2023

About the AU ECHO:

The AU ECHO provides a platform for the 55 Member States of the African Union, and African citizens to profile the successes of Africa, and to impart knowledge and experiences borne from African led initiatives, based on the instruments and decisions of the African Union. It is published on an annual basis by the Directorate of Information and Communication of the AUC with content largely related to the AU's Theme of the Year.

The AU ECHO is distributed to AU Heads of State and Government, Ministers, senior policy makers' delegates, and media during the AU Summits and other substantive meetings and conferences as well as to offices of the African Union. Distribution is also made to development partner organisations and consulates/embassies in Addis Ababa. Soft copies are posted online on <https://au.int/en/documents/1148>



THE GREAT AFRICAN ART BANNER (GAAB) AND THE AFRICA DAY KILIMANJARO CHALLENGE



By **Ayaa Musuya**
Communication Director
GAAB Initiative

In a world filled with possibilities, Africa's youth are emerging as a powerful force for change. As the continent's demography evolves, there is an increasing need to empower its young citizens to actively participate in shaping their future. The journey to achieving this transformation begins with initiatives that foster creativity, unity, and a deep connection to Africa's vision for the future, encapsulated in the African Union's Agenda 2063.

The Great African Art Banner (GAAB) Initiative is an exemplary endeavor that is seeking to harness the power of visual artists and other innovative thinkers across the continent; to inspire and promote a solution based approach to youth participation in the development of their nations and the Continent.



Endorsed by the Minister of State for Gender and Culture Affairs of Uganda, the unwavering support of the Ugandan Ministry marks a pivotal milestone in the journey of the GAAB initiative. It underscores the nation's commitment to nurturing creativity and innovation among its youth. Under the auspices of the Ministry, this colossal canvas of inspiration has been embraced as a symbol of Uganda's dedication to the dreams of its people and those shared by Africans throughout the continent.

Stretching far beyond Uganda's borders, the African Union Commission recognized the extraordinary potential of GAAB. This recognition signals the project's continental significance and its ability to bring you the diverse cultures, ideas, and dreams that define Africa. It epitomizes the shared vision of the Africa We Want, where unity and aspiration propel progress.

Through the GAAB-Paint the Africa We Want Campaign, the initiative attracts artists from diverse backgrounds to express their visions for Africa's future, fostering a sense of pride and ownership in the shared goal of achieving Agenda 2063 which is the current African Union blueprint for Africa's growth and development.

Art serves as a universal language that transcends borders and languages. It enables Africa's youth to articulate their dreams, concerns, and aspirations for a united and prosperous continent. The process of creation allows them to take an active role in the development of their societies, contributing to the nurturing of the 'Africa We Want.'

Through the transformative medium of art, young Africans are not only expressing their visions but also creating a shared afro-positive narrative for their continent. It is a narrative that celebrates their diversity, acknowledges their history, and charts a course for a brighter future. In doing so, they are actively participating in the realization of Agenda 2063, which envisions an Africa united in diversity and driven by its people.

As we celebrate 60 years of the African Organisation of African Unity (OAU) current AU, we are pushed to embark into adventure as a path to Afro-tourism and exploration. The Africa Day Kilimanjaro Challenge, held annually in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania managed and run by Origin Trails & Tours company & AfrikaSpeaks from Zimbabwe and spearhead of Live Your Dream Africa, is another remarkable endeavor that has captured the spirit of adventure and African tourism. Climbing Africa's highest mountain to Uhuru (Freedom) Peak, and summit on Africa Day May 25th, is a symbolic act that reinforces the idea that Africans can enjoy and explore their natural endowments and support the local businesses across the continent.

During the Kilimanjaro Challenge of May 2023, climbers from 5 different African Nations,

carried the Mock Art Banner up to Uhuru Peak to mark on Africa Day in a symbolic act embodying the aspirations of Africans, the desire to reach new summits, both figuratively and literally. It was a testament to the idea that Africa is rising, and its dreams are limitless. These remarkable initiatives have already brought together Africans from Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Congo, Sudan, and beyond to drive this initiative further toward the accomplishment of the 56km Great African Art Banner.

