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**REPORT OF THE 1ST MEETING OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS, ADDIS ABABA,
ETHIOPIA, 27 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2014**

**REPORT OF THE 1ST MEETING OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA,
27 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2014**

INTRODUCTION

1. The 1st African Union Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 31st October to 1st November 2014, following the meeting of Experts held from 27th to 30th October. The theme of the conference was 'Building the Interface between Youth, Culture and Sport'.

2. The meeting explored initiatives of harnessing the power of sport and culture and maximizing the cross-cutting nature of sport and culture and identify strategies to encourage multi-sector approaches as the best strategy to promote interplay between sport, culture and youth development. The meeting further called for the broadening of discussions on Youth development beyond Culture and Sport into all social political and economic sectors

3. The main objectives of the Conference were the following:

- i) Consider the draft rules of procedure of the STC-YCS and recommend them for approval by the Executive Council;
- ii) Engage on a dialogue on the overall theme of the Specialized Technical Committee to explore synergies among the three sectors;
- iii) Sensitize the experts and ministers on the pillars and goals for the Post 2015 Development Agenda and the contribution of Youth, Culture and Sports in the development process;
- iv) Sensitize the experts and ministers on the AU Agenda 2063 and the expected commitment and actions to guarantee their respective ownership and responsiveness;;
- v) Consider the report of implementation of the recommendations the fourth session of the Conference of Ministers for Youth development and empowerment;
- vi) Discuss the dissemination and implementation of the revised plan of action of youth Decade;
- vii) Achievements, opportunities and challenges towards the acceleration of the implementation of the Youth Development agenda in Africa;
- viii) Discuss the dissemination and implementation of the Continental TVET Strategy;
- ix) Consider the AU-YVC Report and Discuss recommendations for promoting Youth Volunteerism at National, Regional and Continental levels;

- x) Launch yearlong celebration of Africa Youth Day around the theme of "Delivering the Full Potential of Young Women'."
- xi) Review the status of ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance and ways of accelerating the process;
- xii) Consider the Report of the Inventory of all cooperation Activities between Africa and European Union with regards to cultural goods and discussion of next steps in the process;
- xiii) Consider the following Reports: African Academy of Languages (ACALAN); the CELHTO; the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA) and African World Heritage Fund (AWHF);
- xiv) Consider and adopt key recommendations with a view to promote African culture and enhance its role in attaining sustainable socio-economic development in Africa;
- xv) Consider the Report on implementation of the Recommendations of the Fifth Session of the Conference of AU Ministers of Sport on the implementation of the Architecture for Sport in Africa, transfer of SCSA functions and assets to the AU Commission and transition mechanism and operationalization of the new AU Sport Council and re-organization of the Sport Development Regions;
- xvi) Consider the Report on the preparations for the 2015 African Games in Congo;
- xvii) Consider candidates to host the 2019 African Games.

4. The Conference was held at Experts and Ministerial levels and was attended by Ministers and Experts from AU Member States, as well as by Representatives from UN Agencies, Civil Society Organizations, and other International and Regional Organizations dealing with Youth, Culture and Sports.

5. The main outcomes of the Conference were the following:

- i) The meeting called upon Member states to ensure ownership and popularization of the Common Africa Position on Post 2015 Development Agenda and Agenda 2063 in all STC programs and activities;
- ii) In accordance with the relevant previous Decisions of the Executive Council, (EX.CL/Dec.745 (XXII)) on the ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, urged Member States who have not done so, to accelerate the process of ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance;
- iii) The meeting endorsed the report and recommendations of the Inventory of all Cooperation Activities between Africa and European Union with regards to Cultural Goods and called upon Member States in collaboration with

UNESCO and Pan-African Cultural Institutions to work closely with the AUC in the implementation of the recommendations to combat illicit trafficking in cultural goods;

- iv) Further to the implementation of the decisions of the Executive Council decision (EX.CL/Dec. 680/ (XX) urging Member States to pay arrears owed to the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, the meeting reaffirmed that participation at the 2015 African Games is contingent on payment of the subscription arrears owed to the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa;
- v) The meeting also took note of the progress made in the preparations for the 11th African Games in 2015 in Brazzaville and congratulated the Republic of Congo for the facilities being put in place to ensure the successful hosting of the Games;
- vi) The meeting also took note of the expressions of interest to host the 2019 African Games by Burkina Faso, Angola, Egypt, Gabon and Senegal and invited all interested Member States to submit their bid-files to the AUC by 31st January 2015.

