

AFRICAN UNION
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**Executive Council
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN**

EX.CL/223 (VIII)

**REPORT OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE AU
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE**

**REPORT OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE AU CONFERENCE OF
MINISTERS OF CULTURE**

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The 4th Session of the OAU Conference of African Ministers of Culture (CAMC4) took place in 1993 in Cotonou, Benin. More than a decade has elapsed since the last Session and Ministers of Culture could not meet to discuss developments in the cultural sector at continental level. What could have been considered the Fifth Session for the OUA was held as the First AU Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture (CAMC1) from 10 to 14 December 2005 in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. This Session was to be preceded by the First Edition of AU Pan-African Cultural Congress scheduled to take place from 04 to 09 December 2005. However, the Congress was postponed to 2006 due to unforeseen circumstances, and in stead, a Meeting of small number of Independent Experts from the different branches of culture took place on 08 and 09 December 2005 to prepare the Meeting of the intergovernmental experts and that of the Ministerial Session.

3. The major theme of the Conference was “Culture, Integration and African Renaissance”. The objectives of the Experts Meeting and the Ministerial Session were to assess of recent developments in the field of culture in a rapidly changing word which has a considerable impact on African cultures and heritages; to review some of the basic policy instruments and strategic documents including the Cultural Charter for Africa and the Dakar Plan of Action for Cultural Industries; and to examine the interface between **culture and education** which is one of the major themes for the January Summit of AU Heads of State and Government in Khartoum, Sudan.

4. The Ministers recommended for the speedy implementation of the proposal to establish a strong Division of Culture at the AU Commission; and endorsed the proposal to convene the First Edition of Pan-African Cultural Congress in 2006.

5. The Report of the AUCMC1 and the Nairobi Declaration on Culture, Integration and African Renaissance are attached herewith.

EX.CL/223 (VIII)
Annex I

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

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**FIRST SESSION OF
AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
13 - 14 DECEMBER 2005
NAIROBI, KENYA**

AU/CMC/MIN/RPT (I) Rev.2

Theme:

“CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE”

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Meeting of the First Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Culture (AUCMC1) was held at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, from 13 to 14 December 2005, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Kenya. The deliberations centred around the theme 'Culture, Integration and African Renaissance'.

II. ATTENDANCE

2. The following African Union Member States were represented at the Meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi Arab Republic, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, The Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following Regional, International and Non-Governmental Organisations and Institutions were also represented: ECOWAS, UNESCO, FEPACI, and RIDC.

III. OPENING CEREMONY

4. The Opening Ceremony was moderated by Mrs Rachel B. Dzombo, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services of the Republic of Kenya who made brief remarks before requesting the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, Adv. Bience Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs and Hon. Maina Kamanda, Minister of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, to address the meeting.

(i) *Statement by Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for Africa*

Before delivering a statement on behalf of the Director-General of UNESCO, the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO invited delegates to listen to a video message from the UNESCO Director-General. In the video statement the Director-General thanked the African Union for inviting UNESCO to participate in the Conference and commended the leadership of AU for bringing culture to the top of their agenda. He also expressed gratitude to the Government of Kenya for hosting such an important meeting. The statement also reaffirmed UNESCO's commitment to Africa, its integration as well as its Diaspora. The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO then continued with his statement. Among other

things, the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO encouraged countries to adopt a cultural approach to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. He also informed the delegates that only 27 countries have ratified The International Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage of which only 8 were African States. He called on African countries to ratify this Convention as well as the International Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions adopted in 2005. He also further reaffirmed UNESCO's commitment to promote African Languages and called for new forms of partnerships.

(ii) *Statement by Adv. Bience Gawanas - the AU Commissioner for Social Affairs*

5. In her address on behalf of H.E. Alpha Konare, Chairperson of the AU Commission, the Commissioner for Social Affairs thanked the Kenyan Government for hosting the historic First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture. She also expressed appreciation to the Vice President for gracing the occasion and the Kenyan Government for the excellent facilities put at the disposal of the Conference. She stated that the founding fathers of the OAU had a vision that once political liberation is attained, Africans would focus on socio-economic development of the continent. She further noted that the launch of the African Union is a commitment expressing a "common will for a common destiny". She went on to say that African Culture should serve as a strong, reliable and consistent driving force to the process of continental integration. In her view, culture can contribute to bring together what politics and economics have separated. She urged the Conference to undertake a fundamental review on the role of African culture should play in the development of our societies.

6. The Commissioner observed that Africa is not only the cradle of humankind, but also the oldest "factory" of tools, artifacts, symbols and beliefs. She encouraged delegates to harness Africa's rich cultural diversity and tangible and intangible heritages for the sustainable socio-economic development of the continent. In this connection, she added, the AU Commission aspires to use culture as a vehicle for social, economic and political integration. Africa further needs to promote, protect, and renovate its cultural assets at national, regional and continental levels. She further assured delegates that the postponed Pan African Cultural Congress would be convened in the foreseeable future. The Congress will be charged to come up with critical recommendations on how to preserve, protect and promote our culture in the years to come. In conclusion, the Commissioner stressed that the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference will be carried out in the spirit of solidarity between UNESCO and the AU Commission.

(iii) *Statement by Hon. Maina Kamanda, Minister of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services*

7. In his statement, the Hon Maina Kamanda expressed his satisfaction with the high level of attendance at the Conference. He then called on countries in Africa to embrace culture as the driver of socio-economic development. He continued his statement by suggesting that African countries should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of their culture at national level in order to ensure that appropriate cultural policies are formulated and implemented. He then invited the Guest of Honor, H.E. the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya to deliver his keynote address.

(iv) *Keynote address by His Excellency the Vice-President of the Republic of Kenya and Minister for Home Affairs, Hon. Moody Awori, EGH, EBS, MP*

8. In his address, the Vice President warmly welcomed delegates to Nairobi-Kenya, which he described as a peaceful country that is full of diverse cultural background. He stated that the Conference was historic for the people of Africa as it was taking place when the World is undergoing political, social and economic transformation. He noted that Africa's rich culture is complex and diverse and that over time influences from other cultures have led to the erosion of existing social fabrics and values. He observed that culture today is a business. In this regard he recalled that countries that have safeguarded and conserved their culture have the fastest growing economies of the world. It was therefore time for Africa to wake up and prepare itself to deepen the continent's cultural diversity to a new level. H.E. the Vice President also called on countries in Africa to re-evaluate harmful traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

9. He noted that traditional focus of heritage conservation is still on public monuments, religious edifices and archaeological sites. He called for the expansion of Africa's heritage to include previously neglected elements such as folk arts and traditions, urban architecture, industrial architecture and other cultural expressions associated with human activities. The Vice-President further encouraged Ministers to develop workable recommendations that will form benchmarks for Africa's revival and restoration of its culture. He concluded his keynote address by emphasizing that the continent should do whatever it takes to ensure that Africa remains a tourist destination in a community of nations.

(v) *Vote of Thanks by Hon. Susan Waffa-Ogoo, Secretary of State for Tourism and Culture of The Gambia*

10. The Hon Susan Waffa-Ogoo thanked the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya for gracing the occasion. She also thanked the Government and people of Kenya for their hospitality. She observed that culture makes Africans happy

despite the many challenges that the continent continues to grapple with. She concluded her remarks by expressing special thanks to all the cultural groups that entertained the delegates at the opening ceremony.

IV. Item 2: PROCEDURAL MATTERS

I. Election of the Bureau

11. After due guidance by the AU Commission and pursuant to consultations amongst the countries of each region, a new bureau was elected. The delegate from Tunisia in his capacity as a Member of the PRC announced the new bureau as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chairperson: | East Africa (Kenya) |
| First Vice Chairperson: | Southern Africa (Namibia) |
| 2 nd Vice Chairperson: | Central Africa (Burundi) |
| 3 rd Vice Chairperson: | North Africa (Algeria) |
| Rapporteur: | West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire) |

13. The new bureau was accepted by acclamation.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

14. The Agenda was adopted as presented.

III. Adoption of the Programme of Work

15. The Programme of Work was adopted as presented.

Item 3: ***INTRODUCTORY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE CULTURAL PROGRAMME AND ACTIVITIES***

16. The AU Commissioner for Social Affairs presented a brief overview of the above Report which highlighted the various activities carried out by the OAU/AU, the cultural institutions on the continent and status of implementation of these institutions and activities, as well as the challenges faced by the institutions. She also outlined the different future cultural programmes and activities to be undertaken by the AU in collaboration with partners in the field of culture.

17. In the ensuing discussion the Honorable Ministers commended the report and encouraged the AU to continue the good work it has been doing in the past. After a thorough discussion on the status of some of the cultural institutions and programmes, the Ministers recommended that:

- A detailed inventory of cultural institutions be conducted for future reporting;
- A Division of Culture be established at the AU Commission;
- A proposal to establish an African Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (AFRESCO) was made;
- Cultural projects or institutions should be assessed for relevance, and resources required, capacity, status of implementation at all levels;
- Establish and strengthen cultural infrastructure in the context of social-cultural transformation in Africa;
- The AU Commission should strengthen the coordination and harmonization of cultural initiatives and activities. In this regard, cultural institutions in Africa should submit annual reports to the AU Commission;
- The AU Commission should implement the outcomes of the Conference in collaboration with all stakeholders, including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);

Item 4: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING

(a) Statutes and Launching of the Academy of African Languages

18. Presenting this item, the Rapporteur informed the Ministers that, the Experts, after reviewing this document, commended the Commission for its efforts and adopted the Statutes by acclamation and recommended that the same be referred to Ministers for consideration.

19. Ministers considered this recommendation and acknowledged that the document was developed in a participatory manner and adopted it by acclamation. They also commended the Malian delegation for their contribution. However, the Malian delegation clarified that this document was prepared by experts from all over the continent.

(b) Draft Revised Cultural Charter for Africa

20. The recommendations on the Revised Cultural Charter for Africa were reviewed by the Ministers. Some observations and concerns were raised which led to a proposal to refer the Charter to a small Working Group for redrafting of some of the articles. It was, however, agreed that Ministers consider the recommendation made by the Experts to have the document adopted and not review the document again. The recommendation made by the experts was adopted with the some comments from Mali and Ethiopia to be submitted in writing.

(c) Revised Dakar Plan of Action on Cultural Industries (Nairobi Plan of Action on Cultural Industries in Africa).

21. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that after the presentation of this item to the Experts, the Plan of Action was referred to a small Working Group and the Secretariat for finalization. Delegates were requested to submit their comments in writing to the Secretariat for incorporation in the final document and that the document was now being presented to Ministers for consideration.

22. Ministers observed that African dance was missing in the document. They also recommended that there is need for the development of a Special Plan for the development of African Dance including the Pan African Institute for African Dance. It was, further, suggested that Section 14 should not mention the names of the artists.

23. Delegates then requested that in order to facilitate exchange of experiences each country should provide information on the Festivals they hold. The need to review some of the issues like Sector 2: on page 32 so that there is reference to the African TV was raised. It was also suggested that African Fashion should be included in the Plan. Furthermore, Page 44 in the English Version on Inter African Co-operation must mention that AU should play a major role. Ministers also cited the need to mention new ICTs. In the final analysis the AU Commission was requested to send this document to Member States for further input by way of placing the document on the website. The Member States agreed to submit their comments by December 23, 2005. The Ministers further agreed to mandate the Commission to revise the documents by incorporating such comments and to submit the revised Plan to the relevant policy organs of the AU. Ministers were encouraged to submit their comments to the Secretariat before leaving Nairobi.

24. After these discussions the document was adopted in principle.

(d) Language Plan of Action for Africa

25. The Commission requested the Ministers to consider endorsing the proposal to declare 2006 as the Year of African Languages as they discuss this item.

26. It was then recalled that this item was presented by ACALAN representatives to the Experts. ACALAN reported that some of the necessary amendments were made on the 1986 version of the "Language Plan of Action for Africa" to provide for the complimentary role of African and non-African (European) languages. It was noted that after the presentation Experts appreciated the amendments and endorsed the document.

27. In the ensuing debate, Ministers requested for a Programme of Work for the Year of African Languages and suggested that 2006 was too close for all practical reasons and recommended that this be deferred. It was, however, clarified that this decision was made in 2004 by Heads of State and Government of the AU. It was also mentioned that a Programme of Work including detailed activities was already prepared and will be made available to all countries. The attention of the delegates was drawn to the fact that 2006 might have already been overloaded by other activities. These fears were allayed and it was observed that The Year of African Languages could not have come at any better time. Ministers acknowledged that this declaration will strengthen the proposal for the establishment of the Academy of African Languages. It was also observed that the only way to link up with the grassroots there is to promote African languages.

28. The proposal to declare 2006 as the Year of African Languages as well as the Language Plan of Action for African were adopted.

(e) Proposal for the Establishment of a Pan-African Cultural Institute

29. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that the Experts generally welcomed the Proposal for the Establishment of a Pan-African Cultural Institute (PACI) and referred it to the Ministers for consideration. The Commissioner added that the issue regarding existing institutions was raised including how this new PACI will be set up. This will include details and modalities for establishing the Institute.

30. The Ministers then discussed this recommendation as well as the additional information provided by the Commissioner. They thanked the Experts for accepting the proposal noting that such an Institution was a welcome initiative. Algeria offered to sponsor a Taskforce to conduct feasibility studies and come up with a recommendation on the nature, structure and modalities for establishing the institute. Delegates supported the proposal made by Algeria to finance the study and requested the AU to set up the Taskforce and coordinate its activities. The outcome of this work should then lead to the development of Terms of Reference (TORs) for a Feasibility Study which Algeria offered to sponsor. Once the TORs are available Algeria will put out a bid for the Feasibility Study. It was also suggested that the Working Group may consider the proposal made by Sudan on the establishment of AFRESCO to avoid duplication.

31. The Ministers, however, noted that there was need to review the existing Institutions first and see how the new institute can work with them.

32. Institutions are not an end in themselves; they are rather a means to address a set of objectives. Overall the Ministers generally supported the idea of setting up the Task Force to come up with the details. Ministers however

suggested that the Feasibility Study should not be used to justify the establishment of the Institution.

33. There was a recommendation that existing Sub-regional institutions should be looked at and the problems they are facing should be identified and addressed. Moreover, they suggested that the proposed Institute should be connected to African Universities and research establishments dealing with African cultures. Finally, the Ministers formally adopted the proposal to set up a Task Force as outlined above.

(f) Implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa

34. With regard to this item, the Rapporteur drew the attention of the Ministers to the fact that the Experts generally supported the proposal. However some delegates suggested that equal emphasis be placed on intangible heritage. They also suggested that a Committee be established to facilitate financial and technical contributions. Some experts noted that there is no clear cut separation between tangible and intangible heritages and both are covered in the common position. In this connection, the participants were informed that a feasibility study was conducted; and that the framework for the Heritage Fund had been worked out. Furthermore, it was learnt that an endowment fund would be established to avoid donor dependence. It was also suggested that African World Heritage expertise be strengthened through the proposed Fund.

35. The Ministers were also informed that an African Position Paper on the Africa Cultural Heritage Convention and the African Heritage Fund was developed which includes a 10-year Action Plan.

36. The Ministers endorsed and supported the African Position Paper as well as the establishment of the African Heritage Fund as recommended by the experts. Member States were, however, called upon to consider ratifying this Convention if they have not yet done so. It was noted that Africa is under-represented on the World Heritage List hence the need for the Position Paper.

37. Furthermore Ministers of Culture were requested to support the ECOSOC resolution 01/ECOSOC/05 for the Airfare tax. There was no clear indication as to whether the Ministers of Culture would indeed support this resolution.

(g) The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Expression.

38. The Commissioner informed the conference that UNESCO had submitted a document to provide the correct text on this item as well as correcting the title of the same which is Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Expression. Countries were then requested to ratify this Convention. It was

recommended that the UNESCO text replaces paragraph 38 and 39 of the Experts Report.

39. Member States were further requested to strengthen mechanisms for international co-operation.

(h) Brief on Preparations for the First Edition of the Pan-African Cultural Congress, 2006

40. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that the presentation of this item to the Experts was done by a representative of the AU Commission, who shared information on the preparations for the First Edition of the Pan-African Cultural Congress. He noted that the Congress was aimed at providing cultural workers an opportunity to enrich documentation for the First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture. Around 300 participants were expected for the Congress, which would have convened prior to the Conference of Culture. The Congress was expected to discuss eight (8) major themes and a number of sub-themes under each theme. The eight (8) themes are:

- Theme 1: Identity, national citizenship and a common African vision;
- Theme 2: Culture and education;
- Theme 3: The continent's memory: the past of Africa, historical and ethnographical heritage, traditional knowledge and know how;
- Theme 4: Cultural Freedoms and Rights; legislation;
- Theme 5: Cultural Development;
- Theme 6: Cultural dimension of development, economic stakes of culture; other challenges of development challenges: environment, health, poverty reduction;
- Theme 7: Africa and the World: the role and place of culture;
- Theme 8: Cultural Policies in Africa: theories and practices;

41. The Rapporteur further informed the Ministers that in the discussions during the Experts Meeting, delegates suggested the addition of a ninth theme namely "***culture and language***". Other delegations also proposed the inclusion of themes on cultural policy and legislation as well as intangible heritage. Delegations also called for a forum for artists involved in cultural industries such as show business, to advise on ways and means for assisting cultural industries.

Ministers also suggested that Culture and Peace as well as Culture and Gender be added as themes. Some delegates questioned the end result of the Congress, as the outcomes will no longer feed into the Ministerial Conference.

42. The Chair reminded the delegates that Tanzania proposed that the Congress be hosted by Kenya but it may not necessarily be in March 2006 to allow for preparations.

43. The Kenyan Delegation reiterated that Kenya will be honoured to host the First Edition Pan-African Cultural Congress. The Commissioner made some clarifications regarding the convening of the Congress. The Commission will consult to ensure that the Congress is allocated a slot on the AU Commission calendar of meeting. She also made reference to the fact that the new Bureau will have a role to play. The Commissioner also clarified that the Congress might not be convened in the first quarter of 2006.

44. The Ministers agreed that the Congress will be held next year and that the Commission will fix the appropriate date and work on the modalities including the agenda.

Item 5: Contribution to the 5th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (Special Session on Culture and Education), Khartoum, 2006

45. The Commissioner for Social Affairs informed the Ministers that the Commission made a presentation on this item to the Experts.

46. The Commissioner then informed the delegates that the theme of the January Assembly is Culture and Education which means that there will be a Special Session devoted to Culture and Education. During this session, two Heads of State will make presentations on Culture and Education, respectively, followed by a debate on the same by the Heads of State. A maximum of 2 hours will be devoted to culture and education. Participants were further informed that there will be an Extra-ordinary Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF) from January 11th – 14th 2006 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia which will endorse substantive agenda items to be presented to the Heads of State.

47. It was also learnt that there will be separate fora organised for Civil Society, Gender and Private Sector before the Summit meetings begin. The paper from UNESCO was entitled The Role of Education and Culture in the Quest for Africa's Sustainable Development and was distributed to Experts. The Commission will develop a concept paper for the summit in consultation with UNESCO also drawing on the UNESCO paper. The paper is on the interface between culture and education.

48. The Ministers took note of the UNESCO report and requested the Commission to develop a concept note taking into account the UNESCO paper. Member States were encouraged to submit comments to the Commission for incorporation in the concept paper.

49. The UNESCO informed the delegates that the document was requested by Chairperson. The Ministers of Education in Algiers took note of the report. The Ministers were requested to avail themselves of this opportunity to contribute to the document.

Item 6: Items proposed by Member States: the First African Film Summit and the General Congress of FEPACI, 3-4 April 2006, to be hosted by South Africa

50. Mr. Themba Wakashe, on behalf of the Government of South Africa, presented this item for information and endorsement and on preparations for the First African Film Summit to be convened jointly by the National Film and Video Foundation of South Africa and FEPACI in April 2006 and the General Congress of FEPACI from 3-4 April 2006. He noted that the First African Film Summit is in response to a decision of the Second Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Maputo in 2003. The First African Film Summit aims to bring together 150 delegates comprising audio-visual practitioners from within and outside Africa to discuss issues such as state of the African film industry, review and evaluates successes and weakness of the film sector, streamline audio-visual policies, explore a new mandate for FEPACI within NEPAD context, review policy instruments of the OAU/AU for the audio-visual industry and to explore a new Pan African Convention for Colloboration within Audio-Visual Industry.

51. The Experts Meeting appreciated the information presented and an appeal was made for the active participation of audio-visual practitioners from across the continent.

52. The delegate then appealed for the participation of the African Union.

53. The Ministers endorsed the event and wished South Africa all the success in the preparation.

Item 7: The Nairobi Declaration on Culture, Integration and African Renaissance

54. This item was presented by the Commissioner who provided an outline of the Declaration.

55. The Ministers then made a number of suggestions to improve the Declaration. They finally adopted the Declaration and requested the AU Commission to facilitate its implementation.

Item 8: Any Other Business

56. The Delegation from Sudan presented the proposal by the Government of Sudan for the establishment of AFRESCO and suggested that this be added to the Nairobi Declaration. The initiative was welcome and incorporated in the Declaration.

57. The Hon. Minister from Libya made a statement in which he thanked Kenya for inviting them to this meeting. He commended the Government and the people of Kenya for hosting the Conference and hailed the spirit of the founding fathers who sacrificed under difficult circumstances during the Colonial Era to enable Africa to get where it is today. He also commended the gallant African Leaders who created the African Union in fulfillment of the aspirations and dreams of the founding fathers. He also thanked participants for their positive response to the directives of the Libyan Leader, Muammar Gaddafi, who was behind the programmes and proposals embraced by the Conference, particularly concerning the development of African Languages and the role of the African Diaspora in establishing the African Union edifice. He said that Africa was one in terms of belonging and destiny and was capable of transforming the African Union into the United States of Africa because it had the consciousness, the will and the potential to do so. He went on to observe that freedom does not imply piumnity and diversity does not imply conspiracy against the social fabric. He concluded his statement by cautioning that those who sought to take Africa back to slavery through multinational corporations would have their new slavery project smashed on the rock of African consciousness, resolve and action.

58. The remaining delegates who took the floor thanked Kenya for hosting the Conference. Moreover, the delegation from Togo provided information on the Regional Centre for Cultural Action (CRAC) and requested AU Commission to include it on its programmes and grant it Observer Status.

59. The delegate from Cote d'Ivoire made a presentation on the importance of an Inventory and economic development of African Cultural Heritage and requested UNESCO to support the convening of an International Conference that would be held in Cote d'Ivoire on this subject.

60. The delegate from Ghana informed the Ministers that 2007 will mark 50 years of Ghanaian Independence and that Ghana may declare Accra the Cultural capital of Africa. Regarding the ECOSOCC resolution document on levying taxation on air ticket fares, he appealed to the AU to consult Ministers of Tourism and Finance before this is implemented. He also noted that the Mausoleum of Kenyatta was locked which was cause for concern.

61. The delegate from Gabon made an intervention which made reference to paragraph 6 in the preamble of the Nairobi Declaration and suggested that AU appoints a committee to undertake this evaluation on African Cultures.

62. Rwanda informed the delegates that culture has a role to play in peace and reconciliation especially considering the 1994 genocide that occurred in that country. He invited all ministers to Rwanda from 5-12 August 2006 for a cultural festival.

63. The Delegate from Central African Republic informed delegates that his country is facing cultural challenges and that a strategic plan has been elaborated to address these challenges. The delegate further thanked UNESCO for their support.

64. Taking her turn, the Minister from The Gambia invited all ministers, delegates and Members States of the African Union to The Gambia on the occasion of the 8th Edition of the International Roots Home Coming Festival from 3rd to 10th June 2006.

65. Algeria exposed the reasons that have hindered the implementation of the Project to revitalize the Great Africa Museum in Algiers. These are related to one decade terrorist crisis that the country went through and which caused the withdrawal of the project. Now that Algeria found peace and stability, the country expresses preparedness to re-launch the project. The Conference accepted very favorably the proposal.

Item 9: Date and Venue of the Second Session of Conference of Ministers of Culture

66. Algeria offered to host the Second Session of Conference of Ministers of Culture. The Ministers accepted the offer. The Second Session will be held in Algeria in November 2007.

Item 10: Adoption of the Report and Recommendations of the Ministers Meeting

67. The report was presented page by page and was adopted with some modifications.

Item 11: Closing

68. Before giving the floor to the Permanent Secretary of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services to moderate the closing ceremony, the Chair suggested that the Ministerial session should perhaps be running for three days to enable the Secretariat to do its best. The Permanent Secretary started by thanking the Inter-Ministerial Committee that organized the Conference. She also

thanked the delegates for their support and expressed her gratitude that the Ministers had adopted The Nairobi Declaration. She then requested the Commissioner for Social Affairs, Adv. Bience Gawanas to make her closing remarks.

69. In her concluding remarks, the Commissioner thanked the Minister and the Permanent Secretary of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services for their efforts and supported the proposal by the Chair that the Ministerial Session should run for three days in the future. She expressed her expectation that the Ministers would ensure the implementation of their recommendations and assured them that AU Commission will strive to serve the Union better. She concluded her remarks by thanking the Host Government, Staff of AU Commission as well as the free lance translators and interpreters.

70. At this juncture, the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services Hon. Maina Kamanda was requested to officially close the meeting. In his remarks, the Hon. Minister thanked the delegates for electing him as Chair and for their co-operation. He also thanked the experts for the background work they carried out prior to the Ministers meeting. He went on to inform the delegates that the President of the Republic of Kenya accepted to host the Conference at the request of the AU Commission. He then reminded the Ministers that although the meeting was drawing to a close, their job was just starting. The Nairobi Declaration will have to be presented to Heads of State in Sudan and that they had a duty to ensure that their respective governments bring culture on top of their development agenda.

71. The Minister then invited the delegates to visit places of cultural interest in Kenya and wished them a safe journey back home. With these few remarks the Hon. Ministers declared the meeting officially closed.

72. The delegation of Algeria was given a chance to make some remarks as the host of the next session of the Conference. The Hon. Ministers from Algeria thanked the host government and all the Chairs who presided over the meeting. She assured the delegates that they will try to meet the standards set by Kenya in Algiers in 2007.

73. The Hon. Ministers from Ethiopia delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of all the Ministers. He thanked the Kenyan Government for hosting the Conference and also for its hospitality. He also thanked The Chairperson of the Commission and Commissioner Gawanas for their dedication. He thanked all the delegates for a time well spent.

74. On his own request the delegate from Mali was given the floor to make some remarks. He pointed out that all the delegates wanted the meeting to succeed and was happy that Swahili had been launched as one of the languages on the Internet.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The 4th Session of the OAU Conference of African Ministers of Culture (CAMC4) took place in 1993 in Cotounou, Benin. More than a decade has elapsed since the last Session and Ministers of Culture could not meet to discuss developments in the cultural sector at continental level. What could have been considered the Fifth Session for the OUA was held as the First AU Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture (CAMC1) from 10 to 14 December 2005 in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. This Session was to be preceded by the First Edition of AU Pan-African Cultural Congress scheduled to take place from 04 to 09 December 2005. However, the Congress was postponed to 2006 due to unforeseen circumstances, and in stead, a Meeting of small number of Independent Experts from the different branches of culture took place on 08 and 09 December 2005 to prepare the Meeting of the intergovernmental experts and that of the Ministerial Session.

3. The major theme of the Conference was “Culture, Integration and African Renaissance”. The objectives of the Experts Meeting and the Ministerial Session were to assess of recent developments in the field of culture in a rapidly changing word which has a considerable impact on African cultures and heritages; to review some of the basic policy instruments and strategic documents including the Cultural Charter for Africa and the Dakar Plan of Action for Cultural Industries; and to examine the interface between **culture and education** which is one of the major themes for the January Summit of AU Heads of State and Government in Khartoum, Sudan.

4. The Ministers recommended for the speedy implementation of the proposal to establish a strong Division of Culture at the AU Commission; and endorsed the proposal to convene the First Edition of Pan-African Cultural Congress in 2006.

5. The Report of the AUCMC1 and the Nairobi Declaration on Culture, Integration and African Renaissance are attached herewith.

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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN**

EX.CL/223 (VIII)
Annex 1

Theme:

“CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE”

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

AFRICAN UNION

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**FIRST SESSION OF
AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
13 - 14 DECEMBER 2005
NAIROBI, KENYA**

AU/CMC/MIN/RPT (I) Rev.2

Theme:

“CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE”

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF MINISTERS

II. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Meeting of the First Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Culture (AUCMC1) was held at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, from 13 to 14 December 2005, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Kenya. The deliberations centred around the theme 'Culture, Integration and African Renaissance'.

II. ATTENDANCE

2. The following African Union Member States were represented at the Meeting: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi Arab Republic, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, The Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following Regional, International and Non-Governmental Organisations and Institutions were also represented: ECOWAS, UNESCO, FEPACI, and RIDC.

III. OPENING CEREMONY

4. The Opening Ceremony was moderated by Mrs Rachel B. Dzombo, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services of the Republic of Kenya who made brief remarks before requesting the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, Adv. Bience Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs and Hon. Maina Kamanda, Minister of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, to address the meeting.

(i) *Statement by Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for Africa*

Before delivering a statement on behalf of the Director-General of UNESCO, the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO invited delegates to listen to a video message from the UNESCO Director-General. In the video statement the Director-General thanked the African Union for inviting UNESCO to participate in the Conference and commended the leadership of AU for bringing culture to the top of their agenda. He also expressed gratitude to the Government of Kenya for hosting such an important meeting. The statement also reaffirmed UNESCO's commitment to Africa, its integration as well as its Diaspora. The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO then continued with his statement. Among other things, the Assistant Director-General of UNESCO encouraged countries to

adopt a cultural approach to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS. He also informed the delegates that only 27 countries have ratified The International Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage of which only 8 were African States. He called on African countries to ratify this Convention as well as the International Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions adopted in 2005. He also further reaffirmed UNESCO's commitment to promote African Languages and called for new forms of partnerships.

(ii) Statement by Adv. Bience Gawanas - the AU Commissioner for Social Affairs

5. In her address on behalf of H.E. Alpha Konare, Chairperson of the AU Commission, the Commissioner for Social Affairs thanked the Kenyan Government for hosting the historic First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture. She also expressed appreciation to the Vice President for gracing the occasion and the Kenyan Government for the excellent facilities put at the disposal of the Conference. She stated that the founding fathers of the OAU had a vision that once political liberation is attained, Africans would focus on socio-economic development of the continent. She further noted that the launch of the African Union is a commitment expressing a "common will for a common destiny". She went on to say that African Culture should serve as a strong, reliable and consistent driving force to the process of continental integration. In her view, culture can contribute to bring together what politics and economics have separated. She urged the Conference to undertake a fundamental review on the role of African culture should play in the development of our societies.

6. The Commissioner observed that Africa is not only the cradle of humankind, but also the oldest "factory" of tools, artefacts, symbols and beliefs. She encouraged delegates to harness Africa's rich cultural diversity and tangible and intangible heritages for the sustainable socio-economic development of the continent. In this connection, she added, the AU Commission aspires to use culture as a vehicle for social, economic and political integration. Africa further needs to promote, protect, and renovate its cultural assets at national, regional and continental levels. She further assured delegates that the postponed Pan African Cultural Congress would be convened in the foreseeable future. The Congress will be charged to come up with critical recommendations on how to preserve, protect and promote our culture in the years to come. In conclusion, the Commissioner stressed that the implementation of the outcomes of the Conference will be carried out in the spirit of solidarity between UNESCO and the AU Commission.

(iii) ***Statement by Hon. Maina Kamanda, Minister of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services***

7. In his statement, the Hon Maina Kamanda expressed his satisfaction with the high level of attendance at the Conference. He then called on countries in Africa to embrace culture as the driver of socio-economic development. He continued his statement by suggesting that African countries should analyse the strengths and weaknesses of their culture at national level in order to ensure that appropriate cultural policies are formulated and implemented. He then invited the Guest of Honor, H.E. the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya to deliver his keynote address.

(iv) ***Keynote address by His Excellency the Vice-President of the Republic of Kenya and Minister for Home Affairs, Hon. Moody Awori, EGH, EBS, MP***

8. In his address, the Vice President warmly welcomed delegates to Nairobi-Kenya, which he described as a peaceful country that is full of diverse cultural background. He stated that the Conference was historic for the people of Africa as it was taking place when the World is undergoing political, social and economic transformation. He noted that Africa's rich culture is complex and diverse and that over time influences from other cultures have led to the erosion of existing social fabrics and values. He observed that culture today is a business. In this regard he recalled that countries that have safeguarded and conserved their culture have the fastest growing economies of the world. It was therefore time for Africa to wake up and prepare itself to deepen the continent's cultural diversity to a new level. H.E. the Vice President also called on countries in Africa to re-evaluate harmful traditional practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

9. He noted that traditional focus of heritage conservation is still on public monuments, religious edifices and archaeological sites. He called for the expansion of Africa's heritage to include previously neglected elements such as folk arts and traditions, urban architecture, industrial architecture and other cultural expressions associated with human activities. The Vice-President further encouraged Ministers to develop workable recommendations that will form benchmarks for Africa's revival and restoration of its culture. He concluded his keynote address by emphasizing that the continent should do whatever it takes to ensure that Africa remains a tourist destination in a community of nations.

(v) ***Vote of Thanks by Hon. Susan Waffa-Ogoo, Secretary of State for Tourism and Culture of The Gambia***

10. The Hon Susan Waffa-Ogoo thanked the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya for gracing the occasion. She also thanked the Government and people of Kenya for their hospitality. She observed that culture makes Africans happy

despite the many challenges that the continent continues to grapple with. She concluded her remarks by expressing special thanks to all the cultural groups that entertained the delegates at the opening ceremony.

IV. Item 2: PROCEDURAL MATTERS

I. Election of the Bureau

11. After due guidance by the AU Commission and pursuant to consultations amongst the countries of each region, a new bureau was elected. The delegate from Tunisia in his capacity as a Member of the PRC announced the new bureau as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chairperson: | East Africa (Kenya) |
| First Vice Chairperson: | Southern Africa (Namibia) |
| 2 nd Vice Chairperson: | Central Africa (Burundi) |
| 3 rd Vice Chairperson: | North Africa (Algeria) |
| Rapporteur: | West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire) |

13. The new bureau was accepted by acclamation.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

14. The Agenda was adopted as presented.

III. Adoption of the Programme of Work

15. The Programme of Work was adopted as presented.

Item 3: ***INTRODUCTORY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE CULTURAL PROGRAMME AND ACTIVITIES***

16. The AU Commissioner for Social Affairs presented a brief overview of the above Report which highlighted the various activities carried out by the OAU/AU, the cultural institutions on the continent and status of implementation of these institutions and activities, as well as the challenges faced by the institutions. She also outlined the different future cultural programmes and activities to be undertaken by the AU in collaboration with partners in the field of culture.

17. In the ensuing discussion the Honorable Ministers commended the report and encouraged the AU to continue the good work it has been doing in the past. After a thorough discussion on the status of some of the cultural institutions and programmes, the Ministers recommended that:

- A detailed inventory of cultural institutions be conducted for future reporting;
- A Division of Culture be established at the AU Commission;
- A proposal to establish an African Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (AFRESCO) was made;
- Cultural projects or institutions should be assessed for relevance, and resources required, capacity, status of implementation at all levels;
- Establish and strengthen cultural infrastructure in the context of social-cultural transformation in Africa;
- The AU Commission should strengthen the coordination and harmonization of cultural initiatives and activities. In this regard, cultural institutions in Africa should submit annual reports to the AU Commission;
- The AU Commission should implement the outcomes of the Conference in collaboration with all stakeholders, including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);

Item 4: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING

(a) Statutes and Launching of the Academy of African Languages

18. Presenting this item, the Rapporteur informed the Ministers that, the Experts, after reviewing this document, commended the Commission for its efforts and adopted the Statutes by acclamation and recommended that the same be referred to Ministers for consideration.

19. Ministers considered this recommendation and acknowledged that the document was developed in a participatory manner and adopted it by acclamation. They also commended the Malian delegation for their contribution. However, the Malian delegation clarified that this document was prepared by experts from all over the continent.

(b) Draft Revised Cultural Charter for Africa

20. The recommendations on the Revised Cultural Charter for Africa were reviewed by the Ministers. Some observations and concerns were raised which led to a proposal to refer the Charter to a small Working Group for redrafting of some of the articles. It was, however, agreed that Ministers consider the recommendation made by the Experts to have the document adopted and not review the document again. The recommendation made by the experts was adopted with the some comments from Mali and Ethiopia to be submitted in writing.

(c) Revised Dakar Plan of Action on Cultural Industries (Nairobi Plan of Action on Cultural Industries in Africa).

21. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that after the presentation of this item to the Experts, the Plan of Action was referred to a small Working Group and the Secretariat for finalization. Delegates were requested to submit their comments in writing to the Secretariat for incorporation in the final document and that the document was now being presented to Ministers for consideration.

22. Ministers observed that African dance was missing in the document. They also recommended that there is need for the development of a Special Plan for the development of African Dance including the Pan African Institute for African Dance. It was, further, suggested that Section 14 should not mention the names of the artists.

23. Delegates then requested that in order to facilitate exchange of experiences each country should provide information on the Festivals they hold. The need to review some of the issues like Sector 2: on page 32 so that there is reference to the African TV was raised. It was also suggested that African Fashion should be included in the Plan. Furthermore, Page 44 in the English Version on Inter African Co-operation must mention that AU should play a major role. Ministers also cited the need to mention new ICTs. In the final analysis the AU Commission was requested to send this document to Member States for further input by way of placing the document on the website. The Member States agreed to submit their comments by December 23, 2005. The Ministers further agreed to mandate the Commission to revise the documents by incorporating such comments and to submit the revised Plan to the relevant policy organs of the AU. Ministers were encouraged to submit their comments to the Secretariat before leaving Nairobi.

24. After these discussions the document was adopted in principle.

(d) Language Plan of Action for Africa

25. The Commission requested the Ministers to consider endorsing the proposal to declare 2006 as the Year of African Languages as they discuss this item.

26. It was then recalled that this item was presented by ACALAN representatives to the Experts. ACALAN reported that some of the necessary amendments were made on the 1986 version of the "Language Plan of Action for Africa" to provide for the complimentary role of African and non-African (European) languages. It was noted that after the presentation Experts appreciated the amendments and endorsed the document.

27. In the ensuing debate, Ministers requested for a Programme of Work for the Year of African Languages and suggested that 2006 was too close for all practical reasons and recommended that this be deferred. It was, however, clarified that this decision was made in 2004 by Heads of State and Government of the AU. It was also mentioned that a Programme of Work including detailed activities was already prepared and will be made available to all countries. The attention of the delegates was drawn to the fact that 2006 might have already been overloaded by other activities. These fears were allayed and it was observed that The Year of African Languages could not have come at any better time. Ministers acknowledged that this declaration will strengthen the proposal for the establishment of the Academy of African Languages. It was also observed that the only way to link up with the grassroots there is to promote African languages.

28. The proposal to declare 2006 as the Year of African Languages as well as the Language Plan of Action for African were adopted.

(e) Proposal for the Establishment of a Pan-African Cultural Institute

29. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that the Experts generally welcomed the Proposal for the Establishment of a Pan-African Cultural Institute (PACI) and referred it to the Ministers for consideration. The Commissioner added that the issue regarding existing institutions was raised including how this new PACI will be set up. This will include details and modalities for establishing the Institute.

30. The Ministers then discussed this recommendation as well as the additional information provided by the Commissioner. They thanked the Experts for accepting the proposal noting that such an Institution was a welcome initiative. Algeria offered to sponsor a Taskforce to conduct feasibility studies and come up with a recommendation on the nature, structure and modalities for establishing the institute. Delegates supported the proposal made by Algeria to finance the study and requested the AU to set up the Taskforce and coordinate its activities. The outcome of this work should then lead to the development of Terms of Reference (TORs) for a Feasibility Study which Algeria offered to sponsor. Once the TORs are available Algeria will put out a bid for the Feasibility Study. It was also suggested that the Working Group may consider the proposal made by Sudan on the establishment of AFRESCO to avoid duplication.

31. The Ministers, however, noted that there was need to review the existing Institutions first and see how the new institute can work with them.

32. Institutions are not an end in themselves; they are rather a means to address a set of objectives. Overall the Ministers generally supported the idea of setting up the Task Force to come up with the details. Ministers however

suggested that the Feasibility Study should not be used to justify the establishment of the Institution.

33. There was a recommendation that existing Sub-regional institutions should be looked at and the problems they are facing should be identified and addressed. Moreover, they suggested that the proposed Institute should be connected to African Universities and research establishments dealing with African cultures. Finally, the Ministers formally adopted the proposal to set up a Task Force as outlined above.

(f) Implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa

34. With regard to this item, the Rapporteur drew the attention of the Ministers to the fact that the Experts generally supported the proposal. However some delegates suggested that equal emphasis be placed on intangible heritage. They also suggested that a Committee be established to facilitate financial and technical contributions. Some experts noted that there is no clear cut separation between tangible and intangible heritages and both are covered in the common position. In this connection, the participants were informed that a feasibility study was conducted; and that the framework for the Heritage Fund had been worked out. Furthermore, it was learnt that an endowment fund would be established to avoid donor dependence. It was also suggested that African World Heritage expertise be strengthened through the proposed Fund.

35. The Ministers were also informed that an African Position Paper on the Africa Cultural Heritage Convention and the African Heritage Fund was developed which includes a 10-year Action Plan.

36. The Ministers endorsed and supported the African Position Paper as well as the establishment of the African Heritage Fund as recommended by the experts. Member States were, however, called upon to consider ratifying this Convention if they have not yet done so. It was noted that Africa is under-represented on the World Heritage List hence the need for the Position Paper.

37. Furthermore Ministers of Culture were requested to support the ECOSOCC resolution 01/ECOSOCC/05 for the Airfare tax. There was no clear indication as to whether the Ministers of Culture would indeed support this resolution.

(g) The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Expression.

38. The Commissioner informed the conference that UNESCO had submitted a document to provide the correct text on this item as well as correcting the title of the same which is Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Expression. Countries were then requested to ratify this Convention. It was

recommended that the UNESCO text replace paragraph 38 and 39 of the Experts Report.

39. Member States were further requested to strengthen mechanisms for international co-operation.

(h) Brief on Preparations for the First Edition of the Pan-African Cultural Congress, 2006

40. The Rapporteur informed the Ministers that the presentation of this item to the Experts was done by a representative of the AU Commission, who shared information on the preparations for the First Edition of the Pan-African Cultural Congress. He noted that the Congress was aimed at providing cultural workers an opportunity to enrich documentation for the First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture. Around 300 participants were expected for the Congress, which would have convened prior to the Conference of Culture. The Congress was expected to discuss eight (8) major themes and a number of sub-themes under each theme. The eight (8) themes are:

- Theme 1: Identity, national citizenship and a common African vision;
- Theme 2: Culture and education;
- Theme 3: The continent's memory: the past of Africa, historical and ethnographical heritage, traditional knowledge and know how;
- Theme 4: Cultural Freedoms and Rights; legislation;
- Theme 5: Cultural Development;
- Theme 6: Cultural dimension of development, economic stakes of culture; other challenges of development challenges: environment, health, poverty reduction;
- Theme 7: Africa and the World: the role and place of culture;
- Theme 8: Cultural Policies in Africa: theories and practices;

41. The Rapporteur further informed the Ministers that in the discussions during the Experts Meeting, delegates suggested the addition of a ninth theme namely "***culture and language***". Other delegations also proposed the inclusion of themes on cultural policy and legislation as well as intangible heritage. Delegations also called for a forum for artists involved in cultural industries such as show business, to advise on ways and means for assisting cultural industries.

Ministers also suggested that Culture and Peace as well as Culture and Gender be added as themes. Some delegates questioned the end result of the Congress, as the outcomes will no longer feed into the Ministerial Conference.

42. The Chair reminded the delegates that Tanzania proposed that the Congress be hosted by Kenya but it may not necessarily be in March 2006 to allow for preparations.

43. The Kenyan Delegation reiterated that Kenya will be honoured to host the First Edition Pan-African Cultural Congress. The Commissioner made some clarifications regarding the convening of the Congress. The Commission will consult to ensure that the Congress is allocated a slot on the AU Commission calendar of meeting. She also made reference to the fact that the new Bureau will have a role to play. The Commissioner also clarified that the Congress might not be convened in the first quarter of 2006.

44. The Ministers agreed that the Congress will be held next year and that the Commission will fix the appropriate date and work on the modalities including the agenda.

Item 5: Contribution to the 5th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (Special Session on Culture and Education), Khartoum, 2006

45. The Commissioner for Social Affairs informed the Ministers that the Commission made a presentation on this item to the Experts.

46. The Commissioner then informed the delegates that the theme of the January Assembly is Culture and Education which means that there will be a Special Session devoted to Culture and Education. During this session, two Heads of State will make presentations on Culture and Education, respectively, followed by a debate on the same by the Heads of State. A maximum of 2 hours will be devoted to culture and education. Participants were further informed that there will be an Extra-ordinary Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF) from January 11th – 14th 2006 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia which will endorse substantive agenda items to be presented to the Heads of State.

47. It was also learnt that there will be separate fora organised for Civil Society, Gender and Private Sector before the Summit meetings begin. The paper from UNESCO was entitled The Role of Education and Culture in the Quest for Africa's Sustainable Development and was distributed to Experts. The Commission will develop a concept paper for the summit in consultation with UNESCO also drawing on the UNESCO paper. The paper is on the interface between culture and education.

48. The Ministers took note of the UNESCO report and requested the Commission to develop a concept note taking into account the UNESCO paper. Member States were encouraged to submit comments to the Commission for incorporation in the concept paper.

49. The UNESCO informed the delegates that the document was requested by Chairperson. The Ministers of Education in Algiers took note of the report. The Ministers were requested to avail themselves of this opportunity to contribute to the document.

Item 6: Items proposed by Member States: the First African Film Summit and the General Congress of FEPACI, 3-4 April 2006, to be hosted by South Africa

50. Mr. Themba Wakashe, on behalf of the Government of South Africa, presented this item for information and endorsement and on preparations for the First African Film Summit to be convened jointly by the National Film and Video Foundation of South Africa and FEPACI in April 2006 and the General Congress of FEPACI from 3-4 April 2006. He noted that the First African Film Summit is in response to a decision of the Second Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Maputo in 2003. The First African Film Summit aims to bring together 150 delegates comprising audio-visual practitioners from within and outside Africa to discuss issues such as state of the African film industry, review and evaluates successes and weakness of the film sector, streamline audio-visual policies, explore a new mandate for FEPACI within NEPAD context, review policy instruments of the OAU/AU for the audio-visual industry and to explore a new Pan African Convention for Colloboration within Audio-Visual Industry.

51. The Experts Meeting appreciated the information presented and an appeal was made for the active participation of audio-visual practitioners from across the continent.

52. The delegate then appealed for the participation of the African Union.

53. The Ministers endorsed the event and wished South Africa all the success in the preparation.

Item 7: The Nairobi Declaration on Culture, Integration and African Renaissance

54. This item was presented by the Commissioner who provided an outline of the Declaration.

55. The Ministers then made a number of suggestions to improve the Declaration. They finally adopted the Declaration and requested the AU Commission to facilitate its implementation.

Item 8: Any Other Business

56. The Delegation from Sudan presented the proposal by the Government of Sudan for the establishment of AFRESKO and suggested that this be added to the Nairobi Declaration. The initiative was welcome and incorporated in the Declaration.

57. The Hon. Minister from Libya made a statement in which he thanked Kenya for inviting them to this meeting. He commended the Government and the people of Kenya for hosting the Conference and hailed the spirit of the founding fathers who sacrificed under difficult circumstances during the Colonial Era to enable Africa to get where it is today. He also commended the gallant African Leaders who created the African Union in fulfillment of the aspirations and dreams of the founding fathers. He also thanked participants for their positive response to the directives of the Libyan Leader, Muammar Gaddafi, who was behind the programmes and proposals embraced by the Conference, particularly concerning the development of African Languages and the role of the African Diaspora in establishing the African Union edifice. He said that Africa was one in terms of belonging and destiny and was capable of transforming the African Union into the United States of Africa because it had the consciousness, the will and the potential to do so. He went on to observe that freedom does not imply piumnity and diversity does not imply conspiracy against the social fabric. He concluded his statement by cautioning that those who sought to take Africa back to slavery through multinational corporations would have their new slavery project smashed on the rock of African consciousness, resolve and action.

58. The remaining delegates who took the floor thanked Kenya for hosting the Conference. Moreover, the delegation from Togo provided information on the Regional Centre for Cultural Action (CRAC) and requested AU Commission to include it on its programmes and grant it Observer Status.

59. The delegate from Cote d'Ivoire made a presentation on the importance of an Inventory and economic development of African Cultural Heritage and requested UNESCO to support the convening of an International Conference that would be held in Cote d'Ivoire on this subject.

60. The delegate from Ghana informed the Ministers that 2007 will mark 50 years of Ghanaian Independence and that Ghana may declare Accra the Cultural capital of Africa. Regarding the ECOSOCC resolution document on levying taxation on air ticket fares, he appealed to the AU to consult Ministers of Tourism and Finance before this is implemented. He also noted that the Mausoleum of Kenyatta was locked which was cause for concern.

61. The delegate from Gabon made an intervention which made reference to paragraph 6 in the preamble of the Nairobi Declaration and suggested that AU appoints a committee to undertake this evaluation on African Cultures.

62. Rwanda informed the delegates that culture has a role to play in peace and reconciliation especially considering the 1994 genocide that occurred in that country. He invited all ministers to Rwanda from 5-12 August 2006 for a cultural festival.

63. The Delegate from Central African Republic informed delegates that his country is facing cultural challenges and that a strategic plan has been elaborated to address these challenges. The delegate further thanked UNESCO for their support.

64. Taking her turn, the Minister from The Gambia invited all ministers, delegates and Members States of the African Union to The Gambia on the occasion of the 8th Edition of the International Roots Home Coming Festival from 3rd to 10th June 2006.

65. Algeria exposed the reasons that have hindered the implementation of the Project to revitalize the Great Africa Museum in Algiers. These are related to one decade terrorist crisis that the country went through and which caused the withdrawal of the project. Now that Algeria found peace and stability, the country expresses preparedness to re-launch the project. The Conference accepted very favorably the proposal.

Item 9: Date and Venue of the Second Session of Conference of Ministers of Culture

66. Algeria offered to host the Second Session of Conference of Ministers of Culture. The Ministers accepted the offer. The Second Session will be held in Algeria in November 2007.

Item 10: Adoption of the Report and Recommendations of the Ministers Meeting

67. The report was presented page by page and was adopted with some modifications.

Item 11: Closing

68. Before giving the floor to the Permanent Secretary of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services to moderate the closing ceremony, the Chair suggested that the Ministerial session should perhaps be running for three days to enable the Secretariat to do its best. The Permanent Secretary started by thanking the Inter-Ministerial Committee that organized the Conference. She also thanked the delegates for their support and expressed her gratitude that the Ministers had adopted The Nairobi Declaration. She then requested the

Commissioner for Social Affairs, Adv. Bience Gawanas to make her closing remarks.

69. In her concluding remarks, the Commissioner thanked the Minister and the Permanent Secretary of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services for their efforts and supported the proposal by the Chair that the Ministerial Session should run for three days in the future. She expressed her expectation that the Ministers would ensure the implementation of their recommendations and assured them that AU Commission will strive to serve the Union better. She concluded her remarks by thanking the Host Government, Staff of AU Commission as well as the freelance translators and interpreters.

70. At this juncture, the Minister for Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services Hon. Maina Kamanda was requested to officially close the meeting. In his remarks, the Hon. Minister thanked the delegates for electing him as Chair and for their co-operation. He also thanked the experts for the background work they carried out prior to the Ministers meeting. He went on to inform the delegates that the President of the Republic of Kenya accepted to host the Conference at the request of the AU Commission. He then reminded the Ministers that although the meeting was drawing to a close, their job was just starting. The Nairobi Declaration will have to be presented to Heads of State in Sudan and that they had a duty to ensure that their respective governments bring culture on top of their development agenda.

71. The Minister then invited the delegates to visit places of cultural interest in Kenya and wished them a safe journey back home. With these few remarks the Hon. Ministers declared the meeting officially closed.

72. The delegation of Algeria was given a chance to make some remarks as the host of the next session of the Conference. The Hon. Ministers from Algeria thanked the host government and all the Chairs who presided over the meeting. She assured the delegates that they will try to meet the standards set by Kenya in Algiers in 2007.

73. The Hon. Ministers from Ethiopia delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of all the Ministers. He thanked the Kenyan Government for hosting the Conference and also for its hospitality. He also thanked The Chairperson of the Commission and Commissioner Gawanas for their dedication. He thanked all the delegates for a time well spent.

74. On his own request the delegate from Mali was given the floor to make some remarks. He pointed out that all the delegates wanted the meeting to succeed and was happy that Swahili had been launched as one of the languages on the Internet.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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EX.CL/223 (VIII)

Annex 2

**NAIROBI DECLARATION ON CULTURE,
INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE**

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FIRST SESSION OF AU
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
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NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/Decl.1 Rev3
ANNEX 2

**NAIROBI DECLARATION ON
CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE**

NAIROBI DECLARATION ON CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE

WE, the Ministers of Culture, meeting at the First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Nairobi, Kenya from 13-14 December 2005;

Recalling the major regional and international policy instruments, such as the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, its related protocols and other human rights instruments, the 1976 Cultural Charter for Africa (Port-Louis, Mauritius); The 1985 Declaration of Heads of States and Governments on the Cultural Aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action for Economic Development of Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia); The Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa (1986); The 1991 Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja, Nigeria); The 1992 Dakar Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries (Senegal); The 2001 Cotonou Declaration of Cultural Diversity (Benin); The 2003 Dakar Plan of Action on the Promotion of ACP Cultures and Cultural Industries, UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001) and UNESCO Convention on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage(2003);

Recalling further key meetings devoted to cultural issues, such as the 1975 international conference of cultural policies in Africa (Accra, Ghana); the OAU conferences of African Ministers of Culture held in Port Louis (1986), Ouagadougou (1988), Yaounde (1990) and Cotonou (1993); The Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa adopted by the heads of states and governments (Cotonou, 1985); UNESCO Regional Conference on Art Education in Africa (Port Elizabeth, 2001) and UNESCO Workshop on Culture and Development in NEPAD Program of Action (Abidjan, 2003);

Considering that culture represents a set of ways and means whereby the people of Africa, individually and collectively, assert their identity, protect and transmit it from generation to generation;

Recognizing the need to review and evaluate the cultural sector, examine new issues and challenges, and chart out future perspectives of African cultures and their place in the overall transformation of the continent;

Noting that Africa, which faces a multitude of challenges such as the AIDS pandemic, Malaria and Tuberculosis, worsening poverty, low literacy rates, environmental degradation and conflicts cannot afford to overlook the cultural dimension;

Recognizing the need to evaluate and strengthen the existing cultural policy instruments and the need to enter into new commitments to give African cultures the prominent place they deserve in sustainable development and integration;

Congratulating the AU Heads of State and Government for convening a Special Session on Culture and Education during their 6th Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Sudan;

Recognizing the contribution made by UNESCO towards the educational and cultural programme of Africa in general, and specifically, its contribution towards this Conference as well as the Khartoum Summit including the exhibition;

Aware of the importance of new information technologies in the promotion of culture in all its forms of expression, and their decisive impact as tools which are now indispensable in the dissemination of cultural products at national, regional and international levels, as reaffirmed during the Phase II of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) held in Tunis in November 2005, which was a resounding success and which we commend.

RESOLVE TO

1. Assert the contribution of the cultures of Africa and the Diaspora to global civilization in association with its Diaspora;
2. Preserve cultural heritage and promote cultural development in all spheres and dimensions;
3. Consider culture as a foundation for socio-economic development and thus promote the integration of cultural factors in development goals and use culture in addressing present-day challenges;
4. Foster the link between culture and education at all levels and ensure that education is rooted in African cultural life;
5. Recognize the cultural expressions of youth and responding to their aspirations according to African culture and values as well empower and prepare them in such a way that they are able to cope successfully with present and future challenges of the modern world;
6. Encourage policies that foster the development and promotion of African languages, especially their use in education, and improve communication and participation of all people in cultural life as it is fit in a democratic society;
7. Devote special attention and the necessary resources to women for their crucial contribution to a much needed social transformation in Africa and addressing harmful and gender bias cultural practices which impede the active participation of women in development;

8. Pay particular attention to the promotion of the African Culture by the generalization of new information technologies among African populations, particularly among the younger generation, by making all efforts towards the building of the African Information and Share Knowledge Society.
9. Reaffirm the promotion of cultural industries and cultural producers by harmonizing domestic policies that enhance intra-regional and international exchange of cultural products, consolidating existing cultural markets, creating new opportunities, and protecting copyrights;
10. Sponsor regional networks of cultural creators, practitioners and professionals to expedite continental cultural integration, in addition to strengthening the existing cultural policy instruments and establishing new ones;
11. Promote cultural values and practices known for their capability and potential for peace-making and/or conflict resolution, health management and development;
12. Encourage Member States which have not done so to ratify the UNESCO Convention on Protection and Promotion of Diversity in cultural Expressions (2005) and the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) in order to promote cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue as a tool for integration and development;
13. Establish and strengthen cultural infrastructure in the context of Africa's social-cultural transformation;
14. Create a funding mechanism for cultural programs and projects.

ENDORSE

1. The Charter of the African Cultural Renaissance;
2. The Nairobi Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries for Africa's development in principle;
3. The Statutes of the African Academy of Languages and the establishment of the said academy as well as the updated Language Plan of Action for Africa;
4. The Declaration of 2006 as the Year of African Languages;

5. The convening of the First Edition of the Pan African Cultural Congress in Nairobi, Kenya in 2006;
6. The African Position Paper on the State of World Heritage in Africa and the proposal for the creation of an African World Heritage Fund;
7. The proposal by Algeria to fund the feasibility study for the establishment of the Pan African Institute of Culture
8. The proposal of Algeria to re-launch the implementation of the Ouagadougou resolution on the revival of the Great African Museum in Algeria in the spirit of African solidarity;

TAKE NOTE OF cultural activities organized on the Continent and encourage Member States to support and participate in these activities including:

1. The First African Film Summit and the General Congress of Pan African Federation of Filmmakers (FEPACI) from 3-4 April 2006, Johannesburg, South Africa;
2. The Third World Festival of Black Arts to be hosted by Senegal;
3. The Second Edition of Pan African Cultural Festival to be hosted by Algeria;
4. The proposal by the Republic of the Sudan to establish African Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (AFRESCO).

REQUEST the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, where applicable, in collaboration with all stakeholders including Regional Economic Communities to:

1. Follow-up and monitor the commitments contained herein;
2. Implement and co-ordinate the implementation of the Charter for the Cultural Renaissance of Africa and the Nairobi Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries for Africa's development in collaboration with other stakeholders;
3. Conduct a feasibility study of existing cultural institutions with a view to reinforcing those which are still relevant and strategic;

- 4.** Create a Division of Culture within the Department of Social Affairs of the AU Commission;
- 5.** Set up a Preparatory Committee to oversee the activities of the Year of African Languages;
- 6.** Set up a Task Force that will conduct a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed Pan African Cultural Institute;
- 7.** Report on the progress of implementation to the 2nd session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture.

**ADOPTED IN NAIROBI, KENYA
ON 14 DECEMBER 2005**

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN

EX.CL/223 (VIII)

Annex 3

CHARTER FOR THE CULTURAL RENAISSANCE
OF AFRICA

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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FIRST SESSION OF
THE AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
10 - 14 DECEMBER 2005
NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/EXP.CHAR.1(I)

CHARTER FOR AFRICAN CULTURAL RENAISSANCE
(REVISED DRAFT)

CHARTER FOR AFRICAN CULTURAL RENAISSANCE

PREAMBLE

We, Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in the Sixth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, the Republic of The Sudan, from 23rd to 24th January 2006,

Inspired by the Cultural Charter for Africa adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirteenth Ordinary Session, in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 2 to 5 July, 1976;

GUIDED BY

The Constitutive Act of the African Union;

The Universal Declaration of Principles of International Cultural Co-operation adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its Fourteenth Session in 1966;

The Pan-African Cultural Manifesto of Algiers (1969), and by the Inter-Governmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Africa organized by UNESCO in Accra, in 1975, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity;

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981);

The Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954) and its additional Protocols;

The Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import,

Export and Transfer of Cultural Property (1970);

Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972);

The UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001);

The Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003);

The Convention on the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions, (2005);

The Decision of OAU Summit on the establishment of the African Academy of Languages;

The Decision of the First Conference of African Ministers of Culture on the endorsement of the Draft Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, from 13 to 14 December 2005, in Nairobi, Kenya;

AFFIRMING

That any human community is necessarily governed by rules and principles based on culture; and that culture should be regarded as the set of distinctive linguistic, spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features of the society or a social group, and that it encompasses, in addition to art and literature, lifestyles, ways of living together, value systems, traditions and beliefs;

That all cultures emanate from the societies, communities, groups and individuals and that any African cultural policy should of necessity enable peoples to evolve for increased responsibility in its development;

AWARE OF THE FACT

That any people have the inalienable right to organize their cultural life in full harmony with their political, economic, social, philosophical and spiritual ideas;

CONVINCED

That all the cultures of the world are equally entitled to respect just as all individuals are equal as regards free access to culture;

RECALLING

That despite cultural domination which during the slave trade and the colonial era led to the depersonalization of part of the African peoples, falsified their history, systematically disparaged and combated African values, and tried to replace progressively and officially, their languages by that of the colonize, the African peoples were able to find in African culture, the necessary strength for resistance and the liberation of the Continent;

CONVINCED

That the unity of Africa is founded first and foremost on its history;

That the affirmation of cultural identity denotes a concern common to all peoples of Africa;

That African cultural diversity and unity are a factor of equilibrium, strength in African economic development, conflict resolution and reducing inequality and injustice to promote national integration;

That it is imperative to edify educational systems which embody the African and universal values, so as to ensure the rooting of youth in African culture, their exposure to the values of other civilizations, and mobilize the social forces in the context of a sustainable, endogenous participatory development;

That it is imperative to resolutely ensure the promotion of African languages, mainstay and media of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in its most authentic and essentially popular form and also as a factor of development;

That it is imperative to carry out a systematic inventory with a view to preserving and promoting tangible and intangible cultural heritage, in particular in the spheres of History, Traditions, Arts and Handicrafts, Knowledge and Know-how;

GUIDED BY

A common determination to strengthen understanding among our peoples and cooperation among our States in order to meet the aspirations of our peoples to see brotherhood and solidarity reinforced and integrated within a greater cultural unity which transcends ethnic, national and regional divergences on the basis of a shared vision;

AWARE

That culture constitutes for our peoples the surest means to chart Africa's own course towards technological development, and the most efficient response to the challenges of globalisation;

CONVINCED

That African culture is meaningless unless it plays a full part in the political, economic and social liberation struggle, and in the rehabilitation and unification efforts and that there is no limit to the cultural development of a people;

CONVINCED

That a common resolve provides the basis for promoting the harmonious cultural development of our States and our societies;

CONSIDERING

That the globalisation process facilitated by rapid developments in information and communication technologies constitutes a challenge for cultural identities and cultural diversity and requires universal mobilization to promote dialogue between civilizations;

AGREE

To establish the present Charter for African Cultural Renaissance.

Article 1

REPLACEMENT OF THE 1976 CULTURAL CHARTER FOR AFRICA

The Cultural Charter for Africa adopted in 1976 by the Heads of States and Governments of the Organization of African Unity is hereby replaced by the present Charter.

Article 2

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTIES TO THE REVISED CHARTER AND PARTIES BOUND BY THE 1976 CULTURAL CHARTER FOR AFRICA

- (a) Between parties which are bound by this Charter, only this Charter shall apply
- (a) The relationships between Parties to the original Cultural Charter for Africa of 1976 and Parties to this Revised Charter shall be governed by the provisions of original Cultural Charter for Africa.

PART I

OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

Article 3

The objectives of this Charter are as follows:

- (a) To assert the dignity of African men and women as well as the popular foundations of their culture;
- (b) To promote freedom of expression and cultural democracy, which is inseparable from social and political democracy;
- (c) To promote an enabling environment for African peoples to maintain and reinforce the sense and will for progress and development;
- (d) To preserve and promote the African cultural heritage through preservation, restoration and rehabilitation;
- (e) To combat and eliminate all forms of alienation, exclusion and cultural oppression everywhere in Africa;
- (f) To encourage cultural co-operation among Member States with a view to the strengthening of African unity, through the use of African languages and the promotion of inter-cultural dialogue;
- (g) To integrate cultural objectives in development strategies;

- (h) To encourage international cultural co-operation for a better understanding among peoples within and outside Africa;
- (i) To promote in each country the popularization of science and technology including traditional knowledge systems as a condition for better understanding and preservation of cultural and natural heritage;
- (j) To strengthen the role of culture in promoting peace and good governance;
- (k) To develop all the dynamic values of the African cultural heritage that promote human rights, social cohesion and human development;
- (l) To provide African peoples with the resources to enable them to cope with globalization.

Article 4

In order to fulfil the objectives set out in Article 1, the African States solemnly subscribe to the following principles:

- a) access of all citizens to education and to culture;
- b) respect for the freedom to create and the liberation of the creative genius of the people;
- c) respect for national and regional identities in the area of culture as well as the cultural rights of minorities;
- d) strengthening the role of science and technology, including endogenous systems of knowledge, in the life of the African peoples by incorporating the use of African languages;
- e) exchange and dissemination of cultural experiences between African countries.

PART II

AFRICAN CULTURAL DIVERSITY, IDENTITY AND RENAISSANCE

Article 5

African States recognize that cultural diversity is a factor for mutual enrichment of peoples and nations. Consequently, they commit themselves to defend minorities, their cultures, their rights and their fundamental freedoms.

Cultural diversity contributes to the expression of national and regional identities, and more widely, to building Pan-Africanism.

Article 6

At national level, the promotion of identities consists of fostering mutual understanding and coordinating inter-cultural and inter-generational dialogue. At global level, the promotion of African identities exemplifies African dignity and freedoms. It presents African values and the contribution of Africa and the African Diaspora to the building of universal civilization.

Article 7

African States commit themselves to work for African Renaissance. They agree on the need for reconstruction of the historical memory and conscience of Africa and the African Diaspora.

They consider that the general History published by UNESCO constitutes a valid base for teaching the History of Africa and recommend its dissemination, including in African languages, as well as the publication of its abridged and simplified versions for wider audiences.

PART III

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER I – Basic Principles of a Cultural Policy

Article 8

The experience of previous decades recommends that an in-depth renewal of national and regional approaches in terms of cultural policy be carried out. As the production of peoples, grassroots communities, artists and intellectuals, culture is a factor of social progress and a driving force for innovation.

Article 9

States have the essential task of creating an enabling environment for cultural innovation and development. To this end, they shall guarantee freedom of expression for all citizens and cultural stakeholders.

Article 10

States will ensure the introduction of African cultural values and the universal principles of human rights in education, as well as in information and communication programmes.

States commit themselves to:

- protect and promote the freedom of artists, intellectuals and men and women of culture;
- protect and develop tangible and intangible cultural heritage;
- financially and materially support cultural initiatives in all strata of society;
- facilitate access to education and culture for all segments of the population.

CHAPTER II – Cultural Stakeholders

Article 11

States recognise that a significant number of non-institutional actors are instrumental in cultural development: designers, private developers, associations, local governments, the private sector,

States commit themselves to support cultural development through incentive measures in fiscal, legislative and administrative plans. Such measures shall target inventors associations, the civil society and the private sector.

Article 12

States shall build the capacity of the cultural sector and stakeholders through the organization of festivals, seminars, conferences, training and refresher courses at national, sub-regional, continental and Pan-African level.

States shall guarantee equal access of women and men to cultural expression, decision-making, art and cultural professions.

Article 13

The youth represent the majority of the African population. The key resources for contemporary creation reside in the youth.

States commit themselves to recognise cultural expressions by the youth, according them their true value and responding to their aspirations, in accordance with African culture and values.

Article 14

Elders and traditional leaders are cultural stakeholders in their own right. Their role and importance deserve official recognition in order for them to be integrated in modern mechanisms of conflict resolution and the inter-cultural dialogue system.

Article 15(=old art. 12)

Training is a fundamental component of cultural, economic and social development. Consequently, African States should create an enabling environment to enhance the access and participation of all in culture, including marginalized and underprivileged communities.

Article 16(=old art. 13)

To achieve the objective spelt out in the previous article, African States should define training policies for artists that guarantee the freedom of artists, creators and other cultural stakeholders.

Article 17=old art. 14)

Professional training for creative artists should be improved, renewed and adapted to modern methods, without breaking links with traditional sources of culture. To this end, specialist training should be provided in national, sub-regional and regional training institutions which should be established by Africans.

Articles 15&16 are deleted**PART IV
USE OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES****Article 18(=old art. 17)**

African States recognize the need to develop African languages in order to ensure their cultural advancement, and acceleration of their economic and social development. To this end, they should endeavour to formulate and implement appropriate national language policies.

Article 19(=old art. 18)

African States should prepare and implement reforms for the introduction of African languages into the education curriculum. To this end, each State should extend the use

of African languages taking into consideration the requirements of social cohesion and technological progress, as well as regional and African integration.

Art. 19 is deleted

**PART V:
USE OF MASS MEDIA**

Article 20(=old art. 20 combined with 21)

African States recognize the links between cultural, information and communication policies, therefore they should encourage the use of the information and communication media for their cultural development and promotion.

Article 21(=old art. 22)

African States should:

- a) ensure that new information and communication technologies are used to promote African culture;
- b) promote the establishment of publishing and distribution houses for books, textbooks, children's books and audio-visual works, particularly in African languages;
- c) more specifically, create an enabling environment that will enhance the creation, protection, production and distribution of cultural works.

PART VI

THE ROLE OF STATES IN CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER III – Assistance to Artistic Creation and Expression

Article 22(=old art. 23)

States should create an enabling environment that fosters creativity in all its diversity, mainly through:

- a) Putting in place an appropriate institutional framework with a view to facilitating creativity and artistic expression;

- b) Providing financial, technical and other forms of assistance to stimulate artistic creation and expression, preferably by the establishment of national funds for the promotion of arts and culture;
- c) Providing fiscal assistance and incentives measures, particularly tax exemption for African cultural goods and services;
- d) Subscribing to and ratifying charters, conventions and other legislative instruments for the preservation and promotion of artistic creation and expression, namely, the International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005), which is an important instrument on the protection of local languages, arts and culture against the effects of standardization arising from cultural globalization, particularly in developing countries;
- e) Taking appropriate measures for the protection of intellectual property rights related to the expression of cultural diversity;
- f) Harmonizing national policies and legislation with international charters, conventions and other legislative instruments.

CHAPTER IV – The Protection of African Artistic Goods and Services

Article 23(=old art. 24)

African States should prepare an inter-African convention on copyright in order to guarantee the protection of African works. They should also intensify their efforts to modify existing international conventions to meet African interests.

Article 24(=old art. 25)

African States should enact national and inter-African laws and regulations guaranteeing the protection of copyright and set up national authors' associations and copyright offices and encourage the establishment of authors' associations responsible for protecting the material and moral interests of those who produce cultural goods and services.

CHAPTER V – The Protection of African Cultural Heritage

Article 26 and 27 are deleted.

Article 25

African States, having adopted the African Position Paper on the State of World Heritage in Africa, and the proposal for the establishment of the African World Heritage Fund, should take all the necessary measures to implement the relevant provisions contained

in this document and the Proposal for the Establishment of the African World Heritage Fund.

Article 26(=old art. 28)

African States should take steps to put an end to the pillage and illicit traffic of African cultural property and ensure that such cultural property is returned to their countries of origin.

Article 27(=old art. 29)

African States should take the necessary measures to ensure that archives and other historical records which have been illicitly removed from Africa are returned to African Governments in order that they may have complete archives concerning the history of their country.

Article 28

The concerned African States shall commit themselves to provide appropriate physical and environmental conditions to safeguard and protect returned archives and historical records.

Article 29

African States should ratify the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;

PART VII

INTRA AND INTER-AFRICAN CULTURAL CO-OPERATION

Article 30(=old art. 30)

African States acknowledge that it is vital to establish inter-African cultural co-operation as a contribution to the mutual understanding of the cultures of other States for the enrichment of African cultures, and between Africa and the rest of the world, particularly with the African Diaspora.

Article 31(=old art. 31)

To achieve the aims set out in the previous Article, African States agree:

- To build capacities, particularly for the specialized institutions of the AU Commission to enable it to coordinate, monitor, evaluate and harmonize best practices and policies concerning programmes and networks;

- To organize cultural events such as festivals, symposia, sporting events and arts exhibitions;
- To establish cultural research centres and encourage cultural exchange programmes;
- To commit themselves to ensure that African cultural values are deployed to maximum effect in order to promote and reinforce a sense of identity among Africans.

Article 32 is deleted

PART VIII

AFRICA AND THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Article 32

African States should strengthen their ties with the African Diaspora worldwide in the areas of culture, education, science and technology, finance and economy. They should support the members of the African Diaspora to better interact with local, regional and national authorities in their countries of residence, capable of seeking solutions to the problems facing their communities. They should also assist them to participate further in the development of Africa.

Article 33

The African Union should take the necessary measures to establish institutions or “Africa Houses” in countries where there is a significant African Diaspora, and elsewhere with a view:

- a) To promote positive awareness about Africa;
- b) To promote African positions and perspectives;
- c) To support the African Diaspora in its efforts to forge relations with their communities, their regional and national governments in Africa and in the rest of the world.

Part IX

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 34= old 33

Signature and Ratification

- (a) This Charter shall be open for signature to all Member States of the African Union and shall be ratified by the signatory States in accordance with their respective constitutional processes;
- (b) The original instrument, done if possible in African languages and in Arabic, English, French and Portuguese, all texts being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Commission of the African Union which shall transmit copies thereof to all AU Member States;

- (c) Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Commission of the African Union which shall notify all signatories of such deposit.

Article 35=old 34

Entry into Force

This Charter shall come into force immediately upon receipt by the Commission of the African Union of the instruments of ratification and accession from two-thirds of the total membership of the African Union.

Article 36=old 35

Registration of the Charter

This Charter shall, after due ratification, be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations through the Commission of the African Union in conformity with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 37=old 36

Interpretation of the Charter

Any question which may arise concerning the interpretation of this Charter shall be resolved by decision of the Assembly of the African Union.

Article 38=old 37

Adhesion and Accession

- (a) Any AU Member State may at any time notify the Commission of the African Union of its intention to adhere or accede to this Charter.
- (b) The Commission of the African Union shall, on receipt of such notification, communicate a copy of it to all the Member States. Adhesion and accession shall take effect fourteen days after communication of the applicant's notice to all Member States by the Commission of African Union.

Article 39: Amendment and Revision

- (a) Any State Party may submit proposals for the amendments or revision of this Charter.
- (b) Proposals for amendment or revision shall be submitted, in writing, to the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union who shall transmit the

same to the States parties, in accordance within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.

- (c) The Assembly shall examine these proposals within a period of one (1) year following notification of States parties, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this article.
- (d) Amendments or revisions shall be adopted by the Assembly by a Consensus, failing which, by a two-thirds majority.
- (e) Amendments or revisions shall enter into force for each State Party, which has accepted them, thirty (30) days after the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union has received notice of acceptance.

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN**

EX.CL/223 (VIII)

Annex 4

**NAIROBI PLAN OF ACTION ON CULTURAL
INDUSTRIES IN AFRICA**

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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ANNEX 4

**FIRST SESSION OF
AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
10-14 DECEMBER 2005**

NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/Plan. Action 1 (RevII)

**NAIROBI PLAN OF ACTION ON CULTURAL
INDUSTRIES IN AFRICA**

PRESENTATION

The Dakar Plan of Action was prepared by the Experts' Meeting which took place in January 1992 in Nairobi, Kenya. It was later endorsed by the 26th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in June 1992 in Dakar, Senegal by Resolution No. CM/Res. 411/(LVI). This Revised Draft is prepared with the assistance of UNESCO and comprises two parts:

An introduction serving as a background, and the Plan of Action to be considered by the Experts' Meeting and by the 5th Conference of African Ministers of Culture.

CONTENTS

- A. Introduction
- B. Situational analysis
- I. Cultural Industries: Stakes and Challenges
 - A. An expanding market
 - B. The African market
 - C. Intellectual Property issues
 - D. Impact of globalisation
 - E. New Technologies and cultural industries
 - F. New initiatives
- II. To Organise African Cultural Spaces
- C. Plan of Action
 - Preamble
 - I. Antecedents of the project
 - II. Objectives
 - III. Strategy
 - IV. Timeframes
 - V. Monitoring and evaluation
 - VI. Programmes and projects
 - VII. Estimated cost
 - VIII. Responsibility and promotion of the Plan of Action
 - IX. Recommendations
 - X. Indicative measures

A. INTRODUCTION

Since the early eighties African realities have embarked on a restructuring of the economies through the agency of national, regional and sub-regional bodies, the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

Culture can contribute to bringing together what politics has separated as well as to the hastening and consolidation of the process of restructuring in the economic field. On the other hand, cultural action can develop properly only on a solid material and economic basis and it cannot be separated from the socio-economic reality, which constitutes its backbone.

It is for this reason that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers asked the Secretary General of OAU to organise a series of sub-regional seminars on cultural industries, jointly with UNESCO and African and international partners in the area of co-operation and cultural development, to be followed by a regional meeting of experts, in order to draw conclusions and to prepare a Plan of Action.

The Dakar Plan of Action (1992) was prepared in the spirit of World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997) and the Treaty of Abuja (June 1991) establishing the African Economic Community (Protocol on Culture and African Cultural Common Market: Article 70, Chapter XII : Education, Training and Culture). Preparation of the 1992 Report necessitated the holding of a series of sub- regional seminars.

The meeting of experts that came up with the conclusions and the Plan of Action was organised in Nairobi in January 1992 by UNESCO and OAU with the support of UNDP, the Social and Cultural Foundation of EECIACP and the participation, especially, of ECOWAS, SADCC, ICA and EACROTANAL. The meeting brought together 50 experts from 16 countries, including representatives from the public and private sectors, and professionals in the diverse sectors.

The 1992 Report reviewed the different sectors of cultural industries, which were important to enable Africa to face up to the stakes and challenges. It also recommended to all sectors of cultural and economic development to undertake a campaign of sensitisation on the economic dimension of cultural industries, the necessity to adopt legal, institutional and practical measures in favour of the free circulation of African cultural products within Africa as well as the access to and circulation in foreign markets.

