

**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

SECRETARIAT

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ADDIS ABABA

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE**

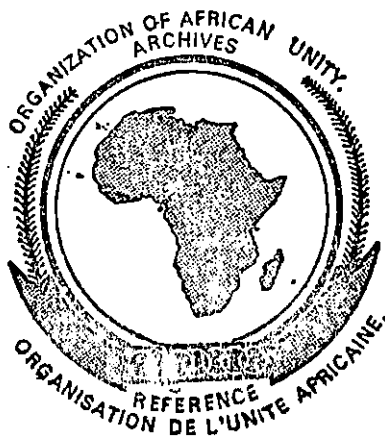
SECRETARIAT

B. P. 3243

CM/254/Add.1

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twelfth Ordinary Session
Addis Ababa - February 1969

ADDENDUM TO DOCUMENT CM/254 RELATING
TO THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST
ALL-AFRICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL.



ADDENDUM

At the time the document CM/254/Add.1 on the preparation for the Festival was being worked out, the Steering Committee of the All-African Cultural Festival had not yet met. On the initiative of the host country to the Festival, the Steering Committee was to convene in Algiers as from January 28th through February 2nd 1969 in presence of a Representative of the OAU General Secretariat.

The present addendum purports to underline the major difficulties which preparations for the Festival are encountering and to submit to the consideration and sanction of the Council of Ministers the Steering Committee's important conclusions and major recommendations that would enable the Festival to take place in Algiers, from July 21st to August the 1st 1969 as scheduled and thereby live up to the expectations of the whole of Africa.

Five months from the scheduled date for the Festival, the Steering Committee was able to realize on the one hand the tremendous effort accomplished by Algeria to welcome the Festival in the best possible way the scope and on the other ^{the} complexity of the task that still lays ahead. All the problems relating to the preparations and holding of the Festival have been tackled with a unanimous determination to have them solved.

The major problem, however, at this stage remains the financing of the Festival. If Algeria, the hos country, has lived up to its obligations in this respect as evidenced by the provisions it has included in its working and equipmmt budget, that part of the financing amounting to 1.582.837 dollars which member-States had to take up remains still to be found.

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The various sources of financing considered by the Preparatory Committee for the Festival in its 4th session that took place in Algiers from September 2nd through September 6th, 1968 (See doc. CM/232 - Part 1) have not yielded much to this day. The OAU on its part has contributed 70.000 US\$ while UNESCO to the terms of the agreement signed on November 9th 1968 by its General Director and the OAU Administrative Secretary-General, has contributed 10.000 US\$.

After a careful study of the Festival budget and with practically 1.582.837 US\$ yet to be provided by the Festival, the Steering Committee unanimously decided to request urgently the Administrative Secretary-General to include this question of financing of the Festival on the Agenda of the 12th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers.

The Festival being self-financed as decided by the 5th Conference of Heads of State and Government in Algiers, the Steering Committee of the All-African Cultural Festival has been of the opinion to request the 12th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers to find ways and means to provide substantial contribution considered necessary for the holding of the Festival.

Reimbursement could be made on the Festival budget and the deficit, if any, could be borne by the OAU ordinary budget.

The following auxiliary problems but just as important were also carefully considered by the Steering Committee.

1. The question of transport of participants and invited guests to the Festival considered by the Steering Committee as a determining factor for the success of the Festival.

In order to have transport facilities provided free of charge insofar as possible the Steering Committee has been of the opinion that air companies and friendly countries should be approached by member-States and the General Secretariat as well.

This approach however would be made only on the basis of a technical study now being carried out in Algiers by experts on civil aviation. The Steering Committee also agreed that member-States should incur transport expenses for their artists and delegates to the Festival.

2. Member-States' participation to the Festival.

A number of member-States have informed the General Secretariat that they were making preparations for the Festival. But, five months before the scheduled date of the Festival it is important for the Steering Committee to have as much information as possible so as to carry out the necessary publicity.

