



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الافريقية
السكرتارية
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFICAINE**

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

اديس ابابا * Addis Ababa

CM/1055(XXXV) Rev.1.

S T A T U T E
OF
INTER-^AFRICAN CULTURAL FUND
-+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--+--



CM 1055

MICROFICHE

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

I. BACKGROUND

1. At the Thirty-third Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers held in Monrovia, Liberia, from 6 to 20 July 1979, the General Secretariat reported on this subject in its Document CM/997(XXXIII).

2. The object of the Report was to find ways and means of implementing Article 31(b) of the Cultural Charter for Africa which stipulates that African States have agreed to establish an Inter-African Fund "to sustain and promote cultural studies and programmes".

3. At the end of the deliberations on the OAU Secretary-General's Report, the Council of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res.758(XXXIII)Rev.1 which states that the Council :

"Recalling the objectives set out in the Cultural Charter for Africa ;

Desirous of strengthening and promoting Inter-African Cultural Co-operation which is a factor for rapprochement and reciprocal enrichment of African Culture ;

WELCOMES the idea of setting up an Inter-African Cultural Fund to sustain and promote cultural research and programmes;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to study and submit to the next Budget Session of the OAU Council of Ministers, the legal texts governing the establishment and the organization of the Fund."

.../...

AN INTER-AFRICAN CULTURAL FUNDITS AIM

4. It is obvious that although the assertion of cultural identity was the basis for national independence, it has not been able to achieve liberation and cultural initiatives capable of securing a radical solution to the alarming problems, factors of under-development and alienation.

5. The Colloquium organised by the OAU in Monrovia in February 1979 on development prospects in Africa, after analysing the present state of our Continent and fixing some preliminary projections for the future, came to the conclusion that the only possible prospect for the year 2000 is a radical change of course.

The participants highlighted among other things, the fact that the primary development objective can only be the creation of a propitious material and cultural environment for progress and creative participation.

They consequently further recommended that a "readaptation" of African cultural values be encouraged in schools, professional and political circles as well as within the general public. In short, the aim of the new African strategy for development is to assert cultural dignity, effectively translate into our development plans our social projects and culture.

6. Such a move calls for a series of researches, new actions and initiatives from both African States and private bodies. The establishment of an Inter-African Cultural Fund, however modest this may be, will first and foremost be a commitment on the part of our States to promote our culture. This initiative will also fill a vacuum, since nothing of the sort has so far existed in Africa. In fact, in

.../...

most cases, the sustenance and promotion of studies and cultural programmes have been left to private and even foreign initiatives. Our States do not always allocate much funds for such activities because of their limited resources.

7. The Inter-African Cultural Fund will be able, to offer supplementary support to the efforts of our States and private institutions by searching for varied funding sources.

Funds for cultural activities exist the world over : the Asian Fund (Japan), the Latin-American Cultural Fund and especially the International Cultural Fund established by UNESCO in November 1974.

8. In preparing this paper, the OAU General Secretariat has held special discussions with officials in charge of this area at the UNESCO.

9. The Statute we wish to submit hereunder is based on both the texts of the OAU Fund for Technical Co-operation and those of similar institutions.

STATUTE OF THE FUND

We, Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) meeting in the Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from 1 to 4 July 1980,

Recalling the objectives set out in the Cultural Charter for Africa as well as in the Algiers Pan African Cultural Manifesto,

Recalling the conclusions of the Inter-Governmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Africa (Accra, 27 October- 6 November 1975),

.../...

Recalling the conclusions of the OAU Symposium on African Development Prospects for the year 2000 (Monrovia, 12 - 16 February 1979),

Recalling the directives and measures contained in the Declaration of Commitment of the OAU Heads of State and Government (Monrovia, July 1979).

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1 : Establishment of the Fund

An "Inter-African Cultural Fund", hereinafter referred to as "the Fund", shall be set up within the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Article 2 : Objectives

The Fund's resources shall be used in sustaining and promoting cultural studies and programmes in the following areas :

- a) transcription, teaching and development of the use of national languages with a view to making them suitable for dissemination of information as well as for scientific and technological development ;
- b) collection, preservation, use and dissemination of oral traditions ;
- c) adaptation of school curricula to development needs and national and African socio-cultural realities ;
- d) promotion of cultural activities, encouragement of creative artists and assistance for the development of local crafts ;

.../...

- e) protection and encouragement of creative artists and cultural objects ;
- f) the recovery of all valuable works of art in foreign museums outside independent Africa ;
- g) the construction of a museum for African works of art ;
- h) development of continued research and the establishment of research centres in the field of cultural activities ;
- i) modern scientific research into traditional medicine and African pharmacopoeia;
- j) studies into the similarities and differences between cultures of member States and the promotion of joint studies into the bases of these cultures, such as languages, music, anthropology, folklores and other related aspects.

Article 3 : Operations

The operations of the Fund may take the following forms :

- a) intellectual and technical assistance ;
- b) various forms of financial assistance, including investments, loans, subventions, study grants and participation in cultural activities ;
- c) in general all other forms of activities which the Governing Council may deem to be in line with the fundamental objectives and operational policies of the Fund.

.../...