The sectors examined were:

Audio-visual, Mass Media and Living arts: film, T.V., video, radio, music and performing arts.

Printing Industries: printing, publishing, bookshops and press.

Handicrafts and Endogenous Creative Works; art, handicraft, tourism, architecture, fashion, gastronomy and African healing art and technology.

Copyright and Piracy.

Since the last session of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture held in Cotonou, Benin in 1993 cultural issues have not been dealt with at a Pan-African level. Important cultural initiatives have however taken place at national, regional and at international level to discuss African and global issues.

Thus, in preparation for the First Edition of the Pan-African Congress and Fifth Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture 2005 a review and revised Plan of Action has been prepared.

The revised Plan of Action has been prepared in application of:

- The Declaration of the Chiefs of State and Government of OAU on the cultural aspects of Lagos Plan of Action for economic development of Africa (AHG/Dec 1 (XXI) adopted in 1985 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Resolution CMAC/Res. 27(I) adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Culture, following the suggestion of His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Republic of Gabon, concerning creation of an African Cultural Common Market (Port Louis, Mauritius, April 1986).
- Resolution CM/Res. 1120 (XLVI) of the Council of Ministers that asked the Secretary General to study in greater detail document CM/I439 (XLVI) on the cinema and cultural industries by organising a series of sub-regional seminars and a regional meeting of experts on cultural industries (Addis Ababa, July 1987).
- Plan of Action: Cultural Industries for Development in Africa, Dakar 1992
- Dakar Plan of Action on the Promotion of ACP Cultures and Cultural Industries, Dakar, June 2003.

B. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

I. Cultural Industries: Stakes and Challenges

The concept of cultural industry is, in essence, the mass production and distribution of products, which convey ideas, messages, symbols, opinions, information and moral and aesthetic values.

A cultural product conveys and disseminates ideas, opinions, and values peculiar to its own environment.

Thus flooding of the African market with harmful alien cultural products may be compared to the dumping of hazardous wastes because they both have a destructive effect on national cultural identities.

A. *An expanding market*

There is no denying the significant increase in the share of culture, information and the services sectors of the world market.

The liberalisation of political systems, the widespread adoption of multiparty democracy with the attendant freedom of the press, assertion and respect of human and people's rights, the formation of major economic groupings and, more importantly, the breaking down of the ideological barriers, as well as the expansion of new technologies make the flow of ideas, opinions, information and movement of cultural goods smoother and more prevalent between the erstwhile antagonistic and impervious blocks.

The *liberalisation* of industries as part of globalisation is probably the biggest trend all over the world.

The trend towards the increase of the youthful population in the countries of the South is in contrast to the ageing population in the countries of the North with a steady concentration of the world's population in urban areas creates large bodies of consumers of cultural and recreational products.

B. *The African Market*

The domestic market is large. Examples abound.

There are a number of obstacles that face cultural products from Africa:

- i) A lack of market access to the rich western countries.
- ii) A lack of infrastructure in domestic economies.

- iii) The considerable strength of financial muscle in developed countries relative to the economies of Africa.
- iv) The majority of Africa's cultural industries are structured around project –based micro enterprises, with few large global players. These micro firms need to operate in global markets and are in need of financial and business support to ensure their economic and social value, while ensuring that they retain their local specificity.
- v) There is an absence of a common methodology across most of the cultural sectors amongst national, regional and international development agencies in programme development to promote small and medium enterprises of the cultural industries. One of the major challenges that Africa must first confront is that of production. Serious attempts should be made to help the African producers focus not only on quantity but also on quality as, in all things, African cultural products in the African and international distribution networks, and part of Africa's competitiveness in the world will be determined by their quality.

The limited commercialisation of African cultural and artistic creations on both the domestic and foreign market has a serious consequence, namely the gradual impoverishment of the cultural heritage of African countries. There are a range of factors which explain this:

- Talented people may not be attracted by a career as an artist, musician, filmmaker or craft worker, rooted in the country's cultural heritage, if this is not going to provide them with a decent income.
- The limited national market demand which limits economies of scale required for the local commercialisation of artistic and cultural creations. Limited design, packaging and promotion capacity (to adapt artistic creations and 'cultural' goods to the characteristics of demand in industrialised countries and to evolving demand in domestic markets).
- Limited efforts by government and the private sector to transform the abundance of talent and cultural assets of developing countries into thriving creative industries.
- Limited production, commercial and distribution infrastructure, including access to international advertising.
- Lack of effective protection of the intellectual property rights of the local artists.
- A leakage of talent within regions of Africa and to the developed world, which results from a combination of the extensive globalising influence, exerted by some foreign cultures on the youth. Artists perceive their opportunities to be greater in more developed economies (both within the region and in the north).

C. *Intellectual Property Issues*

There is a general lack of protection for intellectual property rights relating to culture. There is a lack of awareness of artists' rights and intellectual property rights across the value chain which results in both abuse of rights and losses in income in recording

contracts¹. Where excellent legislation exists, enforcement is frequently weak. Not all countries have copyright societies, while those which do are typically parastatals or state-funded societies.

Piracy of intellectual work is one of the greatest challenges facing Africa and destroys both the ability of African artists to have a viable career and the emergence of an industry as seen particularly in the music industry.

Role players give little recognition to the competitive advantage of pirate operators (low set up costs, minimal capital investment requirements, effective linkages with informal distribution networks) when formulating their approaches to the problem of piracy which undermines their ability to do so.

Mechanisms to counter cyber-piracy are not well developed.

D. Impact of Globalisation

A number of developments associated with globalisation are both an opportunity and a threat depending on the extent of development of the cultural industries in different countries. The potential derives from the myriad of opportunities for creative content generation and production, increased capacity for distribution and promotion and, more importantly the fact that every consumer or artist can become a creator/producer of cultural values and products. New information technologies potentially can increase dialogue and communication between cultures and enhance respect for cultural diversity hence allowing for its expression. The impact of globalisation can be felt in many arenas of cultural industry such as:

- Changes to the ownership and control of media,
- Access to telecommunications infrastructure and the extent of connectivity of the population

The increased movement of artists, cultural producers and tourists

At the same time that as for many African countries cultural industries are not yet an important element of their economies, these same African countries have accepted the trend toward more open markets and 'free' trade (the need to ensure predictability and certainty in a rules-based context). This instantly poses a challenge to their ability to develop domestic cultural policies and imposes an obligation to negotiate trade agreements that recognise cultural diversity and the particular nature of cultural goods and services.

The opportunities and threats derive from the following developments:

The many different platforms to deliver content, convergence of telecommunications, Exponential growth of computing and content industries,

- i) Vertical and horizontal (cross-media) ownership,

- Increasing knowledge and concern about competition and copyright,
- The mega merger trend,
- Expanded and contracted consumers choice and diversity of content and
- The creation and control of content.

The coming of a global market of free exchange is quickened by technological convergence, which is leading to the concentration of businesses whose size and power are overtaking the powers of states to act on them; a kind of 'commodification' of human societies, which is tending to damage the preservation of cultures' intangible heritage; growth of a 'virtual world', in itself a source of creativity but which is developing outside any legal framework, at the point where spatial, temporal and cultural frontiers become confused. This influence has certainly extended to cultural industries which are particularly sensitive to convergence of supports and whose cultural and economic duality is as trademark. Also commercial blocks – with some of them already consolidated, such as the European Union and others on the way to consolidation, are being accompanied by a strong tendency towards decentralisation of political power, while demands for identity are becoming more loudly heard everywhere, leading sometimes to armed conflict. All of these trends, acting in combination, tends to weaken the role of the nation state and to reduce the public space and explain the emergence of a 'global civil society'.ⁱⁱ

E. New Technologies and Cultural Industries

Increasingly in the world of the Internet and with the development and technological sophistication and 'multi media' in general, cultural works, such as music, books or audio-visual productions can be produced electronically. Technological innovation has now made it possible for the transmission of various electronic impulses via a common transportation medium. Convergence envisages an era where a computer will also be a tool through which broadcasting can take place, and TV will be able to receive data and even voice, and cell phones will transmit voice, data and broadcasting signals.

Many nations have adopted comprehensive policies and regulations that limit foreign access to broadcasting markets.

Promoting global cultural diversity demands broad co-operation through the international community.

F. New Initiatives:

The initiatives taken between 1985 and 1992, in all the sectors were mainly:

- The decisive action by the Cultural Division of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which signed an agreement with UNESCO and carried out a census of cultural industries in the region.
- Establishment in 1991 of the Information and Culture sector within SADCC.
- The revitalisation from 1985 of the Pan-African Federation of Film Makers (FEFACI), which also inaugurated an original system of consultation together

with the International Days for Audiovisual partnerships (North-South) and the establishment of the International African Film Market in Ouagadougou on the sidelines of the FESPACO Film Festival.

- Establishment in 1988 of the Ouagadougou International Handicraft fair (SIAO) a biennial event in Burkina Faso.
 - Creation of a Cultural Industries Unit within the African Cultural Institute (ACI) with financial support from UNDP.
 - Establishment by some academics, of a Senegalese Association for the Promotion of Cultural Industries (ASEPIC).
 - Establishment of the African Foundation for Traditional Technologies in Kenya.
- i) The African Film Week held in Kenya in 1986.
 - ii) Staging of the Pan African Fair for Arts and Music (PAFAM) in Accra, Ghana in 1990.
 - iii) Holding in July 1990 of the first Front-line Film Festival (FFFF) in Harare, Zimbabwe, the second festival is in preparation.
 - iv) The first international meeting on show business in Kinshasa, Zaire, in 1989.
 - The launching of the African Centre for the Training of Performing Artists (ACTPA) in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe in 1991.
 - v) Dakar Biennial events on Arts and Literature on the one hand and the Biennial organised by the International Centre on Bantu Civilisation (CICIBA) based in Libreville, on the other hand
 - Establishment of the Pan African Writers Association in Accra, Ghana, 1988.
 - vi) The African film market and TV programmes organised by URTNA, Nairobi (Kenya).
 - vii) Holding of the First International Women's Exhibition (SIFEM) in Togo in 1988.
 - viii) Proposed Regional Festival in Madagascar, in September 1992.
 - ix) Pan African Festival of Historical Theatre in Cape Coast, Ghana, in 1992.
 - The Memorial project in Goree-Almadies, Senegal

Naturally, mention must be made of recent or past initiatives such as

- i) The regular Film Festivals held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (FESPACO), Carthage, Tunisia (JCC) and in Egypt and Morocco.
- ii) The Zimbabwe International Film Festival, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- iii) The Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF), Zanzibar, Tanzania.
- iv) The Durban International Film Festival (DIFF), Durban, South Africa.
- v) Sithengi International Film and Television Market and the Cape Town World Cinema Festival, Cape Town, South Africa.
- vi) Abuja Film Festival, Abuja, Nigeria.
- vii) The Tunisia Theatrical Days, the National Festival of Rwanda, the Biennial Arts events in Cairo and Alexandria.
- viii) The installation of commercial TV in some countries.

- ix) The development of the print media in Nigeria and Senegal.
- x) The Book Fairs in Cairo, Tunis and Harare among others.
- xi) The Free (private) radio project in Burkina Faso.
- xii) The organisation of competitions and fashion parades and the development of the clothing industry and high fashion as well as hairdos in West Africa.
- xiii) South African Arts and Culture exhibition in Cameroon held in 2005 as a launch pad for creating an arts and culture market at continental level.
- xiv) The Pan-African Festival of Music, the fifth edition held in Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and Kinshasa in July/August 2005 and focused on African music heritage in the Americas and the Caribbean.

The following initiatives were taken between 1993 and 2005:

- i) The Global Alliance promotes cultural diversity by strengthening the capacity of cultural industries to produce and distribute goods and services and help them gain access to national and international markets. The Global Alliance has developed a substantial database of organisations and companies across the world with significant presence in Africa. The Global Alliance supports three sets of activities
 - ◆ creating public-private partnerships to bring resources, technical expertise
 - ◆ support to creative projects large and small at the local level
 - ◆ support consultations between national authorities and private stakeholders to develop suitable sector policies and legislative frameworks to promote cultural industries reinforce the international protection and respect for copyrights.

Exciting new developments have occurred focusing on the role of cities in economic development and related to that the impact of the cultural sector and its role in urban regeneration.

- The UN-Habitat Cities Alliance programme has developed activities in Africa to assist in developing the conditions conducive to economic growth and sustainable development and to ensure African people become the main agents of development. While this is not focused on the cultural industries, there is an increasing recognition of the role played by the cultural sector and creativity in general to address economic and social development in cities. The launch of the United Cities and Local government of Africa (UCLGA) in May 2005 is seen as a significant development to empower local governments in Africa and become a strategic interlocutor for the Cities Alliance and its members. The portfolio in Africa includes Mozambique, Senegal, Burkina-Faso, Swaziland, Niger, Bénin, Ghana, Ethiopia, and South Africa.

The Creative Cities Network launched by UNESCO's Global Alliance's connects creative cities in order that they share experiences, know-how, best-practices, training in business skills and technology on a global level as a means to promote and sustain local

economic and social development through creative industries. As part of this development, one city in Africa, Aswan (Egypt) has been appointed the first UNESCO City of Folk Art (September 1, 2005)ⁱⁱⁱ.

The Inter-Ministerial conference on the role and place of culture in the regional integration agenda of the Southern African Development Community (Mozambique, 2000) in which Member States were called upon 'to take decisive steps toward the promotion of cultural industries as a way of exploiting their capabilities to alleviate poverty, generate employment and contribute to economic growth'^{iv}.

These numerous activities at the national and regional levels are, however not coordinated by any high authority and are not necessarily included in a comprehensive framework or plan like for example the equally numerous and well structured initiatives of the French-speaking countries of the world which are the expression for the political will for the organisation of the Francophone cultural space and market.

Moreover, in spite of the cultural potentialities and the size of the cultural market in Africa and outside Africa, these potentialities are developed in an unsophisticated way, due to lack of professionalism, equipment, and financial resources and in particular the absence of a well integrated economic and cultural policy applied to these sectors.

The African Cultural Common Market is intended to be the framework for the reorganisation and restructuring of the African cultural spaces and market.

II. To Organise African Cultural Spaces

Despite the completion of the liberation of the political spaces, economic and cultural spaces have not been liberated or organised.

But given the important stakes and challenges involved, African governments are duty-bound to react in favour of cultural industries. What is required is a more credible response to globalisation: to reverse the one-way flow (North-South) of messages, images and ideas requires initiating global, integrated policies; strategies and actions and creating a balance between international flows and local production.

However, the cultural, products, activities and events are not at all, or insufficiently, subsidised. On the contrary they are heavily taxed by the State and the local governments in most-African countries.

The artist is not recognised and is considered outside the mainstream of society. With few exceptions like in Algeria where books are considered essential and subsidised like semolina, their products are taxed as if they were luxury goods.

The primary effect of this, almost insurmountable problem is that African products are of such low quality that they compete poorly even on the African market with foreign products. As a result African talents emigrate to the developed countries from where their products are re-exported to Africa as foreign goods!

It is against this background that the experts expressed their concern about the risk of the depletion of African Culture in the long run. However they welcomed the establishment of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the AU. Although the full establishment of the African Economic Community will take place only by 2025 it is important to give culture its due emphasis as a preoccupation of our development authorities in the meantime so that it does not risk being marginalized at the advent of the African Economic Community.

For this reason it is proposed to the African leaders to put in place immediately on an experimental basis a legal and institutional framework for the development of cultural products and their free movement in all African countries as a prelude to the full implementation of the African Economic Community.

The least that African States can do collectively, as of necessity and not as a favour, is to grant culture systematically a “policy subsidy” in the form of legislative and fiscal measures to foster cultural industries, in particular.

Special measures need to be taken to promote production and distribution in cultural products and support trade in cultural products within the African Cultural Common Market as reflected in UNESCO’s recently adopted ‘Convention of the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions’^{iv}. As regards the substance of this Common Market, the broad outlines are given below in the form of a Plan of Action.

C. Plan of Action for Development of Endogenous Cultural Industries in Africa within the Perspective of Setting up an African Cultural Common Market.

PREAMBLE

1. Africa is experiencing abject poverty, debilitating conflicts, increasing the burden of disease, and malnutrition as well as other challenges. This is paradoxical in that it is happening in a continent endowed with rich natural, cultural and human resources that could be tapped and used for a better, meaningful life;
2. Along with other resources, Africa could make the best out of its own home grown technologies and skills in the cultural sector. African cultural industries have the potential to boost socio-economic development and to provide employment opportunities for millions of men, women, the youth, children and the elderly;
3. The cultural sector uses local materials, skills, and technologies. This has a positive bearing on intersectoral growth since it provides market opportunities for a wide variety of goods and services available at the local level;
4. Cultural products are expressed not only in terms of material goods and services but also they embody values, sentiments, beliefs, world views and individual as well as collective memories.

5. It is therefore imperative that the African Cultural industries should be situated in the context of poverty reduction efforts, sustainable development initiatives and programmes.

6. The Vision, Mission and Strategic Framework of the African Union, including the NEPAD initiative emphasized the need for solving Africa's own problems through her own means but with the active cooperation of partners and stakeholders at all levels: local, national, sub-regional, continental, and international. This philosophy is the basis of any action in the Continent in the years to come.

7. Recognizing the role of the cultural industry in Africa in triggering social transformation through the production of goods and services that are essential for the overall well-being and prosperity of African people, the continental organization, in collaboration with the UNESCO, and other partners, had adopted, in 1992, the "Dakar Plan of Action Plan Of Action For The Promotion Of Cultural Industries: Factors Of Development In Africa". Since over a decade and a half elapsed since this important instrument was adopted, the AU Commission deemed it necessary to update the Plan of Action (PoA) in order to respond to emerging changes in the cultural industries centre.

8. This revised PoA, re-named the Nairobi Plan of Action for the Development of Cultural Industries, took into account two parameters:

- The development of the socio-economic context in the space of a decade;
- The emergence in the international arena of free exchange, accelerating the conditions of movement of cultural goods and products, as well as the difficulties of African economies confronted with the WTO.

9. The latter context has a bearing on the quality of production of cultural industries and could also endanger the peculiarities of African cultural production. This calls for an Action Plan which has to address endogenous and exogenous factors that impinge upon the cultural industries of Africa.

10. To this end, it is desirable for Africa to encourage diversification or even diversity of these industries; and this calls for a new paradigm for the re-organization and control of the sector which could be an important lever for development, financial capitalization and the assertion of African identity.

11. The revised Plan of Action stems from all the programmes and conventions on cultural development adopted by the different Pan-African and international institutions, including the Copenhagen World Summit on Social Development UN Declaration of the Millennium Development Goals and targets set for 2015; the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, 2001; the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002, and other fora.,

12. The Plan of Action attempts to establish a rough typology of cultural industries into two major categories:

- Cultural industries producing a commercial value and bearing aesthetic content, artistic claims and educational principles;
- Cultural industries producing aesthetic, ethic and artistic values.

13. Without being exhaustive, the POA covers a wide range of the cultural industries including Music; Performing arts (dance and theatre); film, television, radio; Art and crafts; Indigenous sports and games; Tourism; Publishing and printing industries; Indigenous knowledge; Indigenous knowledge and technology

14. The revised Plan of Action for African Cultural Industries is organized as follows:

Objectives

Strategy

Timeframes

Monitoring and evaluation

Programmes and projects

Cost Estimation

Responsibility and promotion of the Plan of Action

Recommendations

I. Antecedents of the project.

The OAU Charter, Addis Ababa 1963, Ethiopia,

The Cultural Charter of Africa, Port-Louis 1976, Mauritius,

The International Conference of Cultural Policies in Africa, Africult, Accra 1975, Ghana,

The Declaration of heads of States and Government on the cultural aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action, Addis Ababa 1985, Ethiopia,

The resolution CM/Res 1120 (XLVI) of the OAU Council of Ministers, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (1987),

OAU Conferences of African Ministers of Culture: Port-Louis, 1986, Ouagadougou 1988, Yaoundé 1990,

The treaty establishing the African Economic Community adopted in Abuja, Nigeria (1991),

The regional meetings on Cultural Industries held in Conakry (1985), Harare (1998), Antananarivo (1989), Nairobi (1990).

The Cotonou Declaration on cultural diversity, 2001.

The UNESCO Declaration on Cultural Diversity

The Plan of Action, Dakar 1992,

Regional Consultations on Cultural Industries in Africa, Cotonou, 5-8 September 2000

3rd Summit of ACP Heads of State and Government, 18 and 19 July 2002 in Nadi, Decision No.3/III/SUMMIT/2002 mandating the Council of Ministers to examine the feasibility of an ACP Festival as a tool for the promotion and marketing of cultural industries and the possibility of setting up an ACP Cultural Foundation.

The Plan of Action for ACP, Dakar June 2003

UNESCO Workshop on Culture and Development in NEPAD's Programme of Action, Abidjan, September 2003

Launch of Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (ECOSOCC) in March, 2005

The International Network on Cultural Policy (INCP)

31st UNESCO General Conference, November 2005

UNESCO Regional Conference on Art Education in Africa, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, June 2001

UNESCO's Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, October 2005

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General

Guarantee the organisation, production, distribution, exhibition, and preservation of the products of African cultural industries.

B. Specific

These may be divided into three types: political, social and economic, applied broadly in the different sectors.

I. Economic

1. Generate new resources for the economic development of Africa and the creation of new jobs and income generation opportunities.

2. Open up new markets for African culture in and outside of Africa Strengthen the African cultural identity and creativity as well as broaden people's participation in endogenous cultural development.
3. Strengthen the competitiveness of African cultural goods within the framework of globalisation and the liberalisation of markets.
4. Improve national capacities for creating, producing, distributing and exhibiting cultural goods.
5. Strengthen private and community initiatives of small and medium enterprises.
6. Enhance the organisation and protection of creators.
7. Set up an African Cultural Common Market and develop intra-African cooperation

III. Social

1. Strengthening the African cultural identity and creativity as well as broaden people's participation in endogenous cultural development.
2. Strengthening the acknowledgement of the cultural dimension of sustainable development in Africa.
3. Bring about new and pluralistic forums of cultural expression supporting the installation of democracy in African societies.

IV. Political

1. Achieve better regional integration.
2. Reduce the dependence on the wider world outside of Africa for the production and distribution of cultural goods.
3. Adopt flexible responses to initiatives from the African private sector towards the development of cultural industries.
4. Facilitate new institutional partnerships between the public sector, private sector and civil society such as within the framework of UNESCO's Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity and NEPAD.
5. Strengthen the role of the private sector and civil society
6. Reinforce small and medium enterprises.
7. Develop South/North cooperation as well as South/South cooperation and real partnership

8. Convince decision-makers of the economic potential of cultural industries to ensure their integration in strategies of development.

III. STRATEGY

Build on what already exists and develop progressively, taking a realistic approach, taking into account the available resources, by facilitating the improvement of the methods of information, organisation, management as well as the development of cooperation networks and the joining of means and initiatives in the framework of a coordinated effort on behalf of the organisations concerned, public and private, at the national, sub-regional, regional, pan-African and international levels.

IV. TIMEFRAME AND PHASES

Periodicity or phase-by-phase approach is an important component of any action plan if it has to guide concrete actions within specified time frame. One of the weaknesses of the Dakar Plan of Action was that it was not time bound. This plan should be divided into three phases:

Phase 1: Create an enabling environment to strengthen the framework for the African cultural industries;

Phase 2: Establish cultural industries as key contributors to sustainable development of African countries;

Phase 3: Ensure the competitiveness of African cultural industries.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation go hand in hand with well formulated and verifiable indicators. It is therefore essential that stakeholders at all levels put in place appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. These mechanisms should be adapted to the needs and problems of a cultural industry. It should also be an ongoing process and flexible in approach. Each sector of the cultural industry and each individual or group actor should put parameters of achieving certain targets, as well as setting the targets themselves.

Develop verifiable performance indicators for the development of the cultural industries;

Assist the different sectors of the industries in planning, organizing and managing small-scale enterprises for the promotion, protection, and distribution of goods and services;

Build the capacity of individuals, groups or associations/institutions in their endeavour to achieve concrete results in respective cultural occupations; and

Update indicators regularly in order to use new methods and best practices;

VI. PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Phase 1. Create an enabling environment to strengthen the framework for the African cultural industries.

Phase 2. Establish cultural industries as key contributors to sustainable development of African countries.

Phase 3. Ensure the competitiveness of African cultural industries.

Each phase is concerned with:

Development and production

Protection and preservation – artists and works

Marketing, distribution and exhibition.

VII ESTIMATED COST

A study must be conducted in order to establish cost. This study will make reference to existing development and production, distribution and exhibition and protection mechanisms.

VIII. RESPONSIBILITY AND PROMOTION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION

The promotion of this Plan of Action should be the responsibility of all stakeholders at Pan-African, regional and national levels. It is recommended that the AU promotes the Plan of Action within the context of its structures and processes through lobbying and the organization of activities such as workshops, etc., to strengthen the position of cultural industries in the agenda of all State summits.

IX. RECOMMENDATIONS

Priority projects:

- Mapping of existing cultural activities, structures, resources and important valuable products within African member states.
- Identify and take into consideration regional and sectoral specificities and strengths to enable the rationalisation of legislation, policies and resources.
- Research to assess economic impact of cultural industries and initiatives
- Set up regional coordinators/cultural think tanks to source information and to debate the status of each sub-sectors.

PRESENTATION Indicative measures to be taken

A: General level

Section 1. Cultural Industries in general

- 1.1 Member states must adopt domestic cultural policies that promote and ensure trade of cultural products as this is necessary for the development of new cultural forms and for sustaining the integrity of cultural production as an arena of creativity and social development. In this regard, Member States are encouraged to:
- establish departments in charge of Cultural Development within their own countries and in regional bodies in charge of economic integration, and include in their protocol clauses favourable to the circulation of cultural products, authors of cultural works, the partial or total removal of taxes on works of culture and payment in national currencies for the trade in cultural goods.
 - Elaborate and formulate proposals as to the measures to be taken in the different fields in the framework of integrated and coherent economic and cultural development policies, in order to remove these obstacles and harmonise efforts of the various countries of the continent.
 - Coordinate policies implemented in the fields of culture, languages, education and communication with a view to promoting the endogenous development of African culture.
 - Coordinate cultural, social and economic policies as well as policies implemented in urban and rural development with a view to enhancing and broadening access and participation in cultural activities by the population as well as their consumption of cultural goods of quality.
 - Create forums for exchange of ideas and interactions between decision-makers, planners, those in charge of development policies or private investments on the one hand, and on the other hand those responsible for cultural policies and cultural projects, creative artists and representatives of the different professional groups and other communities interested, in order to permit them to achieve better understanding of each other's objectives, aspirations and the possibilities of their collective actions.
- 1.2. Conduct an assessment and analysis of the present situation on the basis of data collected to
Investigate the effect on
- organisations, structures and firms involved in producing and disseminating cultural goods and services, country by country, sector by sector (book publishing, audio-visual and recording industries, arts and craft, tourism etc)

intellectuals, artists, creators, craftsmen and other specialists concerned qualities and quantities of goods produced, commercialised, exported and imported.