In order to bring up to date member-States on the preparations being made for the Festival just as to bring themselves up-to-date on the steps taken by member-States to participate fully to the Festival, the Steering Committee has agreed to send missions to member-States starting March 1st, 1969.

3. Selection of juries.

After being informed on the various proposals made by member-States towards the setting up of juries, the Steering Committee decided that such juries would be designated at its next meeting to take place in Algiers as from April 1st through April 8th, 1969.

4. Symposium.

After lengthy discussions, the Steering Committee decided unanimously that a symposium would be organized during the Festival from 22-31 July 1969 on the following theme :

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African culture : its realities, its role in the liberation struggle and consolidation of African Unity and in the economic and social development of Africa!

The symposium will be open to all member-States and to all invited artists and scholars.

5. The Steering Committee has equally agreed to invite artists and scholars of international fame to perform or lecture at the Festival.

6. Organization of the Festival.

For the proper organization of work and detailed preparations for the Festival, the Steering Committee decided :

(a) to set up its Headquarters in Algiers as from March 1st, 1969

(b) to set up five sub-committees that would be in charge of :

- administration and finance
- welcome, protocol and accomodations
- press and publicity
- transport
- arts and culture.

Once the arduous problems of financing the Festival is settled, there is no question that the decisions taken by the Steering Committee as well as the preparations made by the host country, would enable the Festival to take place successfully as scheduled.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE FIRST
ALL AFRICAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL
ALGIERS, July 1969

SECOND SESSION OF THE
STEERING COMMITTEE
From 28th January to
2nd February 1969

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Steering Committee of the First All-African Cultural Festival to be held in Algiers from 21st July to 1st August 1969, met in its second session in Algiers from 28th January to 2nd February 1969.

The meeting was attended by representatives of Algeria, Guinea, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and a delegate from the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity.

At the meeting were read the reports of the O.A.U. representative and that of the preparatory Committee's Chairman on the approaches made to UNESCO. After hearing also the report of the Secretary General of the Algerian National Committee on the arrangements and preparations made so far by Algeria, the host country of the Festival; as well as the steps to be taken to ensure full success of the Festival, the Steering Committee adopted the following agenda:

- I - Organization and theme of a symposium.
- II - Invitation of performers and Intellectuals
- III - Selection of adjudicators.
- IV - Information Missions to Member States and Friendly countries.
- V - Examination of the budget
- VI - Final drafting of the regulations
- VII - Assignment of duties within the Steering Committee
- VIII - Any other business.

At the end of broad and fruitful discussion the following arrangements were unanimously agreed upon.

- I - Symposium: A symposium shall be organized from 22nd to 31st July 1969 on the following topic: African Culture: its realities, its role in the liberation struggle, consolidation of African Unity and in the economic and social development of Africa.

This symposium shall be open to all Member States of the O.A.U. and invited artists

II - Invitation of performers and scholars

It was finally decided to invite distinguished performers and scholars of international repute.

III- Selection of Adjudicators:

After studying the proposals of Member States, the Steering Committee was directed to select adjudicators and set up panels at its next session.

IV - Information Missions:

Missions were appointed to give full information to Member States of OAU in order to hasten their preparations. The Missions appointed were:

- Algerian delegation to Tunisia, Lybia, Sudan, Somalia, Congo-Brazzaville, Congo-Kinshasa, Ethiopia, Mauritius Island, Rwanda, Burundi, Madagascar, Centrafrican Republic and Chad.
- Guinean delegation to Sierra Leone, Liberia, U.A.R. and Mauritania.
- Malian delegation to Upper Volta and Niger.
- Senegalese delegation to Morocco, Ivory Coast, Gambia and Gabon.
- Nigerian delegation to Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Dahomey, and Togo.
- ~~Tanzanian~~ Tanzanian delegation to Zambia, Lesotho and Botswana.

Examination of the Budget. The budget approved by the last O.A.U. Summit in Algiers in September 1968 was maintained and its provisions specified in the light of the progress of the work and the urgency of the tasks to be accomplished.

Steps have been taken to obtain adequate resources to cover the estimated expenditure. The Steering Committee will report on this to the Council of Ministers of OAU which will be held in Addis Ababa from 17th to 21st February 1969.

VI - Regulations:

The regulations as outlined during the fourth session of the preparatory Committee in September 1968, have been specified and adopted.

VII - Assignment of Duties:

It was unanimously decided that the Steering Committee should be established permanently in Algiers not later than 1st March 1969.

The following five committees were set up:

- a) Administrative and Financial Committee - shall be composed of delegates from Guinea and Algeria and shall be chaired by a representative of the O.A.U. Secretariat.
- b) Welcome, Protocol and Accommodation Committee - shall be chaired by a delegate from Mali assisted by a representative of Algeria.
- c) Transport Committee - shall be entrusted to Nigeria with the assistance of Algeria.
- d) Press and Publicity Committee - shall be chaired by Guinea with the help of two assistants from Algeria.
- e) Committee of Art and Culture - Senegal will chair this Committee with the help of two assistants from Algeria.

These committees shall work in close collaboration with similar Sub-Committees set up in October 1968 by the Algerian National Committee.

At the request of the Steering Committee, the progress report submitted by Algeria and adopted unanimously, shall be circulated to all Member States of O.A.U.

The third session of the Steering Committee shall be held in Algiers from 1st to 8th April 1969.

The Steering Committee unanimously conveyed its congratulations to the Algerian National Committee for its complete and accurate preparations for the Festival

R E G U L A T I O N S

In compliance with resolution CM/Res. 117(IV) adopted by the ninth ordinary session of the Council of Ministers, and approved by the fourth ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in September 1967, the first All-African Cultural festival shall be held in Algiers from 21st July to 1st August 1969. The aim of this Festival is to show the originality of African Culture and encourage its development.

The artistic performances shall cover the following aspects:

1. PLAYS: (Traditional or modern plays adapted from African cultural heritage)
2. TRADITIONAL INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
3. MODERN MUSIC
4. SONG: (choir and solo)
5. FOLKSONGS
6. BALLET
7. WEEK OF AFRICAN FILM
8. EXHIBITIONS
 - a) Works of art and handicrafts
 - b) African literary works and poems
9. PERFORMANCE BY INVITED ARTISTS
10. SYMPOSIUM

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Participants in the competition of the first All-African Cultural festival shall abide by the following general regulations.

1. The festival shall be open to only the nationals of Member States of the Organization of African Unity, Performers from dependent African Countries may be invited to take part.
- 2.) every competitor shall present a show under each aspect within the time allowed.

3. Only African works shall be presented under the aspects indicated.
4. All expenses incurred in respect of the presentations shall be borne by the participants or the organizations sponsoring them.
5. Members of the panel shall be chosen by the Steering Committee from a list proposed by Member States to the OAU Secretariat.
6. Participants shall abide by the general regulations and the special rules governing each aspect.

RULES GOVERNING PLAYS

Article I:

Every national troupe wishing to enter, shall fill a registration form and send it to the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity two months before the opening of the Festival.

Article II:

Registration forms should be accompanied by the full text of the work composed in its original language and translated into one of the official languages of the O.A.U.

Article III:

The copies must be typed and not written.

Article IV:

The performance of each play should not exceed two hours.

Article V:

A five member panel appointed by the preparatory Committee shall judge the plays staged.

Article VI:

In respect of African Drama, the panel shall take the following into consideration:

- a) African origin
- b) part played by actors and cohesion of the troupe
- c) quality of the technical aspects of the performance
- d) richness of the setting.

Article VII

The best play shall be awarded a trophy which shall be competed for from time to time - plays which come second and third shall also be awarded trophies to be competed for periodically.

RULES: MODERN MUSIC AND SONGS

Article I.

Each national troupe wishing to enter shall fill registration form and send it to the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity two months before the Festival opens.

Article II

Each show shall be staged within the maximum time of 30 minutes.