BENEFICIARIES OF THE FUND

- a) African national and regional public organs specifically responsible for cultural promotion and development to which the Fund could provide supplementary intellectual, financial or technical assistance ;
- b) African private organizations whose objectives are in line with those of the Fund and whose operations contribute to the promotion of cultural activities and artistic creation ;
- c) Individuals especially African creative artists seeking assistance from the Fund in these areas;
- d) Private African Bodies and individuals seeking assistance from the Fund should submit beforehand their applications to the Governments of the countries where these bodies are headquartered, in the case of bodies, and, in the case of individuals, to their countries of origin.

Article 4 : Resources.

- 1. The Fund shall derive its resources from :
 - a) Compulsory contributions in cash or kind from OAU Member States ;
 - b) voluntary contributions in cash or kind from Governments, institutions of the United Nations System, public or private, national or international legal institutions, associations or private individuals ;
 - c) interests from the Fund's resources.

.../...

2. The Fund may accept works of art or royalties on copyrights.
3. Contributions from non-African funding sources, as indicated in Article 1(b) and article 2, shall be submitted to the Governing Council of the Fund for approval.
4. The resources of the Fund shall be paid into a special account maintained by the OAU Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of the OAU Financial Rules.
5. Contributions to the Fund and other forms of assistance may be made only for purposes defined by the Governing Council. Contributions meant for certain programmes or specific projects may be accepted, on condition that the implementation of these programmes or projects shall have been approved by the Governing Council. Contributions to the Fund shall be free from any political strings.
6. The administrative expenditure of the Council, the Executive Committee and any subsidiary body and staff expenses, shall be met from the resources of the Fund.

Article 5 : Governing Council

A. Membership

1. The Fund shall be administered by a Governing Council composed of fifteen members appointed by the OAU Secretary-General on the basis of equitable geographical and cultural distribution. Members of the Board shall be appointed in their personal capacities.

.../....

2. Members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed for a four years term, and shall be re-eligible ; but no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

3. In case of death or resignation of a member, he may be replaced by the Secretary-General for the remaining period of his term, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 above.

4. The Secretary-General or the replacement appointed by him, shall participate in all meetings of the Council, the Executive Committee and all the subsidiary bodies established by the Council without a voting right.

5. Individual and legal entities non-members of the Council, who have contributed to the resources of the Fund, may take part in the meetings of the Council, without a voting right.

6. The Council may invite representatives of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to participate in its meetings as observers.

B. Functions

7. The Governing Council shall, according to conditions established by the present statute, enjoy a wide intellectual and functional autonomy within the OAU.

8. The Council shall define the principles governing the activities of the Fund, taking into consideration the overall objectives of the OAU.

.../...

9. In pursuit of the objectives defined in Article 2, the Council shall endeavour to encourage projects involving the implementation of new plans and methods, and measures which shall help promote research and experiments in cultural and communications activities, with particular attention to operations which may produce multiple effects.

10. The Council shall decide on the utilisation of the resources of the Fund.

11. The Council shall take all measures it may deem fit for the preparation and implementation of the Fund's programme.

12. The Director of the Fund shall be appointed in consultation with the Governing Council.

13. The Council may establish subsidiary bodies as it may deem necessary.

14. The Secretary-General may, as and when necessary, refer to the Executive Council, all matters relating to the operations of the Fund. In this case, and if the Secretary-General requests, the Council shall refrain from taking any final action until the matter has been considered by the appropriate body.

C. Procedure

15. The Council shall meet in ordinary session once a year. It may however meet in an extra-ordinary session, if convened by the OAU Secretary-General or at the request of half of its members.

16. The Director of the Fund shall participate in the meetings of the Council, without a voting right and shall head the Council's Secretariat.

17. The Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Article 6 : Executive Committee

1. The Governing Council shall set up an Executive Committee composed of the Chairman of the Council and four members elected therefrom.

2. As a general rule, the Executive Committee shall meet twice a year.

3. The Executive Committee shall carry out duties assigned by the Council.

Article 7 : Director

1. The Director of the Fund shall be appointed by the OAU Secretary-General in consultation with the Governing Council.

2. The Director of the Fund shall formulate proposals on measures to be taken by the Council and ensure the implementation of its decisions.

3. The Director may establish contacts with international, regional or national public or private organs individual or legal entities for the implementation of the Fund's activities.

.../...

4. The Director shall endeavour to encourage voluntary contributions, or all other forms of resources in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.

Article 8 : Staff

1. The Director of the Fund, and the staff seconded to the Fund by the Secretary-General shall be members of the OAU and shall be governed by the provisions of the OAU Staff Rules and Regulations.

2. The Director may recruit other staff members on temporary basis, and in accordance with the appropriate OAU Rules and Regulations for the implementation of specific activities of the Fund.

Article 9 : Reports

The OAU Secretary-General shall submit a report on the activities of the Fund to each ordinary session of the Council of Ministers. The Report shall also be presented to the individual or legal entities contributing to the Fund.

Article 10 : Transitional Provisions

The Secretary-General of the OAU shall take all appropriate preparatory measures for the launching of the Fund and the setting up of the Governing Council. To this end, and until the Fund has adequate resources, the Secretary-General shall meet the necessary expenses from the Funds approved by the OAU Council of Ministers.



AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

1980-06

Statute of Inter-African Cultural Fund

Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

<https://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/10153>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository