



AU ECHO

THE AFRICA WE WANT

Special Issue for the 50th Anniversary of the OAU / AU

1963 - 2013

PANAFRICANISM & AFRICAN RENAISSANCE



21ST AU SUMMIT

19 - 27 May, 2013





FOREWORD

CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION

I wish you
all a blessed
50th anniversary
and an Africa
filled with
prosperity and
peace within
the next
50 years.

The African Union (AU) and its predecessor the Organisation for African Unity (OAU) will reach a historical milestone of celebrating fifty years, on 25 May 2013. The Union will utilize this golden opportunity to reflect on the past and present with the view to shaping a new agenda, to be achieved by 2063. The 50th Anniversary will be commemorated throughout the year under the theme of Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance. The 50th anniversary will take place at the same time as the 21st Ordinary Session of the Summit of the African Union. In this respect, the summit discussion on Pan Africanism will be critical in that it will enable Africa to engage in debates on the Africa wide Agenda 2063 that will chart actions and strategies over the next five decades. All Africans, including those in the Diaspora will be part of this process. Decisions taken will shape the Africa of tomorrow, therefore we must think strategically about where we want to be fifty years from now and how we intend to get there.

Our staff members at the Commission are an important sector towards articulating the road map for Agenda 2063, which should secure a united, prosperous and peaceful Africa. In this magazine, they offer their views, along with embassies of the AU based in Addis Ababa, on the road so far travelled, the present and the future of our beautiful continent.

I wish you all a blessed 50th anniversary and an Africa filled with prosperity and peace within the next 50 years.

Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma (Dr)
Chairperson of the African Union Commission



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Editorial: Our Africa

By Habiba Mejri Scheikh- Director of Information and Communication



Our regular readers during the summits of the African Union will have noticed that this issue of the AU ECHO is bigger than anything we have ever produced. This was occasioned by the exceptional circumstances around the May 2013 summit, i.e. the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity and the African Union.

In March this year, the Directorate of Information and Communication sent out a call to AUC staff members and to embassies of member states of the African Union based in Addis Ababa, for contributions that would in some way, contribute to the narratives around the 50th celebrations and the theme of Pan Africanism. This was informed partly by preceding practices around the summits of the AU, but also by the increased need to create a people centered African Union through effective communication and branding of the Union. Additionally, a strategic workshop on communication and the 50th anniversary celebrations held from 2-4 March added impetus to this call by making a number of critical proposals to ensure effective communication. The submissions arising out of that call are presented in this magazine as a compilation of individual essays.

Some of the writers wrote from personal experiences of their engagement in the different development efforts, while others based their contributions on existing literature and stories passed down through the generations.

It is therefore our hope that the book will give the reader a synopsis of views about the road we have travelled and some of our hopes and aspirations, not from the political leaders' point of view but from ordinary people's viewpoint, albeit members of staff of the Commission and of embassies of the AU based in Addis Ababa. The articles form a fascinating kaleidoscope that will give us reason to rejoice in our successes, while also giving us food for thought and reason to reflect on our challenges as we plan ahead. We hope too, that by reading "both sides of the story" the readers get to clearly appreciate that the road to peace, prosperity and integration is paved with both gold and hardships. Hopefully this will energise us to find our place in that mix: a place from where we can make truly meaningful contributions towards Agenda 2063.

The articles in this magazine represent the personal views of the individual writers. In this respect, the DIC expresses its gratitude to all the contributors from the Commission and from the embassies of African Union member states in Addis Ababa

Enjoy your reading.



The Organisation of African Unity: Its Formation and Work

The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was formed on 25 May 1963, with the signature, by 32 independent African states, of the Charter of the OAU. The following article, taken from an ILO website, highlights the background and work of the OAU, in the first decade of its work.

The OAU charter lists the following purposes for the organisation

- To promote the unity and solidarity of African States;
- To co-ordinate and intensify their cooperation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa;
- To defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and independence;
- To eradicate all forms of colonialism from Africa; and
- To promote international cooperation, having due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

To achieve these goals Member States pledged to harmonize their policies in the following fields.

- Political and diplomatic cooperation;
- Economic cooperation, including transport and communication;
- Educational and cultural cooperation;
- Health, sanitation, and nutritional cooperation;
- Scientific and technical cooperation; and
- Cooperation for defence and security.

The OAU principles were stated in 1963 in Article II of the Charter as follows

- The sovereign equality of all Member States;
- Non- interference in the internal affairs of states;
- Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state and for its inalienable right to independent existence;
- Peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation or arbitration;
- Unreserved condemnation in all its forms, of political assassinations as well as of subversive activities on the part of neighbouring states or any other states;
- Absolute dedication to the total emancipation of the African territories which are still dependent;
- Affirmation of a policy of non-alignment with regard to all blocs.

In terms of its activities, the OAU achieved significant impact in the fields of decolonisation: resolving boundary conflicts; defence of Member States' sovereignty and territorial integrity; the struggle against colonialism and apartheid; promotion of African culture: economic and social development; and protection of refugees.



His Majesty King Idris of Lybia



His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco



His Excellency U. Modibo Keita, President of Mali



His Excellency Maurice Yaméogo, President of Upper Volta



His Excellency Leopold Senghor, President of Senegal



His Excellency Leon M'ba, President of Gabon



His Excellency Hubert Maga, President of Dahomey



His Excellency Hamani Diori, President of Niger



His Excellency Habib Bouguiba, President of Tunisia



His Excellency Ben Bella, President of Algeria



His Excellency Apollo Milton Obote, Prime Minister of Uganda



His Excellency Amadou Ahidjo, President of Cameroon



Hon. Jomo Kenyatta, First Prime Minister of Kenya



Dr. William V.S. Tubman, President of Liberia



Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, President of Ghana



His Majesty Mwambutsa IV, King of Burundi





His Excellency Sylvanus Olympio, President of Togo



His Excellency Seku Toure, President of the Republic of Guinea



His Excellency Philibert Tsiranana, President of Madagascar



His Excellency Julius K. Nyerere, President of Tanganyika



His Excellency Joseph Kasavubu, President of the Congo (Leopoldville)



His Excellency Ibrahim Abboud, President of the Republic of the Sudan



His Excellency Fulbert Youlou, President of the Congo (Brazzaville)



His Excellency Francois Tombalbaye, President of Chad



His Excellency David Dacko, President of Central African Republic



His Excellency Abdirasid Ali Scermach, Prime Minister of the Republic of Somalia



Haile Selassie I, His Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia



General Abdul Nasser, First President of the United Arab Republic of Egypt



Dr. F. Houphouet Boigny, President of Ivory Coast



Aijaji Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, Prime Minister of Nigeria



Sir Milton Margai, M.B.E., The Prime Minister of Sierra Leone



His Excellency Mokhtar Ould Daddah, President of the Republic of Mauritania

Decolonization:

In this field, the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, organized diplomatic support and channeled financial, military and logistical aid to liberation movements.

It commanded a lot of support from world opinion.

At the United Nations, the liberation struggle was recognized as legitimate.

Through an OAU fund, international support was channeled to liberated areas in Guinea Bissau, in Angola and Mozambique.

The OAU initiated action with the International Court of Justice which had declared that South Africa had no right to stay in Namibia.

Consequently, UN action was considered for the International territory of Namibia (former South West Africa) to accede to independence.

Likewise, a UN boycott was enacted against Rhodesia's racist minority regime until majority rule was obtained.

The OAU brought every pressure to bear on Great Britain, which, as a colonial power at the time of Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence (1965), had to live by its constitutional and moral responsibility towards the African majority in Rhodesia.

Boundary conflicts

In the first ten years of its existence, the OAU was confronted with a number of boundary conflicts in North, East and Central Africa.

Thanks to OAU machinery and efforts, these conflicts were settled in the true spirit of African solidarity without outside intervention or interference.

On such occasions, the OAU made a name for itself as peacekeeper number one on the continent. The UN General Assembly paid tribute to the OAU for the role played in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Defence of Member States' sovereignty and territorial integrity Action undertaken by the OAU in this concern will remain one of its greatest achievements ever:

1. In the Congo: where imperialism threatened the supply lines of strategic raw materials (uranium, and copper).
2. In Nigeria: where a civil war flared up and threatened the Federal Republic of Nigeria to its very foundation, the OAU threw its weight on the side of unity, and provided for appropriate machinery in the form of an ad hoc Consultative Committee and helped to prevent secession while maintaining the cohesion of its membership.
3. In the Republic of Egypt: which was occupied in parts by Israeli forces in 1967, the OAU strongly condemned the Israeli aggression and demanded the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories.
4. In Guinea: where Portugal made a last ditch attempt at colonial reconquest, the OAU offered financial and military aid to Guinea.
5. In Equatorial Guinea, OAU support enabled the young republic to reinforce its newly won independence.

It also declared war on mercenaries in Africa and waged a successful information campaign to alert international opinion on its usefulness

The struggle against Apartheid:

Through the actions of the African group at the United Nations and appropriate information campaigns, apartheid, the abhorred system of state imposed racial discrimination in South Africa, Rhodesia and the International territory of Namibia (South West Africa), was universally condemned as "a crime against humanity".

As a result of increasing pressure from all quarters, apartheid South Africa was forced out of the Commonwealth and a number of specialized institutions of the United Nations family.

In the world of sports, apartheid South Africa was barred from the Olympic games and from international tennis tournaments.

Promotion of African Culture:

The OAU staged both the 1st All African Cultural Festival in Algiers in August 1969, and the first workshop on African folklore, dance and music in Mogadiscio Somalia on October 1 1970.

The first momentous pan African Festival took place in Algiers, Algeria in August 1969. Never before, had African culture and arts given such a brilliant display of their richness, variety and genius.





"Building A" at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa was the base of the OAU

Above cultural and artistic achievements, this first festival was a triumph of African solidarity and sense of purpose. In Mogadiscio, the workshop on African folklore, dance and music was attended by many scholars and artists of international repute from OAU Member States.

Fields of economic and social development, transport and telecommunication: Thanks to OAU efforts, African countries harmonized their policies with regard to UNCTAD, IBRD, IMF, UNIDO, and ILO. Consequently, their claims for better terms of trade, full participation in a new international monetary system and more multilateral aid carried more weight. Through the OAU, African countries proclaimed their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources, just as they were pressing for a modification of international law with regard to the continental shelf and territorial waters.

In the social field, progress was achieved towards the unification of African trade unions and youth organizations. In cooperation with ECA, blueprints for a rational continental telecommunications network and efficient air and road transport were laid. A trans-Saharan highway from Algiers (Algeria) to Mali and Niger was built. An all African Trade fair, took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in February 1972.

Fields of Education, Science, Health:

In these fields, OAU action may be credited with:
Pre-investment studies: fishery projects; an anti-rinder pest campaign that vaccinated a billion dollars worth of cattle, a number of sci-

entific investigations on plant protection, soils, animal health, all of which were obtainable from the OAU/STRC office in Lagos, Nigeria. Pilot projects in the field of earth science: geology, geophysics:- the idea was to supply Africa with the most up-to-date know-how and limit the "brain-drain". In the field of health, preventive medicine and public health measures were applied all over Africa.

Actions in favour of African Refugees:

A bureau for the placement and education of African refugees was in operation at OAU headquarters from 1968. Many African refugees were provided with educational and job opportunities. A convention governing aspects of refugee problems in Africa was adopted by OAU Heads of State in September 1969. According to the terms of this convention, a refugee status and right of asylum were recognized by all independent African countries.

Institutions of the OAU

To achieve its aims with much efficiency, the OAU had the following institutions:

- The Assembly of Heads of State and Government which met in Ordinary Session on the first Monday of June every year
- The Council of Ministers i.e. Foreign Affairs Ministers who met twice a year, in February mainly on budgetary matters and in May/June prior to Summit. Other Ministerial sectoral meetings were held every two years in different domains such as labour, information, trade, health, culture, etc.
- The General Secretariat which was based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The General Secretariat was headed by a Secretary Gener-

al, who was elected by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for a term of four years. He or she had five Assistant Secretary Generals, each elected from a geographical region by the Assembly for a term of four years. The six could be re-elected. The General Secretariat was composed of:

- Office of the Secretary General under which operated his or her cabinet, protocol, information, security, legal affairs, inspectorate, budget control and Afro-Arab co-operation.
- Political Department
- Economic Co-operation and Development Department (EDECO)
- Education, Science, Culture and Social Affairs Department (ESCAS)
- Finance Department
- Administration and Conferences Department.
- Regional and sub-regional Offices existed in New York, Geneva, Cairo, Brussels, Lagos, Niamey, and Dar es Salam, which hosted the OAU liberation Committee.

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- Specialized Commissions of the OAU were:-
- Economic and Social Commission
 - Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Commission
 - Commission of Fifteen on Refugees
 - Defence Commission
 - Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration Commission

The OAU also had autonomous specialized agencies working under its auspices. They were:

- Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU)
- Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU)
- Pan-African News Agency (PANA)
- Union of African National Television and Radio Organizations (URTNA)
- Union of African Railways (UAR)
- Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)
- Supreme Council for Sports in Africa

Following the introduction of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, the General Secretariat served as the Secretariat for the African Economic Community (AEC).



One of the earliest available group photographs of the founders of the OAU



An artist's impression of the founders of the OAU

Over 600 staff members of whom 152 were in the professional category, recruited from over 40 Member States were in the service of the organization at the headquarters and regional and sub-regional offices.

The General Secretariat was the Permanent organ whose task was to service various OAU meetings, implement decisions and resolutions adopted by the Summit and Council. It kept documents and archives and generally conducted the daily work of coordination among Member States in all fields stated in the Charter.

The Budget:

The annual budget of the organization, which ran from 1st June to 31st May was provided by contributions from Member States in accordance with the scale of assessment which was calculated on the basis of area, population and per capita income.

However, no Member States were to be assessed on an amount exceeding 20% of the yearly regular budget of the organization. The budget was in the range of US\$27 - 30 million.

Languages:

The official languages were: Arabic, English, French, and Portuguese.



Planning Towards Agenda 2063: The AUC Crafts Its Third Medium Term Strategic Plan

The year 2013 marks the 50th anniversary celebration of the existence of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). It will also be a decade since the formation of the African Union, which seeks to promote "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena". Consequently, the Heads of State declared the year 2013 the Year of Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance.

In an effort to translate the AU vision and objectives into reality, the AU Commission has, over the past decade, developed and implemented two successive strategic plans (2004 – 2007 Strategic Framework of the Commission of the African Union and the Strategic Plan 2009 – 2012). Progress has been made in a number of areas. The Commission's 2nd strategic plan 2009-2012 came to an end in December 2012 and the Commission's Third Strategic Plan (2014-2017) has been prepared to guide the interventions and programs of the AUC in the medium term.

The Third Strategic Plan (2014-2017) of the African Union Commission (AUC) comes at an important point in the history of the African Continent. It affords an opportunity to assess past achievements registered under the two previous strategic plans, and to chart a new medium term course in the quest to attain the vision of the Union. While building on past achievements and consolidating gains made, the Third Strategic Plan aims to implement specific, targeted and measurable actions in order to strengthen and accelerate progress towards creating the foundations of an integrated, prosperous, people-centered and peaceful continent.



A polished and cut diamond; the Commission is pushing for value addition to Africa's goods



Investment in science, research and innovation has been prioritized in the strategic plan of the Commission

The priorities that emerge from analysis and internal reflection can be grouped into eight clusters as presented below:

- Build Africa's human capacity through the prioritization of Primary Health Care and Prevention; Education, Higher education, skills development and investment in Science, Research and innovation.
- Expand Agricultural production, developing the agro-processing and businesses sectors, increase market access and attain Africa's collective Food security and nutrition.
- Promote inclusive economic development and industrialization through the acceleration of infrastructure development projects that will aid economic integration, expand intra-Africa trade and global market access, value addition, enhanced private sector engagement, effective and sustainable utilization of the continent's mineral and other natural resources.
- Promote peace and stability, good governance, democracy and human right as a foundation for inclusion, security and the development of the continent and its people.
- Mainstream the participation of women and the youth in all priorities and activities of the Union and the continent
- Implement strategies of resource mobilization, including alternative source of funding, to enable Africa to finance its programmes and development.
- Build a people centered Union through active communication of the programmes of the African Union, the branding of the Union and participation of all stakeholders in defining and implementing the African agenda.
- Strengthen the institutional capacity of the AUC, the RECs and other organs, and its relations with strategic and other partners.