Africa's youth hold the key to the continent's future. Initiatives like the Great African Art Banner (GAAB), Live Your Dream and the Africa Day Kilimanjaro Challenge exemplify the potential of Africa's young citizens to engage actively in their development. By promoting innovative projects, solution-guided creativity, collaborative unity, and a strong connection to Africa, these initiatives are fostering a generation that is not only dreaming of a brighter Africa but actively working to create the Africa they want, live their dreams, and turn the vision of Agenda 2063 into a reality.

As we prepare to witness the unfolding and unveiling of the Great African Art Banner across the continent, we are reminded that dreams are the seeds from which greatness grows. This ambitious endeavor is not only a canvas of dreams but also a testament to the idea that Africa's tomorrow will be shaped by the visions of today. It is a beacon of hope and a symbol of unity, an expression of the Africa We Want, created by the very people who dare to dream it into existence. These visions will be woven into 1km national banners, contributing to the total 56km of art that will truly represent the dreams and aspirations of Africa.

The Great African Art Banner is a monumental journey, an evolving story of creativity, unity, and the boundless spirit of the African people. It is a testament to the power of dreams and the potential of collective action. As we stand on the cusp of witnessing this colossal canvas come to life, we can't help but feel the heartbeat of a continent, echoing with the dreams and aspirations of millions. It is a canvas of hope, a canvas of Africa, and a canvas of the future, ready to inspire generations to come.



AFRICA CELEBRATES: Unleashing Arts, Culture & Business



By **Mr. Lexy Mojo-Eyes**
President
Legendary Gold Limited

The AU Plan of Action (PoA) on Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) of 2023 is a guide towards the development and strengthening of the African CCIs in order to facilitate delivery of wider social and economic impact. Some of the objective of the PoA-CCIs is to facilitate the emergence and growth of CCI businesses within Member States that are globally competitive. It is expected that PoA-CCIs will increase Intra-trade on African goods and services by five percent within the first ten years of the implementation and it is expected that the international trade will grow by ten percent within the same period. Genarally, PoA-CCIs is there to support cultural



ART | CULTURE | HERITAGE | TECH | BUSINESS

heritage, creative arts and businesses, which promote the ideals and values of Pan Africanism and cultural renaissance.

For The Past 10 Years, African Union Commission has been collaborating with the Legendary Gold Limited to organize a forum for creative people to showcase their creativities in line with PoA-CCIs. The event, started as Africa Fashion Reception (AFR) has transformed many people's lives in the continent and beyond. In 2021 the AFR was rebranded to Africa Celebrates, to provide a wider avenue for many individuals in the creative sectors to collaborate to showcase their products, skills and knowledge. To date, Africa Celebrates is one of the well-known Pan African events.

The Charter for African Cultural Renaissance (2006) is aware of the fact that "people have the inalienable right to organize their cultural life in full harmony with their political, economic, social, philosophical and spiritual ideas". Africa Celebrates is aimed at celebrating Africa's unity in diversity, fostering integration through Africa's rich cultural heritage which can be explored as a catalyst for our social economic growth. The event is there to promote intra and inter African trade and tourism and encourage Africans and the rest of world to patronize 'Made in Africa' by eating food, wearing clothes, appreciating music, dance, films, arts, crafts and heritage from Africa.

The event has covered many themes, and for the 2023 the theme revolved around "Achieving African Integration Through Art, Culture, Heritage, Tech & Business Leveraging on AfCFTA Implementation" Africa Celebrates is known for showcasing Africa's rich and diversified cultural heritage in the form of music, dance, cuisine, fashion, art, heritage, films and tourism

opportunities from across Africa while exhibiting products made from African Member States under the 'Made in Africa Exhibition'.

