



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat  
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الافريقية  
المسكوقارية  
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE  
AFICAINE**

Secretariat  
B. P. 3243 (XXXII)

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS <sup>Addis Ababa</sup> \* \* ادیس ابابا

Thirty-Second Ordinary Session

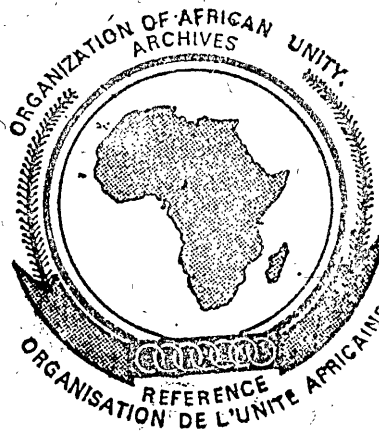
Nairobi, Kenya

23 February - 3 March, 1979

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR SUBVENTION  
FROM PAN-AFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

Agenda Item 10

23 February - 3 March 1979



CMO943

**MICROFICHE**

CM/943(XXXII)

Addis Ababa

Ref. 357/78/L/LCE

30 November 1978.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to submit hereunder upon the instruction of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, the application for subvention of the Pan-African Women's Organization.

Attached hereto is the copy of the reference letter which the Organization has sent including the Report on its Activities covering the period between July 1977 and July 1978 and its Action Programme for 1978 - 1979. Kindly return to us the attached documents after taking action thereon.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

Jerome MENDOUGA

Chargé d' Affaires a.i.

His Excellency the Secretary-General  
Organization of African Unity  
Addis Ababa.

PAN/AFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

ALGIERS

8 AUGUST 1978

Ref. 00150/OPF/PANO/SG/AG/78

Your Excellency and Dear Brother,

We have the honour to bring to your notice the activities carried out by the Pan-African Women's Organization during the Financial year 1977 - 1978.

Your Excellency, as we have often had the occasion to affirm, the Pan-African Women's Organization has so far been able to effectively carry out its various activities thanks to the consistent and kind assistance offered to it by the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

We therefore avail ourselves of this opportunity to renew personally through your Excellency to our mother Organization, the assurance of our deep gratitude for the special assistance you have always offered our Organization, which reflects your sincere preoccupation for the mobilization of all the masses of Africa towards the fundamental objectives of the OAU.

Our activities during 1977 - 1978, a report on which is being forwarded herewith for your information, required a considerable amount of material and human efforts from our Organization.

We regret however that despite these efforts, the programme of activities adopted during the last Statutory Meeting of the General Secretariat of the Pan-African Women's Organization, held in Algiers from 10 to 12 July attended by representatives of eleven Organizations out of twelve - Mali, SWAPO, Senegal, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Madagascar, Liberia, Congo, Tanzania and Algeria - could not materialise for lack of the necessary means.

In view of the OPF's limited resources the good will and relentless efforts of the Secretariat in promoting the activities of the Pan-African Women's Organization and in making its impact and presence felt on the African as well as the international scene did not always achieve the expected results.

In fact the OPF's own resources alone, derived mainly from contributions paid by some ten out of the forty-nine member Organizations, could not in any way suffice in covering the important tasks defined in our Programme of Activities.

Nevertheless, in view of the difficult situation confronting the African continent, we are fully aware of the imperious need to strengthen and combine our action with that of all the other Pan-African organizations in order to face this situation in unity and solidarity and intensify the political activities of the African masses (Youth, Women, workers) in the highest interest of Africa.

At the international level, the Pan-African Women's Organization being the sole African Women's mouthpiece, must take part in all the important activities both at the regional and world levels so as to ensure the representation of the African woman.

In this era of our continent's history, our political and propaganda activities at the international level are of great importance and urgency in view of the fact that we must be able to explain to the world as a whole, Africa's situation, especially that of our brothers, our sisters and our children in Southern Africa who are the victims of the most odious evils of apartheid practised by the racist regimes.

1978-1979 already looks an extremely busy year for our Organization.

1978: International Anti-Apartheid Year during which we shall pursue and extend our campaigns for moral, political and material solidarity with our brothers who are victims of racism and Apartheid.

1978 : The Next International Year of the Child requires our active participation in the preparation of the necessary activities, especially the preparation of the World Conference "for a Peaceful and Secure Future for all Children".

Finally in 1979, the OPF will have to hold its Fifth Congress. The magnitude of this event which is taking place during the Women's Decade should reflect the interest obviously manifested by the Eminent Heads of African Governments in the promotion of the African woman.

You will agree with us, Your Excellency, that for all these activities to be effectively carried out, there is need for a minimum number of financial resources.