- i) Undertake in-depth studies on obstacles (economic, politic, fiscal, legal, cultural etc) in developing cultural industries.
- ii) Analyse the existing treaties, agreements and conventions concerning economic and cultural cooperation as well as customs with a view to adapting them to the new requirements of the African Cultural Common Market, taking into account recommendations, conventions and other international standard-setting instruments adopted in these fields.
- iii) Conduct national and regional research to evaluate the contribution of the cultural industries to national economies and poverty reduction using a common framework of cultural indicators.
- iv) Foster data collection and create data bases, directories of reference material on culture, cultural industries.
- v) Analyse the policies, legislative measures and other regulations affecting creative works as well as the production and dissemination, the exporting and importing of cultural goods with a view to adapting them to the requirements of the African Cultural Common Market.
- vi) Study and adapt the mechanisms existing in foreign countries in the field of financing and supporting the creative arts, the production and dissemination of cultural goods and services to the African context.
- vii) Enhance research and innovation, the design, the utilisation of new forms of expression and of new products of an original character to be commercialised, while ensuring that they are rooted in African cultural creativity.
- viii) Outline the economic and cultural potentialities of the development of cultural industries through carrying out;
 - marketing studies at the national and international levels.
 - studies on the profitability of investments made in the various fields of the sector, showing the resources and jobs that can be created through these investments.

1.3. Member States together with regional organisation undertake to

- i) Establish and update data banks on cultural industries at the national, regional and Pan-African levels, within the framework of an African network of databanks and of an African system of cultural information exchange system in cooperation with relevant regional and pan African bodies as well as the African Observatory on Cultural Policy.
- ii) Take into account in the Protocol on Culture to be annexed to the Treaty African Economic Community, all the legal and institutional aspects

relating to the organisation of the African cultural spaces (movement of products and authors, taxation, methods of payment etc).

1.4. Member States recognise that training in all aspects of the value chain of the cultural industries – from creation to production, distribution to exhibition and audience awareness is critical to the development of quality cultural products. Member States therefore commit to:

- i) Create major training facilities likely to promote professionalism in all production activities, and improve the training of the creative and performing artists as well as that of the technicians and those responsible for the designing, implementing and managing cultural projects including those in firms involved in producing and commercialising of cultural goods and services and also those in charge of maintenance of the equipment.
- ii) Foster entrepreneurship training and promote cultural entrepreneurship as there is an opportunity for empowering producers of cultural products (especially women) and ensuring that they generate decent incomes from their productive efforts, as well as linking them to market opportunities.

1.5. Member States are encouraged to pay specific attention to the role of the artist in society and is requested to:

Support a wide range of individuals and firms that wish to fully exploit artistic talents that are deeply rooted in the national cultural heritage for the benefit of both the artists and the economies of these countries.

- i) Ensure that artists are able to draw on sophisticated support mechanisms and can seek the help of agents in order to develop a market niche.
- ii) Promote both manufacturers and distribution channels to ensure the commercialisation of an artist's creations.
- iii) Encourage the development of sectoral associations of artists to lobby on behalf of their members in order to help them acquire rights accorded to other workers (social security, unemployment benefits, pension, etc.).
- iv) Ensure that artistic creations are protected against copying by national intellectual property organisations with the full backing of enforcement mechanisms.
- v) Promote the development of a dense web of public and private organisations that encourages and protects artistic creations.
- vi) Guarantee freedom of expression for the creative and performing artists.
- vii) Improve the status of creative and performing artists by ensuring the legal and economic conditions necessary for the exercise of their creative work and guaranteeing the protection of their copyright which involves the suppression of piracy.

- 1.6. Member States and regional organisations recognise that across the cultural industries there are measures that could be adopted to improve the performance and viability of these industries even where they are only partially developed and not yet part of the mainstream economy. These include
- i) Enhance the capacity of existing institutions.
 - ii) Foster entrepreneurship training.
 - iii) Adopt appropriate measures to increase access to financing for the development of cultural industries through mechanisms such as Guaranteed Funds, joint ventures and tax incentives.
 - iv) Establish agreements amongst African states with a view to creating a common market for audio visual and literary productions.
 - v) Prepare co-production and co-distribution agreements to ensure the penetration of African cultural products into international markets, while ensuring full respect for the intellectual property rights for African artists and designers and develop strategies to promote cultural industries in the context of development strategies and priorities by locating these strategies at sub-national and local levels.
 - vi) Take practical measures to create the necessary conditions for better dissemination and appreciation of cultures which are at a disadvantage due to historical, political or linguistic factors and are, as a result, lacking the means of expressing themselves through commercial channels.
 - vii) Strengthen promotional action in order to advertise the values of African creators and cultural goods both at the national and international levels and to obtain a big share of the market.
 - viii) Elaborate visibly, economically rewarding cultural industry projects with a view to submitting them to national or international funding agencies, public or private, as well as to multilateral organisations for cooperation development aid.
 - ix) Improve and modernise the technologies and tools utilised as well as the methods and structure of production and dissemination of cultural goods and services.
 - x) Improve and control the quality and authenticity of those goods while increasing the quantities produced.
- 1.7. International agencies such as UNESCO, the ILO, UNCTAD, the World Bank and WIPO should develop regional projects to:
- i) Promote the development of small businesses and job creation in the sector.
 - ii) Develop exports from the region.
 - iii) Adopt technological forms that will expand the market, retain intellectual content in member states and facilitate quality production.
 - iv) Facilitate entrepreneurship across the value chain to develop the commercial capacity of the African market.

- v) Develop arts and culture education programmes at school level.
 - vi) Develop collaborative projects to ensure intellectual capital is retained in member states.
 - vii) Develop and implement cross regional programmes to address copyright infringement.
 - viii) Create a World Fund for Culture using the World Fund for the environment as a model.
- 1.8. Member states recognise that globalisation could be an extraordinary force for ‘connecting communities’ within Africa; bringing international and regional audio-visual content to local markets, and vice versa. Globalisation should be viewed as bringing together global and local. International mechanisms are necessary to facilitate the promotion and exhibition of these products for global audiences.^{vi} Therefore Member States believe that globalisation needs to be mediated to promote and preserve cultural diversity through decisive actions to:
- i) Mobilise the support and partnership of government and public authorities to define cultural policies for public service media and education in particular.
 - ii) Create production and presentation infrastructure.
 - iii) Adopt national legislation against monopolies and recognise regional trading areas such as ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African states), SADC (the Southern African Development Community) and CEMAC (Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa).
 - iv) Undertake market studies and research of the global market with the aim of developing partnerships and creating networks, establishing trends and development programmes.
 - v) Give priority to the training of competitive managers for conception and commercialisation of cultural products.
 - vi) Support cultural industries to increase production capacity and improve its quality while preserving the aesthetic originality of products.

Section 2. New Technologies

2.1. Information and communication technologies (ICTs), driven by the convergence of computers, telecommunications and traditional media, are crucial for the future. Rapid advances in technology and diminishing cost of acquiring the new ICT tools have opened windows of opportunity for the cultural industries in Africa to accelerate their economic growth and development. The goals of achieving an African Cultural Common Market can benefit immensely from the revolution in information technology. In addition to fostering intra-regional trade, the use of ICTs could also intensify production and distribution of cultural goods into the global market. Member states are to:

- i) Facilitate the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in all cultural development programmes.

- ii) Set up development programmes for the transfer of technology and training, in the area of audio-visual production and the management of intangible cultural heritage.

2.2. In recognition of the limited contribution of Africa to the Internet network, regional organisations as well as Member States are requested to:

- i) Place all existing information on Web sites.
- ii) Develop electronic trade by forming enterprise networks in order to better defend and protect rights.
- iii) Contribute to a site on cultural industries in Africa in partnership with regional organisations.
- iv) Facilitate contact and network of specialists through the creation of liaison bulletins and 'list servers'.
- v) Integrate issues surrounding electronic trade into traditional concerns of copyright and protection.

2.3. New technologies in film production, post production, distribution and exhibition offer opportunities that have yet to be fully understood, let alone realised. The arrival of digital technology has opened up many new distribution opportunities for filmmaking and filmmakers. Digital technology has since bridged the gap that existed for so long between the big studios and small independent productions. Although Africa has limited cinemas with digital projectors, the industry is moving towards a future when films will be distributed and exhibited digitally. Digital distribution represents a major cost saving. Member states are requested to investigate the use of digital technology for the production and exhibition of cultural industry products, especially music and film.

Section 3. New Initiatives

3.1. The work of the International Network for Cultural Policy (INCP) covering various aspects of cultural diversity (from the impact of globalisation on development to that of Broadcasting and Heritage) culminated in UNESCO's Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The INCP produced a number of working papers and held meetings in the respective working groups. The working group on Broadcasting in a Global Environment, in particular explored the potential for an alliance between public service broadcasters aimed at developing a model of sustainable communication.^{vii} Member States should promote such an alliance in Africa.

3.2. The African Film Summit to be held in South Africa in April 2006 hosted by the South African Department of Arts and Culture (DAC), the National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) of South Africa in association with the Pan African Federation of Filmmakers (FEPACI) is a significant initiative for the development of African film. This summit will be held on the basis of recommendations of the African Union Commission's appeal to 'hold consultation and conduct preliminary studies with a view to establishing an African Commission on the Audiovisual and Cinema

Industries, as well as a Fund to promote the cinema industry and television programmes in Africa^{viii}.

- 3.3. Member states to support new initiatives such as UNESCO's Global Alliance and
- i) Disseminate information on the Global Alliance to cultural organisations and companies.
 - ii) Support access to the Internet to facilitate partnerships within the global alliance network.
 - iii) Facilitate partnerships and collaborative programmes.
- d. Member states to support their cities to participate in the Global Alliance's Creative Cities Network in recognition that it is mainly cities from the North that currently share the objective of integrating creativity as an essential element of their development schemes. Therefore, Member States agree to:

Promote the Creative Cities Network amongst their cities.

- i) Encourage cultural entrepreneurs and stakeholders to participate in the proposed virtual community to foster and advance entire creative clusters and systems that will allow African cities to benefit optimally from the Creative Cities Network.
- ii) Assist in promoting the development of cultural plans and the integration of culture and cultural industries into the economic development plans of these cities.
- iii) Encourage the development of cultural infrastructure in the cities.
- iv) Promote the preservation and restoration of heritage sites in cities.
- v) Facilitate the effective collaboration of cities in the Creative Cities Network.

3.5. Member States to support the initiative of NEPAD such as NEPAD's e-Schools initiative (Pretoria) which is the largest multi-country ICT education project attempted in Africa aimed at bridging the digital divide. The project was initiated after the World Economic Forum's Africa Economic Summit held in 2003. It will equip schools with ICT labs and the tools students need to be able to use ICT. In its first phase, the project is covering six secondary schools selected by fifteen governments.

Section 4. Partnerships and cultural cooperation

- a. UNESCO is in a unique position to facilitate partnerships in Africa between Member States and economic regions (through the work of the African Union) in the promotion of cultural industries and is committed to:
 - i) Undertake to complete and maintain an inventory of cultural operators and entrepreneurs in the different cultural fields in Africa.

- ii) Contribute to the publication of up-to-date documents on the current situation of different cultural industry sectors and have these on the website.
 - iii) Prepare a report assessing the value of the cultural field and its impact on development in the world.
 - iv) Create a training programme encompassing the creation and management of cultural enterprises and help with the establishment of regionally based schools.
 - v) Fully assume its mission as the world leader in the defence of the right to culture and to its special treatment during negotiations at the UNCTAD and the WTO.
 - vi) Establish a permanent regional forum of cultural entrepreneurs and initiate within this framework the creation of an Internet site on cultural industries in Africa.
- b. UNESCO, together with Member states and regional organisations are encouraged to facilitate networks, forums and inter-regional collaboration and agreement in the following areas:
- i) Elaborate regional agreements specific to the cultural industries, in particular relating to taxes, intellectual property rights, private investment and sponsorship.
 - ii) Establish networks specialised in producing, marketing and disseminating cultural goods as well as in the field of research and information in order to develop cooperation and communication among those of common concern in different countries and regions.
 - iii) Collaborate in the development and activities of international and regional institutions on Inter-Cultural Dialogue
 - iv) Organise forums intended to inform and brief promoters on the investment prospects in the cultural sectors in Africa and outside Africa.
 - v) Reinvigorate the African Organisation for Intellectual Property (OAPI).
 - vi) Encourage the creation of groups and associations of creative writers, artists and professional of the cultural industries with a view to promoting them to better protect their rights and their professions.
- 4.3. Inculcate among the general public, by means of cultural industries, full determination to reject acts of violence and aggression, and encourage the circulation of cultural ideas and values that are capable of contributing to the establishment and furtherance of peace, security and cooperation.
- 4.4. Member states, together with UNESCO and regional organisations are requested to develop measures to:
- i) Utilise cultural industries for the purpose of education, training, information and socio-cultural development.
 - ii) Facilitate significant access of cultural products and the movement of artists from Africa to regional and international markets.

- iii) Produce endogenous cultural works (literature, films, and traditional games) intended for children and youth that form a vulnerable part of the population as well as an important market.

Section 5. Capacity Building

5.1. Member states and regional organisations are requested to enhance the capacity of cultural institutions, cultural ministries and departments as well as that of cultural entrepreneurs. There are a number of mechanisms available for this:

- i) Create mobility funds and other mechanisms to promote and facilitate the movement of artists, designers, managers, works, goods and services.
- ii) Conduct an inventory of Africa's cultural institutions and reinforce their capacity for the benefit of cultural stakeholders.
- iii) Promote the teaching of cultural and heritage studies in the school curriculum to ensure the ownership of heritage by and involvement of youth.
- iv) Seek and disseminate training opportunities for cultural stakeholders, cultural management, cultural administration and cultural heritage, cultural industry and enterprise management as well as cultural entrepreneurship within the framework of regional co-operation.
- v) Create a portal to ensure the visibility of Africa's cultural heritage, productions and works.
- vi) Promote country exchange programmes to fully utilise human capital assets for mentoring and support in the field of arts administration and management as well as cultural entrepreneurs.
- vii) Document better practice case studies in Member States of arts and cultural organisations, foundations and businesses to disseminate learning throughout Africa.

B: Recommendations sector by sector

Sector 1: Music and living arts

1.1. Member states are requested to promote the development of the music industry in their countries and therefore to:

- i) Promote private firms involved in recording, cutting records, reproducing cassettes and distributing other record industry products.
- ii) Give legal financial and moral support to music, recording industries and living arts.
- iii) Facilitate the setting up of assembly units of audio and audio-visual material in Africa.

- iv) Reduce import taxes on musical instruments and their accessories.
- v) Promote the development of recording industries, suspend all taxes on finished or semi-finished products manufactured or produced in Africa for a minimum duration to be determined.
- vi) Develop a consistent and shared set of cultural indicators and tools for the music sector (both the live-performance sector and for recorded music) and a framework for analysis for use across all markets in Africa to ensure both internal consistency and comparability of data.
- vii) Commission in-depth sectoral studies to formulate pan-African strategies to develop the music industry in each country, the relationship between the countries and regions and to facilitate the distribution of African music both within Africa and for export. This should be done in collaboration with embryonic and established cultural observatories (the embryonic South Africa cultural observatory, the Observatoire de l'Art de la Musique in Senegal and the observatory for cultural policy in Africa).
- viii) Develop formal licensing agreements and supply arrangements to facilitate a pan-African circulation network of legal music products.
- ix) Set up and promote the establishment of cultural facilities (theatres, cinemas, auditoriums, musical workshop).
- x) Taxation framework which supports local artists (reduce taxes on local shows to help in promoting local artists).
- xi) Introduce taxes on foreign shows to contribute towards setting up Fund for musicians to be regulated by copyright in co-operation with the artists.
- xii) Set up data banks on all African productions.

1.2. For the protection and development of African music, Member States should:

- i) Set up national academies of music with instrument-making departments to preserve manufacturing techniques of traditional instruments.
- ii) Set up national cultural archives for tape and record libraries.
- iii) Promote periodical organisation of sub-regional, regional and continental festivals.
- iv) Introduce awards for best artistic achievements to be awarded under the auspices of AU from sub-region to continental level.
- v) Promote the development of an African record market on the continent for the presentation and diffusion of music.

1.3. In support of artists and their organisation, Member States are requested to support:

- i) Artists to form unions and associations that will serve as forums for meetings and exchanges of experience between artists from national, sub-regional and continental levels.
 - ii) Artists and their associations to establish networks in the region to integrate Diaspora's and link up with large global networks.
- 1.4. To achieve these objectives, the AU, UNESCO, Member States and organisations as well as private promoters are called upon to:
- i) Support projects or initiatives and to take part in the various regional and pan-African festivals, fairs, biennials, such as the Pan African Fairs for Arts and Music (PAFAM) , Accra, Ghana.
 - ii) Assist in the setting up of a centralised data bank and network on African Music and Living Arts through CALDAS in Kinshasa, Zaire.
 - iii) Assist musicians to promote their music on sub-regional and continental levels through existing and newly instituted yearly festivals.
 - iv) Promote training schools and centres in living arts in each African region through regionalising existing facilities as Performing Arts Training Centre (Zimbabwe), School of Performing Arts (Ghana), National Institute of Arts (Zaire), Bagamoyo College of Arts in Tanzania, and others.
 - v) Support and take active part in the UNESCO Plan of Action for the Promotion of Performing Arts.
 - vi) Recognise the potential of 'World music' to grow the overall market for music products from the region (artists such as Ishmael Lo of Senegal, Wes of Cameroon, Ongala of Tanzania, Orchestra Marrabenta Star of Mozambique, Kende Bongoman of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Oliver Mutukuzi of Zimbabwe) but also ensure that African role-players are able to penetrate this market whilst retaining the commercial value within African countries.
- 1.5. Recognise that music is not only a 'shared spirituality', belonging to entertainment or playful narrative traditions but is also a cultural product and part of economic development and in so doing, develop strategies for its development and its growth. These strategies could include:
- i) Specialised training in business administration, artistic career management, media marketing.
 - ii) Pan-African co-operation and licensing agreements to facilitate revenue generation and prevent piracy.
 - iii) Development international markets.
 - iv) Assist artists access MASA (Market for African Performing Arts).

- v) Support festivals and diversity of production.
- vi) Encourage and support co-productions between artists from different countries.
- vii) Establish documentation centres and a network of information and Internet sites specialising in African music.
- viii) Promotion of both traditional and modern forms of music through radio and television channels; school curricula, published books; research; music festivals and award ceremonies (Kora, African Music Awards and Ngwono Africa).
- ix) Support live performance industry by facilitating the importation of the equipment and instruments required to produce, circulate, distribute and consume music (public address systems, recording and reproduction equipment) through lower import regulations.
- x) Develop relationships with industry and trade to support the development of cultural industries and enhance its contribution to national economies.

Sector 2: Cinema, Radio and Television

2.1. Member states and regional organisations agree to promote an enabling environment for the film and video sector through the following activities:

- i) Define appropriate cultural and audio-visual national and regional policies which will create an enabling environment for the development of the audio-visual industries in their countries and regionally.
- ii) Investigate the viability of setting up local film offices for countries in that there is increasing location activity (i.e. where foreign producers choose to make their films or commercials in their countries).
- iii) Encourage the signing of bilateral co-production agreements (North-South and South-South) in order to ensure that the co-produced films acquire a dual nationality and enjoy subsequent advantages including the facilitation of movement of African artists and works within the African continent and between African countries and the EU and other markets in accordance with the Cotonou Agreement.
- iv) The AU, member states and regional organisations are requested to facilitate partnerships with the private sector and civil society towards the establishment of a Pan-African Audiovisual commission and a Fund to promote the cinema industry and television programmes in Africa.
- v) Encourage the formation of National associations and guilds.
- vi) Investigate the viability of the establishment of at least two regional film schools of international standard.

- vii) Develop communication strategies in order to sensitise and inform African populations and to encourage their participation in audio-visual economies.
- 2.2. Member states and regional organisations agree to promote an enabling environment for the broadcasting sector (TV and Radio) through the following activities:
- i) Support an international cultural programme distributor to act as a clearing house for global programming where countries could acquire, repackage and market domestically the products of other nations. An example is UNESCO's Ecrans sans Frontieres project that aims to develop a bank of films and documentaries for the use of public service broadcasters in developing countries^{ix}.
 - ii) Develop indigenous language policies for the audio-visual media.
 - iii) Facilitate partnerships among public and private cultural broadcasting organisations are necessary to develop an achievable model for global cultural diversity on television. Public broadcasters have a responsibility to first address issues of domestic culturally diverse programming before that of international programming.
 - iv) Set local content quotas for local national broadcasters and investigate the viability of setting other forms of quotas such as production and exhibition quotas.
 - v) Require that international television channels desirous of operation from a country in the South devote part of their programmes to the projection of films originating from the South (quotas).
 - vi) Create an enabling environment for the establishment and empowerment of independent regulatory bodies for broadcasting and telecommunications to promote media diversity, including public, community and private broadcasters, most importantly in the areas of ownership and content.
 - vii) Develop a basic telecommunications infrastructure to provide citizens with access to independent programming through alternative distribution mechanisms (satellite and broadband Internet) to provide universal access to content.
 - viii) Support the reform and revitalisation of both public service and community level broadcasting including the liberalisation of the regulatory environment nationally, the streamlining of the bureaucracy and through technical assistance to creative staff and management.
- 2.3. Member States and regional organisations are requested to maintain updated information on this sector for the purpose of policy development in this dynamic environment and to inform practice:

- i) Research, identify and put in place instruments which facilitate the sustainability and vibrancy of the film, video and broadcast industries and mainstream these sectors into the general economy and thinking within government, in particular the Departments of Trade and Industry and of Finance.
- ii) Review the imposition of taxes and duties on the importation of audio-visual equipment.
- iii) Facilitate and support strategic information and research particularly of market trends and audience analysis.
- iv) Facilitate and support impact assessments and monitoring of policy and regulatory measures.
- v) Review and assess the impact of existing support mechanisms and instruments for the audio-visual sector in African countries.
- vi) Identify alternative and additional mechanisms and instruments such as those existing in international territories with a view to putting in place appropriate, and more effective systems of support both nationally and regionally including subsidies; loans; loan guarantees; reimbursable financial aid; fiscal incentives.
- vii) Conduct policy research which would need to investigate mechanisms such as government loans or guarantees to ease the entry of smaller production companies into financing schemes such as the SA model.

2.4. Member states are encouraged to promote the development of the film and television industry in their countries, through the following measures:

- i) Develop a well-defined distribution pipeline for African products in each country, between African countries and between African countries and the rest of the world reviewing the imposition of taxes and duties.
- ii) Provide producers with marketing, distribution and legal advice.
- ix) Consider film as an economic commodity and make it part of all international negotiations
- x) Create facilities by which government support mechanisms for small enterprises in the film industry are established.
- iii) Facilitate the ability for local filmmakers to benefit from foreign film productions.
- iv) Encourage the production of, and preference for, local films by levying prohibitive taxes on non-educational audio-visual works imported from outside of Africa.
- v) Promote cooperation between filmmakers of the South and these TV channels so that films originating from the South could be disseminated.
- vi) Inform filmmakers about Western television constraints and requirements and help them understand the growing technological and economic

inroads in world audio-visual. Set up through either existing platforms (Sithengi, FESPACO etc) opportunities for networking and exchange of information to better expose the understanding of needs and practices in the areas film, video and television, financing, markets distribution etc, to create platforms for the marketing of products and talent.

- vii) Make all programmes easily accessible to the international market in an effort to achieve a critical mass of affordable, available and culturally diverse programming.
- viii) The training for the film and television industry in all areas including new technologies, entrepreneurial skills in order to manage a production company, cost productions and source financing, distribution, exhibition and marketing as well as the creative and other technical skills required for audio-visual production.
- ix) Implementing development programmes through education, training, research, and to encourage exchanges.
- x) Developing standardised system to measure competency.
- xi) Enhancing the capacity of SMEs to manage production and develop cultural entrepreneurship.
- xii) Ensuring that those working in the film and television industry are eligible for all existing benefits, rights and conditions of employees in other industries, where they exist.

2.5. Member states are requested to work together and with regional bodies:

- i) Create and develop national, regional and sub-regional institutions and infrastructure.
- ii) Encourage the creation of regional or continental groupings for the promotion and sale of audio-visual products from the South.
- iii) Facilitate partnerships between the public sector, private sector and civil society, in particular within the framework of UNESCO's Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity.
- iv) Formulate national and regional audio-visual policies by incorporating, among other things, co-production initiatives, distribution networks and measures to control films transmitted by satellite in Africa, application of African products distribution quotas in Africa, exchange of national programmes through URTNA etc.

2.6. Member states are encouraged to strengthen copyright and intellectual property systems to support value generation at all stages of the value chain especially at ideas generation:

- i) Harmonise legislation about films in African countries, taking into account the Niamey Manifesto
- ii) Tighten copyright protection and collection systems.

2.7. Regional and international bodies to support filmmaking in Member States

- i) AU, UNESCO and FEPACI to assist in regionalising and strengthening existing film and television training facilities for the training of film and television technicians and professionals towards promoting regional and sub-regional cooperation as regards the development of cinematographic and television infrastructure.
- ii) AU, UNESCO, FEPACI, EEC/ACP, ADB, UNIDO, UNDP and regional economic bodies should assist Member States in the creation of regional centres for film distribution. These centres should welcome capital from private and other investors in order to gain more dynamism and flexibility from the operational point of view.
- iii) AU, UNESCO, EEC/ACP, ADB, UNIDO, UNDP, ACCT should further assist FEPACI to create and strengthen the Pan-African Film Library as well as the creation of African Film Halls in some selected African, European, Asian and American cities for the permanent showing of African films.