Africa Celebrates has for years provide a platform for the fashion entrepreneurs from all over Africa to discuss business of fashion and all its value chain targeting 'Made in Africa'. This is also a place for business people and investors from around the world to meet with their African counterparts to discuss on how to accelerate trade and investment activities for both the public and private sector's actors on the continent.

One of the memorable moments of Africa Celebrates is the Gala Fashion & Awards Night. The event provides an opportunity to fashion

designers representing each of the participating Member States to showcase various dress cultures. What is also key to the Africa Celebrates is the mega concert which offers a platform for top African music artists to meet their audience.

Apart from the African Union Commission (AUC), Africa Celebrates is organized in collaboration with other partners such as the Embassy of Nigeria in Ethiopia, Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Africa Tourism Board, Ethiopian Airlines among many others. This collaboration is a signification of the strength of the African continent in promoting its cultures, from Africa to the world.

UNLOCKING AFRICA'S POTENTIAL: CULTURE AS A CATALYST FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH



By **Lucy Ilado**
*Regional Programme Director
Selam*



Africa is a diverse continent, rich in culture, traditions, and creativity. It has produced profound works of literature, music, and art. Yet, culture is not just about identity; it's also a catalyst for economic development. The African Union (AU) recognizes this potential, as evidenced by the AU Plan of Action (PoA) on Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) of 2023. This document signifies African governments' acknowledgment of culture's role in generating income, creating jobs, and preserving heritage.

Culture isn't just a mirror of identity; it's a source of creativity and entrepreneurship waiting to be tapped. The AU's Plan of Action is built around the idea that cultural and economic development

go hand in hand, serving as a reminder to governments that funding the arts is an investment for the generations to come and essential tool to the advancement of the continent's economy.

To fully realise the economic potential of culture, there is a need to advocate for increased public investment. This means supporting artists and cultural entrepreneurs by integrating culture into broader development agendas. The AU's Plan of Action provides a roadmap for such investments, emphasising the importance of partnerships and collaboration. Governments of Africa could actively support local musicians and artists by providing tax incentives for music-related businesses and events. By doing so, they will not only encourage creativity but also generate revenue through increased music festivals and concerts. This not only enhances the cultural landscape but also stimulates economic activity.

Across the continent, governments could also explore public-private partnerships or mediate such opportunities to develop creative hubs and incubators. Private institutions like the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) are leading by example; in 2023, the Pan-African bank signed a partnership agreement with Silverbird Group to build West Africa's largest and most modern educational and film studio complex in Nigeria. The construction of the studios will accelerate the development of talent, enhance content creation, while supporting and encouraging African creatives to use world class technology to increase their remuneration and thrive in their careers.

In collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) Division of Culture and Sports, Selam launched the Connect for Culture Africa (CfCA) project in May 2023. CfCA aims to garner political support and financial backing for culture sectors in several countries and where public investment exists, the goal is to lobby for increased budgets. To start-off, the project is conducting baseline studies that will measure the culture sector's contribution to GDP, providing policymakers with vital data and statistics about the economic value of the sector. This evidence-based approach will strengthen our dialogue with policy makers and other government agencies and also deepen their understanding of the significant impact that culture and creativity have on society, securing the necessary resources required for a flourishing culture sector.

From the vibrant music scenes of Nigeria and Mali to the colourful fashion of Ghana and South

Africa, the continent is a hotbed of creativity. Nurturing creativity and innovation through public investment, education, mentorship, and infrastructure, should be a paramount endeavour for African governments to unlock vast potential for economic growth and opportunities for creatives. To maximise these opportunities, governments can take several grounded steps, drawing inspiration from successful initiatives in various African countries.

One effective strategy is to invest in education and skills development. Several countries have made significant strides in this regard. Through providing access to digital resources for its youth, fostering a tech-savvy generation. Supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education and vocational training equips young Africans with the skills needed to drive innovation across various sectors including culture.