6. The Report of the Ministerial Meeting is being submitted for endorsement by the Executive Council.

EX.CL/876(XXVI)
Annex

REPORT OF THE MEETING

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**FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
AFRICAN UNION SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT
27TH OCTOBER – 1ST November 2014
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

STC/YCS/MIN/1 (1) En

THEME: “Building the Interface between Youth, Culture and Sport “

FINAL REPORT OF THE MINISTERS’ MEETING

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministers' Meeting of the 1st African Union Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 31st October to 1st November 2014, following the meeting of Experts held from 27th to 30th October. The theme of the conference was 'Building the Interface between Youth, Culture and Sport'.

II. ATTENDANCE

2. The following 39 Member States, (including xx Ministers), were represented: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Republic, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The Regional Economic Communities were represented through COMESA??,

4. The representatives of the following organizations also attended the meeting: the Pan African Youth Union (PYU), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations for Volunteers Programme (UNV),

III. OPENING

5. H.E Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko, Commissioner of Social Affairs welcomed the Ministers to the historic 1st Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth Culture and Sport. He highlighted the cross-cutting nature of sport and culture and emphasized the need to engage and encourage multi-sector approaches as the best strategy to maximize interplay between sport, culture and youth development.

6. H.E Mr. Mulugeta Seid, Minister of Culture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia welcomed the Ministers to the Meeting. In his welcoming remarks he stressed the importance of culture and African Cultural renaissance for the integration of the continent.

IV. REMARKS BY OUTGOING BUREAU CHAIRPERSONS OF AU CONFERENCES OF MINISTERS OF YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT

a) Outgoing Chair: Conference of Ministers in Charge of Youth (COMY)

7. H.E. Anatole Collinet Makosso, Minister of Youth and Civic Education, Republic of Congo the outgoing Chair of the Bureau of the 4th Conference of Ministers in Charge of Youth presented an overall outlook on youth development in Africa over the past two years of his tenure. Of particular significance was the participation of youth in shaping continental and global policy including the Africa's Common Position on Post 2015 and Agenda 2063.

8. He emphasized that more needs to be done to empower youth of the continent. Youth unemployment, access to youth friendly health services, access to quality education and youth civic participation remain priorities requiring urgent attention. Ratification and implementation of the African Youth Charter creates a realistic opportunity for the empowerment of youth. Moreover he stressed on the need to strengthen the Pan African Youth Union to enable them fulfill their role representing youth of the continent.

b) Outgoing Chair: Conference of Ministers in Charge of Culture

9. In his remarks the Minister of Culture of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr. Mulugeta Seid) representing the outgoing Chairperson of the 4th Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Culture (CAMC4) H.E Banza Mukalay Nsungu, (outlined the activities of the Bureau of CAMC4 and he reiterated the need for all Member states to ratify the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance. He further made reference to the Minister of Culture of Algeria who said that Culture is the only resource that no market can ever devalue.

c) Outgoing Chair: Conference of Ministers in Charge of Sport

10. The Minister of Sports and Entertainment of Cote d'Ivoire, the outgoing Chairperson of the 5th session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Sport (CAMS5) H.E Alain Labognon mentioned that the STC will facilitate better coordination of the implementation of Continental policies on Youth , Culture and Sports. He also emphasized the need for the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on Anti-doping.

V. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

11. The Meeting was officially declared open by H.E Dr. Martial de Paul Ikoungou, Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology who also facilitated the meeting for the election of the Bureau.

a) Election of the Bureau

12. The Ministerial meeting adopted the Bureau of the 1st Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sports:

Chairperson	Central Region	Rep of Congo	Minister for Youth
1st Vice-Chairperson	Eastern Region	Ethiopia	Minister for Culture
2nd Vice-Chairperson	Northern Region	Mauritania	Minister for Sport
3rd Vice-Chairperson	Southern Region	Namibia	Minister for Youth
Rapporteur	Western Region	Nigeria	Minister for Culture

b) Adoption of the Agenda and Programme of Work

13. The agenda and programme of work were adopted without amendment.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE STC –YCS1

14. The Meeting considered and adopted the revised Rules of Procedure of the STC-YCS1 without amendment for consideration by the Assembly.

VII. HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS

15. H.E the Commissioner of Social Affairs introduced the high level policy dialogue on Youth, Culture and Sports and highlighted the broad appeal of sport and culture to young people making youth the appropriate target in pursuit of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa through the values of our culture and discipline of sport within youth. He acknowledged that well designed sport and culture initiatives could make a contribution to major issues relating to young people. Similarly, Sport and Culture for development initiatives can help build social capital via integrated partnerships, and if used efficiently and holistically by local authorities, academic institutions and youth organizations, can be a significant tool in tackling development issues relevant to young people.