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Investment in science, research and innovation has been prioritized in the strategic plan of the Commission



The African Union Golden Jubilee; A Defining Moment: Who Are We?

Dr. Mbuya Isaac G. Munlo
Malawi's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Ethiopia,
African Union, Economic Commission for Africa
and 24 other African states



Someone once wrote "If you cannot define yourself; someone will define you". From time immemorial Africa has been defined by non Africans, invariably in less than complementary terms. It can be argued that such initiatives have simply been filling a void. As we celebrate 50 years of our continental organization and the African renaissance, we must take on the urgent challenge of defining ourselves; who we are; what underlies our organizational forms, behavior, practices and the manner in which we pursue them. What are the economic models most relevant to our reality? What have we learnt about how best to maintain peace and security? What is the social economic and political organization relevant to our reality?

The Chinese did not reach where they are by succumbing to definitions from outside or by simply copying ideas into a vacuum. They grounded their aspirations, their insights and their efforts in the philosophy of Confucianism; an indigenous philosophy. Do we as Africans not have beliefs and philosophies that have served us well, that have stood the test of time and which can propel us to greater heights? The principles of Confucius have some similarities with authentic African culture; they contain elements of strong family ties and loyalty, respect to elders and the concept of family as a building block of an ideal government. The Japanese have grounded their development in the philosophy of Taoism, through which such management approaches like Kaizen have evolved to guide improvements in various areas of human activity. The Indians have grounded their development in the philosophy of Sarnepalli Radnakrishnan. Looking into their own traditions and indigenous systems has not stopped these countries from advancing and becoming strong economies.

The call to define ourselves should not be seen as an exaltation of traditionalism or isolationism. It is simply a call for authentic frameworks through which ideas are generated and evaluated; learning takes place and progress is embedded and managed. Indeed Africa should have the courage and the capacity to identify values and practices that are retrogressive and arrange to modify or replace them. It is however unacceptable at this stage of our development to continue valuing ideas on the basis of their foreignness.

There are great benefits in grounding the aspirations of our continent in authentic philosophies and principles. First, it enhances intuitive thinking and creativity without having to continuously refer to outside inspiration or validation. Second, it mitigates the existence of a dual society, as is the case in Africa, one progressing by way of western systems and rationality, the other embedded in African traditions and knowledge. The effect of this duality is the distortion of reality, leading to sub optimality of efforts and the manipulation of consensus.

In defining who we are, there is no need to be apologetic, progress and authenticity should take priority over compliance. We should not be obsessed about adapting to the world; we are at a point where the world has enough reasons to adapt to Africa. The starting point in defining ourselves is our shared values. Africa does have a common heritage, a common destiny and shared cultural practices. These have been consolidated and validated through collective approaches in addressing challenges, like colonialism, instability and other disasters. The African integration project must go hand in hand with the definition and promotion of our shared values.

In this undertaking, there are foundations to build on. In the African Union, we have a situation whereby a number of Articles remain unratified. This is not merely a result of slow national legislative processes or the absence of adequate promotion. Some of these statutes while promoting important universal norms fail to recognize and cater for the realities that African nations have to deal with and delicately balance. Norms just do not exist in a vacuum, they encompass local realities, aspirations and tradeoffs. The process leading to the formulation of our statutes does need to be revisited.

Majority of decisions in the African Union are taken by consensus. This is reflective of the shared values of inclusiveness. In the African tradition it is preferable for a people to advance their decisions as an inclusive whole other than as a coalition of victors and the vanquished. During the liberation struggles against colonialism and apartheid, the potentials of the youth, women and men were harnessed effectively towards the goal of emancipation employing

the principle of inclusiveness. Independent Africa has made big strides in gender parity and, the youth form the core of Africa's development strategies. It is a fact that the basic element of social structure in the African Society is the extended family signifying a propensity for sharing. The principle of integration; cross border use of resources are grounded in the tradition of sharing. The tendency by some member states to monopolize opportunities in the union at the expense of others has to be checked on the basis of this shared value.

Again in the development realm, Africa has learnt enough during its fifty years of organization to be able to evolve authentic theories and strategies. We now know that structural adjustment and privatization policies had the effect of slowing down Africa's industrialization and indigenous growth. The purchase of African state owned parastatals by western state owned parastatals was not consistent with the concept of privatization and put into question the real motive behind the promotion of the privatization policy. Out of these experiences, Africa is coming up with its own authentic development policies. The policy of a Developmental State acknowledges the fact that in Africa, there are not many alternatives to government, majority of the private institutions that exist do not belong to Africans and they prioritize profits to development. It remains therefore for the state to take a leading role and ensure that all segments of the population are catered for. In fifty years we have learnt that failure to use natural resources in a fair and equitable manner can be a serious cause of instability. We have therefore come up with authentic policies on resource exploitation which incorporate the management of natural resources on behalf of African populations. Having economies that are pre dominantly commodity based. We are firmly advancing the possibility of a commodity led industrialization against conventional wisdom that attaches a low value to commodities. Africans and their traditions always had a symbiotic and balanced relationship with nature. In the area of climate change therefore, our position is that since Africa contributes less than 2 percent of global green house gas emissions and we still need to grow our economies, we will come up with policies that prioritize adaptation over mitigation. We have come to realize that subsidizing production other than consumption is also good for Africa and can make all the difference between dependency and self reliance. We have used this knowledge and shared practical experiences to unlock the production potential of our people.

At 50 years of continental organization, Africa needs to make a deliberate effort to define itself, socially, economically and politically. Defining itself will help it fix the norms against which to regulate itself, to resist manipulation and to promote its identify. Above all it will enable it to pursue policies and strategies that are in sync with its reality, which its people can comprehend, relate to, and speak to. Failure to do this risks the continuation of being defined on the basis of stereotypes and the imposition of structure, by others, on its reality.



The Pan African University: A Culmination Of Continental Efforts To Revitalize Higher Education And Research In Africa



"We should also think very seriously about the creation of an African university". When Emperor Haile Selassie uttered those words decades ago, the idea of a Pan African university seemed like a lifetime away. But today, it has become a reality.

The Pan African University (PAU) is the culmination of continental efforts of the African Union Commission (AUC) to revitalize higher education and research in Africa, under the Second Decade of Education for Africa and the consolidated Plan of Action of Science and Technology for Africa. It aims at exemplifying excellence, enhancing the attractiveness and global competitiveness of African higher education and research and establishing the African University at the core of Africa's development. The PAU will greatly boost the training and retention of high level human resources and quality knowledge outputs and be able to attract the best intellectual capacity from all over the world. Africa acknowledges the fact that social and economic development is not possible without substantive investment in higher education and research.

The establishment of the Pan African University is in response to the very ideal of the OAU and the African Union. It seeks to integrate the continent through research and higher learning. The PAU is composed of five institutes established respectively in the five geographic regions.

1. PAU Institute of Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI) hosted by Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya, for Eastern Africa
2. PAU Institute for Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences (PAUGHSS) hosted by University of Yaoundé II in Cameroon, for Central Africa
3. PAU Institute of Life and Earth Sciences (including health and agriculture) (PAULESI) hosted by University of Ibadan in Nigeria, for Western Africa
4. PAU Institute of Water and Energy (including climate change) (PAUWES) hosted by University of Tlemcen in Algeria, for Northern Africa

5. Space Sciences (PAUSS) for Southern Africa is in the process of being established.

Strategic Mission and Scope

The PAU shall contribute to the emergence of a new generation of leaders properly trained to take the best advantage of African human and material resources, and imbued with a common vision of a peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa.

The strategic mission of the PAU is to develop institutions of excellence in science, technology, innovation, social sciences and governance, which shall constitute the bedrock for an African pool of higher education and research. To accomplish the PAU mission, seven objectives have been assigned to the PAU:

1. Develop continental-wide and world-class graduate and postgraduate programs in science, technology, innovation, human and social sciences;
2. Stimulate collaborative, internationally competitive, cutting-edge fundamental and development oriented research, in areas having a direct bearing on the technical, economic and social development of Africa;
3. Enhance the mobility of students, lecturers, researchers and administrative staff between African universities to improve on teaching, leadership, and collaborative research;
4. Contribute to the best education and training of African present and future generations, thereby, providing them with the tools most conducive to the capacity building of their institutions
5. Enhance the attractiveness of African higher education and research institutions for effective development and retention of young African talent, while attracting the best intellectual capital from across the globe, including the African Diaspora;
6. Invigorate dynamic and productive partnership with public and private sectors
7. Make appropriate contacts, motivate relations and initiate events and activities, which are aimed at international development agencies and communities of African ancestry led by their humanitarian

celebrities, in order to build a strong international support for PAU

Teaching Staff

A call for academic staff was launched on 7th May 2012 across the continent for African experts in specific thematic subjects, to apply for teaching positions at the first three hubs of the PAU. Today, PAU is proud to house competent teaching staff with passion for Pan Africanism, the core foundation on which it is built.

Students

It should be recalled that a call for applications by prospective students was made in April 2012, to admit and enroll students in the first three hubs of the Pan African University. Applications were received from every region of the continent, including candidates of the African diaspora. In August 2012, an international jury of experts was setup for each of the PAU hubs. These experts were identified with the help of the Association of African Universities, the PAU institutes and from the AUC's database. These experts participated in the curriculum validation workshop held in 2011.

Scholarship

Of the 210 scholarship available within the first three institutes, there were more than 700 applications emanating from across the continent.

The students of the PAU Institute for Governance Humanities and Social Sciences (PAUGHSS) at the University of Yaoundé II in Cameroon and the PAU Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI) at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya commenced studies in November 2012, while students are still being received at the PAU institute for Life and Earth Sciences, including Agriculture and health (PAULESI).

The African Union Commission supported the take-off of PAUGHSS, PAUSTI and PAULESI with payment for tuition and stipend for November and December 2012, amounting to 600,000 USD sourced from AU member states.



The OAU's Successful Pan African Initiative for the Eradication of Cattle Plague from Africa

By Dr. Solomon Haile Mariam; PATTEC Coordination Office; African Union Commission



On the occasion of celebrating the 50th golden anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity it will be a very useful historical opportunity to highlight the most important achievements of the organization.

It is very well documented in history that the OAU played a crucial role on the political front particularly in its struggle to decolonize many African States between 1960 and 1980. Equally it will be very important to underline some success stories on the socio-economic front as well. The people of Africa suffered from hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity for centuries. The African continent was affected by various natural and man-made calamities including insecurity, poverty, hunger, diseases and many other challenges.

Among these, livestock disease was widely spread on the continent and affected the majority of the African region killing millions of livestock. Specifically since African countries did not have the capacity to systematically control livestock disease immediately after independence, livestock diseases continued to spread all over the continent unchecked.

Rinderpest

Rinderpest was one of the major cattle diseases which killed millions of cattle during the last 120 years. The disease was first introduced to Africa by the Italian colonialists from India in 1898 through the Red Sea Port of Msasawa and started to spread like bush fire from East Africa to Central, Southern and West African countries. The scourge of rinderpest devastated 90% of the African cattle and wild life (buffalos and kudus.etc) population. There was no treatment and vaccines for the viral disease at that time.

The first OAU Initiative to control the rinderpest scourge in Africa

Between 1963 and 1977, the Scientific Commission of the OAU Lagos Office took a special initiative to assemble assistance from various donors including USAID, European Union and FAO. As a result, the OAU succeeded in establishing a special project known as Joint Project 15 for the control and eradication of rinderpest from the African continent.

15 affected OAU member states participated in the vaccination campaign for the eradication of rinderpest at that time. The project started

in West Africa in 1963 and ended in East Africa in 1977. The coordination office for this Pan African programme was at the OAU-IBAR office in Nairobi. This joint project ended in 1977 without eradicating rinderpest from the African continent but reduced the incidence of the disease many fold.

The 2nd attempt of the OAU to eradicate rinderpest from the African continent

Rinderpest appeared again in 1983-84 and affected over 35 African OAU member countries, especially some 20 countries in Sub Saharan Africa which were seriously affected. In Nigeria alone, over 500000 cattle died in one year as a result of renewed epidemics of rinderpest. At the request of many OAU-Member States, the late Ide Oamaru, then Secretary General of the OAU called for an emergency intervention and approached several donor countries to assist Africa to eradicate the rinderpest scourge once and for all.

The European Union responded to the OAU's appeal and committed 50 million Euros to start the new rinderpest eradication campaign which was known as "Pan African Rinderpest Eradication Campaign (PARC). Implementation of PARC started in 1987.

The PARC Initiative.1986-2004

With the political and administrative responsibilities of the OAU and technical support from the European Union and other donor countries and organizations the PARC programme started in 35 OAU member states from 1987-2010. Over 400 million USD was mobilized over the 20 year period from OAU member states, donors, the community and the private sector. Over 300 million cattle were vaccinated using quality controlled vaccines. The 20 year operation was managed and supervised by the OAU-AU office in Nairobi. Significant cooperation was also provided by different international and regional organizations like FAO, OIE, IAEA, ILRI and African regional organizations including IGAD, SADC, ECOWAS, CILLS.

The final declaration of the Eradication of Rinderpest from Africa

After 120 years of suffering, the African cattle owner and the pastoral community was finally freed from the rinderpest scourge. On June 20, 2010 a special celebration was organized at the FAO headquarters in Rome where the final declaration of the Global Eradication of Rinder-

pest was made. Over 500 observers from all over the world were invited to witness this special day when the rinderpest freedom declaration was made. Some 31 international experts who contributed extraordinarily for the eradication of the rinderpest scourge were awarded with gold medals and certificates. I was among the special guests who were invited to officially receive a gold medal and certificate from the Director General of the FAO.

The OAU/AU was also commended for these historic achievements in spearheading this continental initiative and was recognized for its special contribution. On this occasion several officials from the Nairobi IBAR office were also present.

Conclusion

I had the historic opportunity to be appointed by the Secretary General of the OAU from 1987-1999 to coordinate the PARC programme. I have witnessed the commitment of the OAU and the AU Member states and also the genuine support from friendly countries to work in unison for the final objective of rinderpest eradication from the continent of Africa. Today African cattle no longer die from rinderpest and livestock trade and productivity has improved many fold because of the absence of rinderpest. I believe that this is one of the best success stories of the OAU on the socioeconomic front. It should go down in history as a special model programme in eradicating livestock diseases from our continent.



A technician vaccinating cattle against rinderpest



The Historical Roots and Evolution of Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance: From the OAU to AU

by Kassim M. Khamis political analyst with the AU Panel of the Wise



The African unity agenda has been a long process that has gone through three main stages since 1963. These are the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Economic Community (AEC) and now the African Union (AU).

Due to the difficult nature of circumstances in which it was established, the OAU had a weak Charter and ended up concentrating mainly on political issues—particularly fighting colonialism and consolidating member states' independence. There was no consensus among the member states on how to pursue the African unity agenda—whether by a unitary system or through regional groupings. The groupings were kept away, and even instructed not to pursue any political agenda by the first meeting of the Council of Ministers held in Dakar, Senegal, in August 1963.

By the mid-1970s economic issues were pressing, and member states agreed to establish the AEC between 1976 and 2000. By then, they had settled on working to attain continental unity through regional groupings and subsequently they decided on the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to be the AEC pillars. The Community was to have a stronger legal instrument (treaty) with some supranational powers; stronger organs with peoples' representation through organs such as the Pan African Parliament; a sound financial backing by an African Payments Union; a clear program of work (6 stages) developed from the Lagos Plan of Action and its Final Act; and a robust continental institutional framework.

In the process, a number of activities were to be carried out to facilitate the AEC's institutionalization. They included preparation of protocols to complement the AEC Treaty (the Abuja Treaty), reviewing the OAU Charter to harmonize legal instruments, restructuring the OAU General Secretariat, inauguration of the Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC), devising budget and resource mobilization plans, and identification and strengthening of the RECs both financially and administratively.

Unfortunately, the Community faced many challenges and could not be realized as planned. On the one hand, it took about fifteen years (15) just to get the Treaty drafted. It was finally signed in June 1991, in Abuja, Nigeria. From 1976 the OAU was just formulating new blueprints that included the Monrovia Strategy of 1979, the Lagos Plan of Action and its Final Act of 1980 that formed the basis on which the Treaty was drafted and so on.

On the other hand, the Community process also faced many other challenges that led to the lack of its realization. The main reason behind that failure was simply the inappropriate execution of the Community's implementation strategy: Firstly, RECs were not adequately involved in the whole process—from the drafting of the Abuja Treaty to its implementation. They had, ultimately, to be attached to the Community by a specific Protocol that had its own defects, such as the lack of linkages between policy organs of the OAU/AEC and those of RECs. As a consequence, the Protocol emerged as



a mere cooperation agreement at the secretariat level of the OAU/AEC, African Development Bank (AfDB), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and Regional Economic Communities. Therefore, RECs remained loosely connected to the OAU/AEC.

Secondly, there was misunderstanding on the relationship between the OAU and the Community, the result of which was that the two institutions existed concurrently in a confusing way, as the AEC with a superior Treaty was attached in a subordinate manner to the weak OAU and its Charter, sharing the same organs, budget etc., but tending to operate differently.

Thirdly, and in view of the above, many programmes could not be accordingly executed. For example, the OAU Charter could not be reviewed; and organs, like the Pan African Parliament and the Court of Justice could not be created, denying the African people representation in the continental affairs. Moreover, the drafting of the related Protocols and generally the six stages laid down in the Abuja Treaty and so on, all ended up unsuccessful.

Thus, by September 1999, just a year before the targeted time for the AEC to have been in place, there were difficulties in the creation of the Community; while the OAU had been outdated and too weak to take Africa into the twenty-first Century. In the circumstances and in anticipation to get out of the confusion, the African Union was created.

The idea to transform the OAU into the AU, as we all know, was spearheaded by the Libyan leader, Muammar Ghaddafi. He had already led the creation of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD) in February 1998, but later became impressed by the position taken by the African leaders, meeting in their thirty-fourth session in June 1998 in Burkina Faso, on the sanctions imposed on his country. During that summit in Ouagadougou, the African leaders called upon the UN Security Council to lift the sanctions imposed on Libya. Otherwise, they would no longer comply with the Security Council Resolution 748 (1992) and 883(1993) on the issue. The sanctions had been imposed following Libya's reluctance to hand-over for trial in the United States of America or United Kingdom two of its citizens who had been implicated in the PAN-AM bombing incident over Lockerbie, Scotland, preferring a neutral ground.

Consequently, when the Libyan leader proposed the transformation of the OAU, the situation was already ripe for change; and after some consultations, the African leaders reached an agreement to transform the OAU into the AU.

Now, following the confusion that had emanated from the concurrent existence of the OAU and the AEC and the agreement reached in Sirte in September 1999, the AU was to be a merger of the OAU and the AEC, (i.e. the OAU

Charter and the Abuja Treaty), into one single institution (i.e. the AU) under one single legal document (the Constitutive Act) into which RECs would be consolidated under one hierarchy and a single overall continental framework. This is in accordance with the three main instruments that established the AU, namely, the Sirte Declaration, the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Decision on the African Union [EAHG/DECL.1 (V)] that formally put in place the AU. Consequently, the final objective and plan was to establish the AU, as a new institution integrating both the OAU and the AEC leading, ultimately, to the United States of Africa, as clarified by the fifth ordinary session of the Executive Council and confirmed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 2005. The AU was to ensure the realization of the free trade area, the customs union, and the common market: i.e. to realise the objectives of the OAU and AEC, at both regional and continental levels under its auspices and in an accelerated way.

Unfortunately, in my view, the establishment of the AU did not proceed according to the strategy agreed by the African leaders in those three fundamental legal documents. Once again, RECs were not adequately involved in spite of the fact that the Sirte Declaration called for the consolidation of RECs within the AU; Article 33 of the Constitutive Act ordered the same by the devolution of all OAU/AEC's assets and everything to the AU, and the Decision on the African Union stressed the execution of the process in conformity with Article 33 of the Act. This was in addition to the fact that the Protocol on relations between the AEC and RECs, however imperfect, had called under its Article 7(2e) for the Committee on Coordination to determine the implementation of the OAU's decisions on the Abuja Treaty, which were equally binding on RECs according to Article 10(2) of the Treaty. However, the Committee on Coordination was not convened; leaving the RECs sidelined in the process and continued being organically outside the AU system; taking the AU execution process to a different course.

Yet, it is now encouraging to note that efforts are being made to put the African Union Strategy on its proper course. The AU policy organs have already decided on the preparation of an African Union Strategic Plan to be jointly drafted by all AU organs, including RECs. Equally important, the current AU Commission's leadership has shown its determination to bring RECs and the people onboard; and that process has already started by consultation with RECs to chart the way forward.

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The Balance Sheet of the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

By MIS Gassama: Directorate of Conference Management and Publications



Almost from its inception through to its dissolution, the defunct OAU was constantly under fire for being a mere lame duck that was at once ineffective and incapable of delivering. However, those who were familiar with what it took for the total liberation of the territories of the continent that were still under the yoke of colonial domination or supremacist apartheid dispensation to materialize would beg to differ.

For, through the instrumentality of its Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa with its headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania, the OAU was able to ultimately achieve in the all-important area of liberation what was rightly considered by all and sundry to be the mother of all miracles.

Through the political support reinforced by its unflinching material backup, both logistically and military, readily rendered to FRELIMO in Mozambique, MPLA in Angola and PAIGC in Guinea Bissau representing the Lusophone territories under the oppressive Portuguese colonial hegemony on the one hand; and ZANU-PF in Zimbabwe, ANC and PAC in South Africa, and SWAPO in Namibia representing the Southern flank of the continent on the other, the OAU succeeded in making an enduring contribution to the liberation struggles waged so fiercely by these liberation movements, culminating in the total defeat and incremental retreat of settler governments in Southern Africa and the dehumanizing Portuguese imperialism in the Lusophone territories.

There can be no denying that it was with the active mobilization role of the OAU in terms of the political will and financial and material backstopping that the liberation battles were fought to successfully overthrow the erstwhile despicable and nauseating colonial and apartheid regimes and replace them with the newly independent sovereign states.

It was again the same OAU which played an indispensable coordinating role that had strengthened the hands of the Frontline States and enabled them to put their act together in their unequalled resolve to pay mammoth human and material sacrifices so as to set their kith and kin and next door neighbours free at last!

In this connection, an interesting anecdote comes to mind. In those days, we used to go to Arusha twice in the year to service the Liberation Committee Meetings. In a conversation during one of those meetings with my dear brother and friend, Hamid Ibrahim, an Arabic Translator in the OAU Dar-es-Salaam office and Ambassador Edward Biodun Aina of Nigeria who was the Assistant Executive Secretary for Finance and Administration on the prospect of South Africa becoming independent, we held dichotomous views. Whilst they both predicted that South Africa could become free within a space of five years, I expressed my doubts as to whether this was possible, at least in the next decade.

Events that unfolded in the few succeeding years proved them right as South Africa, within less than five years from that conversation, attained its full independence from the obnoxious apartheid regime. It was I who had underestimated the resolve and determination of the gallant freedom fighters in that country and the unqualified support they received from their frontline neighbours as well as the sustained material and financial support that were accorded to them through the collective mobilization efforts of Member States, using their continental organization, the OAU as a robust conduit in this common endeavour.



Independence celebrations bring much joy across the continent. The OAU supported the independence of African states



The above represents only one fraction of the achievements and breakthroughs made by the OAU. The other equally important aspect has to do with the consolidation by the OAU of the political independence of the emerging sovereign African nation states at that time by making their collective voice heard and defending their vital common interests and concerns in all international fora. By that, the OAU had dealt the futile attempts of the evil forces of neo-colonialism in making a comeback to Africa through the back door, a severe blow. Additionally, the OAU had left no stone unturned in its relentless bid to further deepen the ties of inter-African cooperation with the ultimate aim of achieving Africa's integration on both regional and continental planes.

Reconciliation aimed at defusing inter and intra-African conflicts and disputes was also at the top of the OAU's unity agenda and had saved the continent the monumental trouble of possible balkanization and being reduced to dismembered tiny nation states.

Finally, the achievements registered by the OAU were manifold and too diverse to be enumerated in this limited space. To therefore cut a long story short, I would like to conclude by stressing that the OAU's detractors who wrongly accused it of being ineffective and irrelevant, do not owe only the Organization, but also the departed souls of its founders, a huge apology.

Through the instrumentality of its Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa with its headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam, the United Republic of Tanzania, the OAU was able to ultimately achieve in the all-important area of liberation what was rightly considered by all and sundry to be the mother of all miracles



Four of the leaders of the Frontline States (L-R) Presidents Sam Nujoma (Namibia); Samora Machel (Mozambique); Kenneth Kaunda (Zambia); Robert Mugabe (Zimbabwe)



African Unity and Solidarity: Some Achievements, Challenges And Prospects

By Julius Kagamba Singoma; Special Assistant to Commissioner; Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture; African Union Commission



The divide and rule policy and practice of colonialists created arbitrary borders between the hitherto united people of Africa as demonstrated in ancient African Kingdoms. The artificial borders drawn by colonialists contributed to cross-border tensions and inter-state conflicts and further eroded the strength of our communities and nations. But thanks to African resilience, we were not annihilated by all sorts of assaults.

In order to address the negative colonial legacy and reunite the people of Africa, gallant Africans engaged deliberate efforts including, among others, the formation in 1967 of the East African Community (EAC) between Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

As if colonialists and their predecessors, the slave traders, had not had enough, they positioned their people in strategic positions. Many Ugandans consequently died at the hands of the neo-colonial stooges.

Fortunately, the Pan African spirit remained alive as it had always been and will always be. As such, when Ugandans were stifled by Idi Amin's reckless dictatorship, Tanzania under Mwalimu Nyerere provided all possible support in solidarity, to Ugandan freedom fighters, some of whom had trained in Mozambique.

Unfortunately, things did not improve much. This time, freedom fighters led by Yoweri Museveni benefitted again from the solidarity of Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and some other African countries and liberated Uganda in 1986 from moribund neo-colonial forces.

Animated by the conviction that the people of the Great Lakes Region had been and should remain one, Yoweri Museveni's first trip out of Uganda, upon being sworn in as President in 1986, was to Goma to attend a Summit of the Communauté Economique des Pays des Grands Lacs (CEPGL) that included Burundi, DRC (the then Zaire), and Rwanda. They were pursuing Pan African unity, an enduring ideal.

The greater project that Museveni and his fellow leaders in the region, notably Kenya's Arap Moi and Tanzania's Julius Nyerere, undertook was to revive the EAC which later extended to include Burundi and Rwanda with now a total of 1.82 million sq. km and a population of 135.4 million.

When I see, today, the EAC having established a customs union and a common market and, working towards a monetary union and keeping the eye on the ultimate objective of a political federation, I really feel proud to be an African and it heightens my optimism that the people of Africa are, against all odds, steadily reuniting and pursuing unity of purpose towards continental integration that will sooner rather than later become a reality: what with the EAC, COMESA and SADC working so vigorously to reunite the entire sub-region and the same wave of reunification and integration raging from all the other regions of Africa, thanks to the vibrant RECs of ECOWAS, IGAD, EC-CAS, CENSAD and the Maghreb Union.

Conscious of the fact that the gains in economic cooperation and integration could only be safeguarded and sustained through durable peace, security and stability, the countries of EAC and CPGL also formed the nucleus that saw the emergence of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (CPGL) that

has gone a long way to build understanding and harmony among the states and peoples of the region extending southwards to Zambia and Angola and northwards to the Sudan and the Central African Republic.

These Pan African ideals of unity and solidarity have enabled a number of countries to emerge from dictatorships and conflicts to cooperation and integration with handsome dividends of peace, security, stability and prosperity being enjoyed or in sight.

I have focused this article on the region I know best but I am aware that the same solidarity was manifested by front-line states for the liberation of South Africa from apartheid. And Pan Africanism neutralised borders to the extent that also some ANC freedom fighters were given sanctuary and training in Uganda and other African countries farther away. And now we rejoice to see what has come to be known as the rainbow nation.

In the same way, Uganda and Burundi led the African Union Peace and Security Architecture in assisting Somalis to shed off the siege mounted by terrorism. That is Pan Africanism at work. Hurray, Hurray!

I can go on and on but suffice to conclude by stating that it is efforts like these that have brought Africa this far, from what some, in the West, dubbed a hopeless continent to what they now have no option but to acknowledge as being a continent on the rise. Long live African Renaissance!

And, I must add that in defining our generation's mission for the next 50 years, we need to include ways and means to jealously guard hard-won achievements some of which are mentioned in this article. And, so, we must remain vigilant because the forces that were neither satisfied with slave trade nor with colonialism nor neo-colonialism, are not about to give up testing our resolve. Our unity is our strength. Continental integration is the way to go. Long live Africa!



Pan-African Women's Organisation: a building block towards the formation of the AU

Source: <http://opfpawo.com>



The Pan African Women's Organisation (PAWO) celebrated its 50th anniversary on 15 November 2012. AU Commission Chairperson Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma attended the celebrations. PAWO was formed in 1962, a year before the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

After independence of African countries, despite the artificial barriers of languages, political opinions, and prevailing contradictions, African Women decided to unite, to form one association to get to know each other better in order to share their experiences, and combine their efforts for the emancipation of African women in view of their integration in the future of the African continent.

The total liberation of the African continent, the elimination of apartheid, and the institution of justice for all people became their priority. Thus, on the 31st July 1962, the Conference of African Women (CAF) was created at Dar es Salaam in Tanganyika now known as Tanzania. This first African women's organization became the "Pan - African Women's Organization" (PAWO) after the congress of Dakar (Senegal) in July 1974 where the 31st July was designated African Women's Day. The Constitutive congress comprised 14 independent countries, and 10 national liberation movements.

The headquarters of the organization was in Mali from 1962 to 1968. It was then transferred to Algiers from 1968 to 1986 and to Luanda in Angola from 1987 to 2008, and since 2008, it has been based in Pretoria (South Africa).

At its founding the objectives of PAWO were defined as:

- To prosecute the struggle for recognition and application of the right of African women to participate in decision making in the fields of political, economic, cultural and social life, both at national and international levels and particularly, to be able to express their opinions in bills envisaging the welfare of women and children before being debated in parliament.
- To follow up the evolution and to contribute to the improvement of the situation of African women by collecting data on the economic, political and socio-cultural aspects, on women and children in member countries and disseminate the results of research undertaken in these fields by PAWO or by member countries through documents and through the existing media;
- Support action taken at national and international levels aimed at eliminating flagrant violations of human rights;
- To support governments in the protection of Africa in all aspects;
- To promote effective unity among African states through friendship and co-operation;
- To establish continuous relations of friendship and co-operation between Africa and women all over the world; and
- To support the internal co-operation and participate in all actions for disarmament and reinforcement of peace world-wide."

PAWO's Activities

- Organizing PAWO meetings,
- Congress every 5 years,
- Council in between two congresses
- Executive Secretariat meeting every year
- Regional Executive Secretariat every year
- Publications of PAWO bulletins
- Visit to refugee camps
- Participation and contribution in national activities

Membership of PAWO

From its founding until the last Congress held in February 2008 in South Africa, the membership of PAWO was determined by the ruling parties of member states. Liberation movements recognised by the AU could also be members. This meant that membership of PAWO was determined by governments and not women's organisations who subscribe to its objectives. With the advent of multi-party democracy and changes in ruling parties, most of the founding member organisations lost their membership of PAWO. In some cases they were replaced by ministries of women who had no grass roots women's organisations. This situation weakened PAWO.

At its 9th congress, the issue of membership was debated and had to be changed to accommodate the founding women's organisation and also allow for the ruling parties and other women's organizations to be members.

Relationship with the AU

PAWO was established a year before the Organisation of African Unity (AU) by the Heads of states and Government of the continent. Thus it can be viewed as one of the building blocks towards the formation of the AU which united the people of the continent. Thus, PAWO was given observer status in the AU. PAWO received material support and resources from the AU and in turn supported programs undertaken by the AU. Through PAWO, there was a significant rise in the awareness of women in terms of making a positive contribution to the struggle for national liberation and in national development.

PAWO ANTHEM

Mothers and women of Africa hand in hand let's unite around the Pan-African Women's Organization our sole organ of struggle. Let's lift up our flag so high seen by the whole world let's ensure to our future generation a new, free and prosperous Africa Competency and dignity should be from now on our motto because we have a holy duty holy duty like that of men.

PAWO can be viewed as one of the building blocks towards the formation of the AU, which united the people of the continent



African Union's Contribution In Achieving the Principles of the Founders of the OAU

By NGUEGAN Nelly Farah, Communication and Program Assistant; AU Youth Volunteer, Peace and Security Department, African Solidarity Initiative



The founding fathers made history in 1963 by tracing the path to unity and prosperity of Africa when they created the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which is turning fifty years on 25 May 2013. Let us seize the jubilee of the OAU to review the progress made in achieving the objectives they established.

The concrete proposals of the founding fathers of the Organization of African Unity

At the 1963 Summit conference in Addis Ababa, Heads of State had asserted the imperative of unity and the risks of disunity. Thus Dr Kwame Nkrumah, President of Ghana stated that: "Our goal is now to unite or perish". In the same vein, El-ibrahim Abboud Farik Prime Minister of Sudan, stressed that: "if Africa is united its voice will carry more weight, so our role will be more constructive and our contribution more positive at this critical juncture where mankind is".

During that conference, eminent persons made a series of proposals on key activities of the organization. Dr Nkrumah stated that "This body of officials and experts shall be composed of one or two best brains of each independent African state [and] develop a constitution for a government of unity of African states. [...] A plan to hold a major common continental economic industrial and unified program in Africa, the program shall include proposals on the creation of: a common market for Africa, an African currency, an African Monetary Zone, an African Central Bank, a continental system of telecommunication [...] develop a comprehensive foreign policy and diplomacy, [...] submit plans for common defense system; [...] present the proposals to create a common African citizenship".

Education was not left behind. Emperor Haile Selassie, of Ethiopia noted that: "We should also think very seriously about the creation of an African university [...] In this African institution, the focus would be on the supranational aspect of African life, and studies there would be oriented to achieve complete African unity".

As true milestones of the OAU now African Union (AU), these proposals, oriented all its efforts. Nevertheless, fifty years later this question remains relevant: Is the progress of the OAU/AU in accordance with the principles of the founders? Even if OAU has made significant efforts given the multidimensional difficulties, so much more can be achieved if Africa's potential is exploited and Africans involved, as none other than Africans can achieve unity.

Overall positive progress

The OAU and later the AU obtained significant results in terms of empowerment, unification, peace, and economic, cultural and educational development of the continent.

Settlement of border disputes, decolonization of African territories and the struggle against colonialism and apartheid are undoubtedly successes of the OAU. However, mention must be made of tough conditions for obtaining these achievements since the post-independence period was marked by conflicts related to the challenging of borders. Thus, the OAU rule of law enshrining the inviolability of borders inherited from colonization played an important role in resolving territorial disputes. Similarly, the Liberation Committee was one of the efficient instruments of the OAU, which lent support to the liberation movements of territories under segregation or colonial administration.

On the economic front, the OAU adopted the Abuja Treaty of 1991 establishing the African Economic Community. In accordance with the proposals made by the founding fathers, the Abuja Treaty strengthened the Regional Economic Communities, laid the foundations of a Customs Union and Trade Liberalization, and free movement of persons...of which ECOWAS is an example of implementation.

To systematically respond to instability, insecurity and especially avoid terrible conflicts of the past the AU launched the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). APSA is made of a common defense policy, the Peace and Security Council, the Committee of Military Personnel, the Continental Early Warning System, the Panel of the Wise, the African Standby Force and the Peace Fund.

On education, the African Union Commission (AUC) has launched the Pan-African University (PAU) with three operational institutes (at the University of Yaounde II, Soa, Cameroon; Jomo Kenyatta University in Juja, Kenya and at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria).

In addition, the AU Youth Volunteer Programme, launched in 2011 provides an opportunity for young professionals to contribute to Africa's development. Three batches have already been deployed within African countries and the AU in areas as diverse as health, legal affairs, fund raising, and communication.

But, notwithstanding OAU/AU efforts over the last 50 years, the unique potential of Africa definitely allows AU to do more. The AU faces a problem of dissemination of information, implementation and Africans' involvement. AUC could overcome these challenges by mobilizing the media of member states. The AU must be present on national televisions and pan-African televisions because at least every African tunes into news casts every day. In addition to partnerships, African governments could encourage their national televisions to dedicate a time slot in newscasts to AU activities.





Participants at one of the meetings in Addis Ababa to discuss the Pan African University

To involve people, the AU can organize yearly university debate championships, with the final to be held on May 25. Conference caravans could be organized by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of each member state to raise awareness on the AU in the individual countries. In addition, the AU could encourage AU clubs to mobilize youths through clubs such as the AU Club of the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC).

With the support of the private sector and parastatals, the AU can enhance the African Solidarity Initiative ASI for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development launched July 2012. With the motto "Africa helping Africa", ASI calls on AU member states to assist sister post-conflict

countries through financial or in-kind contributions (technical support, training of civil servants, etc.).

Pan-Africanism actually needs this type of paradigm shift. If every African saw themselves through these words we heard during our pre-deployment training in Benin: "You are the ambassadors of Africa", we would then understand that AU is not only about member states or specialized agencies. We are the AU as reaffirmed in the campaign "I am African I am the African Union" and only Africans can realize the dream of the founding fathers.

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I am the African Union

FOR A PEACEFUL, PROSPEROUS AND UNITED AFRICA

AFRICAN UNION

The writer asserts that the AU branding campaign encourages Africans to feel that they are the African Union



Pan Africanism in the Struggle for Independence: Emma's Story

By Wynne Musabayana: Deputy Head of Information and Communication Division:
African Union Commission



When one looks at where we have come from as a continent, one realizes that the ideals of Pan Africanism have played a very significant role in our history and will continue to influence our future as Africans. In spite of the challenges, there is so much to be proud of about being African, and about belonging to the community of Africans under the OAU/AU.

Take the story of Emma for example. Emma grew up in colonial Rhodesia, where lives and destinies were determined by one's colour. Even seemingly mundane everyday activities such as which public utilities one used, which side of the road one walked on or which park bench one sat on were determined by colour. Similarly, which schools one's children attended or which side of town one lived in were also a function of one's colour. Further to this, how far one could rise in the workplace was largely determined by the colour of one's skin.

Emma was born in a rural community in Mutare, in Zimbabwe's eastern highlands, next to the Mozambique border in 1960. Mozambique provided shelter, training and support for many of the country's liberation war fighters, as did many other African countries. Emma did not go into the bush to fight with a gun, but in her own way she fought as hard as anyone for the liberation of her country.

Although she was young when the war started, she remembers waking up one morning before school to be told her elder brother, Skumbuzo who was only 16 at the time, had left boarding school to join the "comrades" or "guerillas" in Mozambique. She spent many sleepless nights wondering if she would ever see him again, what kind of suffering he was going through and whether he would, upon return, live a "normal" life. As it happens, he did return after the war and went on to become a successful academic in the country.

But while he was gone, Emma was seriously engaged in the war effort, supporting the comrades and risking her life every single day. As a young teenage girl, she became one of the

"chimbwidos" who were responsible for cooking food for the comrades, taking it into the bush as well as taking messages to and from. Sometimes, Emma and her friends also had to transport alcohol and cigarettes. It was not easy because the more they travelled back and forth the more likely their movements were to be noticed by the Rhodesian forces. Her fear became reality when her best friend Rudo was slaughtered one evening as she and a group of friends were coming back from the bush to give food to the fighters, Emma really felt she should also cross the border and do her bit to secure victory.

Rudo, Emma's friend, had been in the company of fourteen friends one night. They had been just about to cross the last stream leading to her homestead when a bright white light shone in the sky, lighting up the whole village as clear as day. To the villagers, the deafening sound of helicopters overheard heralded trouble. The girls were caught, exposed in the open with nowhere to run. From the reeds that grew in the stream came the sickening, familiar sound of machine gun fire. It was coming from the national soldiers. The gunfire seemed to go on forever. After a while, the attack helicopters veered away into the night while the ground troops disappeared into the night.



Securing a future for Africa's youth is an important issue for the continent





Development of infrastructure is crucial to Africa's prosperity and integration

The next morning the villagers went to see the bloodbath. The soldiers had used such deadly force that some of the bodies had been cut in half. Others had been stabbed, presumably by the bayonets at the end of the soldiers' machine guns. Emma saw random limbs detached from their bodies; some of the faces still bore the picture of surprised helpless terror as they realized they would no longer be able to reach home. They must have wondered, Emma thought, if it would have been possible to run a little faster so they could reach the homes that were clearly in sight. They must have stretched out their hands, reaching out to an imaginary helper who they thought might have been able to extricate them from the inevitable fate that lay before them. Perhaps they prayed in those last few moments? No one would ever know. The bodies stayed there for a few days as a warning by the soldiers, of what lay ahead for anyone who dared provide sustenance to the "national enemy". It was days before they were allowed to be removed and buried.

For those who remained behind, life had to continue. It was not possible to mourn publicly for the fallen friends lest one be accused of being a "collaborator". Every now and then there would be the distant sound of exchange of fire between the comrades and the soldiers.

Listening clandestinely to radio Mozambique and radio Moscow, she heard about how cities in Zambia were coming under attack, about the brutal attack on Zimbabwean freedom fighters at Nyadzonya and Chimoio in Mozambique in 1976 and 1977 respectively and the massacres at Morogoro and Mgagao in Tanzania. Later accounts said 1200 people had been killed in Chimoio alone. She cried silently for her brother, whose fate she was unaware of, and for the thousands whom she knew from the radio broadcasts, had been slaughtered.

And just when she started to think no one else would want to go and get killed fighting in the war, she heard that Hamunyari, the albino girl she was in school with, had left to join the struggle, joining many other girls who had gone for training and were now deployed in different places across the country. She was puzzled. She had heard that albinos did not live long naturally and that their skin required special attention. Surely conditions in the bush would shorten Hamunyari's life even further? She had herself seen Hamunyari suffer enough from the sun and flaking skin as she went to the fields wearing the same hat that was so necessary to shield her delicate skin from the vagaries of nature. How then could Hamunyari, even think of going to the war? Hamunyari became a hero to Emma. In later years, she was able to document the immense contribution made by female freedom fighters to Zimbabwe's independence.

Emma survived the war. At independence in 1980 she went to university. While there she met many other African students from South Africa and Namibia whose countries were still fighting for independence and self determination. She made friends with a South African girl who told her incredible stories about how South Africans did battle in the streets with heavily armed police and army personnel. She listened as her new friend narrated the Soweto uprising of June 16 1976 where hundreds of people were killed. The bravery of young people such as Hector Pietersen left her in awe of the sacrifices that Africans, young and old, were prepared to make for their independence and dignity. This type of struggle was very different from the one she had lived through, yet this young cadre was confident that one day South Africa too would be free.

Sure enough, in March 1990 Namibia became an independent country and in 1994, South

Africa too became independent. The support of the frontline states (Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Angola), the OAU and the international community had been crucial in the struggles.

In October 1986, the University where she was studying erupted in spontaneous anger when news of the death of President Samora Machel of Mozambique in a mysterious plane crash was announced. The student body unanimously decided to march into the town to protest the death of this gallant fighter, whose country had paid, almost in equal measure, for the independence she now enjoyed.

When Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere of Tanzania died in 1999 Emma was one of the people who attended a mass in his honour. She recalled his famous line that "Without unity there is no future for Africa". The death in 1999 of Mqabuko Joshua Nkomo, saw her again join millions of her country men and women who gathered to give thanks for the life of a man who fought so hard for his country's liberation. In subsequent years, Emma found herself in different gatherings to remember such gallant liberation war heroes and heroines as Look-out Masuku, Leopold Takawira, Sally Mugabe, Joana Matuyane Nkomo, Alfred Mangena, Jason Moyo, Simon Muzenda, Ruth Chinamano, Naomi Nhwatiwa and many others.

Hamunyari, the albino was always an inspiration to Emma. Unfortunately, she did not make it back from the war. She could have died from a bullet or of natural causes and today, she remains one of the unsung heroines of the liberation struggle, one of the "unknown" soldiers, along with people with obscure names like her friend Rudo, Comrade Serbia etc. Their names never made it into the public narrative and discourse.

The key lesson that Emma took from the liberation struggle was that the war effort knew no national boundaries and no gender or age stereotypes. Men and women fought side by side. In fact, in many cases women took the lead. Such was the case of Comrade Serbia who is reported as having commanded an all-male battalion in Mozambique. Further to this, Africans from all over the continent sheltered and helped each other in true Pan African spirit. They provided military bases, logistical and other support for the fighters of neighbouring countries. This support was costly both in human and material terms.

Today, Emma works for a large multinational company. She is under no illusion however, about the war that lies ahead for the continent; i.e. for health, education, equality, equitable economic and social development, integration, mainstreaming of women and youth, trade, infrastructure development, and sustainable peace among others. Yet, she is a proud African who realizes that the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Africa took that first step. The continent now needs to consolidate the gains of independence and push forward into a more glorious phase of prosperity, peace, and integration.



Sustaining the New Wave of Pan Africanism

Former Namibian President Dr Sam Nujoma delivered one of the most popular speeches on Pan Africanism at the University of Namibia in 2010. The article below is an excerpt of that speech.

Former Namibian President Dr Sam Nujoma delivered one of the most popular speeches on Pan Africanism at the University of Namibia in 2010. The article below is an excerpt of that speech.

The ideology of Pan-Africanism has taken root on the continent of Africa and the Diaspora following the prominent work undertaken by its earlier proponents in the Diaspora led by William Du Bois, Marcus Garvey and others who resisted the ideology of white supremacy and asserted our rights to dignity, freedom and self-determination from the beginning of the 16th century during the advent of the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

It was the slave trade that produced the forced migration of just over 11 million people as slave labourers. Of those, fewer than 9.6 million survived the middle passage across the Atlantic to the Americas and the Caribbean Islands.

This loss of population and potential population was a major factor leading to Africa's subsequent conquest and economic underdevelopment while the human and other resources that were taken from Africa contributed to the capitalist development and wealth of Europe.

However, as early as the 18th century, the African people never accepted slavery and oppression and always resisted slavery. For example, people such as Toussaint L'Ouverture, the leader of the successful slave revolution from Saint Dominique, helped to establish the Republic of Haiti, the first country of African descent to gain its own independence as a symbol of the successful liberation and independence of the African people in the Diaspora.

During the 19th century when European colonial activities increased, culminating in the scramble for Africa and the onset of the era of imperialism, some people of African descent in the Diaspora, like Martin Delany and Edward Blyden, were advocating for a physical return to Africa. Blyden particularly inspired the Francophone Négritude movement, while Delany was the first to coin the phrase "Africa for Africans".

The first wave of Pan-Africanism on the African continent was borne out of the various Pan African conferences which were held at the beginning of 1900, with the most important one taking place in London and attended by prominent Pan-Africanists such as lawyer Henry Sylvester Williams of Trinidad and Tobago, George Padmore and W.E.B. Du Bois. After the death of Sylvester Williams in 1911, Du Bois took over from where Williams left and organized a

series of Pan-African conferences from 1919 to 1927 in London, Paris, Brussels, Lisbon and in New York.

The 5th Pan-African Congress held in Manchester, England in 1945, was the most important of these meetings and was attended by African scholars such as Dr Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Chief Nnamdi Azikiwe of Nigeria, Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya, Hastings Kamuzu Banda of Malawi and many others.