Furthermore, governments can create conducive environments for start-ups and entrepreneurs in the culture sector. Start-ups are making significant strides in various cultural domains, including arts, music, fashion, film, and heritage preservation. Promoting collaboration between academia, industry, and government is another critical approach. Government collaborates with cultural institutions and universities are important ingredients to promote the film industries in the continent. Universities provide academic expertise and research support to enhance the quality of African film. Meanwhile, industry players benefit from government incentives and access to skilled graduates, resulting in the growth and international recognition of African films.

While the potential of the cultural sector as an economic driver is diverse, it faces challenges: inadequate infrastructure, copyright issues, limited global market access, gender and regional disparities, and the need for cultural education integration. Commitment and strategic initiatives can overcome these barriers. The Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace in Africa – Luanda Biennale is an opportunity to address these challenges. There is a need to consider the role of culture in shaping the future of the continent, and time is now.



COMMON AFRICAN FILM MARKET AS AN INTEGRATION TOOL



By **Terry Jerry A'wase**
Executive Secretary
African Film Institute (AFI)

The African film industries is growing exponentially. Many countries are now coming up with their unique productions and their film industries. From biggest film industries like Nigeria to biggest African language-based film Kiswahili film industry in Tanzania, the world is now invited to listen to African stories. Understanding the need for the consolidated firm efforts in Africa, the African Union commission (AUC) has established the African Audio-Visual and Cinema Commission (AACC) as a Specialized Agency. which its temporary secretariat is hosted by the Republic of Kenya.

The functions of the AACC include facilitation of the establishment and exchange of information relating to African audiovisual and cinematographic expressions. Moreover, another function of the AACC is to encourage Member States to capture and store social and economic



data on film and audiovisual industry showing jobs created, capital formation, and contribution to sustainable and inclusive economic growth. Hence by implementing its functions, the AACC will be able to provide accurate data on the sector which will strengthen the contribution of the sector in the national economies.

Aspiration 5 of the AU Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want envisions “An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics”. Audiovisual and cinematic expressions contribute to the economic, social and cultural development of peoples. The role that audiovisual and cinematic expressions play in the African integration process as a factor of peace, understanding and conflict prevention as well as socio-economic growth is of significance importance.

Since the African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission (AACC) statute is in place, it is of significant importance to popularize and promote such instrument to benefit the majority of the continent, that is, the women and youth of Africa. The promotion of the AACC Statute will be also a platform to continuously celebrate ‘the Africa We Want’. It is from the same vein that that the Division of Culture and Sport of the African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the African Film Institute (AFI) are now focusing on enhancing the value of African film industries through common markets.

In the meeting which was held in the margins of the 36th AU Summit in February 2023 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with film partitioners, it was noted that, there was a great need to build a Common African Film Market (CAFM) based on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Using the African film models, which are still evolving especially in Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Ivory Coast and others there was a need to see how to grow these markets, and also to create new markets in the other Member States.

It is time now to use the African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission (AACC) and Revised AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries to reach out to film distributors, exhibitors and consultants in Africa and in the diaspora and have conversations on how to develop a stronger and common market and distribution channels for film productions from Africa in Africa and beyond. By establishing a Common African Film Market (CAFM) it will support the continuous efforts to forge stronger ties and integration of the African continent and its cultures.

The Common African Film Market (CAFM), if successful, it will provide the continent with a database of film practitioners from various film value chain i.e., from pre-production, production to distribution. The CAFM will be a platform to link various sectors within film value chain and support them in terms of knowledge and skills. It is through a common film market that the evolving technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) will be harnessed to yield maximum potential to the African film industries. Moreover, the movement and logistics for film practitioners across the continent will be simplified through AfCFTA movement protocols. Hence the potential and the value of the African film industries will be showcased globally and impact the world.



PRESENTATION OF THE THIRD EDITION OF THE BIENNALE OF LUANDA 2023



What is the Biennale of Luanda?

Organized in partnership between UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Science and Cultural Organization), the African Union and the Angolan government, the Biennale of Luanda - “Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace” aims to promote the prevention of violence and conflict resolution, by encouraging cultural exchanges in Africa and dialogue between generations.