Article III

A five member panel appointed by the preparatory Committee shall judge each number of music on the following standard:

- originality of technical instrumental music
- quality of interpretation
- presentation
- originality of instruments
- stage arrangements
- costume

For the songs, it will take the following into account:

- the originality of the song (solo and unison)
- Vocal quality
- Vocal techniques and interpretation (solo and unison).
- Unity of execution and harmony (unison)
- presentation (solo and unison);
(costume-setting)

Article IV

The best band shall be awarded a trophy to be contested regularly. The second and third bands shall also be awarded trophies to be contested from time to time.

RULES: FOLKSONGS AND BALLETS

Article 1

Each can try wishing to enter either one or both sections should fill the registration forms and send them to the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity not later than two months before the opening of the Festival.

Article II

An explanatory note of the chosen themes in one of the OAU official languages should accompany the registration forms.

Article III

Copies should be typed and not written.

Article IV

Generally the performance or the execution of each section shall last at most half an hour.

Article V

A five member panel appointed by the preparatory Committee shall judge the ballets and also a five member panel appointed by the preparatory Committee shall judge the folk song on the following criteria:

- originality of the songs
- their technical quality and interpretation
- Unity of execution and choreography
- Costume (originality and degree of excellence)
- stage arrangement

Article VI

The first three bands shall be awarded trophies which shall be contested periodically.

NON-COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES

Other non-competitive activities are scheduled to take place at the Festival site to complete the varieties of the artistic shows. The importance and the nature of these activities will definitely depend on the works submitted. However, it is estimated that they shall be divided as follows.

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WEEK OF AFRICAN FILM

Optical or magnetic sound Films of 70 m/m, 35 m/m, 16 m/m produced by Africans (Television films) shall be shown. Each State may show one long and one short films or maximum of four short Films.

RULES GOVERNING AFRICAN CINEMA ("For Liberty & Unity in Africa")Article 1

The preparatory Committee of All-African Cultural Festival shall organize a week of African Film entitled "For Liberty and Unity in Africa" from 22nd July to 30th July 1969 to encourage film production in Africa which serve as an important medium for peoples to know one another.

Article II

Member countries of OAU are invited to take part in this week.

Article III

Each country may show one long and one short films or at most three or four short films of any kind, fiction, documentary, T.V film etc... During the week of African film. These films may have the sizes of 16, 35 or 70 m/m with either optical or magnetic sound but their projection should not exceed two hours.

Article IV

The films should be presented in their original versions or in Arabic, French or English. In any case it would be expedient to have their sub-titles in at least one of those three languages.

Article V

Applications for participation should be sent to the General Secretariat of the OAU, latest two months before the opening of the Festival.

Article VI

Each participating country may delegate two persons to present the film Industry of the country. Their travel expenses will be borne by the country they represent but other expenses incurred during their stay will be borne by the Festival.

Article VII

Participating countries shall pay insurance and transport costs of films to the Festival but such expenses shall be borne by the Festival on the return trip.



Article VIII

Dates and time of film projection shall be fixed by the Festival Committee.

Article IX

Participation in the Week of African Film implies an ipso facts compliance with the foregoing ranks.

8) EXHIBITIONS

a) Exhibition of African works of art, including paintings sculptures, mouldings or engravings and handicrafts.

b) Exhibition of African literary texts especially novels, poems, plays and historical pieces of work.

9) PERFORMANCE OF INVITED ARTISTS

Pieces of work of invited artists, actors or musicians, which have not been performed or executed during any of the activities described above.

10) SYMPOSIUM

A Symposium entitled "African Culture its realities, its role in the liberation struggle, consolidation of African Unity and in the social and economic development of Africa", shall be organized from 22nd to 31st July 1969.

The symposium shall be open to all Member-States of the OAU, which shall each be represented by at least two participants. Intellectuals and personalities invited by the preparatory Committee may also take part.

ARBITRATION

All disputes arising during the Festival shall be settled by the Committee of the Festival.

1969-02

Addendum to document CM/254 relating to the preparations for the first all-African cultural Festival

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