One of the aims and objectives of the OAU was to get rid, from the African continent, of the last vestiges of colonialism and apartheid minority white occupation. For that reason, the OAU established the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, which was based in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

In subsequent years, African nationalists such as Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Ahmed Ben Bella of Algeria, Ahmed Sekou Touré of Guinea, Modibo Keita of Mali, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Patrice Lumumba of Congo, Dr Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Amílcar Cabral of Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe, Dr Antonio Augustinho Neto of Angola, Samora Machel of Mozambique among other African leaders of the early 1960s kept the spirit of Pan-Africanism alive on the African continent. Among these prominent Pan-Africanists, we should single out Dr Kwame Nkrumah, who was a true Pan-Africanist and had a deeply rooted commitment to the unity of Africa.

Dr Nkrumah truly believed in the total liberation of the African continent. When Ghana achieved its independence from colonial rule in 1957, Dr Nkrumah said, "The independence of Ghana is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of the African continent." It is for this reason that Ghana became a beacon of hope that drew many from the Diaspora to Africa but also played an important role in building a new Pan-Africanism centred on the continent, which, on May 25, 1963, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, culminated in the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

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vestiges of colonialism and apartheid minority white occupation. For that reason, the OAU established the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, which was based in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.

The Liberation Committee was to render assistance such as military training and financial support to the national liberation movements fighting colonial rule and minority white regimes on the African continent.

Through the Liberation Committee, the OAU rendered and mobilised political, diplomatic and material support to all the freedom fighters, with training bases for those who were fighting against Portuguese colonialism as well as those who were fighting against the minority white apartheid colonialism in Namibia and South Africa.

The independence of Zambia in 1964 brought a new dimension to the liberation of Southern Africa. As a result, the white colonial settlers in Angola, Mozambique, Southern Rhodesia and South Africa imposed economic sanctions against Zambia.

In the true spirit of Pan-Africanism, when Angola and Mozambique achieved their freedom and independence in 1975, Presidents Kaunda of Zambia, Nyerere of Tanzania, Neto of Angola, Machel of Mozambique and Sir Seretse Khama of Botswana formed the Frontline States, later joined by President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe upon his country's independence in 1980; and resisted the machinations of the colonial settlers and apartheid forces.

Equally worth mentioning here, the Federal Republic of Nigeria under the leadership of General Murtala Mohamed became fully involved in the liberation struggle in Southern Africa and as a result, the Frontline States became known as the Frontline States and Nigeria.

Dr Nkrumah once said, "Only a united Africa ... can give effective material and moral support to our Freedom Fighters in Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), Angola, Mozambique, South-West Africa (Namibia), Bechuanaland (Botswana), Swaziland, Basutoland (Lesotho), Portuguese Guinea and of course South Africa."



Panafricanisme et Fondements Théoriques de la Dynamique Intégrationniste Africaine

Par : Youssoupha Responsable Information, Communication et Vulgarisation, UNION AFRICAINE SAFGRAD Ouagadougou Burkina Faso,



Au regard de l'histoire des dernières décennies, la dynamique intégrationniste des Etats-nation africains demeure constamment palpable, bien avant même l'accession à la souveraineté internationale autour des années « 1960 ».

Dans ce processus, le mouvement panafricainiste, né de la diaspora outre-Atlantique, a joué indéniablement un rôle historique décisif dans la théorisation de l'unité africaine. En réalité d'autres justifications d'ordre économique ou purement politique sont également invoquées pour appréhender la tendance intégrationniste des leaders Africains dont l'ambition ultime incarnée par l'Union Africaine n'a jamais été aussi prometteuse malgré des défis tenaces. Une volonté intégrationniste jamais démentie

Nonobstant des résultats perfectibles, la volonté d'intégration est permanente au niveau des Etats-nation africains. En réalité, une des principales caractéristiques de l'intégration régionale en Afrique est la multiplicité des organisations dont les mandats et les objectifs se chevauchent parfois. Rien qu'en Afrique de l'Ouest, on dénombrerait une trentaine d'Organisations Intergouvernementales sous régionales (OIG) pour une quinzaine d'Etats-nation. Selon une étude du GTZ datant de 2009, « Sur les 53 pays (africains), 26 retiennent une double adhésion ; 20 sont membres de trois CER ; la RDC appartient à quatre CER ; et seuls 6 pays ne sont membres que d'une seule CER » (GTZ, 2009).

Bien avant même les indépendances groupées de l'année charnière 1960, des prémises de rassemblement entre les jeunes Etats africains se sont faits jour un peu partout en Afrique y compris en Afrique de l'Ouest. Il en est ainsi de l'Union Guinée-Ghana dès 1959, de la Fédération du Mali, regroupant la même jusqu'à quatre pays de l'Ex Afrique Occidentale Française (AOF). En réponse au projet de la Fédération du Mali, l'Union Sahel-Bénin devenue par la suite Conseil de l'Entente est établie en mai 1959 sous la houlette de la Côte d'Ivoire. Du côté de l'Afrique Orientale, les regroupements ont été plus tardifs mais dès juin 1963, la République du Tanganyika de Julius Nyerere, le Kenya de Jomo Kenyatta et l'Ouganda de Milton Obote créèrent la Fédération de l'Afrique Orientale. La liste n'est pas exhaustive !

Dans un tel contexte, l'avènement de l'Organisation de l'Unité Africaine (OUA) le 25 mai 1963 à Addis-Abeba et sa transformation

ultérieure en Union Africaine (UA) apparaissent comme l'aboutissement d'un processus. Dès lors, il y a lieu de s'interroger sur les sous-bassements théoriques intrinsèques de cette tendance naturelle des pays africains à des regroupements supranationaux nonobstant des résultats encore perfectibles.

Mais de prime abord que recouvre le concept d'intégration ?

Les spécialistes des relations internationales font généralement démarrer les premières initiatives importantes d'intégration à la fin de la seconde Guerre mondiale (1939-1945). Le projet européen d'intégration, qui a été porté sur les fonts baptismaux en 1951, avec la signature du traité dit de Paris aboutissant des décennies plus tard à l'Union Européenne, sert souvent de référence. Cependant, au regard de l'évolution complexe des expériences qui ont vu le jour çà et là dans le monde, notamment en Afrique, force est de constater que le concept d'intégration, quel que soit le qualificatif qui l'accompagne (économique, politique, régionale, etc.), n'est pas simple à appréhender. Par conséquent, de nombreuses définitions et théories ont été formulées pour tenter de conceptualiser ladite notion.

Le dictionnaire définit de manière relativement simpliste le terme « Intégration » comme « le fait de s'intégrer ». De même, l'expression « Intégration économique » est définie comme « l'ensemble des procédés par lesquels deux ou plusieurs Etats créent un espace économique commun pouvant prendre plusieurs formes : zone de libre-échange, union douanière, marché commun, union économique, intégration économique totale. »

Dans la littérature des sciences humaines et sociales (SHS), le terme « intégration » s'accompagne d'autres mots ou expressions pour donner : « intégration régionale », « intégration économique », « intégration économique et politique », « union économique », « régionalisme », « régionalisation », etc. Ces concepts sont souvent utilisés avec des sens et significations très voisins.

Ainsi, selon le chercheur français Olivier Dabène, « la notion d'intégration régionale est apparue au lendemain de la seconde guerre mondiale sous la plume d'analystes préoccupés par la consolidation de la paix ». Il semble même que le terme soit absent de la littérature économique avant 1953 si l'on se fie aux travaux de F. Machlup (rapportés par Ntumba Luaba Lumu).

Même si la notion est complexe à appréhender, nous devons à Bela Belassa, dans sa théorie de l'intégration économique, la description du processus d'intégration économique en cinq (05) phases allant de la zone de libre-échange à l'intégration totale en passant par l'union douanière, le marché commun et l'union économique.

En réalité, il semble qu'il y ait plusieurs dimensions dans les expériences d'intégration régionale en cours dans le monde. En gros, ces dimensions sont de trois catégories à savoir : (i) commerciale, financière, monétaire, économique par les convergences de la croissance, (ii) sectorielle, institutionnelle par les règles et les normes et (iii) politique et culturelle. Il faut dire que la majorité des auteurs semble s'inspirer du modèle d'intégration européenne qui a été de prime abord économique. Ce qui explique probablement que les définitions proposées se focalisent principalement sur les aspects économiques au détriment de la dimension politique.

Dans le cadre du processus africain d'intégration, nous faisons nôtre cette assertion de Fabrice Larat (2003) selon laquelle : « Le concept d'intégration décrit tout à la fois une situation et un processus et contient une dimension normative (...) Dans le domaine



politique, cela signifie l'apparition d'une entité propre, c'est-à-dire d'un cadre d'action et de référence qui se situe au-dessus des États-nations. »

Les soubassements théoriques de l'intégration. Il existe une floraison de théories développées sur la question de l'intégration avec un accent particulier sur la dimension économique. Dans le dédale de ces repères conceptuels figure en bonne place le panafricanisme qui revêt plus une orientation philosophico-rationnelle, culturelle voire politique qu'économique.

La théorie fonctionnaliste de l'intégration est l'une des toutes premières à être élaborées. Datant de l'entre-deux-guerres, elle est l'œuvre du chercheur d'origine roumaine David Mitran (1888-1975) qui l'a développée dans deux ouvrages majeurs parus respectivement en 1933 et 1943. Le fonctionnalisme privilégie une approche plutôt techniciste de l'intégration au détriment de la perspective politique. Cette théorie aurait influencé les penseurs de la construction européenne comme Jean Monnet ou Robert Schuman.

Toutefois, au contact des réalités complexes de la construction européenne, la théorie fonctionnaliste va très vite évoluer et donner naissance ce qu'il a été convenu d'appeler les théories néo-fonctionnalistes. Ce courant de pensée incarné principalement par le chercheur américain d'origine germanique Ernst Bernard Haas (1924-2003) a réintroduit la perspective politique dans le fonctionnalisme jugé trop technocratique et déterministe. Un rôle important est ainsi accordé aux leaders et à l'élite politique dans la construction de l'intégration.

En dehors du fonctionnalisme et du néo-fonctionnalisme, d'autres courants de pensée ont marqué l'évolution paradigmatique des questions d'intégration. Il s'agit par exemple du « réalisme », de « l'institutionnalisme », du « néo-institutionnalisme », du « fédéralisme », etc. Pour le cas africain, le « Panafricanisme » a été déterminant dans la marche vers l'intégration. Ce dernier élément qui se rapproche davantage de la pensée et de l'idéologie politiques a eu une influence décisive dans la création des institutions panafricaines à l'instar de

l'OUA et de l'UA.

La pensée panafricaniste et l'intégration africaine

Le Panafricanisme peut être défini, d'après Peter Olanwuche Esedebe, comme « un mouvement politique et culturel qui considère l'Afrique, les Africains et les descendants d'Africains à l'étranger comme un seul ensemble et qui vise à régénérer et unifier l'Afrique ainsi qu'à encourager un sentiment de solidarité entre les populations du monde africain ». Selon W.E.B. Dubois, on doit au jamaïcain Edward Wilmot Blyden (1832-1912) ce mot qui est apparu pour la première fois en 1900 lors du premier congrès sur le Panafricanisme tenu à Londres.

Le concept de Panafricanisme, qui a recouvert des caractéristiques multiformes, semble remonter loin dans l'histoire africaine, au moins au XVIII^e siècle au moment de l'esclavage et de ses conséquences néfastes sur l'Afrique et les peuples noirs. Comme le note le burkinabè Philippe Ouedraogo : « vers la fin du XVIII^e siècle, un mouvement politique va se développer à travers les Amériques, l'Europe et l'Afrique, avec le projet d'unir les mouvements disparates en un réseau de solidarité pour mettre fin à l'oppression. Il va conduire au panafricanisme ». L'historien et ancien secrétaire général de l'OUA, le togolais Edem Kodjo s'inscrit dans la même veine lorsqu'il affirme avec David Chanaiwa, dans le tome 8 de la série des publications de l'UNESCO (1998) sur « l'histoire générale de l'Afrique », que « le panafricanisme est né au Nouveau Monde, aux XVIII^e et XIX^e siècles, à la faveur de la lutte de libération des Noirs contre la domination et l'exploitation des Blancs »

Dans l'émergence du Mouvement panafricaniste, la balkanisation de l'Afrique au lendemain de la Conférence de Berlin (1885-1886) apparaît comme un élément catalyseur. En effet, moins d'une quinzaine d'années plus tard s'est tenu le premier congrès panafricain à Londres en 1900. Dès lors sous l'influence de ses figures marquantes comme Edward Wilmot Blyden (1832 - 1912), Henry Sylvester Williams (1869-1911), Marcus Mosiah Garvey (1887-1940), William Edward Burghardt (W.E.B.) Du

Bois (1868-1963), Kwame Nkrumah (1909-1972), etc. le Panafricanisme a connu plusieurs phases différenciées dans son évolution. La pensée panafricaniste, apparue tour à tour comme un mouvement philosophico-rationnel, culturel et politique, a contribué de manière décisive à l'accession à l'indépendance des territoires coloniaux africains à partir des années 1950 et 1960. L'historiographie retient du mouvement les trois principales phases suivantes : (i) Des débuts du Panafricanisme à la veille de la première Guerre mondiale (XVII^e s.- 1912) ; (ii) l'ère des grands congrès panafricains (1919-1945) ; (iii) la marche du Mouvement panafricanistes vers les indépendances africaines.

Par ailleurs, l'accession à l'indépendance dans la division des États africains et le supposé triomphe du camp dit des « minimalistes » lors de la création de l'OUA semblaient marquer une certaine désillusion du rêve politique panafricaniste. Cependant sur le plan purement culturel, le flambeau du Panafricanisme paraissait bien entretenu au travers d'un certain nombre d'initiatives prises au cours des premières années postindépendance. En outre, à la disparition sur la scène politique des pionniers du Panafricanisme tels que Nkrumah, Julius Nyerere ou Gamal Abdel Nasser, des chercheurs ou hommes politiques ont tenté avec plus ou moins de succès de raviver la flamme du Panafricanisme. Parmi les hommes et femmes politiques, un nom devenu une véritable icône, se détache. C'est celui Nelson Mandela Madiba, héros de la lutte contre l'Apartheid en Afrique du Sud.

Les principales justifications des projets d'intégration régionale

Il faut dire qu'à côté des nombreuses théories plus ou moins pertinentes, plusieurs justifications sont avancées par les chercheurs pour expliquer l'émergence et l'évolution des projets d'intégration régionale. Les raisons avancées tiennent pour l'essentiel à des considérations d'ordre économique, politique et géostratégique.

Les questions d'ordre économique

Les économistes mettent en avant les ques-



tions d'économie d'échelle et de concurrence. Les bénéfices attendus des initiatives d'intégration toucheraient ainsi l'économie générale des pays concernés notamment les entreprises et subséquemment l'emploi et la consommation. Ces retombées économiques justifieraient les tendances récentes à l'intégration économique régionale notées ces dernières décennies avec la création ou le renforcement d'entités telles que le MERCOSUR, l'ALENA, l'ASEAN, la CEDEAO, le COMESA, etc. malgré la mondialisation et la globalisation de l'économie de la planète.

Pour le cas spécifique africain, l'intégration régionale serait une stratégie pour sortir du sous-développement. Ainsi que le note le chercheur Issiaka K. Souaré, « conscients de leur handicap, les pays africains semblent avoir favorisé l'« intégration régionale » comme la meilleure stratégie pour réussir leur transformation économique ».

Les Questions d'ordre politique et géostratégique

A côté des questions économiques, des raisons purement politiques sont également agitées pour justifier l'intégration régionale. Ainsi les nécessités du renforcement ou de la préservation de la paix contre les menaces internes ou externes sont souvent invoquées. Ces considérations seraient à l'origine du processus de la création de l'Union européenne ainsi que l'avoue Robert Schuman qui parlant de la production de l'acier et du charbon déclarait en 1950 que : « La solidarité de production qui sera ainsi nouée manifestera que toute guerre entre la France et l'Allemagne devient non seulement impensable, mais matériellement impossible ».

Les considérations d'ordre politique et géostratégique sont encore plus flagrantes dans le cas du modèle panafricain. En effet, elles ont été mises en avant à la fois lors de la création de l'Organisation de l'Unité Africaine (OUA) en 1963 mais également avec l'Union Africaine (UA) qui a pris la succession en juillet 2001. En effet, les pères fondateurs de l'OUA, même s'ils ont rejeté d'emblée un gouvernement supranational et panafricain, tel que théorisé par Kwame Nkrumah, avaient mis en avant la

nécessité de combattre le colonialisme et de consolider l'Etat-Nation hérité de la colonisation européenne. Egalement en 2001, l'acte fondateur de l'UA a fait la part belle aux questions de paix et de sécurité tout en réaffirmant la nécessité d'accélérer l'unité continentale et le développement durable.