Since 2019, the Biennale has provided a unique space for reflection and dissemination of cultural values, the exchange of ideas and strategies to promote a culture of peace and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

The Biennale brings together heads of state, governments, young leaders, international organizations, financial institutions, the private sector, civil society, scientific communities, artistic, and sports communities to reflect, disseminate ideas and inspire emblematic and sustainable individual and collective actions for peace in Africa and the world.

The Forum reinforces the implementation of Goals 16 and 17 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 7 Aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063, in particular “Silencing the Guns by 2020” initiative, which has been extended to 2030.

Objectives of the Biennale

The main objective of the Biennale of Luanda is to promote a peaceful and prosperous Africa by advocating and encouraging actions to foster a global cooperation platform towards conflict prevention strategies and to build peace and sustainable development in Africa.

Specific Objectives

- Prevention of conflicts related to the management of national and transboundary natural resources on the African continent;
- Empower a new generation of young Africans to become catalysts for peace, stability and development;
- Harness the power of creativity and (diversity) of cultural heritage to build lasting peace on the African continent;
- Preventing violence and resolving defense conflicts through culture and education;
- Preventing conflicts over natural resources;
- Leave no one behind - refugees, returnees and displaced persons - pursuing lasting solutions to forced displacement in Africa;
- Reflect on the African presence in the world;
- Encourage free, independent and pluralistic media landscape to promote peace and development in Africa.

The Biennale 2023

The Biennale of Luanda will take place on 22, 23 and 24 November in Luanda, Angola.

The theme of the third edition, “Education, culture of peace and African citizenship as tools for the sustainable development of the continent” will focus on the vital role of education and the pivotal role of youth as stewards of the future.

Panelists will share their perspectives on the priority actions that need to be taken today to contribute to the sustainable development of the continent and for a culture of peace in Africa.

PRESENTATION OF THE THEMES OF THE FORUM

The main theme of the third edition of the Biennale of Luanda is “Education, Culture of Peace and African Citizenship as Tools for the Continent’s Sustainable Development”.

This edition will be structured around 6 thematic forums:

I - Young people, actors in the promotion of a culture of peace and social transformations of the Continent

Following in the steps of the United Nations Security Council, the African Union Peace and Security Council, at its 807th meeting on “Youth, Peace and Security”, held on November 8, 2018, in Egypt, called on “all Member States to urgently implement Resolution 2250, remove all structural barriers to effective youth participation, mobilize the necessary resources and develop long-term national action plans for the effective involvement and participation of young people in the promotion of peace and security, as well as in national development processes.” Is this appeal sufficient and has it been implemented? If not, what can be expected in terms of initiatives and decisions from all member states to speed up the implementation of resolutions 2250 and 2419?

It is within this framework that the panel will address sub-themes such as young people’s employability, social and solidarity-based entrepreneurship; young people’s participation in a green and blue economy resilient to climate change; the role of young people in research, social, digital and technological innovation; young people’s commitment to promoting human rights and good governance based on the African shared values instruments; youth civic engagement and global citizenship.

II - Technology and Education as tools for achieving Gender Equality

While the international community unanimously recognizes the transformative power of education to bring about a more just, prosperous, and inclusive world, inequalities in education remain a major challenge, most often to the detriment of girls and women. Girls and women are particularly under-represented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and, as a result, in related careers. This disparity between girls and boys is even more alarming given that STEM careers are often seen as the jobs of the future, driving innovation, social well-being, inclusive growth and sustainable development.

This panel aims to address the urgent needs for promoting gender equality within education systems, thereby ensuring equitable opportunities for girls and women and advancing toward a more inclusive global community. Additionally, this panel will offer a chance to harness the potential of technology and connectivity in promoting inclusivity in education, particularly for marginalized populations.

III - The Role of Women in Peace, Security and Development Processes

The idea to launch the Pan-African Women’s Network for the Culture of Peace in Africa & the Diaspora stems from one of the recommendations of the first edition of the Biennale of Luanda. The purpose of the network is to create synergies and enhance cooperation between different stakeholders connected to women’s organizations and to recognize, encourage and support the role of African women in the process of promoting and building peace and a culture of peace.