2.8. In pursuance of these, AU, UNESCO, sub-regional and regional groupings, African and international organisations, as well as private promoters are also called upon to take active part and/or support among others:

FESPACO

Cairo International Film festival, Egypt

Journées Cinématographique de Carthage, (JCC), Tunisia

Zimbabwe International Film Festival (ZIFF), Zimbabwe

African Film Week, Kenya

Sithengi International Film and Television Market and Film Festival, South Africa

Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF), Tanzania

Sector 3: Publishing and Printing Industries

Books (Printing Houses, Publishing, Bookshops)

3.1. Member States should promote the development of the book and publishing industry in their countries through adopting the following measures:

- i) marketing agents up to the university level, as the book industry is based on very specialised technology.
 - ii) Conduct an assessment of its present and potential capacities and resources with the co-operation of the AU and UNESCO for the adaptation and implementation of a self-sustaining and self-development policy.
 - iii) Take fiscal measures in favour of paper for printing of the book itself as a finished product, of textbooks and of other stationery items for school purposes.
 - iv) Set up councils (where they do not yet exist) for the promotion of the book in accordance with the spirit and manner usually recommended and encouraged by UNESCO.
 - v) Implement measures that will facilitate unrestricted distribution as well as the co-production and co-publishing of books and to agree to grant subsidies for their transportation and exchange among member countries.
 - vi) Develop market expansion policies so that books with a wide appeal are introduced into the market.
 - vii) Gear the national book industries towards winning markets in developed countries that currently provide about 90% of library stocks in Africa.
 - viii) Develop and strengthen co-operation between different governmental policy departments with regard to book production and distribution as well as in relation to private initiatives on the one hand, and on the other hand, encourage co-operation between these areas as well as between publishers.
 - ix) Create national policies in the area of book industries in order to encourage local production, aiming at privatisation and regulating the subsequent levy of taxes.
 - x) Encourage the development of a regional market in accordance with a policy that the AU could define and periodically evaluate.
Work together with the private sector to implement systems to combat piracy and ensure surveillance of the electronic market.
 - xi) Work with organisations such as APNET which promotes co-operation and interaction between international organisations that have a particular interest in strengthening publishing in Africa, such as UNESCO, Book Aid International, the International Publishers' Association (IPA) and the World Bank.
- 3.2. Member States recognise the importance of books in promoting both a reading culture and in promoting and preserving indigenous languages and agree to:
- i) Give priority to books which different population groupings are likely to read, focussing on works that touch on their spiritual and physical beings, on their genuinely national aspirations, on their strengths and weaknesses, on their successes as well as their failures.
 - ii) Support and encourage endogenous writers to write and publish in common national languages for both fiction and educational purposes, as

this will positively contribute to promoting and preserving cultural heritage into the educational systems.

- iii) Work with UNESCO to expand the market into a real national and continental book industry through UNESCO programmes, “Books for All” and “Towards a Reading Society” (which could be translated into “Books and Libraries for All” in AU countries). This could be encouraged through voluntary reading and by putting libraries and community reading centres that are accessible at every one’s disposal.

3.3. AU, UNESCO, ACCT, INDP, EEC/ACP and other African and international agencies should be requested to carry out a feasibility study of a Pan African Library comparable to the United States Library of the Congress, or the Grande Bibliotheque de France.

3.4. AU, UNESCO, ACI, CICIBA, and EACROTANAL should be requested to promote, in co-operation with international, government and other interested NGOs, the production of a linguistic map of AU Member Countries with a view to determining those languages which could be promoted in the sub-region for publication in mother tongues.

3.5. To realise these objectives, AU, UNESCO, Member States, African and international organisations, development agencies and private promoters, are called upon to support the following initiatives:

- i) The formation of National, Sub-regional and Pan-African Publishers Association to enable them to sensitise policy makers and governments effectively;
- ii) The regionalisation of training centres in Africa such as College of Art, University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana and Cross Media Training Centre in South Africa for training personnel;
- iii) Feasibility studies of paper industries capable of making Africa self-sufficient in paper production;
- iv) The joint publication of school textbooks capable of covering several countries and regions;
- v) The organisation of national, regional and continental fairs on books and teaching materials.
- vi) Recognise the place of cultural industries in Protocols signed between Member States in the ECOWAS, SADC, CEMAC, COMESA and COI (Indian Ocean Commission).

Press

3.6. Member States recognise the important advocacy and educational role of the press (both public and private) in promoting the cultural industries and cultural sector as a whole. Member States commit to:

- i) Relax their censor laws to facilitate a free circulation of the printed press and the non-interference in broadcast content.
 - ii) Ensure the press plays a strategic role in promoting the potential, virtue and economic viability of all cultural industries through feature articles. This will serve to sensitise policy makers, prospective investors and the consuming public.
 - iii) Disseminate the cultural dimension of development as well as issues of copyright, including campaigns for safeguarding and enhancing Africa's cultural heritage through the press.
- 3.7. For the Press to play this role, substantial training and information dissemination will need to occur. Consequently, it is recommended that:
- i) AU and UNESCO assist in the regional organisation of regular training courses for the Press on cultural industries.
 - ii) AU/UNESCO/UNDP assist in the establishment of an on-going African cultural industries studies programme (on the lines of population studies) on sub-regional basis to facilitate researches into various aspects of the industry through affiliation with existing schools of Journalism or Mass Communication Institutes in Africa.
 - iii) AU, UNESCO and UNDP assist in the creation of strengthening of regional and pan-African associations of journalists.

Sector 4: Handicrafts and Endogenous Creative Works

Food technology and African alternative medicine

- 4.1. African countries, organisations, development agencies and private promoters should carry out joint, in-depth studies and initiatives on the best way of promoting and developing African food technologies and alternative medicine.
- 4.2. AU, UNESCO and WHO should assist in assembling African herbalists and healers as well as higher institutions, research centres into African therapeutics and pharmacopoeia for mutually beneficial exchange of notes and experiences and to draw up a Pan-African Programme as well as a Pan-African Union.
- 4.3. AU and WIPO should develop legislative policy to protect the intellectual cultural property of ethnic groups such as traditional medicines which may be of benefit to the broader society and may also be commercially viable and provide a necessary source of revenue to these communities.

Arts and handicrafts

- 4.4. Member states are requested to support the arts and handicrafts sector through establishing an enterprise development programme, which will:

- i) Develop the skills base on the manufacturing enterprise side to impact on product supply to markets such as business management and entrepreneurship training.

Lower input costs and production inefficiencies and so achieve realistic and competitive pricing of products.

Set up structures to supervise the art and craft sector.

Enable artists to become organised into an effective organisation of crafters to establish standards and ensure the protection of their rights.

Provide training and equip crafters with relevant skills.

Introduce quality measure to enhance market value of handicraft production.

Facilitate access to micro-finance and credit facilities.

Develop fair and ethical trade practices, including the quality of jobs and income.

Facilitate the empowerment of women prioritised across the craft value chain (design and creation, production, distribution, exhibition and sales).

- 4.5. Member states agree to develop research and development capabilities for the arts and handicrafts sector through the following activities:

Increase the level of investment in the sector and ensure the free-flow of information.

Build local design and innovation capacity through short-term design and product development interventions implemented alongside longer-term growth strategies.

- i) Promote innovations through the organisation of competitions to stimulate creativity among artisans.

- 4.6. Member states are invited to develop integrated craft hubs that create an effective enabling environment to ensure that products reach markets and market information is transmitted to producers and specifically to

Facilitate access to markets.

- i) Support local strategies for information exchange, networking and access to market information.

Provide business and market-driven solutions to supply chain problems.

Bridge the gap between the under-resourced rural craft enterprises and the sophisticated markets in a manner beneficial to the rural producer whilst meeting market demand.

Promote public private partnerships to support the hubs and thereby overcome fragmentation and the survivalist nature of the sector.

- 4.7. Member states acknowledge the importance of marketing and are requested to facilitate market development and access for the arts and handicrafts sector through
- i) Mobile exhibitions and regional fairs coupled with symposiums.
 - ii) Promote ways of circulating information on the art and craft sector in African countries.
 - iii) Development of market drive product design and development programmes
 - iv) Ensure raw material access strategies as well as access to appropriate technologies.
- 4.8. AU, UNESCO, Member States, regional and international organisations, development agencies, regional economic groupings and private promoters should be called upon to support:
- i) Organisation of national and regional markets to ensure for the African products a better access to foreign markets.
 - ii) Organisation of meetings, seminars and exchanges between craftsmen from several regional, sub-regional, continental and international areas, in the same profession, as well as multi-sectoral events for the promotion of art and service handicrafts such as the Salon International de l'Artisanat de Ouagadougou (SIAO), Burkina Faso.
 - iii) Establish galleries of art and handicrafts in sub-regions as well as other venues outside Africa.
 - iv) Promote all the products and services offered by endogenous creativity, fashion parades, exhibitions, prize awarding contests etc.
 - v) Establish hair dressing and sewing studios/salons after proper development of local skills.
 - vi) Provide technical know-how for the creation of information network systems at the sub-regional, continental and international levels.
 - vii) Formulate and incorporate documented traditional skills and knowledge into school curriculum.
 - viii) Promote the creation of trade unions of artists as a means of facilitating development of handicrafts.
 - ix) Support UNESCO's DigiArts programme which is a platform to promote knowledge, research and communication within the framework of culture and ICT. It is also a pilot project aiming to investigate new methods of acquiring knowledge through experiences based on artistic practices and

peer-to-peer communication. Above all, DigiArts intends to prepare young people to tomorrow's social, cultural and aesthetic practices.

- 4.9. AU and UNESCO, in collaboration with the Foundation for Traditional Technology of Africa, ETTA, Nairobi (Kenya) should assist in the identification, documentation, popularisation, promotion and development of traditional technologies of Africa.
- 4.10. AU, UNESCO and other African and international bodies to review and evaluate the 'Co-ordinating Committee for the Development and Promotion of African Arts and Crafts' (CODEPA) which was created by the participants (22 African countries) at the Colloquium held in Ouagadougou, 29-30 October 1990 during the 2nd edition of the SIAO.

Tourism

- 4.11. AU, UNESCO and other development agencies should
- Strengthen sub-regional co-operation by exchange of information and by effective co-ordination of regional and pan-African tourist programmes.
 - Encourage African tourism industry in general and South-South tourism in particular by emphasising its authenticity and helping to set up small and medium sized tourist companies.
 - Assist member countries in the establishment of inter-state circuits by harmonising legislation and regulations.
 - Establish regional tourism routes that would benefit all member countries across all cultural sectors. In the SADC region, the Regional Tourism Organisation of Southern Africa (RETOSA) has been tasked with a role to design, market and co-ordinate this route.
- 4.12. Member States are requested to:
- i) Encourage the development of rural and cultural tourist industry through the participation of the local peoples concerned.

Promote cultural tourism through the development of cultural tourist packages showcasing local culture (dance, food, craft, music and heritage).

Form alliances with regional bodies and the private sector to establish hospitality and business skills training programmes that will benefit those involved in the delivery of the cultural tourism products.

Sector 5: Copyright and Piracy

5.1. Member States that have not yet done so, should adopt appropriate legislation and measures to that effect. Since the 1992 Dakar plan of action, 11 countries have either adopted specific legislation or amended existing acts. These include Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Algeria, Kenya, Cameroon, Djibouti, Zambia Tanzania, South Africa and Nigeria.

5.2. Member States together with UNESCO and other regional organisations are encouraged to

- i) Support the establishment or strengthening of organisations or societies of authors and creators.

Facilitate the creation of an African record market

5.3. African countries, AU, UNESCO, WIPO and other organisations concerned should combine their efforts to:

- i) Implement an efficient sub-regional, regional and pan-African co-operation policy for the protection and promotion of copyrights and neighbouring rights on the one hand and control piracy on the other hand.
- ii) Support, strengthen and cooperate with the African Intellectual Property Organisation (OAPI) based in Yaounde (Cameroon).
- iii) Establish a sector on copyrights and neighbouring rights within the African Regional Industrial Property Organisation (ARIPO) based in Harare (Zimbabwe).
- iv) Establish within North Africa, in co-operation with ALECSO, a regional organisation for intellectual property and copyright.
- v) Establish among African Portuguese-speaking countries an organisation for intellectual property and copyrights.

5.4. Member States that have not done so yet, accede to the international conventions on copyrights and neighbouring rights and are requested to:

- i) Develop clear copyright laws that take into account not only the right to exploit the intellectual work but the moral rights of the artist.
- ii) Ensure the enforcement of laws in regard to rights.
- iii) Develop computer tools to deal with rights.
- iv) Ensure co-ordination between states and awareness for those that have not yet ratified the Rome Convention on Neighbouring Rights.
- v) Develop awareness campaigns about copyright and neighbouring rights for artists, agents, studio managers, consumers and the enforcement agencies.
- vi) Support collection societies in their efforts to monitor and administer

copyrights as it is these societies which stand between the legal and the financial systems of the music industry.

- 5.5 Develop common strategies to fight piracy, illegal copying and in particular the impact of new forms of technology which reduce sound and visual signals to electronic messages via computer transmission technology, cell phone technology and MP3 software. These regional strategies to curb piracy in particular, should include:
- i) The political and institutional will to take action against pirate operators at a regional level or through joint actions by government and the private sector (such as the steering committee on copyright and neighbouring rights established by the SADC Culture Sector's co-ordinating unit to deal with copyright violations at a regional level^x as well as the joint efforts of government and the private sector separately in the Ivory Coast, Senegal and South Africa).
 - ii) The financial and personnel resources to counter piracy at borders,
 - iii) Bilateral agreements to curb piracy such as that between the Performing Musicians Association of Nigeria (PMNA) and the Musician Union of Ghana (MUSIGA)

V. Results Expected and Products

1. Strengthening of the African cultural identity and creativity as well as broadening of people's participation in endogenous cultural development.
2. Generating new resources for the economic development of Africa and creation of new jobs and income generation opportunities.
3. Improving national capacities of creating, producing and distributing cultural goods.
4. Reducing dependence on the wider world outside Africa in the production and distribution of cultural goods.
5. Opening up in and outside Africa new markets for African culture and economy.
6. Achieving better regional integration.
7. Bringing about new and pluralistic forums of cultural expression supporting the installation of democracy in African societies.
8. Strengthening of private and community initiatives of small and medium enterprises.
9. Strengthening the acknowledgement of cultural dimension of development in Africa.

10. Adopting flexible responses to initiatives from the African private sector towards the development of cultural industries.
11. Facilitate new institutional partnerships between the public sector, private sector and civil society such as within the framework of UNESCO's Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity and NEPAD.

VI. Inter-African and International Cooperation

To achieve the objectives of the Plan of Action, it will be necessary to make use of all the African and International Co-operation Networks. In this regard, the AU and UNESCO, in consultation with the Member States concerned, will need to identify partners of good will, in order to sensitise them and make them aware of their responsibilities.

Inter-African Co-operation

1. The role of the AU will be to sensitise the authorities and decision-makers at all levels in order to ensure that political will is expressed as strongly as possible and concretely translated into decision and action. In particular, the General Secretariat will focus its action on the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers, the Conference of Ministers of Culture, the Sectoral Ministerial meetings, in line with the Plan of Action (Economics, industry, tourism, information, etc). AU and UNESCO are also responsible for supervising the co-ordination of activities.
2. The African intergovernmental and non-governmental cultural institutions will apply themselves to carrying out the actions included in the Plan, each according to its powers and competence. Coordination will be ensured at this level by relevant institutions such as: African Cultural Institute (ACI), International Centre for Bantu Civilisations (CICIBA), East African Centre for Research on Oral Traditions and African National Languages (EACROTANAL), Pan African Federation of Film-makers (FEPACI), URTNA, Pan African Writers Association (PAWA), "Institut des Peuples Noirs" (IPN), Southern African Broadcasting Authority (SABA), the African Observatory for Cultural Policy (OCPA) and any other regional organisation in the field of cultural policy or representative of stakeholders in the cultural industries.
3. The African regional economic communities which form the cornerstone of the African Cultural Common Market, will continue to develop and support within their respective Secretariats, departments responsible for cultural development in general and cultural industries in particular. Member States will ensure that the specific character of cultural industries is acknowledged and where necessary the statutes, protocols and other texts establishing or governing the activities of these organisations will be amended. ECOWAS, which has long established a Division responsible for cultural development and has experience in this field as compared

with the others, is responsible for ensuring the coordination of the activities of these organisations.

International co-operation

The AU and UNESCO will combine their efforts to inform and sensitise the international organisations and encourage them to cooperate in the development, promotion and trade of cultural product. They are:

The United Nations Agencies: UNDP, UNIDO, ECA, WIPO, WTO, ITU, ILO, UNU, GATT, UNCTAD, etc.

Other organisations: EECACP, Commonwealth, ACCT, etc.

African and international financing agencies

In addition to financial assistance for the administrative structures of the political authorities and for technical studies, special effort will be made to prepare and present to the financing agencies viable projects drawn from the Plan of Action.

The African countries should work with development finance institutions in Africa such as Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Africa Development Bank (ADB) and bilateral donors to establish financial mechanisms for both mitigating and reducing the cultural sector risks as well as promoting the production and trade in cultural goods and services.

VII: Coordination and Follow Up Mechanisms

UNESCO is specifically requested to co-ordinate monitoring and review mechanisms for the initiatives and proposals listed in this Plan of Action to:

Periodically review the initiatives of Member States to promote the cultural industries.

Evaluate progress against this Plan of Action.

Provide support and technical assistance where necessary to enable Member States to implement the initiatives and proposals contained herein.

Conduct an evaluation of the economic and social impact of initiatives and proposals in selected Member States.

Propose amendments and suggestions for future initiatives on the basis of this periodic evaluation and global trends.

Co-ordination and follow-up will be carried out through establishment or strengthening of existing structures. A special unit could be set up within the AU and/or UNESCO covering each of the major regions of Africa.

Periodic programming, evaluation and follow-up meetings will be held, grouped around the AU and UNESCO and including a limited number of representative countries and organisations from Africa and elsewhere in the world.

Acronymes

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| ACCT | Agence de Coopération Culturelle et Technique (Agecoop). |
| ACTPA/CAFAS | African Centre for Training of Performing Artists/Centre Africain de Formation des Artistes du Spectacle, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. |
| ADB/BAD | African Development Bank/Banque Africaine de Développement, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. |
| ALECSO | Arab League Education Culture and Science Organization/Organisation de la Ligue Arabe pour l'Education, la Culture et la Science, Tunis, Tunisie. |
| ARIPO | African Regional Industrial Property Organization/Organisation Régionale Africaine de la Propriété Industrielle, Harare, Zimbabwe. |
| ASEPIC | Association Sénégalaise pour la Promotion des Industries Culturelles Dakar, Sénégal. |
| CALDAS | Centre Africain de Liaison et de Documentation sur les Arts du Spectacle, Kinshasa, Zaire. |
| CAPA | Centre d'Animation et de Promotion des Arts, Douala, Cameroun |
| CENAM | Centre National de l'Artisanat Malgache, Tananarive, Madagascar |
| CERDOTOLA | Centre de Recherche et de Documentation sur les Traditions Orales et les Langues Africaines, Yaoundé, Cameroun. |
| CICIBA | Centre International des Civilisations Bantu/International Centre for Bantu Civilisations, Libreville, Gabon. |
| CIEPAT/ICA | Centre Inter-Etats pour la Promotion de l'Artisanat Traditionnel, Abomey, Benin. |
| CNUCED: | Conférences des Nations Unies pour le Commerce et le Développement. |
| CRAC/ICA | Centre Regional d'Action Culturelle. Lomé. Togo |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| EACROTANAL | East African Centre for Research on Oral Traditions and African National Languages, Zanzibar, Tanzania. |
| EBAD | Ecoles des Btbltothèques, Archivistes et Documentalistes. Université de Dakar. Sénégal. |
| ECA/CEA | United Nations Economic Commission for Africa/Commission Economique des Nations Unies pour l'Afnque. Addis-Ababa. Ethiopia. |
| EEC/ACP (CEE/ACP) | European Economic Community/ Arnica Caribbean Pacific |
| ECOWAS/CEDEAO | Economic Community of West African States!Communaute Economique des Etats de l'Afnque de l'Ouest, Lagos, Nigéria |
| ESCAS | Education. Science. Culture et Affaires Sociales (Departement de l'OUA/OAU Department), Addis Abeba. Ethiopie |
| ETTC | Ethiopian Tourist Trading Corporation. Addis-Ababa. Ethiopia |
| FEPACI | Federation Panafricalne des Cineastes.'Panafrican Federation of Film Makers, Ouagadougou. Burkina Faso. |
| SIAO | Salon International de l'Artisanat de Ouagadougou. Burkina Faso |
| SIDO | Small Industries Development Organization, Lusaka. Zambia |
| SIFEM | Salon International de la Femme, Lomé, Togo |
| UIT | Union International de Théâtre |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educatlonal, Scientific and Cultural Organization /Organisation des Nations Unles pour l'Education, la Science et la Culture. |
| UNIDO/ONUDI | United Nations Industrial Development Organization/Organisation des Nations Unies pour le Developpement Industriel |
| UNI | United Nations University/Universite des Nations Unies |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| UNDP/PNUD | United Nations Development Programme/Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement. |
| URTNA | Union des Radiodiffusions, Télévisions nationales d'Afrique, Dakar (Senegal), Bamako (Mali), Nairobi (Kenya) |
| WHO/OM | World Health Organization/Organisation Mondiale de la Santé |
| WIPO/OMPI | World Intellectual Property Organization/Organisation Mondiale de la Propriété Intellectuelle |
| WTO/OMT | World Tourism Organization/Organisation Mondiale du Tourisme |

¹ Seligman, G. 2001 Local repertoire hits new highs to dominate world music market in African Music Industry'. Paper presented at the Workshop on the Development of the Music Industry in Africa. World Bank and the Policy Sciences Centre, Inc. Washington, D.C. June 20-21, 2001

¹ Meeting of experts on audiovisual services : improving the participation of developing countries. (November 2002) organised by UNCTAD and UNESCO. Working document

¹ With a population of 313000 and located on the Southern border of Egypt, Aswan is a trade and communication channel with the rest of Africa with folk art stemming from Nubian influences.

¹ Sithole, Jabulani "Culture can play a key role in regional integration", 15 December 2000 <http://www.sardc.net/editorial/sanf/2000/Iss23/Nf2.html>

¹ UNESCO's Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions adopted in October, 2005.

¹ www.incp-ripc.org/meetings/2001/conclusion_e.shtml. *Annual Ministerial Meetings. Working Group on Broadcasting in a Global Environment. A Model of Sustainable Communications*

¹ www.incp-ripc.org/meetings/2001 *Annual Ministerial Meetings. Working Group on Broadcasting in a Global Environment. A Model of Sustainable Communications*

¹ Decision of the Assembly of the AU, Second Ordinary Session, 10-12 July 2003, Maputo, Mozambique

¹ www.incp-ripc.org/w-group/wg-b/wgb-doc_e.shtml Background discussion paper for the Working Group on Broadcasting and the Global Environment

¹ Sithole, J (2001) 'Southern Africa intensifies the fight on music piracy', Sunday Times <http://www.suntimes.co.za/1999/10/10arts/aneo4.htm>

AFRICAN UNION

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN

EX.CL/223 (VIII)
Annex 5

PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
PAN-AFRICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

AFRICAN UNION

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**FIRST SESSION OF AU CONFERENCE
OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE
10 - 14 DECEMBER 2005**

NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/Inst.Pan.African (I)

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAN-AFRICAN
CULTURAL INSTITUTE**

**PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAN-AFRICAN
CULTURAL INSTITUTE**

1. Within the framework of its vision, its missions and its Strategic Plan, the African Union Commission is resolutely engaged in a phase of recongization and development of the cultural institutions and programs in Africa, with, in particular:

- the reactivation of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture, the review of the Cultural Charter of Africa, the Dakar Plan of Action on Cultural Industries and the Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa;
- the census and assessment project of the main organization and cultural programs initiated by OAU Member States or International Partners as UNESCO;
- the establishment of the African Academy of Languages, and the forthcoming Pan-African Cultural Congress, etc.

2. In same time there is a multiplication of public and private initiatives in Africa and on Africa, as well as significant debates that disturb the world to which Africa should prepare to integrate and contribute to. However, if the African Union Commission, which if the driving body responsible for the necessary changes in Africa is well equipped to engage large-scale actions in the other branches of industry, on the contrary, there is no service for culture in the Commission. Not only it is of an insignificant level, but it is also integrated in a Department where it is imbedded in the many significant concerns of the "Social Affairs" Division. Consequently, it cannot be considered as a decisive stakeholder or a credible interlocutor which can assist the Commission in taking up the numerous challenges faced by Africa and the world in the field of the culture.

3. As a corollary, although the structure of the Commission for culture was relatively well-equipped as well as the other corresponding services of the Commission, a mere Direction would not be enough. It should be necessary to establish a specialized institution with enough qualified personnel. It is in this vain that were established the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) or the African Bureau of Educational Sciences reorganized in Pan-African Institute of Education for Development which the Commission intends to make a Centre of Excellence. It is also at that time, in 1982, when was adopted by the World Conference of UNESCO on Cultural Policies in Mexico, the resolution on the establishment in Africa of a UNESCO Regional Office for Culture, as the Regional Office for Education in Dakar and Regional Office for Science in Nairobi.

4. It should be recalled that it is former African Cultural Institute (ACI), which was lethargy during the "lost decade", that had established and organized at the beginning of the 70's the first series of Conferences of the Ministers of Culture and had worked out the draft of the Cultural Charter of Africa, both the Conference and the Charter being financed by the OAU. At the time when there is a need for reactivating the Conferences of Ministers and revising the Cultural Charter, it is also logical to think of establishing or

re-establishing an Institute which had provided Africa with these working tools more than 30 years ago.

Objectives and functions

5. The Institute would have as main tasks:

- to develop and carry out the cultural policies and programs of the Commission and the other organs of the Union (the Parliament, the Economic, Social and Cultural Council, the financial institutions, the Court of Justice, etc;)
- to propose to Member states and integration and development regional organizations and communities and appropriate framework for the development of their cultural policies;
- to promote culture as pillar of development, element of balance, factor of integration and the main driving force of African renaissance;
- to actively advocate the sensitization of the stakeholders and partners for the consideration of cultural dimension in development plans and strategies and the necessary cultural development;
- to provide the suitable technical support and to contribute to the development of States capacities in the definition, the implementation and assessment of cultural policies;
- to ensure the coordination, the harmonization and the networking of organizations, associations, cultural events as well as the main African cultural programs so that they all are directed towards the achievement of integration and the African renaissance;
- to develop intra-African and international co-operation and exchanges and to contribute in developing an active presence of Africa in the main strategic centers in the world while basing on the sustainable structures and the active communities of African Diaspora.