Des opportunités prometteuses malgré des défis contraignants
En dernière analyse, on peut considérer que malgré les nombreux défis qui ont pour noms problèmes de financement, questions de paix et de sécurité, gouvernance politique, chevauchement des entités, la dynamique intégrationniste africaine peut tirer aujourd'hui avantage de nombreuses opportunités qu'elle offre le continent africain à la face du monde.

En effet, sur le plan démographique, l'Afrique, avec une population d'un milliard et demi d'habitants en 2030 et deux (02) milliards en 2050, sera autant peuplé sinon plus que l'Inde ou la Chine. Il s'y ajoute, comme l'indique un rapport d'un panel de haut niveau de la Banque Africaine de Développement (BAD), que sur le plan économique, « la quasi-totalité des indicateurs macro-économiques en Afrique sont déjà positifs : inflation, réserves de change, gestion budgétaire et ratio d'endettement présentent tous des tendances encourageantes ». Mieux, sur les dix (10) dernières années, l'Afrique prise globalement est la zone qui enregistre la deuxième croissance économique la plus rapide avec une moyenne 5.1 % sur toute la décennie avec une relative bonne stabilité politique et des réformes politiques favorables à une dynamisation du secteur privé. Ces chiffres révèlent toute leur signification quand on les compare à la situation de quasi récession économique que connaissent la plupart des pays considérés comme développés.

Aussi armée de la pensée panafricaniste, la dynamique intégrationniste qui a culminé en 2002 à Durban en Afrique du Sud avec le lancement de l'Union Africaine avec ses nombreuses initiatives (NEPAD, PDDAA, MAEP, etc.) n' jamais été aussi proche de concrétiser l'ambition des pères fondateurs à savoir « une Afrique unie et prospère » !

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Thinking of the documentary heritage of the OAU and AU: The archives are the institution's memory and pride

By Chedza Molefe (Archivist)

At 50 years of the organization's existence, its archives must have a home. The major role of the archives is to gather, collate, manage and preserve the rich history and heritage of the OAU and AU, and also to allow stories to be told and preserved for future generations to learn from the OAU and AU's history that illustrates the profound intelligence of the founders and of African leadership.

Issues of great importance have been tackled in various amazing African ways that have set the historical path to where Africa is today. The AUC archive's role is to ensure that the documentary heritage of the organization survives and stays intact through centuries. It is disheartening to see that 50 years down the line, AUC Archives still does not have a home. The Chairperson of AUC noted, when she met with Directorate of Strategic Policy Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilisation (SPPMERM), that indeed the archives should be an important component of the organization. She expressed her surprise that at this stage the archives was still underdeveloped. She instructed that something must be done urgently to remedy the situation. The Director of SPPMERM is also upbeat to see improvement in archives and has spoken to the Head of his Resource Mobilization Team to try to find ways of improving the archives situation. In view of these developments, the archives staff, having experienced a lot of hardships in trying to establish a system that suits the organization, are now beginning to see a ray of hope.

For the past few years, there have been many initiatives in the archives including renovation of the old archives room that was demolished; acquisition of compact/mobile shelves in 2008 that are yet to be installed; acquisition of acid-free archival boxes that cannot be used yet as the current place is too dirty; and the acquisition of a heavy duty book scanner (now sitting in a very dirty room) for the digitalization project, have always been frustrated by lack of dedicated or fixed accommodation for the archives.

This year, 2013, the AU is celebrating 50 years of existence, resilience and achievement. Looking towards the next half century, it is clear that more work will be done to build onto the past and current endeavours. Evidence of these efforts must be clearly recorded, documented and preserved. As our generation celebrates today, there is a need to think about leaving a legacy for the future. History can only judge the current generation through information generated today, that will be available and accessible to the future generations. Change is inevitable, the next generations have the right to inherit the knowledge we generate today. They will be well served by complete records, illustrating the long journey of Africa's development, preserved for posterity and handed down in acceptable formats. While it is our right to celebrate our achievements and those of our forebears, we need to think about how best to collect, repatriate, collate and preserve records as evidence of past events that have helped to shape Africa.

Interestingly, it seems that while the OAU Charter gave some importance to the documented heritage of the organization, such importance is not expressed in the AU Constitutive Act. The logical improvement of records maintenance from OAU to AU in tandem with the world as it moved to the information age has not been significantly incorporated into the AU mandate. The role of archives seems to be ill understood and that reflects in its low profile, low priority hence its physical relegation to the periphery of the compound. The current location of the archives in containers and a deteriorating temporary building near a very busy road has a long term negative impact on the longevity of documents and records held there. The temporary structure, in which the archives is located now, is falling apart. First, the ceiling started to fall in February the shelves collapsed burying collection in a rubble.

After 50 years, the collections of records, documents and other material of historical value (The memory of the organization) do not have a home. Countries and organizations take pride in their archives as their historical memory. AU should also.

It is unfortunate that as we celebrate the 50 years anniversary of the OAU, we lament the misfortunes of the archives. It is not apparent how the archives, though acknowledged as important, landed at the bottom of the AU priority list, but it clearly needs to be rescued. Interestingly, OAU was well aware of the importance of records. In the 70s lack of document management was noted as a problem. In 1981, CM/1073(XXXVI) Part 1 noted that "It would be a most serious failure to allow so many historical documents to perish for lack of care". CM/1793(LIX) Add. 2, observed that "the reorganization of the archives unit and the storing of documents using scanning techniques will guarantee safety for all past and future historical documents of the OAU". Indeed, in 1995 a project to digitize the OAU documents was initiated. For such early years, the effort was commendable although the project failed to yield any results.

As we celebrate this 50th anniversary, we should reflect on past and present challenges and plan for the future. The situation of archives at the AUC is disappointing. Left to continue along the current route, it is an entity threatened with extinction. Disheartening is the fact that after 50 years, there is no archives building. Archives buildings are normally unique structures, characterized by specific structural design, controlled environment and are reinforced for structural integrity. While such a building is typically expensive it is usually an investment that most organizations are willing to make as it typically expresses the value of its content and showcases the pride of the organization's heritage.

OAU and AU records are without a doubt an important asset of the organization. Our pride in the achievements today should necessarily include the documentary heritage.

Retention and preservation of records and documents for the coming generations has not been given due attention. I believe that as we celebrate achievements, and it is our right, we should conceive new visions and forecast a better future of the archives in the coming years.

The Archives staff have remained positive in spite of the odds that have habitually clogged their pathways. As the staff waits and hopes for a bright future, they have among other activities, assessed the state of records and documents at the AUC and are now certain that archives is a necessity. Even without accommodation, the archives has recorded some achievements towards the conceived future. A digital database has been installed and it is now running smoothly. A workshop to demonstrate and teach other AU documentalists how to use the database and contribute their respective content to the growing repository was held during the week of 22 – 26 April 2013. This will link up the archives with other offices beyond the headquarters. With the help of a consultant, several consultations and workshops have been held within the headquarters. These were to sensitize stakeholders and get their views on various issues. A workshop for departmental clerks was conducted to demonstrate how their work should dovetail with that of the archives and also walk them through the processes of records appraisal and transfer of records from their offices to the archives.



A workshop to demonstrate and teach other AU documentalists how to use the database and contribute their respective content to the growing repository was held during the week of 22 – 26 April 2013

Certainly the archives should be one of the entities that should be used to gauge an organization's stature. The African Union Commission must start thinking systematically about collecting and preserving its records. AU is a major continental organization which has made many major breakthroughs and achievements and must set best trends for Africa. The history of African archives has been one of retrospective building and repatriation of records. For the AU, it has been 50 years, however, not all is lost but we need to see a news impetus. As we go beyond the 50-year mark, there will be a need to put back the archives on the priority list. Building archives that the continent can be proud of will be a monumental task, however, with the support of the AUC's leadership, other authorities and everybody, it can be done. The time is now! The Archives urgently needs a home, proper staff capacity as well as strong support from the top echelons.

Part of the result of the work done with the consultant, the archives now has, albeit in draft form, a policy and procedures manual as well as an implementation roadmap. The relevant superiors now need to ensure that a home is found for the archives and also that the draft policy is approved so that staff can be encouraged to keep up the enthusiasm and implement the roadmap which we believe to be a winning token. It will be a pity if all the work so far done towards the establishment of a proper archives at the AUC is lost and no results are reaped for lack of a home for the archives.

Les statistiques, un des leviers à privilégier pour la Renaissance africaine

Auteurs : Dossina YEO, Chef par intérim de la Division Statistique de la CUA et Samson Bel-Aube NOUGBODOHOUE, Statisticien à la Division Statistique de la CUA

Les statistiques africaines sont toujours sujettes de critiques de tout genre : elles ne sont pas fiables et ne reflètent pas la réalité socio-économique des pays et des régions; elles ne sont pas produites à temps et ne répondent pas au besoin des utilisateurs, etc. Pourtant, ce ne sont pas les plans et les stratégies de développement de la statistique qui font défaut. Mais alors quel est le problème ? Pourquoi la statistique africaine ne se développe-t-elle pas ?

Contrairement aux pays occidentaux où chaque pays a sa propre statistique, les pays africains ont plusieurs statistiques qui diffèrent d'une source à l'autre jetant ainsi le doute sur la qualité des statistiques africaines et donnant raison à Mr Morten Jerven (Février 2013) qui dans son ouvrage intitulé *Poor Numbers* mentionne l'inexactitude des statistiques africaines.

Mais qu'est-ce que la statistique ?

Il est difficile de donner une définition claire et précise de la statistique. En 1935 W.F. Willcox en dénombrait plus d'une centaine de définitions de la statistique. Ici, pour les besoins de cet article, nous retenons que la statistique est l'ensemble des méthodes qui ont pour objet la collecte, le traitement et l'interprétation de données d'observations relatives à un groupe d'individus ou d'unités. C'est aussi la science qui procède à l'étude méthodique dans le but de conduire et d'étayer une réflexion ou de prendre une décision en situation concrète soumise aux aléas de l'incertain.

Vu le caractère très informatif et prévisionnel de la statistique, elle constitue une ressource vitale hier comme aujourd'hui pour les pouvoirs publics, le secteur privé, la société civile, les chercheurs, les universitaires et même les individus pour la bonne gouvernance, la prise de décision, la fixation des objectifs personnels et la mesure des performances accomplies dans l'atteinte des programmes de développement. Et pourtant sur le continent africain, cet outil très important d'analyse et d'aide à la décision est confronté à d'énormes difficultés. D'aucuns pourraient qualifier la situation de la statistique en Afrique de « désert statistique ». En réalité, la production des statistiques en Afrique ne se fait pas à temps réel. Les indicateurs clés du développement comme le produit intérieur brut, le taux de croissance de la population, le taux de mortalité, etc. ne sont pas disponibles à temps réel au niveau des pays. Les méthodologies d'élaboration de ces indicateurs ne sont pas harmonisées d'un pays à l'autre et ne prennent pas souvent en compte le secteur informel de la vie socioéconomique de l'Afrique donc ne traduisent pas les réalités

africaines.

L'irrégularité des enquêtes et des recensements ; l'inexistence et le peu de qualité des sources administratives et/ou de fichiers administratifs expliqueraient partiellement l'inexactitude et la discontinuité et la non-punctualité des statistiques africaines. En outre, dans la plupart des pays africains, moins de 10% des budgets des grandes opérations de collecte de données sont financés par les partenaires au développement. De même, les ressources humaines de qualité font énormément défaut. Cette situation témoigne le faible engagement politique des pays africains en faveur de la statistique.

Par ailleurs, l'absence totale de données fiables sur l'Afrique, nous amènent à nous poser les questions suivantes : Sur quelles bases les ambitieux programmes de développement tant au niveau national, régional que continental se font-ils? Comment les africains planifient-ils leur développement ? Sur quelles bases les africains fondent-ils leurs prévisions conjoncturelles ? Et comment assurent-ils le suivi/évaluation ? Ne dit-on que pas sans statistiques, il est impossible de gérer ! Comment prouver que nos politiques marchent-elles si nous ne pouvons pas mesurer avec suffisamment de précision les résultats ?

Même si l'avènement des OMD a permis d'accroître le volume des financements des partenaires en faveur de la statistique en Afrique cela a accéléré la demande en information statistique et constitue un poids supplémentaire à supporter par les systèmes statistiques nationaux déjà faibles et équipés en moyens encore très rudimentaires.

Pour pallier cette situation, les partenaires au développement plus précisément les institutions de Bretton Woods (le Fonds monétaire international et la Banque mondiale) font des estimations pour obtenir les statistiques des pays africains. Ces estimations qui se basent pour la plupart sur des hypothèses très peu réalistes, ne rendent pas compte des réalités africaines. Malheureusement, les différentes décisions d'appui des partenaires techniques et financières aux pays africains se fondent sur ces estimations. C'est ce qui traduit les différents échecs et l'inefficacité de leurs appuis aux programmes de développement sur le continent.

.....La charte africaine de la statistique et la stratégie pour l'harmonisation des statistiques en Afrique (SHaSA), deux outils majeurs pour sauver la statistique africaine.....

Dans cet environnement où la production statistique est très peu orthodoxe et l'imbricatio



qui entoure sa production, les Chefs d'Etat africains a adopté en juillet 2009 à Addis-Abeba (Ethiopie), la Charte africaine de la statistique qui est un instrument juridique et un code de bonnes pratiques pour le développement statistique. Elle régit non seulement la production des données statistiques au niveau des pays africains, mais aussi le cadre de fonctionnement du système statistique africain. De plus, pour permettre la production de données harmonisées de qualité, les Chefs d'Etat a adopté en juillet 2010 à Kampala (Ouganda), la Stratégie pour l'harmonisation des statistiques en Afrique (SHaSA).

Malgré cette forte volonté politique au plus haut niveau, on constate toujours un ralentissement dans leur mise en œuvre. A ce jour, ce sont 27 pays qui ont signé la charte et seulement 8 qui l'ont ratifiée et nous notons aussi un manque d'engagement politique à doter les pays de ressources adéquates leur permettant de mettre en œuvre la SHaSA. Dès lors, les stratégies sectorielles pour la mise en œuvre de SHaSA tels que le programme de comparaison internationale (PCI), le plan d'action pour la production des statistiques harmonisées sur le marché du travail en Afrique, le plan d'action pour la production des statistiques harmonisées sur le commerce extérieur en Afrique, la stratégie africaine de mise en œuvre du Système de Comptabilité Nationale 2008 (SCN 2008) etc. souffrent d'énormes difficultés financières pour leur réalisation. Cet état de chose appelle à un élan d'intérêt et solidarité pour sauver la statistique africaine.

Cependant, des efforts sont en cours sur le continent pour booster le développement de la statistique. Nous pouvons citer en exemple les dirigeants Sud-africains, qui ont mobilisé d'importantes ressources pour faire avancer le développement de la statistique en Afrique du Sud et aussi sensibiliser les autres pays pour la conduite des recensements pour le cycle 2005-2014 des recensements ainsi que le programme sur l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil pour remédier à l'irrégularité des recensements très coûteux. Ce plaidoyer a connu un succès assez éclatant car seul la Somalie ne sera pas capable de conduire le recensement au cours de ce cycle.

Malgré ce tableau très peu reluisant de la production statistique, la CUA avec l'appui de ses partenaires s'évertue à développer des outils pour la mise en œuvre de la Charte et de la SHaSA en renforçant les capacités des pays et en les encourageant à utiliser des méthodes

modernes dans la collecte de données tels que les domaines des statistiques de gouvernance, paix et sécurité, les statistiques du marché du travail et les statistiques du commerce et de la balance des paiements, etc. A cela, avec le soutien de la BAD, la Commission entend mettre à la disposition des pays une plateforme informatique en vue de favoriser la diffusion et le partage des données entre pays et CER ; et pays et les organisations panafricaines.