This panel discussion will cover topics such as representativeness at all levels of decision-making in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution; financial and technical support for development initiatives taken by local women’s groups and involving women in all mechanisms for implementing peace agreements; protection and respect of the fundamental rights of women and girls.

IV - The Process of Transforming Education Systems (TES): Innovative Financing Practices in the African Context

In September 2022, the Secretary-General of the United Nations convened a high-level summit at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, with the aim of exploring effective approaches to transforming education. The idea for the Transforming Education Summit stemmed from a clear premise: the world’s education system is failing to provide quality lifelong learning for all, and to meet alarming challenges such as global warming, biodiversity loss, the accelerating digital revolution, growing inequalities, democratic backsliding, devastating pandemics, insecurity, injustice.

This panel aims to address ways in which education can be transformed by applying the promises stemming from the summit into the African context. Specifically, the panel will highlight the need for a new social contract for education, address the education funding gap, the need to upskill learners and the question of digital learning and divide.

V - The challenges and opportunities of the integration of the african continent and the prospects for economic growth

VI - Climate change: ethical challenges, impact, adaptation and vulnerability

Climate change is at the root of the substantial global changes observed over the past 65 years. It represents a complex intergovernmental challenge, influencing various components of ecological, environmental, socio-political and socio-economic disciplines. This panel aims to address the various challenges linked with climate change, propose solutions and share best practices.

The debate will cover topics such as the ethical challenges of climate change and associated alternative solutions; the contribution of biosphere reserves to understanding and adapting to climate change; improving water security to mitigate community vulnerability to climate change; incorporating traditional and indigenous knowledge in the fight against climate change.

PHOTOS



PROGRAMME

BIENNALE OF LUANDA – 3rd EDITION

GMT +1

1st Day - November 22, 2023

OPENING CEREMONY - INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL

- 08h00 - 09h00** Arrival of Guests and Registration - Coffee Break
- 09h00 - 09h30** Entrance of Guests to the Opening Session Room
- 09h30 - 09h35** Anthem of the Republic of Angola and Anthem of the African Union
- 19h45 - 10h30** **MASTERS OF CEREMONY**
1. Mrs. Amélia Borja
 2. Mr. Bismarke José
- OPENING REMARKS**
- H.E. Mrs. Dalva Ringote Allen - Minister of State for Social Affairs of the Republic of Angola;
 - H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat - President of the African Union Commission;
 - Mr. Xing Qu - Deputy Director-General of UNESCO.
- 10h35 - 10h45** **CULTURAL MOMENT**
- OPENING SPEECH**
- 10h50 - 11h00** • H. E. Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço - President of the Republic of Angola.

11h00 - 12h30 **PANEL I - YOUNG PEOPLE, ACTORS IN THE PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF PEACE AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE CONTINENT - HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE**

MODERATORS

- H.E. Mrs. Minata Samate Cessoma - African Union Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development;
- Mr. Cabingano Manuel - Director of Information at Televisão Pública de Angola (TPA).

PANELISTS

- H.E. Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço - President of the Republic of Angola;
- H.E. Mr. Azali Assoumani - President of the Union of the Comoros, and Chairperson of the African Union;
- Heads of State and Government;
- H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission;
- H.E. Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo - African Union Counsellor;
- H.E. Mr. Kgalema Motlanthe - African Union Counsellor;
- H.E. Mr. Joaquim Chissano - African Union Counsellor;
- H.E. Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta - African Union Counsellor;
- H.E. Mr. Joyce Banda - African Union Counsellor;
- Selected Young people.

FAMILY PHOTO OF PRESIDENTS AND GUESTS

- 12h30 - 13h 45** Lunch
Art Exhibition
- 13h50 - 14h15** Entrance to the Hall - Musical Performance

PROGRAMME

BIENNALE OF LUANDA – 3rd EDITION

14h30 - 15h30

PANEL II - TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION AS TOOLS FOR ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY

MODERATOR

- H.E. Mrs. Minata Samate Cessoma - African Union Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development.