Statute

6. While having the statute of UA specialized agency, for this reason under the trusteeship of the Commission and the supervision of the Conference of African Ministers of culture, the Institute could be under the jurisdiction of, at the same time and according to legal and practical modalities to determine, governments, associations and professional organs and Diaspora communities. It would also have institutional relations with Pan-African and regional organizations.

7. In addition to its regular budget, which would be feed by the contributions of the Member States, the Institute could be supported by a Cultural Foundation financed with the contributions from the members of the civil society, as well as donations, legacy and subsidies that constitute a budget of solidarity.

The role of the Conference of Ministers of Culture

8. The first Conference of African Ministers of Culture organized by the Commission which is historical for many reasons, could take a resolution in proposing at the First Summit of Head of State of Government on Culture, the establishment of the Institute to deal with, at the highest inter-governmental level, the development and the management of Cultural Affairs in Africa, as the NEPAD dealt with a significant part of the development programmes in the continent.

Draft Calendar

9. The establishment of the Institute could be undertaken according to the following calendar:

- adoption of the project by the Conference of Ministers (December 2005);
- approval of the project by the Summit of the Heads of State and Government (January 2006)
- development of the statutes (between January and March 2006);
- review and adoption of the project and the statutes during the Pan-African Cultural Congress which shall be held as an Extraordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Culture (in March 2006);
- setting-up of the Institute in July 2006 at the latest.

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EX.CL/223 (VIII)
Annex 6

REVISED STATUTES OF THE AFRICAN
ACADEMY OF LANGUAGES

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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**THE FIRST SESSION OF
AU MINISTERS OF CULTURE
DECEMBER 10-14 2005
NAIROBI, KENYA**

AUCMC/Draft/Status/African.Lang (I)

**REVISED STATUTES OF THE AFRICAN ACADEMY OF
LANGUAGES**

PREAMBLE

Member States of the African Union:

RECALLING the objectives and principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

FURTHER RECALLING Decision CM/Dec.613 (LXXIV) adopted by the Council of Ministers at its Seventy-Fourth Ordinary Session held in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia which decided on the establishment of an African Academy of Languages;

CONSIDERING that the promotion of African languages is part of the objectives of the African Union, as expressed principally in the Cultural Charter for Africa (1976), the Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa (1986), the Harare Inter-Governmental Conference (1997) and the Decade for Education in Africa (1997-2006);

ACKNOWLEDGING that illiteracy in Africa constitutes one of the factors which could be an obstacle to the development of the Continent and **AWARE** that languages contribute to the economic, social and cultural development of peoples;

RECOGNISING the efforts already deployed by various relevant institutions and organisations in the promotion of African Languages and the need for coordination;

AWARE also of the role that languages can play in the African integration process as a factor of peace, understanding and conflict prevention;

HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 Definitions

1. For the purpose of the present Statutes:

- a) **“ACALAN”** means the African Academy of Languages;
- b) **”Academician”** means a member of the Assembly of ACALAN;
- c) **“African Language”** means a mother tongue of the peoples of an African State;
- d) **“Assembly”** means the Assembly of ACALAN;
- e) **“AU/Union”** means the African Union established by the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
- f) **“Board”** means the Governing Board of ACALAN;
- g) **“Committee”** means the Scientific and Technical Committee;
- h) **“Commission”** means a vehicular cross-border Language Commission;
- i) **“Conference”** means the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture ;
- j) **“Cross-Border Language»** means an African language common to two (2) or more African States;

- k) “**Executive Secretary**” means the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of ACALAN;
- l) “**Member State**” means a Member State of the Union;
- m) “**CSO**” means a Civil Society Organization;
- n) “**President**” means the President of the Assembly of ACALAN;
- o) “**Vehicular Cross- Border Language**” means a cross-border African language spoken by a significant number of people for whom it is not a mother tongue;
- p) “**STC**” means a Specialized Technical Committee as provided for in Article 14 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

2. In the present Statutes, the singular shall include the plural.

CHAPTER I ESTABLISHMENT AND OBJECTIVES OF ACALAN

Article 2 Establishment

There is hereby established under the aegis of the Union, a Pan-African scientific institution which shall be a specialised office to be known as the African Academy of Languages. Its headquarters shall be in Bamako, Republic of Mali.

Article 3 Objectives

The fundamental objectives of ACALAN shall be as follows:

- a) Promoting African languages;
- b) Promoting cross-border languages;
- c) Promoting vehicular cross-border languages;
- d) Strengthening cooperation between African States in the area of African languages;
- e) Promoting African languages in all educational sectors;
- f) Promoting African languages at international level;
- g) Analysing the language policy in Africa;
- h) Promoting a scientific and democratic culture based on the use of African languages;
- i) Contributing to the harmonisation of the economic, social and cultural development of Member States based on African languages, and in relation with partner languages;
- j) Promoting the use of African languages as factors of integration, solidarity, respect of values and mutual understanding in order to promote peace and prevent conflicts;
- k) Promoting African languages organizations on the continent.

Article 4 **Functions**

The functions of ACALAN shall be as follows:

- a) Giving impetus to research on African languages in close collaboration with all language research institutions;
- b) Development and coordination of research activities on languages and establishment of consultation frameworks for researchers;
- c) Collection and dissemination of the results of linguistic research;
- d) Enhancement of the results of linguistic research;
- e) Provision of technical support to different Member States for the formulation and implementation of linguistic policy, particularly in the establishment and/or development of national structures for the promotion of African languages;
- f) Strengthening of regional African structures responsible for culture and oral tradition, with a view to partnership and complementarity;
- g) Provision support for training researchers;
- h) Modernization of African linguistic tools through the use of New Information and Communication Technologies thus making it possible to effectively bridge the digital divide;
- i) Promotion of the use of African languages in all areas of public life at national, regional and continental levels;
- j) Promotion of the use of African languages as a medium and subject at all educational levels;
- k) Elaboration of a linguistic atlas of Africa;
- l) Facilitation of the harmonization of teaching curricula for vehicular cross-border languages;
- m) Archiving of documents and establishment of data banks relating to African languages;
- n) Re-definition of African languages and partner languages relations;
- o) Mobilization of resources for linguistic research;
- p) Dissemination of information on linguistic research.
- q) Performing such other functions consistent with the promotion of African languages.

Article 5 **Activities**

1. ACALAN shall conduct regular reflection on all issues pertaining to African languages in general, and vehicular cross-border languages in particular, through:

- a) advice it shall give at the request of public authorities, communities and research structures;
- b) studies it shall commission;

- c) the formulation of and follow-up on recommendations emanating from its sessions;
- d) the promotion of vehicle trans-border African languages at international level;
- e) exchanges of views and information with foreign institutions pursuing similar objectives;
- f) monitoring the implementation of linguistic standards.

2. In addition, it shall institute and allocate prizes and awards to organizations and persons contributing to the promotion of African languages.

CHAPTER II **ORGANS OF ACALAN**

Article 6 **Categories**

The organs of the Academy shall be:

- a) The AU Conference of Ministers of Culture or the relevant STC which shall be the supreme organ of the ACALAN;
- b) The Governing Board which shall be the highest policy organ;
- c) The Scientific and Technical Committee which shall be an Advisory Body;
- d) The Assembly of Academicians;
- e) The Executive Secretariat.

SECTION I: AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE

Article 7 **Composition**

The Conference shall be composed of Ministers of Culture or such other Ministers or authorities duly accredited by the Governments of Member States.

Article 8

Functions

The functions of the Conference shall be as follows:

- a) Issue directives to the Board with regard to the activities of ACALAN;
- b) Ensure the coordination and harmonization of projects and programmes of ACALAN;
- c) Ensure the supervision, follow-up and evaluation of the implementation of projects and programmes of ACALAN;
- d) Submit to the Policy Organs of the Union reports and recommendations on the implementation of the project and programmes of ACALAN;

Article 9

Meetings, Quorum and Decisions

1. The Conference shall meet at the headquarters of ACALAN or in any other Member State, at the invitation of the latter, once a year in ordinary session.
2. At the request of two-thirds of its members, the Chairperson of the Conference shall convene an extraordinary session on a specific agenda communicated to all members at least one (1) month in advance.
3. Two-thirds of the total membership of the Union shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Conference.
4. The Conference shall take its decision by consensus or failing which by two-thirds majority of its Members present and voting.
5. The Conference shall elect its Chairperson at the beginning of each Ordinary Session. He/she shall be assisted by other members of the Bureau, namely, three (3) Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, elected on the basis of agreed geographical distribution after due consultations.

SECTION II: GOVERNING BOARD

Article 10
Composition

1. The Board shall be composed as follows:

- a) Chairperson of the Bureau of the Conference;
- b) A Representative of the Department of Social Affairs of the AU Commission;
- c) The President of the Assembly;
- d) Representatives of vehicular cross- border language Commissions;
- e) Representatives of national Language structures;
- f) A Representative of the Member State hosting the Executive Secretariat of ACALAN;
- g) Independent experts;
- h) Executive Secretary who shall sit in an advisory capacity and act as the Secretary of the Board.

2. Representatives of partner institutions and CSOs may be invited to attend Board meetings in an advisory capacity.

Article 11
Functions

The functions of the Board shall be to:

- a) Define the ACALAN policy;
- b) Adopt its own Rules of Procedure;
- c) Consider and approve the ACALAN Plan of Action, budget, activity reports and audited accounts;
- d) Assist ACALAN to mobilize funds;
- e) Ensure the general supervision of the management and performance of ACALAN;
- f) Ensure the monitoring, control and evaluation of ACALAN activities;
- g) Consult the Committee on activities falling within its competence;
- h) Submit reports to the Conference on activities and achievements of ACALAN;
- i) Determine the number of Members of the Assembly.

Article 12
Meetings, quorums and Decisions

1. The Board shall meet at the headquarters of ACALAN or in any other Member State, at the invitation of the latter, once a year in ordinary session.
2. At the request of two-thirds of its members, the Chairperson of the Board shall convene an extraordinary session on a specific agenda communicated to all members at least one (1) month in advance.
3. A two-thirds majority of members of the Board shall be required to constitute a quorum for any ordinary or extraordinary session.
4. Decisions of the Board shall be taken by a simple majority of members present. Each member shall have one vote; in the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson of the Board shall have the casting vote.
5. The Chairperson of the Board shall be elected by a two-thirds majority for a two (2) year term of office. The functions of the Chairperson shall be defined by the Rules of Procedure. The Chair shall rotate between the regions, according to an order defined by the Rules of Procedure.

SECTION III: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Article 13
Composition

1. The Committee shall be responsible to the Board and shall be composed as follows:
 - a)The President of the Assembly who shall be the Chairperson;
 - b)The Chairpersons of national Language structures to be selected on a regional basis and in accordance with the rules and procedures of ACALAN;
 - c)The Chairpersons of vehicular cross border Language Commissions;
 - d)Such specialists or representatives of institutions and organisations the advice of which may be useful to ACALAN
 - e)Representatives of African and International CSO as may be designated by the Board.

f) Executive secretary

Article 14

Functions

The functions of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a) Assist the Executive Secretary in the preparation of the programme of activities of ACALAN;
- b) Advise the Board and the Executive Secretary of specific technical matters brought to its attention;
- c) Advise on the implementation of the activities of ACALAN;
- d) Provide such advise as may be requested by the Board or by the Executive Secretary;
- e) Adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 15

Meetings, Quorum and Decisions

1. The meetings of the Committee shall be convened by the President or the Executive Secretary at least twice a year at the headquarters of ACALAN or as often as they deem it necessary.
2. For any Committee Session, a simple majority of the members shall be required to constitute a quorum.
3. Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority of members present. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.
4. The Chairperson of the Committee shall be elected by a two-thirds majority for a two (2) year term of office. The functions of the Chairperson shall be defined by the Rules of Procedure. The Chair shall rotate between the regions, according to an order defined by the Rules of Procedure.

SECTION IV: THE ASSEMBLY OF ACADEMICIANS

Article 16 **Composition**

The Assembly of Academicians shall have the following four categories of membership:

- a) Academicians;
- b) Associate Members;
- c) Correspondent Members;
- d) Honorary Members

Article 17 **Conditions for Eligibility**

The following criteria shall apply for membership:

- a) An Academician shall be a Citizen of a Member State who is of scientific, technical, cultural and moral repute and elected by members of his/her Commission;
- b) An Associate Member shall be an eminent African scientific personality working in his/her national structure and nominated by the Commissions and by countries concerned by the language;
- c) A Correspondent Member shall be a Non-African scientific personality who contributes notably to the study and promotion of African languages;
- d) An Honorary Member shall be an eminent writer, historian or philosopher or scientist from Africa or the Diaspora, interested in the area of national languages and nominated by the Commissions.

Article 18 **Functions**

1. The Assembly shall:

- a) Receive and consider the results of the deliberations or presentations of the Board on subjects relating to scientific, technical and cultural topical issues;

- b) Examine and discuss issues submitted to it or any other scientific issue, and independently express their opinions;
- c) Draft their Rules of Procedure and submit same to the Board for approval;
- d) Consider the Plan of Action prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Committee and submit same for consideration and adoption of the Board;
- e) Encourage researchers to transmit to the Assembly the most significant results of their work;
- f) Advocate the ACALAN cause worldwide in addition to their scientific contribution,
- g) Perform any such function in line with the objectives of ACALAN.

Article 19

Meetings, Quorum and Decisions

1. The Assembly shall meet every two years in ordinary session, at ACALAN Headquarters or in any other Member State at the latter's invitation.

2. At the request of two-thirds of its members, the Chairperson shall convene an extraordinary session on a specific agenda communicated at least one (1) month in advance to all members.

3. The Associate Members, Corresponding members and Honorary Members shall participate in sessions of the Assembly, but without the right to vote.

SECTION V: THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Article 20

Composition

1. The Secretariat shall consist of an Executive Secretary who shall be assisted by the necessary administrative, professional and technical officials.

2. Members of the Secretariat shall hold permanent positions in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the African Union.

3. The structure of the Secretariat shall be determined in accordance with the rules and procedures in force in the African Union.

Article 21

Functions

1. The Executive Secretary shall be the Chief Executive and the Legal Representative of ACALAN.

2. He/she shall discharge the following duties subject to the directives of the Board:

- a) Manage ACALAN Secretariat;
- b) Be the authorizing officer of the ACALAN budget;
- c) Implement the directives of the Board and report to it thereon;
- d) Prepare the programme of activities, the financial report and the ACALAN Report;
- e) Prepare and submit to the Board the Draft Budget, Activity Report, Rules of Procedure of the various organs and the Plan of Action of ACALAN for consideration and approval;
- f) Attend all meetings of the Board and act as its Secretary;
- g) Be responsible for collecting and disseminating results of linguistic research;
- h) Coordinate the training programmes for researchers;
- i) Ensure the archiving of documents and establish a data bank;
- j) Ensure the production and translation of ACALAN publications in the vehicle trans-border languages and partner languages;
- k) Ensure the publication of the ACALAN bulletin;
- l) Monitor the implementation of the Language Plan of Action for Africa;
- m) Perform any other function in line with the objectives of ACALAN.

3. Should the position fall vacant or the Executive Secretary be prevented from discharging the above duties, he/she shall be temporarily replaced by the most senior Official within the Secretariat until the appointment of the new Executive Secretary.

CHAPTER III : WORKING STRUCTURES

Article 22 **Categories**

1. The working structures of ACALAN shall be the following:
 - a) National Language Structures;
 - b) Vehicular cross- border Language Commissions;
2. ACALAN shall establish such other structures as it may be necessary for its effective functioning.

Article 23 **National Language Structures: Composition and Functions**

Each Member State of the African Union shall determine the composition and functions of the National Language Structures.

Article 24 **Vehicular cross- border Language Commissions: Composition and Functions**

1. ACALAN shall establish a Commission for each vehicular cross-border language.
2. The Commissions shall constitute the working structures of the Board and the Assembly.
3. The Board shall determine the criteria for selection and the number of the members for each Commission.

Article 25 **Coordinator**

1. Each Commission, at the beginning of its first session, shall nominate a Coordinator.
2. The Coordinator shall coordinate the activities of the Commission and centralize the results of deliberations for transmission to the Executive Secretary in preparation for the sessions of the Assembly.

CHAPTER IV : FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**Article 26**
Resources

1. The resources of the ACALAN shall be obtained from:

- a) Voluntary contributions from Member States;
- b) The services of the ACALAN;
- c) Sale of products of the ACALAN;
- d) Subventions from the AU and such other organisations;
- e) Donations and legacies approved by the Board;
- f) Resources established on an exceptional basis.

2. The funds of the Academy shall be deposited in a bank account. Financial transactions shall be made only after obtaining the signatures of the Executive Secretary and the Accounts Officer.

Article 27
Expenses

All the expenses of ACALAN shall be borne by the ACALAN Budget which shall be drawn up and adopted in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the AU.

Article 28
Transitional Arrangements

Following the adoption of the present Statutes by Member States, the Chairperson of the AU Commission, in close collaboration and in consultation with the host country and the Members of the Bureau of the Conference shall take the necessary measures to establish an Interim Structure and appoint the required staff in order to facilitate the speedy establishment of ACALAN in accordance with the present Statutes.

CHAPTER V: FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 29

Amendment

1. The present Statutes may be amended by the Board. Any Member proposing an amendment shall address a written notification to the Chairperson of the Board who shall notify all members three (3) months before the Board session to decide on the proposed amendment.
2. The amendment shall only take effect when it is approved by two-thirds of the members of the Board.

Article 30

Entry into Force

1. The present Statutes shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Assembly of the Union.
2. The present Statutes, of which the Arabic, French, English and Portuguese texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the chairperson of the AU Commission and copies thereof shall be transmitted to the Executive Secretary
3. After the entry into force of the present Statutes, the competent authorities of the AU Commission shall negotiate and sign a Headquarters Agreement with the host country.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN

EX.CL/223 (VIII)
Annex 7

LANGUAGE PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA

AFRICAN UNION

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ANNEX 7

**THE FIRST SESSION OF THE AU
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
10 – 14 DECEMBER 2005**

NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/Plan.Action 1 (I)

LANGUAGE PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA

INTRODUCTION

1. This revised Language Plan of Action for Africa was developed in 1985 by OAU in collaboration with the Inter-African Language Bureau, ILB/OAU based in Kampala, Uganda, whose prerogative was to draw up and co-ordinate African language policies.

2. The draft document was reviewed by an International Meeting of African and Foreign Experts that was held at the Headquarters of this Regional Office from 11 to 13 June 1985. The Meeting was also attended by a representative of the ESCAS Department of the OAU and observers from the Technical and Cultural Co-operation Agency (TCCA) and the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL).

3. There were four major reasons underlying the need to draw up and implement a Language Plan of Action:

- (i) **ensure** cultural independence and development of African countries through the use of African languages;
- (ii) **promote** African Unity by developing regional languages as a medium of expression and helping to break language barriers;
- (iii) **contribute** to endogenous development efforts by involving the people in these efforts and explaining to them in their own languages, development implications and problems;
- (iv) **maintain** the links between Africa and the rest of the outside world through widely spoken major foreign languages and by defining their importance in relation to African Languages.

4. In this connection, Article XXIX of the OAU Charter constitutes a whole programme: "The working languages of the Organization and all its institutions shall be, if possible, African languages, English, French and Portuguese". Indeed, the use of African languages in all sectors of activity is possible. However, steps should be taken to ensure its concrete realization through the definition of a master plan.

5. The Plan of Action provides the major guidelines in this regard. Each Member State or subregional entity or each institution can adapt it to its own realities.

6. The Plan of Action was reviewed by the First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture in December 2005 in Nairobi, Kenya, and was adopted as an important instrument to guide the formulation and promotion of Language policies and programmes in Africa.

PLAN OF ACTION

PART I **AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES**

7. The aims and objectives of this Plan of Action are as follows:
- (a) To encourage Member State to have a clearly defined language policy;
 - (b) To ensure that all languages within the boundaries of Member States are recognized and accepted as a source of mutual enrichment;
 - (c) To ensure that African languages, by appropriate legal provision and practical promotions, assume their rightful role as the means of official communication in the public affairs of each Member State in alongside of European languages which have hitherto played this role;
 - (d) To encourage the increased use of African languages as media of instruction at all educational levels;
 - (e) To ensure that all the sectors of the political and socio-economic system of each Member State are mobilized in such a manner that they play their due part in ensuring that the African language(s) prescribed as official language(s) assume their intended role in the shortest time possible;
 - (f) To foster and promote national, regional and continental linguistic unity in Africa in the context of the multilingualism prevailing in most African countries;

PART II. **PRIORITIES**

8. The priority areas of the Action Plan include, among others the following:

(a) **Policy Formulation**

Whether at the national, regional or continental levels, the selection and prescription without undue delay of certain viable national, regional or continental indigenous African languages as the official languages to be used for the formal functions of the State, regional groupings or the AU;

(b) **Implementation and Promotion**

The subsequent implementation of the language policy adopted and the incorporation of the official African languages in the political, educational, social, cultural and economic lives of the people.;

(c) **Modernization**

The modernization as necessary and by any means required of the indigenous African languages selected and prescribed as official languages;

(d) **Mobilization of Resources**

The mobilization of financial, human and other resources and all relevant public and private institutions in the practical promotion of the chosen official languages;

PART III. PROGRAMME OF ACTION (METHODS AND MEANS)

9. In order to fulfil the objectives set out above, Member States solemnly subscribe to the following programme of action:

- (a) At continental level and as a concrete expression and demonstration of the AU's seriousness of purpose, the adoption without undue delay by the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. Organizations or institutions affiliated to it of viable indigenous African languages as working languages;
- (b) To encourage regional associations, organizations or institutions already accorded or those applying for observer status to the AU to adopt indigenous African languages as their working languages;
- (c) At regional level, the adoption by regional groupings of viable, regional indigenous African languages as official or working languages;
- (d) At national level, the imperative need for each Member State to consider it necessary and primary that it formulates with the minimum of delay a language policy that places an indigenous African language or languages spoken and in active use by its peoples at the centre of its socio-economic development;
- (e) In order to fulfil the objective in (d), the need by each Member State to establish a national language council, where none exists, or to strengthen it, where one already exists, as a national sounding board for the formulation of an appropriate national language policy;
- (f) The absolute necessity that each Member State, as a matter of supreme practical importance, follows up the formulation of an appropriate national language policy with an adequate and sustained allocation of the necessary financial and material resources to ensure that the language or languages prescribed as official language(s) achieve(s) a level of modernization that meets the needs of administering a modern state;

- (g) In recognition of the negative estimation in which indigenous African languages are generally held in Africa by the general public, the necessity for each Member State, as part of its national programme of promoting those African languages duly prescribed as official languages, to mount a sustained campaign of educating or re-educating the national population about the inherent or potential practical utility of African languages to counter the present widespread negative attitudes in Africa towards these languages;
- (h) In recognition that the formal national education system plays a key role in the practical use of any language, the need for each Member State to ensure that all the sectors (i.e. primary, secondary and tertiary) of the national education system are pressed as appropriate in the service of the practical promotion of the indigenous language(s) selected and prescribed as (an) official language(s);
- (i) Aware that African universities, research institutes and other institutions concerned with the study and promotion of African languages have a unique role to play in strengthening the role these languages play in the daily lives of the African peoples, the need for these institutions to strike a proper balance in future between the scientific study of the African languages and their actual use and practical promotion;
- (j) In connection with (i) above, the need for each Member State to render its national universities and other research and related institutions a primary instrument for the practical promotion of African languages as regards such critical promotional activities as the compilation of technical and general dictionaries, the writing of textbooks on useful subjects, the training of teachers of language, translators, interpreters, broadcasters and journalists, the production of useful books and other types of literature relevant to the lives of the contemporary African and the up-dating of vocabulary in African languages;
- (k) In recognition of the fact that to impart formal or other types of knowledge the vehicle of instruction or communication should be a language familiar to the learner, the absolute necessity that each Member State should, as an essential part of its educational policy, prescribe as media or vehicles of instruction those indigenous African languages that best and most effectively facilitate the learning process;
- (l) In recognition of the singularly strategic role widespread literacy among the national population plays in the socio-economic development of a country, and recognizing further that literacy education will be greatly facilitated and speeded up if languages familiar to the national population are employed, the advisability of using indigenous African languages as media of instruction in national literacy campaigns mounted by Member States

PART IV. TIME FRAME AND MONITORING

10. In order to ensure effective implementation of the Plan of Action, Member States are encouraged to:

- (i) Set a specific time frame for action and put adequate human, material and financial resources in place;
- (ii) Involve relevant stakeholders in the process of adapting, promoting or updating national action plans or strategies for the development of African languages;
- (iii) develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to appraise national level implementation of the Action Plan;
- (iv) coordinate the activities of different institutions/organizations involved in research, advocacy and awareness creation about the use of African Languages as media of instruction, communication, and harmonization of cross-border relationships;

11. The African Union, in collaboration with RECs, NGOs, CSOs, and academic or research institutions, should assist Member States in developing relevant language policies, sharing best practices and promoting the use of African languages for the cultural and linguistic development of the continent.