16. H.E Mr Jean Claude Ngakosso Minister of Culture of the Republic of Congo, also urged fellow Ministers to expedite the ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance to promote African Heritage and Values. He further mentioned that the Charter is the road map for development since without culture there is no growth.

17. H.E Alain Labognon, Minister of Sport of Cote d'Ivoire called for the need to review Sport Policies in Africa in order to integrate the needs of the youth He noted further that there is a need to protect young people in sport and also put in place strategies for capacity building of administrators, coaches and technical officials

18. In the ensuring discussions, the following recommendations were made:

- a) Strengthen financial commitments to enhance African sport and talent spotting early on in life;
- b) Adequate policy and infrastructure are needed for youth to harness, express and realize their talent;
- c) Broaden discussions on youth development beyond Culture and Sport into all social, political and economic sectors;
- d) Mainstream sports into formal higher education;
- e) Develop mechanisms to support and protect intellectual rights of young artists;
- f) Adopt future STC themes based on the articles of the African Youth Charter, the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance and the Sport Policy Framework;
- g) Adopt innovative ways of mobilizing public and private resources for funding youth, culture and sports programs;

- h) Promote the sharing of experiences and best practices among Member States on issues related to youth, culture and sport;
- i) The Pan African Youth Union (PYU) and National Youth Councils to be engaged in National, Sub-Regional and Continental programs on Culture and Sport;
- j) Promote Youth Volunteerism and other forms of Civic Participation through National youth councils and other relevant frameworks at national and regional level;.
- k) Accelerate the adoption of the statutes of the Pan African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO) to protect the cultural productions of the African youth.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS WITHIN AGENDA 2063 AND COMMON AFRICAN POSITION ON POST 2015 AGENDA

19. The Representative of the Commission made a presentation on Agenda 2063 and emphasized the need for Member States to ensure ownership and popularize Agenda 2063 in all STC programs and activities. The presenter congratulated the Ministers for having operationalized the STC-YCS as the Organ that will become the driving agent of Agenda 2063. He concluded by mentioning that the Commission is developing the first 10 year implementation plan of the Agenda and this was the right time for the STC-YCS to brainstorm on its role in the implementation of the Agenda 2063.

20. The Chairperson of the Bureau of the STC-YCS1 highlighted the six pillars of the Common African Position (CAP) and emphasized that the implementation of the CAP places African People at its core.

21. H.E. Dr. Martial de Paul Ikounga, Commissioner HRST, highlighted the link between the Common African Position (CAP) on the post 2015 agenda and youth empowerment. He emphasized the fact that harnessing the dividends of Africa's demographic potential is a long term target that could only be achieved if Africa's demographic advantage becomes the driving force behind Africa's social, economic and political transformation as outlined in the CAP.

IX. CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS MEETING

22. The Meeting considered and adopted the recommendations in the Experts' Report except the recommendations contained in Paragraph 42 regarding the consideration of the bids to host the 2019 African Games.

X. PRESENTATION ON THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE 2015 AFRICAN GAMES

23. H.E Alfred –Leon Opimbat Minister of Sport and Physical Education of the Republic of Congo and COJA Brazzaville President made a presentation on the state of preparedness for the 11th African Games scheduled to take place in 2015. The

meeting took note of the report and progress achieved and congratulated COJA Brazzaville for its sterling effort towards successful hosting of the Games.

24. Member States extended their full support to the Government and People of the Republic of Congo in organizing this event and offered technical as well as human resources in the form of Volunteers.

25. Member States also congratulated the Saharawi Arab Republic's debut participation during the 11th African Games in Congo and extended their support.

26. The Meeting noted the availability of the African Union Volunteer Corps and also the offer by Cameroon to train youth volunteers to support COJA during the 2015 African Games.

27. The Commission has made several attempts to engage ANOCA but ANOCA has declined. However the Commission is still inviting ANOCA to come forward and sign the MOU.

28. In the ensuing discussions, the following recommendations were made:

- a) Efforts should be strengthened to facilitate the participation of athletes and spectators from across Africa through favorable administrative and visa regimes as well as negotiated fares with airline carriers;
- b) AU Member States participating in the games need to pay their contributions as prescribed in the Executive Council Decision.

XI. CONSIDERATION OF THE BIDS TO HOST THE 2019 AFRICAN GAMES

29. The meeting took note of the expressions of interest to host the 2019 African Games by Burkina Faso..

30. The Meeting further noted that, Angola, Egypt, Gabon and Senegal are also considering hosting the 2019 African Games.

31. The Meeting invited Member States to submit their bid-files for consideration by the African Games Technical Committee by 31st January 2015. The bid results should be announced by 31st May 2015.