SPEAKERS

- H.E. Mr. Mário Augusto da Silva Oliveira - Minister of Telecommunications, Information Technology and Social Communication;
- S. Mrs. Regan Durkin - Director of Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light (HWPL);
- H.E. Ms. Antonia Ngabala Sodonon, UN Women Representative in Cote d'Ivoire;
- Mr. Vincent Tucker, President of The William Tucker 1624 Society.

Q&A Session

Coffee Break

End of Day 1

GMT +1

2nd Day - November 23, 2023

08h00 - 09h00

Arrival of Guests and Registration

09h00 - 09h30

Entrance of Guests to the conference room

09h30 - 11h00

PANEL III - THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN PEACE, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

MODERATORS

- Hon. Monica Mutsvangwa - Minister of Gender Affairs, Communities, Small and Medium Enterprise Development of the Republic of Zimbabwe;
- Dr. Rosa Cruz e Silva - Historian and Lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Agostinho Neto University.

SPEAKERS

- H.E. Ms. Bineta Diop - Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace and Security;
- H.E. Mrs. Lindiwe Sisulu - Heroine of the HERStory Regional Conference, daughter of liberation fighters and former Minister of Defense of South Africa;
- H.E. Mrs. Suzi Carla Barbosa - Advisor to the President of Guinea-Bissau;
- H.E. Mrs. Luzia Inglês Van-Dúnem - Heroine of the HERStory Regional Conference, retired General of the Angolan Armed Forces, Specialist in Military Telecommunications and Regional Secretary of the Pan-African Women's Organization for Southern Africa;
- Dr. Kwabena Opuni-Frimpong, Reverend, Professor of African Christianity.

Q&A Session

10h30 - 11h00

Coffee Break

11h00 - 12h30 **PANEL IV - THE PROCESS OF TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SYSTEMS:
INNOVATIVE FINANCING PRACTICES IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT**

MODERATORS

- **Mr. Xing Qu**, Deputy Director-General of UNESCO;
- **Dr. José Octávio Serra Van-Dúnem** - Professor at the Faculty of Law of the Agostinho Neto University and Representative of the Scientific Committee of the Biennale of Luanda.

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mrs. Maria do Rosário Bragança** - Minister of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation of the Republic of Angola;
- **H.E. Mr. Amb. Claver Gatete**, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA);
- **H.E. Prof. Mohamed Belhocine** - Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, African Union Commission (AUC);
- **H.E. Sheikh Manssour Bin Mussallam** - Secretary General of the Southern Cooperation Organization (OSC).

Q&A Session

12h30 - 13h30 Lunch
Art Exhibition

13h30 - 13h50 Entrance to the Hall - Musical Performance

13h50 - 14h00 Presentation of panelists

14h00 - 15h30 **PANEL V - THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF THE INTEGRATION OF
THE AFRICAN CONTINENT AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH**

MODERATOR

- **Dr. Afonso Zinga** - Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics, Agostinho Neto University (FECUAN).

SPEAKERS

- **H.E. Mr. Benedict Okey Oramah** - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank);
- **H.E. Amb. Albert Muchanga** - African Union Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals (ETTİM);
- **H.E. Mr. Ricardo d'Abreu** - Minister of Transport of the Republic of Angola;
- **H.E. Mrs. Ayanda Dlodlo** - Executive Director of the World Bank Group for Angola, Nigeria and South Africa
- **H.E. Mr. Armando Manuel**, Member of the Economic Council;
- **Ms. Carine Kiala**, Governance Policy Specialist at the Tony Blair Institute.

Q&A Session

15h00 - 15h45 Coffee Break

PROGRAMME

BIENNALE OF LUANDA – 3rd EDITION

16h00 - 17h30 **PANEL VI - CLIMATE CHANGE ETHICAL CHALLENGES, IMPACTS, ADAPTATION AND VULNERABILITY**

MODERATOR

- Dr. Gabriel Luís Miguel - PhD & Specialist in Climate Change.

SPEAKERS

- M.E. Mr. João Baptista Borges - Minister of Energy and Water of the Republic of Angola;
- H.E. Mr. Diamantino Pedro de Azevedo - Minister of Mining Resources Petroleum and Gaz of the Republic of Angola;
- H.E. Amb. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko - African Union Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment;
- H.E. Ms. Hajara Haman - Programmes and Projects Coordinator, Indigenous African Women's Organization Central Africa Network, Cameroon.

Q&A Session

18h00 FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ (African Union, Republic of Angola and UNESCO)

Day 0 - November 21, 2023

10h00 - 16h00 PARALLEL ACTIVITY: CONFERENCE

LOCATION: EPIC SANA HOTEL

- Motto: "The Rescue of Moral, Civic and Religious Values in Angola";
- **SPEAKERS:** Angolan and foreign pastors and priests;
- **ORGANIZATION:** Council of Christian Churches of Angola (CICA).

2nd Day - November 23, 2023

08h30 - 12h30 PARALLEL ACTIVITY: CONFERENCE

LOCATION: EPIC SANA HOTEL

- **THEME:** "Financial Collaboration in a Fragmented World - Discover the Perfect Pitch";
- **SPEAKER:** H.E. Mr. Benedict Okey Oramah - Chairman of the Board of Directors of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank);
- **PARTICIPANTS - ROUNDTABLE:** Chairmen of the Boards of Directors of Angolan Commercial Banks and Representatives of International Financial Institutions;
- **ORGANIZATION:** Angolan Banking Association (ABANC).

3rd Day - November 24, 2023

09h00 - 12h00 VISITS TO HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

- Agostinho Neto Memorial - Luanda;
- Iron Palace - Luanda - Luanda;
- National Museum of Military History;
- Mint Museum - Luanda;
- National Museum of Anthropology - Luanda.

INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE



The third edition of the Biennale of Luanda emphasizes Intergenerational Dialogue, bringing together Heads of State, African Union representatives, UNESCO officials, and young leaders. Under the theme “Youth, Actors in the Promotion of a Culture of Peace and the Social Transformation of the Continent,” the Biennale will host discussions on vital issues facing Africa.

The dialogue will focus on themes such as promoting peace through civic engagement, advocating for human rights and good governance, transparent resource management, sports for social cohesion, and youth employability. The Biennale serves as a testament to the power of unity and dialogue, shaping the future of Africa through the potential of its youth.

Selected from a myriad of backgrounds, age groups, and regions across Africa and the African Diaspora, 18 participants, chosen based on their expertise in the proposed themes, training, and experience-sharing sessions facilitated by UNESCO and the African Union, will not only engage in the dialogue but also contribute to various thematic forums within the Biennale’s

program. To ensure inclusiveness, diversity and gender balance, these young people were chosen from all African Union countries and the Diaspora with 50% of them being young women and 50% young men.

The proposed themes for the Intergenerational Dialogue paint a compelling picture of the discussions to unfold. In one of the panels the focus will be on youth as promoters of a culture of peace. This session will delve into enhancing youth roles in promoting peace through civic engagement, advocating for human rights and good governance based on African shared values, transparent management of resources, and harnessing the power of sports for social cohesion and development.

Another panel will spotlight youth as actors in the social transformation of the continent. In this equally engaging session, participants will explore avenues for enhancing youth employability and promoting social and solidarity-based entrepreneurship. The discussions will also emphasize youth participation in the development of cultural and creative industries, championing green and blue economies resilient to climate change, and facilitating young people’s access to innovative skills and development finance.

In these shared conversations and collaborative endeavors, the future of Africa is not just imagined; it is actively shaped by the resilient spirit and boundless potential of its youth. At the end of the event, the Biennale of Luanda will be a witness to the power of unity, dialogue, and the unwavering belief in the transformative capacity of the African youth.









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