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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Eighth Ordinary Session
16 – 21 January 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN**

EX.CL/223 (VIII)

Annex 8

**BACKGROUND TO THE AFRICA POSITION PAPER ON THE
STATE OF WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA, AND THE
PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF AN
AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND**

AFRICAN UNION

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**FIRST SESSION OF AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
10 – 14 DECEMBER 2005**

NAIROBI, KENYA

AUCMC/Position. Paper/Fund.Pat.(I)

**BACKGROUND TO THE AFRICA POSITION PAPER ON THE STATE OF
WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA, AND THE PROPOSAL FOR THE
CREATION OF AN AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND**

BACKGROUND TO THE AFRICA POSITION PAPER ON THE STATE OF WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA, AND THE PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF AN AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND

1. At the 17th session of the General Conference of UNESCO in November 1972, *The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (“World Heritage convention”) was adopted. It came out of a realization that at national and international levels, cultural and natural heritage was threatened by both natural and human-induced factors which were exacerbated by rapidly changing environmental social and economic conditions. Disappearance of any component of this heritage “constituted a harmful impoverishment of all nations of the world. Collective efforts were therefore required to protect this natural and cultural heritage.
2. There was also agreement that certain heritage was of “outstanding universal value”, such heritage was defined in articles 1 & 2 of the World Heritage Convention and according to criteria set by the enabling Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. It was therefore incumbent on the international community as a whole to participate in the protection of cultural and natural heritage of outstanding value by granting collective assistance and support efforts to identify document, protect and promote this world heritage. For this purpose was established a world heritage list comprising properties submitted by States Parties to the Convention. An intergovernmental committee for the protection of the cultural and natural Heritage of outstanding value was set up to determine attributes constituting “outstanding universal value”.
3. In terms of the Convention, States, Parties have duties and responsibilities to identify, protect and promote heritage situated in their territories. They do this by providing adequate resources; developing technical scientific and professional skills; adopting policies that give cultural and natural heritage a function in life of community, setting up enabling institutional, legal, administrative and financial frameworks.
4. So far, 43 African States, out a global total of 182 States Parties have ratified the World Heritage Convention; therefore they have committed themselves to meeting these obligations. Primarily, the Convention establishes a system of international co-operation to support states so that they can meet their obligations.
5. While many African States are States Parties to the Convention, the fact is that as at end of 2005 many do not have sites on the world heritage list, Africa’s share on the list is only 8%. In terms of Article 11(4) of the World Heritage Convention, there is a “List of World Heritage in Danger”, comprising those sites on the world heritage list that are under serious threat of disappearance etc. Of the 35 sites on that danger list, 14 i.e. 40% of the world’s total are from Africa. So Africa with the least number of sites on the world heritage list dominates the ignoble List of World Heritage in Danger.

6. Clearly this is evidence that the continent is disadvantaged vis-à-vis the rest of the world. In the Periodic Report Africa: Reporting exercise on the World Heritage Convention (2002, some of the root causes attributing to this situation are given as: inadequate resources, weak institutional frameworks, inadequate training and capacity building, lack of national policies, low levels of information and awareness, wars disease and hunger. At international level the causes are in part attributable to a definition of cultural heritage which until recently was title in favor of materialistic as opposed to living cultures as well as low level of African representation on the World Heritage Committee.

7. The Africa Position Paper is an African initiative to redress the above anomalies. The Position Paper urges African States to reaffirm the commitments they made when they ratified the World Heritage Convention. Having sites on the world heritage list or on the list of World Heritage in Danger, is a factor of geo-political, cultural, legal, social and administrative environments. These environments should be revisited, analyzed and remedied by member states of Africa with the support of global partners.

8. Development that have taken place in the past five years indicate a positive paradigm shift for Africa. These create opportunities for Africa's natural and cultural heritage. The UN Millennium Summit (September 2005); the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg 2002); all these recognize that cultural and natural heritage is an important tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

9. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the African Union provide a political and philosophical framework conducive to establishing an effective system of collective protection of cultural and natural heritage. The Africa Position Paper draws its strength and direction from these opportunities and is aligned to the AU 2004-2007 sectoral plan for culture which adopts a continent – wide agenda as a springboard for Africa's cultural renaissance.

10. **An Integrated holistic approach** at continental level is required to meet the enormous challenges facing Africa's cultural and natural heritage. Aptly noted in the World Heritage Convention, "Protection of this heritage at the national level often remains incomplete because of the scale of the resources which it requires".

11. It is this reality which is the *raison d'être* for the creation of an African World Heritage Fund. The idea of such a Fund was first muted in the *Periodic Report Africa: Periodic Reporting Exercise on the World Heritage Conventions (2002)*. Given the small size of the UNESCO World Heritage Fund and the magnitude of not only the African heritage but also other global challenges, this Fund is inadequate to redress the anomalies here highlighted.

12. An African World Heritage Fund will not replace but compliment the existing UNESCO World Heritage Fund, together with the various bilateral agreements, and UNESCO Funds-in-Trust. Such a Fund is quintessential for the implementation of the 10 year Action Plan of the Africa Position Paper. In its 8 objectives the Action Plan *inter alia* seeks to increase the number of African sites on the world heritage list; reduce and

eventually remove from the List of World Heritage in Danger, all African sites. As a priority, the Action Plan seeks to strengthen heritage protection and management particularly in conflict, post-conflict and natural disaster situations; improve and enhance institutional, policy and legal frameworks; ensure that natural and cultural heritage contribute to sustainable development.

13. By **Resolution 29 COM. 11C.2**, the Africa Positions Paper and the Proposal for the creation of an African World Heritage Fund was adopted at the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee in Durban, South Africa in July 2005.

14. On the recommendation of the same World Heritage Committee, **Resolution WHC – 05/15. GA/ INF 8** was adopted in October 2005 by the 15th General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention concerning the Protection of World Natural and Cultural Heritage. This forum accepted and applauded both the Position Paper and the establishment of the African World Heritage Fund.

15. On 21 October 2005, the 192 member General Conference of UNESCO at its 33rd Session adopted the Africa Position Paper. It further appealed “*to the international community, the African Diaspora and UNESCO member states to support and contribute to the African World Heritage Fund.*”

16. Consistent with NEPAD, endorsements are very welcome in the spirit of partnerships; however they should be complementary to Africa’s own initiatives, efforts and resources. Such a Statement can only be truly articulated and enforced by the African Union. The forthcoming Ministers of Culture Council (Nairobi, 13-14 December 2005) and the AU Summit, Khartoum, January 2006) offers an opportunity to make such a pronouncement.

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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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EX.CL/223 (VIII)

Annex 9

**REINSTATING THE LINKAGE BETWEEN CULTURE
AND EDUCATION IN AFRICA**

CONCEPT PAPER

**REINSTATING THE LINKAGE BETWEEN CULTURE
AND EDUCATION IN AFRICA**

CONCEPT PAPER

1. INTRODUCTION

The African Union has a vision of a prosperous Africa, driven by its own people to take its rightful place in the global community. This vision is predicated on the development of Africa's human resources. Education is the means by which Africa's citizenry are prepared for their respective roles in development while culture forms the platform for meaningful education and a basis for restoring African confidence and dignity – the two determinants for the achievement of the AU vision. .

Culture and Education are inseparable. Indeed, the primary definition of Education is *Enculturation*, i.e. the process of learning, assimilating and practising a particular way of life. Before the emergence of schools as specialized agencies, education took place in society, through various fora and agencies, including family, peer groups, apprenticeships, adventures, community activities and so on. This means that education took place in its cultural context.

The marginalization of the African culture in education has been essentially the result of the introduction of schooling by colonialists, who had as a primary objective, the elimination of the African culture in all expressions except those, which were of entertainment value. Thus in modern schools, culture has come to be defined as no more than its artistic expressions, such as drama, song and crafts.

This project of eliminating the African culture has also resulted in the prevailing ethos that “the more educated one becomes, the more out of touch one becomes from the African culture”. As a corollary, “to be cultured means to be acquainted and to have adopted western culture.” For the African then, education is a process of de-culturalization whereby culturally derived strengths for learning are bleached out of the education system. Paradoxically the African culture is also undermined by some of its most ardent proponents who have reduced its value through their static backward-looking definition of it. The dynamism and resilience of African culture is lost in such definitions thus it is relegated to the realm of curiosity and studies of primitive man in anthropology and museums.

Education is never culturally neutral; it is anchored in a specific culture even if it is not overtly stated. Culture embodies language, innovation and creativity, science and technology, governance systems, and moral and spiritual values. To disconnect education from culture in which it operates is to devalue and ultimately destroy the knowledge, beliefs, ideals, and values indigenous to that culture. It also robs the learner of the cultural platform from which to draw metaphors for creativity in education.

The assertion that education and culture are two sides of the same coin (UNESCO, 2005) implies, at least in principle, that:

- The curricula derive from the culture in which the school exists; that it embodies the values, beliefs, ideals, world views, technologies and levels of societal development;
- Children, especially at lower levels of education, learn in a language that they understand and one that carries their culture as well as world views;
- The final outcomes (such as skills, capabilities, attitudes, aspirations, and so on) of education help the individual to understand and explain the world around him, to acquire his livelihoods; and to contribute to the overall development of society;

In societies where education carries the basic social and cultural values as well as knowledge accumulated through time, it is possible to state that the above goals have been achieved to a great extent. In the African context, however, formal or modern education came as an imposition from outside the mainstream of African culture and, despite its considerable role in shaping up a new social fabric modelled by the West, it has not been successful in contributing to cultural development, producing knowledge capable of solving African problems, changing or re-enforcing attitudes towards work and life; and caring for the environment.

While the neglect of African culture is to be decried, it is, however, important to note that culture is dynamic. It changes as people modify their way of life, their philosophy and so on, in response to changes in people's understanding, environment, interaction with other cultures, and in view of new knowledge and technology. Furthermore, it must also be appreciated that not all that is traditional culture is desirable for preservation, perpetuation and promotion. There is therefore a need to identify those cultural practices that are relevant to the overall transformation of Africa, especially those that contribute to learning and scientific inquiry, social integration and African renaissance.

2. CRITICAL CHALLENGES IN EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN AFRICA

As stated above, modern education in Africa is guilty of creating elites that are alienated from their African roots and who because of their uncritical engagement with modern studies, are superficially conversant them. However, in the ever globalizing and interconnected world, there is no alternative to embracing modern forms of education and using them as a means to speed up economic, social, cultural and political development. In other words, there is still a need to employ modern education as an instrument for the realization of knowledge-based socio-economic transformation in Africa. However, this must be done by revitalizing the linkage between African cultures and education and ensuring the contribution of each to the advancement of the other.

A number of key challenges still stand in the way of creating a perfect marriage between culture and education. Some of these challenges are outlined below.

a. Challenges in the field of Culture

- The cultural sector has been and continues to be sidelined in development planning, including educational planning, in Africa;
- The institutional base of culture is often weak in that culture does not have visibility as it is often affixed or appended to other dominant sectors/Ministries, which then deny proper focus on culture;
- Cultural education or literacy does not receive equal attention with other disciplines in school curricula;
- There is a serious lack of coordination, consultation, joint programming, planning and implementation between the two sectors;
- African culture does not form a base for any serious development programme, e.g. in architecture, urban planning and so on.
- Despite major efforts in developing Higher Education in Africa, there is still a gaping disconnect between education and research on the one hand, and the values, needs, challenges and aspirations of society on the other hand. African culture does not inform the curriculum or pedagogy.
- The use of African languages in all spheres of life typifies this neglect and abandonment of the African culture and the repercussions of this are seen in the number of poorly performing students in all subjects.

b. Challenges in the field of Education

Likewise the education sector faces a number of challenges that have impeded its development and undermined its contributions to the development of Africa. As stated already, the school proceeds as a thing apart, detached and uninfluenced by its environment. Yet the failure of the school attests to the negative influence exerted by its cultural context. For example, education in Africa is plagued by the following problems:

- Undervaluing the role of communities in planning, implementing and managing educational programmes
- Inadequate gender-sensitivity in educational systems
- Shortage of trained/qualified human resources owing to:
 - low level of social status attached to the profession
 - lack of incentive (low salaries and absence of other fringe benefits, e.g. insurance);
 - poor infrastructural development (affecting access to basic social services such as health, further education, information, etc.);
 - brain-drain (out migration from rural to urban areas as well as to other countries);
- shortage of schools, distance from home, lack of educational facilities such as books, laboratory services, etc, which all together affect the quality of education and serve as a disincentive to students as well as parents;
- limited applicability of the knowledge gained in schools;

- lack of employment opportunities after certain years of schooling;
- preventive school fees in some countries;
- harmful traditional practices such as early marriage, especially for girls;
- the impact of HIV/AIDS which claims the lives of teachers, administration staff, and students thereby threatening the continuation of school activities;
- shortage of food, specially school meals, and so on.

For education to derive benefit from its context, culture should inform both curriculum content and pedagogy. The curriculum would acknowledge the aspiration and challenges of the society and work towards their solution and as such the relevance of education would be assured. Africa will not be able to move itself out of mediocrity until it accepts itself and utilizes its inherent strengths. It can be said that current problems of education in Africa - access, quality and relevance of education in Africa are symptoms of the alienation of education from its cultural base. Education in the traditional sense IS for everyone, and IS about promoting cultural continuity and not eliminating it.

3. CONTINENTAL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS SOME OF THESE CHALLENGES

a. *Policy Instruments*

Right from its inception the OAU was concerned with the “strengthening of educational and cultural ties amongst the peoples of Africa” because “once this co-operation in the educational and cultural fields amongst African States has been organized, co-ordinated and harmonized and fully implemented, it will pave the way to the final goal, namely African Unity” (OAU, 1963).

The Cultural Charter for Africa, adopted in 1976, underlines that “it is imperative to edify educational systems which embody the African values of civilization, so as to ensure the rooting of youth in African culture and mobilize the social forces in the context of permanent education” and thereby “... to resolutely ensure the promotion of African languages, mainstay, and media of cultural heritage in its most authentic and essentially popular form ...”

Recognizing the linkage between education and culture, the Cultural Charter further urges member states to ensure “... access of all citizens to **education** and to **culture**” as well as to promote “selective integration of science and modern technology into the cultural life of the African peoples” This policy instrument was a major watershed, which provided a continental framework for integrating cultural and educational programmes on the continent.

In their 1989 Assembly, African Leaders made a critical assessment of the “... serious problems affecting the educational systems in Africa, especially the inability to maintain high standards and make education available to more people, in the face of increasing demands for education and of the dwindling resources available to governments to sustain it”.

The NEPAD Programme (2001) and the Vision, Mission, and Strategic Framework of the African Union (2004) emphasized the need for developing the human resource potentials of the continent through appropriate education and revitalizing the role of African culture in facilitating this development as well as in enhancing a Pan-African shared vision.

b. Outcomes of Ministerial Conferences

The Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF), in its Algiers' Declaration (2005) recognised that "...the link between Education and Culture is an important element for sustainable development, as is the need to eliminate all cultural barriers that could impede progress in Education." Furthermore, they asserted that Education should respond to the socio-economic, political and cultural dimensions of society. The Ministers called for:

- Dialogue of cultures;
- Use of education to prevent conflicts arising due to cultural differences;
- Recognising the role of women in society

Indeed, recommitting to the revitalization of the essential link between Education and Culture will be instrumental in solving the many problems in the education sector in order to achieve the following:

- Significantly raise educational achievement (Access, Quality, Efficiency, Relevance), and redirect higher education to focus on the developmental issues of the continent;
- Provide effective mechanisms for harnessing Education as a means for regional integration;
- Full gender equality in education; and
- Higher Education systems that contribute to pushing the frontiers of knowledge while addressing the development needs of society.

These outcomes of the the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union were endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government meeting in Sirte in July 2005.

Similarly, the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Nairobi, Kenya, in December 2005 re-affirmed the linkage between culture and education, and resolved, among others, to:

- Foster the link between culture and education at all levels and ensure that education is rooted in African cultural life;
- Preserve cultural heritage and promote cultural development in all spheres and dimensions;

- Consider culture as a foundation for socio-economic development and thus promote the integration of cultural factors in development goals and use culture in addressing present-day challenges;
- Recognize the cultural expressions of youth and responding to their aspirations according to African culture and values as well empower and prepare them in such a way that they are able to cope successfully with present and future challenges of the modern world; and
- Encourage policies that foster the development and promotion of African languages, especially their use in education, and improve communication and participation of all people in cultural life as it is fit in a democratic society

4. THE WAY FORWARD

In order to strengthen the linkage between culture and education the following are proposed:

- Revise relevant policy instruments and assess the level of their implementation and identify their shortcomings, learn from best practices and map out the task ahead;
- Ensure the inclusion of the different aspects of culture in education curricula at all levels, for example traditional architecture and fine-arts should be taught alongside modern ones;
- Re-affirm the role of culture in development and facilitate its integration into all development planning and implementation. Establish cultural indicators or benchmarks for monitoring and evaluation of development achievements;
- Promote cultural literacy among Africans at all walks of life;
- Create regular fora and consultation mechanisms between ministries of education and culture to exchange ideas, experiences and contribute to the development of sector-specific programmes including the development or review of curricula;
- Promote the role/use of African languages as medium of instruction, especially at lower levels of education;
- Make creative works by Africans more readily available by creating market outlets and providing support to the artist;
- Re-affirm the role of African Higher Educational Institutions as centres of excellence for culture, science and technology;
- Provide policy frameworks and institutional back up the cultural industries of Africa, including ensuring fair access to the global market;
- Protect the cultural industry from piracy, violation of copyright laws, including copyrights to indigenous inventions and knowledge systems; integrate this into the curricula of schools at all levels;
- Create synergy between African traditional educational system with the modern one so that they complement each other;
- Address the challenges of HIV/AIDS which has posed a considerable threat to the quality and sustainability of education at all levels;

- Continue to discourage harmful cultural elements (traditional practices) while encouraging positive cultural practices which will contribute to the promotion of education and overall socio-economic development;
- Ensure gender equality and equity in access to both culture and education;
- Encourage the participation of local communities, the private sector, NGOs, CSOs, and international agencies in promoting the linkage between culture and education, especially in the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, which should be vital “raw-materials for African education”.

As part of the way forward, a Second Decade of Education for Africa is planned for 2006-2015, with the view to getting Africa out of the ‘education deficit’ with which the Continent has entered the twenty-first century. The Second Decade of Education will accord special attention to strategic areas of educational development, which will be closely linked with Culture and all other development sectors, in line with the AU Vision and Mission.

In this regard, culture practitioners will have to make available information on African Heroism, in terms of people, places, inventions and creations. Their work has to portray the achievements of Africa and the contributions of Africans to world civilization. They have to be in constant touch with the noble efforts of Africans including the Diaspora, in improving the conditions of humanity, in sports and games, in advancing knowledge and ideas, in medicine and gastronomy, in promoting global understanding, in heroically enduring hardships, deprivations, and discrimination. These would be materials that can be harnessed in developing appropriate curricula for culture-rich education programmes in Africa. A database of African expertise will also be developed.

The domain of culture-related educational materials will equally include:

- Production of school and popular editions of the History of Africa;
- Production of atlases that portray Africa correctly;
- Making creative works by Africans more readily available;
- Popularisation of the biographies of Africans who have contributed to changing Africa and the entire world; and
- Production of texts and manuals for education and research in indigenous knowledge and technology.

Culture-rooted education policies should ensure the harnessing of Africa’s cultural resources to enrich the process of education, while enhancing the potential for appreciation, management and development of African Culture. Such policies should cover the following:

- **Commitment to the development of indigenous languages for use in Education;**
- Educational materials development, and particularly the development of national authorship, printing and publishing;

- Commitment to the development cultural industries that can impact on Education, such as film, the media, traditional medicine, music and so on
- Mobilisation of other societal and cultural resources for enriching teaching and learning;
- Development of school architecture and classroom environments that conform with local climate and culture;
- School calendars that blend neatly with local work and leisure programming;
- Building of strong school-community ties, including the teaching of African culture by practitioners from the community;
- Eschewing cultural practices and beliefs that encumber and are retrogressive

5. CONCLUSIONS

Addressing the education-culture dynamic will lead to a desirable paradigm shift that returns Education to its original meaning of Acculturation, thereby redressing the damage wrought by colonial education. The paradigm shift will also introduce a new ethos: the more educated one is, the deeper ones understanding and ones pride grows in being African. To be cultured would mean to be truly African and in this way African culture would take its position as a peer with other cultures.

NAIROBI DECLARATION ON
CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE

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FIRST SESSION OF AU
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS
OF CULTURE
13 - 14 DECEMBER 2005
NAIROBI, KENYA

AU/CMC/Decl.1 (I) Rev.3

**NAIROBI DECLARATION ON
CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE**

NAIROBI DECLARATION ON CULTURE, INTEGRATION AND AFRICAN RENAISSANCE

WE, the Ministers of Culture, meeting at the First Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Nairobi, Kenya from 13-14 December 2005;

Recalling the major regional and international policy instruments, such as the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, its related protocols and other human rights instruments, the 1976 Cultural Charter for Africa (Port-Louis, Mauritius); The 1985 Declaration of Heads of States and Governments on the Cultural Aspects of the Lagos Plan of Action for Economic Development of Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia); The Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa (1986); The 1991 Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja, Nigeria); The 1992 Dakar Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries (Senegal); The 2001 Cotonou Declaration of Cultural Diversity (Benin); The 2003 Dakar Plan of Action on the Promotion of ACP Cultures and Cultural Industries, UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001) and UNESCO Convention on Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage(2003);

Recalling further key meetings devoted to cultural issues, such as the 1975 international conference of cultural policies in Africa (Accra, Ghana); the OAU conferences of African Ministers of Culture held in Port Louis (1986), Ouagadougou (1988), Yaounde (1990) and Cotonou (1993); The Linguistic Plan of Action for Africa adopted by the heads of states and governments (Cotonou, 1985); UNESCO Regional Conference on Art Education in Africa (Port Elizabeth, 2001) and UNESCO Workshop on Culture and Development in NEPAD Program of Action (Abidjan, 2003);

Considering that culture represents a set of ways and means whereby the people of Africa, individually and collectively, assert their identity, protect and transmit it from generation to generation;

Recognizing the need to review and evaluate the cultural sector, examine new issues and challenges, and chart out future perspectives of African cultures and their place in the overall transformation of the continent;

Noting that Africa, which faces a multitude of challenges such as the AIDS pandemic, Malaria and Tuberculosis, worsening poverty, low literacy rates, environmental degradation and conflicts cannot afford to overlook the cultural dimension;

Recognizing the need to evaluate and strengthen the existing cultural policy instruments and the need to enter into new commitments to give African cultures the prominent place they deserve in sustainable development and integration;

Congratulating the AU Heads of State and Government for convening a Special Session on Culture and Education during their 6th Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Sudan;

Recognizing the contribution made by UNESCO towards the educational and cultural programme of Africa in general, and specifically, its contribution towards this Conference as well as the Khartoum Summit including the exhibition;

Aware of the importance of new information technologies in the promotion of culture in all its forms of expression, and their decisive impact as tools which are now indispensable in the dissemination of cultural products at national, regional and international levels, as reaffirmed during the Phase II of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) held in Tunis in November 2005, which was a resounding success and which we commend.

RESOLVE TO

15. Assert the contribution of the cultures of Africa and the Diaspora to global civilization in association with its Diaspora;
16. Preserve cultural heritage and promote cultural development in all spheres and dimensions;
17. Consider culture as a foundation for socio-economic development and thus promote the integration of cultural factors in development goals and use culture in addressing present-day challenges;
18. Foster the link between culture and education at all levels and ensure that education is rooted in African cultural life;
19. Recognize the cultural expressions of youth and responding to their aspirations according to African culture and values as well empower and prepare them in such a way that they are able to cope successfully with present and future challenges of the modern world;
20. Encourage policies that foster the development and promotion of African languages, especially their use in education, and improve communication and participation of all people in cultural life as it is fit in a democratic society;
21. Devote special attention and the necessary resources to women for their crucial contribution to a much needed social transformation in Africa and addressing harmful and gender bias cultural practices which impede the active participation of women in development;

- 22.** Pay particular attention to the promotion of the African Culture by the generalization of new information technologies among African populations, particularly among the younger generation, by making all efforts towards the building of the African Information and Share Knowledge Society.
- 23.** Reaffirm the promotion of cultural industries and cultural producers by harmonizing domestic policies that enhance intra-regional and international exchange of cultural products, consolidating existing cultural markets, creating new opportunities, and protecting copyrights;
- 24.** Sponsor regional networks of cultural creators, practitioners and professionals to expedite continental cultural integration, in addition to strengthening the existing cultural policy instruments and establishing new ones;
- 25.** Promote cultural values and practices known for their capability and potential for peace-making and/or conflict resolution, health management and development;
- 26.** Encourage Member States which have not done so to ratify the UNESCO Convention on Protection and Promotion of Diversity in cultural Expressions (2005) and the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) in order to promote cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue as a tool for integration and development;
- 27.** Establish and strengthen cultural infrastructure in the context of Africa's social-cultural transformation;
- 28.** Create a funding mechanism for cultural programs and projects.

ENDORSE

- 9.** The Charter of the African Cultural Renaissance;
- 10.** The Nairobi Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries for Africa's development in principle;
- 11.** The Statutes of the African Academy of Languages and the establishment of the said academy as well as the updated Language Plan of Action for Africa;
- 12.** The Declaration of 2006 as the Year of African Languages;

13. The convening of the First Edition of the Pan African Cultural Congress in Nairobi, Kenya in 2006;
14. The African Position Paper on the State of World Heritage in Africa and the proposal for the creation of an African World Heritage Fund;
15. The proposal by Algeria to fund the feasibility study for the establishment of the Pan African Institute of Culture
16. The proposal of Algeria to re-launch the implementation of the Ouagadougou resolution on the revival of the Great African Museum in Algeria in the spirit of African solidarity;

TAKE NOTE OF cultural activities organized on the Continent and encourage Member States to support and participate in these activities including:

5. The First African Film Summit and the General Congress of Pan African Federation of Filmmakers (FEPACI) from 3-4 April 2006, Johannesburg, South Africa;
6. The Third World Festival of Black Arts to be hosted by Senegal;
7. The Second Edition of Pan African Cultural Festival to be hosted by Algeria;
8. The proposal by the Republic of the Sudan to establish African Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (AFRESCO).

REQUEST the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, where applicable, in collaboration with all stakeholders including Regional Economic Communities to:

8. Follow-up and monitor the commitments contained herein;
9. Implement and co-ordinate the implementation of the Charter for the Cultural Renaissance of Africa and the Nairobi Plan of Action for the Promotion of Cultural Industries for Africa's development in collaboration with other stakeholders;
10. Conduct a feasibility study of existing cultural institutions with a view to reinforcing those which are still relevant and strategic;
11. Create a Division of Culture within the Department of Social Affairs of the AU Commission;

- 12.** Set up a Preparatory Committee to oversee the activities of the Year of African Languages;
- 13.** Set up a Task Force that will conduct a feasibility study on the establishment of the proposed Pan African Cultural Institute;
- 14.** Report on the progress of implementation to the 2nd session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture.

**ADOPTED IN NAIROBI, KENYA
ON 14 DECEMBER 2005**

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