XII. DATE AND VENUE FOR 2ND SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

32. The 2nd ordinary session of the STC on Youth, Culture and Sport will held at the African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in October 2016.

33. However, Member States wishing to host the STC Meeting are to submit an official request to host by mid-2015 in accordance of Rule 6 of the AUC on hosting AU meetings.

XIII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Items Proposed by Member States: South Africa**

34. H.E. Rejoice Mabudafhasi, the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, Republic of South Africa presented on the Arts and Culture initiatives undertaken by her country. The Minister informed the Meeting of the upcoming Arts Education in Africa Conference being organized in collaboration with NEPAD to take place in March 2015 in Pretoria as well as the World Library Conference to be held in August 2015 in Cape Town. She called upon Member States to extend their support in organizing these important events in the Arts and Culture sector and extended Invitations to Member States to attend.

b) Items Proposed by Member States: Angola

35. H.E. Rosa da Silva, the Minister of Culture, Republic of Angola, informed the meeting on the preparations of the SADC Games taking place in Benguela, Angola, in December 2016. Furthermore she presented activities and programs undertaken by Angola in the Arts and Culture sector. H.E. also requested support from AU Member States for the candidature of the City of M'banza-Kongo as a world heritage site. The dossier for candidature has been submitted

c) Other Remarks

36. Member States extended their Message of Condolences to the Delegation of Zambia on the passing of their President H.E. Mr. Michael Chilufya Sata.

37. Member States extended their condolences to the Governments, People and Family members who have lost their citizens and loved ones to Ebola;

38. Member States extended their condolences to the delegation of South Africa on the tragic death of three athletes.

XIV. OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE AFRICAN YOUTH DAY

39. The African Youth Day is being celebrated this year under the theme “Delivering on the potential of Young Women”. On the occasion, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana-Dlamini Zuma delivered her annual address to the youth of the continent. She emphasized in particular that just like our founders at their young age envisioned a liberated and free Africa, the youth of today must leave their mark on the history of Africa by delivering on the development and economic transformation of our continent. She urged the youth to actively assume their roles in building a prosperous, integrated and peaceful Africa and work towards Africa’s vision for its future as outlined under Agenda 2063.

40. On his part the president of the Pan African Youth Union urged Member States to fulfill their responsibility in implementing the African Youth Charter and deliver on their part as key actors in youth Development and tackling youth employment. He went on to inform the meeting on the upcoming Congress of the PYU in November 2014 which among others will elect new leadership and adopt its roadmap.

41. H.E. Dr. Nkosazana-Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission congratulated and presented a certificate to Ms Jacqueline Kaija, the winner of the essay competition on the theme of the African Youth Day. The launch of the celebrations of the African Youth Day was concluded with presentation by the

Youth of a one year roadmap of activities to be undertaken in the coming year under the theme of this year's celebrations.

XV. ADOPTION OF MINISTERS' REPORT

42. The Ministers' considered and adopted the report with amendments

XVI. CLOSING SESSION

43. H.E. Dr. Martial de Paul Ikounga, Commissioner HRST, congratulated the first session of the STC on Youth, Culture and Sport for the results achieved and the adoption of the report and recommendations. H.E urged Member States, RECs, and stake holders to join efforts in implementing the outcomes. He explained that the role of the AUC was that of oversight, coordination and follow up.

44. The Chairperson of the first Bureau of the STC on Youth Culture and Sport, H.E. Mr Anatole Collinet Makosso, Minister of Youth and Civic Education of the Republic of Congo thanked all Ministers and heads of delegations for the good achievements and wished Member States courage in implementation of decisions. HE Mr. Makosso expressed his gratitude for the trust that guided the election of his country, the Republic of Congo to chair the STC Bureau on Youth, Culture and Sport and called on all stakeholders' constant support and cooperation with the members of the Bureau to work hard and increase efforts to reach the best outcomes with sustainable impacts for and with the citizens of the Africa. The Chairperson further mentioned that this was the first time that the STC-YCS was meeting and having three sectors working together was not easy. As such he expressed his apologies for any shortcomings that might have happened during the Meeting and deliberations.

45. Members of the STC-YCS1 Bureau agreed to meet in January 2015, in the margins of the AU Summit in order to agree on working modalities and an implementation plan for their two years' mandate.

46. The 1st ordinary Session of the Conference of Specialized Technical Committee of the African Union Ministers in charge of Youth, Culture and Sport closed at 18:30 on 1st November 2014.

2015

Report of the 1st meeting of the specialized technical committee on youth, culture and sports, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 27 October – 1 November 2014

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