.....La création de l'institut de statistique de l'Union africaine, organisme continental pour la coordination et l'appui technique pour le développement de la statistique.

La dernière décision des Chefs d'Etat de janvier 2013 de créer un institut de statistique à l'instar de EUROSTAT pour soutenir la production des statistiques officielles de l'Afrique en étroite collaboration avec les instituts nationaux de statistique permettra certainement l'émergence des statistiques africaines de qualité, comparables dans le temps et dans l'espace en vue d'un bon suivi et évaluation des engagements dans lesquels les états membres se sont engagés dans le cadre du processus de développement tant au niveau national, régional que continental. Au nombre de ces performances figurent les programmes phares de l'Union africaine comme le NEPAD, le CAADP, le PIDA, le MIR, le CAR-MMA, etc.

Nous disons à l'UA « à chaque pays sa statistique ». Les statistiques africaines doivent être produites par l'Afrique et relèvent de la souveraineté nationale car selon Macauley "les chiffres disent toujours ce que souhaite l'homme habile qui sait en jouer". Si nous ne produisons pas nous-mêmes nos statistiques ; d'autres vont les produire pour nous et celles-ci traduiront les messages de leurs producteurs. C'est pourquoi, Dr Kouassi, Directeur des affaires économiques à l'UA ne cesse de répéter que l'Afrique doit pouvoir s'auto-évaluer sur la base des données produites par elle-même en vue de renforcer sa souveraineté et de mieux affirmer son africanité.

Les dirigeants africains devront donc doter l'Institut africain de statistique de moyens humains, matériels et financiers et les pays devront également accepter d'appliquer les directives communes adoptées selon les réalités et spécificités africaines en vue de permettre à l'Afrique de produire sa propre statistique pour les besoins de son développement. Sinon, l'espoir suscité par l'avènement de l'Institut sera un vœu pieux.



Africa's Blue Economy in Pan Africanism and African Renaissance



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Maritime Strategy (2050
AIM-Strategy) Task Force



This May 25th 2013 will be marked as a significant day in the life of our organization as it will mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of the OAU/AU. The theme of the summit is Pan Africanism and African Renaissance.

At the Opening session of the 20th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Addis Ababa, January 27, 2013 Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission said in her welcome remarks.

"The continent is endowed with rich natural resources, including mineral and marine resources as well as vast arable land. These are critical components in the industrial and agricultural developmental processes that should drive economic growth, trade and social transformation."

Further she pointed out that:

"We must therefore take bold steps and fight for pride of place in the world, as a global growth pole. We must develop our narrative and challenge conventional thinking and paradigms. We must re-ignite the passion of our founders and our people in Pan Africanism, through unity, self-reliance, integration and solidarity."

"During this and the commemorative summit in May - as we renew our commitment to Pan Africanism and African Renaissance - we shall take time to address some of the other challenges on our transformation path. These not only include old and new threats to peace and security, but also slow progress with diversification of our economies and the need to rapid-

ly increase inter-Africa trade and global market access."

At the end of her speech, she asked these important questions:

*"How can Africa harnesses its resources to ensure that it funds and therefore determines its development agenda?
What is it that we have not done, or that we could do differently?"*

This article will try to give a Maritime perspective on how the African Union, with/through its 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM-Strategy) as a new tool, is focusing to realize Maritime African Renaissance bearing in mind Pan Africanism.

The Strategy integrates an annexed Plan of Action for its operationalization with clearly defined vision and achievable goals, including specific desirable objectives, activities and milestones towards attaining the strategic end state of increased wealth creation in a stable, clean and secured African Maritime Domain (AMD).

The 2050 AIM Strategy with its Plan of Action is one of the concrete plans that will support all the work that has to be done, as Dr Dlamini Zuma outlined in her speech. It's a long and daunting list: science and technology innovation; agriculture development; infrastructure development; trade and investment support; development of industries; peace, stability and good governance; mainstreaming of women and youth; resource mobilisation and management; and strengthening the institutional ca-

capacity of the Union itself and its organs.

How does the 2050 AIM Strategy address African Renaissance?

Africa's inland waters, oceans and seas are under pressure. Over the years, traditional maritime activities, such as shipping or fisheries have intensified, while new ones, such as aquaculture or offshore renewable energy, emerged. However, the rise in intensity of activities at sea is taking place against the backdrop of insecurity, various forms of illegal trafficking, degradation of the marine environment, falling biodiversity and aggravated effects of climate change. In the past decades direct aggregate losses of revenue from illegal activities in Africa's Maritime Domain (AMD) amounted to hundreds of billions US dollars, not to mention the loss of lives.

The development agenda of the African Union (AU) promotes, among other things, human capital development and improved standard of living. It is inclusive and based on a human-centered approach to development where all social groups are engaged. The agenda sees an Africa using its own resources to take its rightful place in a multi-polar, inter-reliant and more equitable world. In the maritime domain of Africa, the wide variety of activities are inter-related to some extent, and all have a potential impact on the prosperity derivative through their contributions to social, economic and political stability, and safety and security. Notably, therefore, the approach to regulation and management of maritime issues and resources cannot be confined to a few select sectors or industries.

In developing this 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime (AIM) Strategy, it is recognized that the AMD has vast potential for wealth creation. So also is the realization that AU Member States have common maritime challenges and opportunities, and indeed, significant responsibilities for generating the desirable political will for implementing the strategy.

There cannot be sustainable socio-development without peace and security, and without development and empowerment no sustain-



Soren Skovbjerg Nielsen, Maritime Strategic Planner
2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIM-Strategy) Task Force



Mrs Christiane Yanrou, ITC & Outreach Expert

"Together, let's navigate the future... now! Keep an eye on www.au.int/maritime, and swim with us on Twitter and Facebook in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and... Kiswahili. Fair winds!"

(End of year email sent on 16 Dec. 2011, by H.E. Mr. Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the AUC to all Staff in Addis and around the world, all Member States and Partners.)

able peace will occur. Therefore, to further boost maritime viability in Africa, building on the security-socio-development nexus, the AU shall establish a cross-sectoral Strategic Foresight Marine Task Force (SFMTF) to assess the broad spectrum of current marine activities, bearing in mind the future potential for wealth creation from sustainable development in the African Maritime Domain (AMD) and how to make Africa's maritime industry more competitive for international and regional trade and as a source of sustainable food supply and energy. This would require identifying sectors with the most growth potential (such as ports, aquaculture, renewable energy, submarine telecommunications, tourism and marine biotechnology) as well as the sustainability and security of Africa's energy supply not only from hydrocarbons but from renewable marine resources which could further support economic development and sustainable job creation.

Africa's Blue Economy

There are seven missions that have been assigned to the AU Commission (AUC) to bring this vision into reality. They are related and embrace the ideals of peace, stability and all aspects of security, in particular human security. The seven missions are to:

1. Establish an effective and responsible AU;
2. Build consensus around a shared Vision and Agenda in the Continent;
3. Promote the emergence of societies based on the principles of the rule of law, good governance and human security;
4. Promote regional economic cooperation as a foundation for irreversible integration in the Continent;
5. Develop integrated infrastructure;
6. Address the structural causes of poverty and underdevelopment;
7. Enhance the dynamism of African culture and creativity.

The maritime dimension of the seven missions embraces virtually all major issues that Africa is confronted with, namely:

1. Diverse illegal activities which include toxic waste dumping and discharge of oil, dealing in illicit crude oil, arms and drug

2. trafficking, human trafficking and smuggling, piracy and armed robbery at sea;
2. Energy exploitation, climate change, environmental protection and conservation and safety of life and property at sea;
3. Research, innovation and development;
4. Maritime sector development including competitiveness, job creation, international trade, maritime infrastructure, transport, information, communication and technology, and logistics.

For this reason, the time has come for Africa to rethink how to manage her inland water ways, oceans and seas. They are a key pillar for all AU Member States' economic and social development, and are vital in the fight against poverty and unemployment. There is also the urgent imperative to develop a sustainable "blue economy" initiative which would be a marine version of the green economy, one that improves African citizens' well-being while significantly reducing marine environmental risks as well as ecological and biodiversity deficiencies.

Concerning the facilitation of maritime trade, emphasis should be put on setting up of infrastructure and support equipment to shippers, to include: single windows, logistic platforms, dry docks, warehouses, satellite tracking of containers.

In order to improve the picture of one or more aspects of a REC/RM or Member States' maritime sector and facilitate discussion among actors with maritime responsibilities, the AU shall spearhead a full-scale maritime sector assessment that will lead to the activation of relevant reform programs. The envisaged Maritime Sector Reform (MSR) shall map and assess existing capabilities and gaps so as to enable improved cooperation, capacity-building and coordination between all stakeholders towards enhancing wealth creation in a safe and secure AMD across each of the six cross-cutting categories of activities in the maritime sector (Commerce, Fishing, Transport, Defense and Security, Tourism, Education, Scientific Research and Extractive Industries, including the new and evolving industry of Seabed mining).

Specifically the four building blocks for capacity and capability building are:

1. MDA (MDA architecture design, compliance procedures, public participation, interoperable C4ISR architecture, information sharing, environmental protection);
2. Maritime professionals (recruitment process, leadership doctrine, training, pay and benefits, public support, professional relationship);
3. Maritime infrastructure (piers/quays and port facilities, dockyards/shipyards, command centers, aids to navigation and hydrography infrastructure and facilities, C4ISR infrastructure, maintenance facilities, training facilities);
4. Maritime surveillance and response capabilities (legal authorities, patrol vessels and operational equipment, command and control, operational procedure, sub-regional and cross-country interoperability).

The Ministers and heads of delegation participating in the ministerial segment of the 2nd Conference of African Ministers responsible for maritime-related affairs held in Addis Ababa from 03 to 06 December 2012 adopted a declaration that supported the 2050 AIM Strategy by recognizing the challenges and opportunities that there are in the AMD, among this is infrastructure.

In the declaration the delegates therefore commit themselves to; Strengthen and sustain inter-agency collaboration in addressing maritime challenges and opportunities at National levels as well as enhanced cross-border and sub-regional cooperation.

Take all necessary steps to ensure the ratification by the AU Member States of all relevant international instruments and take full advantage of the provisions contained in these various instruments;

And further, to adopt the 2050 AIM-Strategy articulating an overarching, coherent multilayered African-driven long term vision to address Africa's maritime challenges and opportunities.



From OAU to AU: Formation of the African Union

SOURCE: African Union website

Through the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, the continent worked and spoke as one with undivided determination in forging an international consensus in support of the liberation struggle and the fight against apartheid.

The advent of the African Union (AU) can be described as an event of great magnitude in the institutional evolution of the continent. On 9.9.1999, the Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity issued a Declaration (the Sirte Declaration) calling for the establishment of an African Union, with a view, inter alia, to accelerating the process of integration in the continent to enable it play its rightful role in the global economy while addressing multifaceted social, economic and political problems compounded as they are by certain negative aspects of globalisation.

The main objectives of the OAU were, inter alia, to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonization and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity among African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States and to promote international cooperation within the framework of the United Nations.

Indeed, as a continental organization the OAU provided an effective forum that enabled all Member States to adopt coordinated positions on matters of common concern to the continent in international fora and defend the interests of Africa effectively.

Through the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, the Continent worked and spoke as one with undivided determination in forging an international consensus in support of the liberation struggle and the fight against apartheid.

Quest for Unity

African countries, in their quest for unity, economic and social development under the banner of the OAU, have taken various initiatives and made substantial progress in many areas which paved the way for the establishment of the AU. Noteworthy among these are:

Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and the Final Act of Lagos (1980); incorporating programmes and strategies for self reliant development and cooperation among African countries.

The African Charter on Human and People's Rights (Nairobi 1981) and the Grand Bay Declaration and Plan of Action on Human rights: two instruments adopted by the OAU to promote Human and People's Rights in the Continent. The Human Rights Charter led to the establishment of the African Human Rights Commission located in Banjul, The Gambia. Africa's Priority Programme for Economic recovery (APPER) - 1985: an emergency programme designed to address the development crisis of the 1980s, in the wake of protracted drought and famine that had engulfed the continent and the crippling effect of Africa's external indebtedness.

OAU Declaration on the Political and Socio-Economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes taking place in the World (1990): which underscored Africa's resolve to seize the initiative, to determine its destiny and to address the challenges to peace, democracy and security. The Charter on Popular Participation adopted in 1990: a testimony to the renewed determination of the OAU to endeavour to place the African citizen at the center of development and decision-making.

The Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (AEC) - 1991: commonly known as the Abuja Treaty, it seeks to create the AEC through six stages culminating in an African Common Market using the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as building blocks. The Treaty has been in operation since 1994.

The Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (1993): a practical expression of the determination of the African leadership to find solutions to conflicts, promote peace, security and stability in Africa.

Cairo Agenda for Action (1995): a programme for relaunching Africa's political, economic and social development.

African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis (1997): a strategy for addressing the Continent's External Debt Crisis.

The Algiers decision on Unconstitutional Changes of Government (1999) and the Lome Declaration on the framework for an OAU Response to Unconstitutional Changes (2000).

The 2000 Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation: establishes the fundamental principles for the promotion of Democracy and Good Governance in the Continent. Responses to other challenges: Africa has initiated collective action through the OAU in the protection of environment, in fighting international terrorism, in combating the scourge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, malaria and tuberculosis or dealing with humanitarian issues such as refugees and displaced persons, landmines, small and light weapons among others.

The Constitutive Act of the African Union: adopted in 2000 at the Lome Summit (Togo), entered into force in 2001.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) : adopted as a Programme of the AU at the Lusaka Summit (2001).

Advent of the AU



The OAU initiatives paved the way for the birth of AU. In July 1999, the Assembly decided to convene an extraordinary session to expedite the process of economic and political integration in the continent. Since then, four Summits have been held leading to the official launching of the African Union:

- The Sirte Extraordinary Session (1999) decided to establish an African Union
- The Lome Summit (2000) adopted the Constitutive Act of the Union.
- The Lusaka Summit (2001) drew the road map for the implementation of the AU
- The Durban Summit (2002) launched the AU and convened the 1st Assembly of the Heads of States of the African Union.

The Vision of the AU

The AU is Africa's premier institution and principal organization for the promotion of accelerated socio-economic integration of the continent, which will lead to greater unity and solidarity between African countries and peoples.

The AU is based on the common vision of a united and strong Africa and on the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion amongst the peoples of Africa.

As a continental organization it focuses on the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent as a prerequisite for the implementation of the development and integration agenda of the Union.

The Objectives of the AU

- To achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa;
- To defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States;
- To accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent;
- To promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples;
- To encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- To promote peace, security, and stability on the continent;
- To promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance;
- To promote and protect human and peoples' rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments;
- To establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations;
- To promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies;
- To promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples;
- To coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union;
- To advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology;
- To work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.



The New AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa



People queuing up to vote. Promoting democratic principles is one of the objectives of the AU



Views From the Net



Posts on Facebook

Subject: Your vision for Africa in 50 years...

Chiaka E Desmond In 50 years, Africa will be the nucleus of the world. You can already see it happening. Everyone has their eyes on Africa, investors, tourists, Asians, Americans, Europeans, name it. Africa will be the tech hub of the world, Africa has so much potential and Sooooooooo much opportunities. We Africans need to take full possession of our continent, invest in OUR Continent, DO business with Our people, and make the best of it before others snatch it from right under our nose and leave us to wallow in poverty...

January 18 at 5:59pm · Like · 6

Waaqoo Galatoo Africa is still not self sufficient. It is depend on foreign aid in terms of military, money, technical assistance and so on. There is a poverty, drought, war (instability) across the continent. Thus all Africans must, cooperate, work hand in hand to solve these crisis, to help each other, to work for the solution of Africa. Africans problem must get a solution by Africans not by earlier colonizers.

January 18 at 6:02pm · Like · 5

Lwandiso Iso Stemele Self determination!
January 18 at 6:04pm via mobile · Like · 1

Teklu Teshome African must Work hard nd get out of poverty and dependent on z western nd china

January 18 at 6:14pm via mobile · Like

Raphael Kambamwene 1. Succesful joint ventures such as a collective defense organ that will work to protect the interests of Africa as a whole. others may include an African Space Agency. e.t.c. 2. a common currency for the whole continent under an African Central Bank, as well as an African Monetary Fund. 3. Five federal republics in the whole continent; north, south, west, east and central Africa. this will help ease the road to eventual unity of the whole continent.

January 18 at 6:36pm via mobile · Like · 6

Kendjy Joseph half of africa coming together as one nathion and making a leap to becoming a world power

January 18 at 7:06pm · Like · 1

Zororo Benjamin Sekiwa A well industrialised Africa using its own self developed technologies to add value to its own resources and use proceeds to eradicate poverty and diseses.

January 18 at 7:21pm via mobile · Like

Lloyd Chiwocha First we must have a strong TV Channel for NEWS; politics, developments, education, entertainment, Special AU current affairs. All the other activities of AU will be viewed live of later, and this will also give the commission courage to produce good work for the viewership, we must watch live news on emergency issues like Libya case. This must be able to be viewed by every country and be free on setlite TV receivers, eg DSTV.

January 18 at 7:32pm via mobile · Like · 2

Lesedi Reginald Makita Laketi EDUCATION and FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC SECTORS !!! Two things that can eradicate hunger ,unemployment ,cover illness expenses conflicts are always gonna be there but we can learn how to fight in a lawfull method ! sustain African resources when selling in the free market ! develop policies that benefit Africans first !

January 18 at 8:28pm via mobile · Like · 1

Gur Colh Africa is growing up socio-politically and socio-economically. Africa with no internal border restrictions, with giant economy and good governance is our vission..

January 18 at 10:27pm via mobile · Like

Ismael Adamou Boubou Hama Je crois en l'avenir de l'afrique...

January 19 at 12:49am via mobile · Like

Matodzi Elemek as an African citizen i expect an organization like African union to have is own international news channel to represent us as Africans. we are tired of been feed news of our own continent by outsiders who have their own agendas. they will never be peace in Africa until we have a continental mouth peace of our own.

January 20 at 3:29pm · Like · 1

Theodore Star To be frank and sincere, I strongly believe Africa gonna be paradise that everyman would love to live...

January 21 at 9:56am · Like · 1

Mmary Samson i want AU to be a strong institution in the world which will understand the values of the past,present and future Africans

January 27 at 3:23pm · Like

Posts on Twitter

Subject: Your vision for Africa in 50 years...

Colln Jackson Colln Jackson @Judahuk

@_AfricanUnion. I declare within 50 years Africa will make social, political & economical progress. So much so it will shock the world!

Taiwo Okunuga F. Taiwo Okunuga F. @TaiwoOkunuga

@_AfricanUnion, That Africa gets stronger in Unison \$ our Leaders become ready to serve the people well,beyond any avaricious tendency.

Fally Kora Fally Kora @nfallix

@_AfricanUnion a unified Africa. With a free people having the liberties to believe in nation, & willingness to defend its ideals. #Africa

African African @ali_naka

@jakemittle @_AfricanUnion It takes me and you to start working together, and it will take time, but the TIME Is now as we work towards 2063

African African @ali_naka 5h

@jakemittle @_AfricanUnion When our fore fathers came together in 1963, the Mission was to Liberate the continent



Celebrating The OAU's Golden Jubilee: Fifty Years Of Mediating Conflicts In Africa

By Kassim M. Khamis; Political Analyst; Panel of the Wise; Peace and Security Department



The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was mandated to pursue mediation to resolve conflicts in Africa during its creation in May 1963. Article III (4) of the OAU's Charter specified among its principles "peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation or arbitration". Furthermore, the Charter adopted a Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration, as one of its principal institutions. Thus, immediately after its inauguration, the OAU brokered a cease-fire agreement between Morocco and Algeria in October 1963; and subsequently continued with various mediation initiatives.

Nonetheless, the OAU couldn't perform well. The complex political situation in which it was created first made the OAU Charter to be 'uncompromising' in nature, particularly on the issue of member states' sovereignty. It maintained a position of "non-interference in the internal affairs of States". This restricted the OAU's mediation role because it couldn't just intervene in any deteriorating situation. As a consequence, the OAU failed to successfully establish even that important Commission of Mediation. In addition, the Organization had neither adequate resources, nor cooperation with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in resolving conflicts in their regions. Consequently, the whole process ended up unorganized; undertaken on a case-by-case therefore on ad hoc basis.

In 1993, in an attempt to improve performance, the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution was established to replace the Commission of Mediation. It had a wider mandate that led to the creation of the Conflict Management Centre and the deployment of civilian and military missions though of a small number and sizes. However, it, too, performed ineffectively because it was operating under the same 'restrictive' Charter and non-conducive environment of limited resources, and ineffective policies and institutional capacity. Accordingly, mediation remained not well pursued. Ultimately, the Mechanism was also replaced by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) under the African Union (AU).

The AU tried to operate differently to overcome the previous challenges and new ones, such as the changing nature of conflicts that

now included both inter-state and intra-state dimensions. This was by introducing new legal instruments, policies and systems of operation. The Constitutive Act of the AU upheld the promotion of peace and security and enforced democratic principles and good governance. Although the Act has maintained the 'non-interference' in internal affairs of member states, this does not apply at the collective Union level where the AU Assembly has assumed responsibility to intervene in any member state in cases of grave circumstances. Furthermore, the Act has given member states the right to request AU assistance when peace is endangered in their countries; and the latter to reject unconstitutional changes of government. The AU has also advanced closer cooperation with RECs, including in mediation, which is pursued under the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA).

Consequently, the AU mediation mandate has been expanded with a wider role placed on the PSC, the AU Commission (AUC), and RECs. The PSC is now supported by the AUC, Early Warning System, African Standby Force, Panel of the Wise and Specific Fund that all are involved in mediation in one way or another. The PSC Protocol has also enhanced relations with RECs through a Memorandum of Understanding between the AU and RECs to facilitate the execution of APSA. Above all, the AUC has created the Peace and Security Department—that was split from the Political Affairs Department—for proper handling of the associated activities. In close collaboration with all AU organs and RECs, it is pursuing mediation by dispatching missions and building capacity.

The AU capacity-building in mediation was developed from the UN-AU Ten Year Capacity-Building Framework signed in 2006, to last between 2008 and 2010, but extended to 2013. It has been executed under the Panel of the Wise and receives a lot of support from other partners, particularly, the Finnish government, the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Conflicts, the Crisis Management Initiative, the Folke Bernadotte Academy and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue.

In the process, a seminar was organized in October 2009, in Addis Ababa that led to the development of an AU strategy in mediation. It came out with twelve guiding principles—forming the AU's Plan of Action—and recommen-

dations for its execution. Briefly, the principles stressed professionalism in mediation covering parties' ownership of agreements; inclusion of all stakeholders; developing trust between parties for a sustainable process; credible mediators; addressing the root causes and all aspects of conflicts; and linking the drafting of agreements with their implementation.

The strategy is now being translated into work programmes in the form of:
Lessons-learned exercises: comprising high-level mediation retreats, meetings of AU special envoys, workshops and studies on peace processes etc.

Skills enhancement: covering various kinds of training for the AU staff, meetings of trainers to share experiences etc.

Development of tools: including the establishment of a Mediation Support Unit, roster of mediation experts; AU-UN-RECs guidelines on mediation missions; standard operating procedures; Knowledge Management Framework to handle information from missions; and mediation handbooks.

Platforms for collaboration: incorporating the Pan African Network of the Wise that brings together the Panel of the Wise and similar organs of RECs and those handling mediation in member states, meetings like the AU-UN Desk-to-Desk, and regular consultations with partners etc.

Overall, the AU has endeavored to professionalize mediation for swift and effective response to conflicts when circumstances demand. And indeed, much has been achieved, as it has been able to resolve more conflicts than its predecessor.

Yet, the exercise has continued to face challenges. For instance, it still depends too much on partners' assistance, while the lack of a link between the policy organs of the AU and RECs, hence the PSC and RECs' similar organs, have immense effect on the execution of not only the mediation programme, but APSA in general.

With the current AUC's leadership resolve to focus on addressing the root causes of conflicts, much more success should be realized.



OAU/AU Development Plans And What Next?

By Muideen Omobolanle Alimi- Programme Coordinator (Planning Expert – IED, BCP – Cabinet, DLC, Gender & NEPAD Coordinating Unit)



There is much less understanding, let alone consensus, on the political process through which economic reform can be achieved. Perhaps such a gap is inevitable, due to the greater complexity of politics and the even greater cross-country differences in this dimension- C. Fred Bergsten and John Williamson.

Long before the establishment of the OAU, African leaders had recognized that cooperation and integration among African countries in the economic, social and cultural fields are indispensable to the accelerated transformation and sustained development of the African continent. This was concretized in 1963 in the objectives of the OAU Charter, as well as in the OAU Summits of 1973 and 1976, and the Monrovia Declaration of 1979. In 1980 the OAU Extraordinary Summit adopted the Lagos Plan of Action, as a major step towards that goal.

At the regional and continental levels, African countries have embarked on various programmes for the promotion of integration and development and have established organizations and institutions to support their effort. For instance the Abuja Treaty seeks to create the AEC through six stages culminating in an African Common Market using the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as building blocks. The Treaty has been in operation since 1994.

Although we still have long way to go, there have been positive signs of recent progress. The 1991 Abuja Treaty set ambitious targets to establish an African Economic Community with a single currency by 2023. Its implementation is currently at the third stage --establishing regional free trade areas and customs unions by 2017. The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the South-

ern African Development Community (SADC) have reached free trade area status and launched customs union programmes aiming for the 2017 target date. The EAC's customs union entered into force in 2005 and is so far the only one in place. The EAC launched a common market in 2010. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) remain at second stage of co-ordinating and harmonising activities among member states.

In West Africa, links have been strengthened between ECOWAS and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA). The two have a common programme on trade liberalisation and macro-economic policy convergence. In Central Africa, ECCAS and the Economic Community of Central African States (CEMAC) are boosting ties so they can also harmonize their programmes. The EAC and COMESA have signed a memorandum of understanding to foster the harmonization of policies and programmes. COMESA and SADC have also launched joint activities, including setting up a task force to deal with common issues. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) under the African Union Commission was adopted as a Programme of the AU at Lusaka Summit (2001). Progressively, various driving economic growth initiatives are in advanced stages such as boosting intra-African trade, Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) just to mention few.

In conclusion, despite the progress made by OAU/AU toward reforms in the last fifty years, post 50th anniversary should be focused more on the following areas:

- The AU must consolidate and take the audit of the ongoing development action plans such as Lagos Actions Plan and Abuja Treaty and accelerate implementation of various existing initiatives already adopted by Policy Organs of the AU such as Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programmed (CAADP), Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA), Action Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade, Accelerated Industrial Development of Africa (AIDA) that is aimed at the enhancement of the continent's industrial capacities and capabilities, and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA)
- To clarify the responsibilities of AU structures, Member States/ PRC, and Regional Economic Communities and designated institutions in the implementation process.
- To avoid duplication of efforts by making good use of existing national, regional and continental institutions;
- To continuously pay attention to the sequence and pace of policy implementation in order to ensure policy coherence;
- To strengthen the monitoring of progress by making some goals more operational, developing detailed time tables, and establishing indicators in all relevant areas.



Former Secretary Generals of the OAU



Amara Essy
2001-2003



Salim Ahmed Salim
1989 - 2001



Ide Oumarou
1985 - 1989



Peter U. Onu
1983 - 1985



Edem Kodjo
1978 - 1983



William Eteki Mboumoua
1974 - 1978



Nzo Ekangaki
1972- 1974



Diallo Telli Boubacar
1964 - 1972

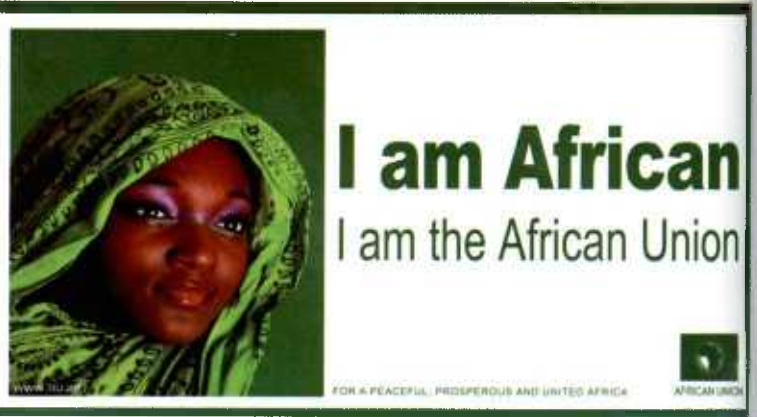
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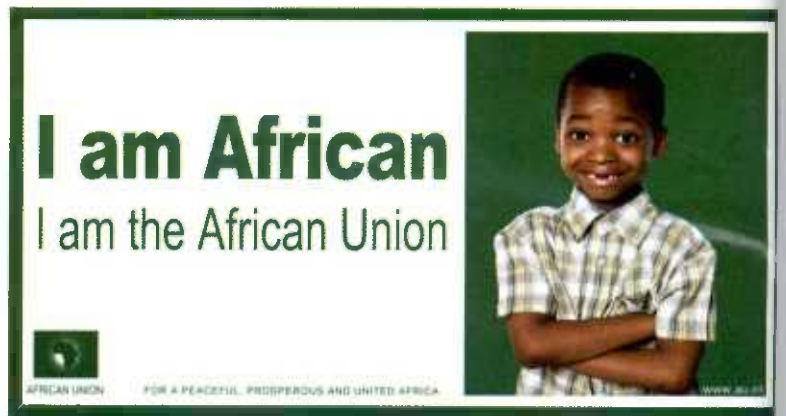
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I am African
I am the African Union

FOR A PEACEFUL, PROSPEROUS AND UNITED AFRICA

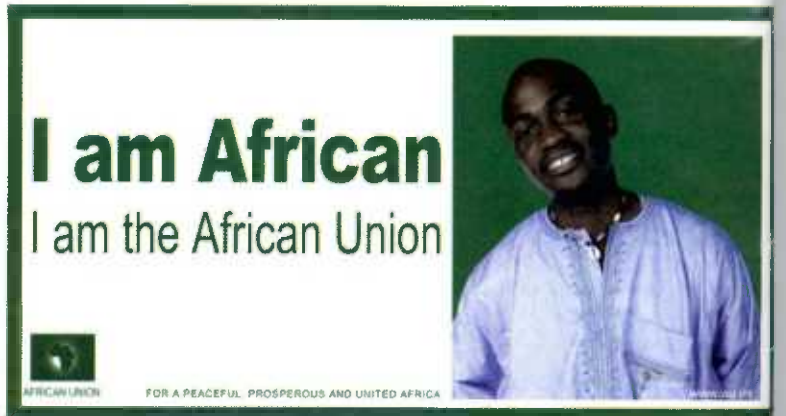
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I am African
I am the African Union

FOR A PEACEFUL, PROSPEROUS AND UNITED AFRICA

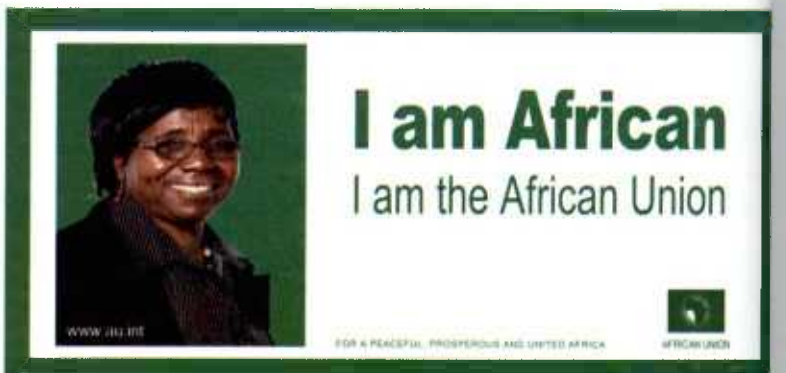
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I am African
I am the African Union

FOR A PEACEFUL, PROSPEROUS AND UNITED AFRICA

AFRICAN UNION



I am African
I am the African Union

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