It is our fervent hope that this critical material situation of the OPF which has to meet its many commitments and especially pursue its mission and implement its programme of action, will surely engage your attention and you will consequently give it your kind consideration by assisting us with a substantial subvention.

As usual, Your Excellency, we count on your close collaboration and hope you will have trust in our frank co-operation for the consolidation of African Unity. We wish you success in the accomplishment of your noble task.

(Signed)

OPF SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mrs. F. BETTAHAR

REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PANAFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION  
COVERING THE PERIOD BETWEEN JULY 1977 AND JULY 1978

The objective of this short Report is to take stock of the main activities carried out by the Pan-African Women's Organization during the period extending from July 1977 to July 1978.

Pursuant to the important recommendations formulated by the OPF General Secretariat at its Algiers meeting held from 10 to 12 July 1977, the Secretariat especially endeavoured to fulfil the tasks assigned to it within the context of the Anti-Apartheid Year, the International Year of the Child and the preparation of the Fifth OPF Congress.

First to be recalled was the impact of the General Secretariat's meeting held in Algiers in which participated representatives of eleven out of twelve member Organizations--Mali, Congo, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Tanzania, Madagascar, Egypt, Liberia, SWAPO and Algeria.

This was an occasion for the Organization not only to submit the general report on its activities during the previous year but also for the General Secretariat to consider in an atmosphere of frankness, cordiality and respect, all the problems seriously hampering the Organization's activities and smooth running. The serious work performed reflected the permanent preoccupation of all the participants to really assist the Organization in finding solutions to the problems raised: lack of human and financial resources, failure to pay contributions (only some ten Organizations had paid up their contributions) and passive attitude of some National Organizations.

Many suggestions were put forward to remedy the lapses, and especially to revive through direct contacts, all the Organizations in arrears. Despite some difficulties encountered by the Secretariat, however, it endeavoured to fulfil its assignments.

20 August 1977 :

The Pan-African Women's Organization participated in the World Anti-Apartheid Conference organized in Lagos in August 1977. This Conference was an extremely important Conference which had brought together representatives of some hundred countries, representatives of National Liberation Movements, representatives of many regional and non-governmental organizations as well as UN Specialised Agencies.

It was a historic occasion for renewing efforts, to assist and for international solidarity with our brothers in Southern Africa.

The aim of the International Anti-Apartheid was to intensify the mobilisation of the world community for the preparation of the final victory over the oppressive practices of racism in Southern Africa.

This a priori pre-supposed that the political and material support for the Liberation Movements should be strengthened. Following this important Conference and having endorsed the resolutions, the OPF prepared a special programme for assistance to the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. This led to the opening in Dar-es-Salaam of an information centre with the special responsibility of collecting and collating all the information relating to the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa as well as the situation prevailing in the Frontline countries: Angola, Mozambique, Zambia, Tanzania and Botswana. This Centre would further be responsible for the broadcasting of any news, and would be manned by the militant sisters of the Liberation Movement.

Of course this project which was in line with OAU recommendations and resolutions in general and those of the Lagos Conference in particular, required substantial funds for its implementation.

The OPF submitted the project through the National Union of Libyan Women to His Excellency Colonel GADDAFI, President of the Libyan Jamahirya, who accepted to finance it. A special subvention of US \$ 60,000 was therefore made available for the establishment of the Centre.

The Tanzanian Authorities were also informed about this project. His Excellency the Prime Minister of Tanzania, the Honourable Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and Information were directly contacted to provide OPF with the required site and to assist those in charge to fix the necessary equipment.

His Excellency, Colonel M'BITA, Secretary General of the Liberation Committee was equally informed. The OPF Delegation responsible for all these initiatives was highly commended through the very favourable response to the initiative and the encouragement by the Libyan and Tanzanian Authorities. All the Liberation Movements both within their Central Committee and Dar-es-Salaam were aware of these initiatives and were impatiently awaiting the opening of the Centre which constitutes a practical though modest contribution to the Liberation struggle of our brothers and sisters.

24 October 1977

Regarding the preparation of the UN Extraordinary Session on Disarmament, the OPF participated in the Seminar organized in Geneva by the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations.

The OPF which regards women's promotion more as the promotion of its People believes that Peace is a determining factor for the progress of the peoples of Africa.



None-the-less, the arms race and the maintenance of large armies in time of peace as well as the general military preparations have not only diverted an enormous proportion of international human and economic resources towards unproductive end, but also constitute a permanent threat of war which hampers any development effort. To the developing countries in particular, especially our African countries, the arms race contributes to maintaining the neo-colonialist relations.

November 1977 :

The OPF actively participated in two very important regional Seminars on "Woman and the Economic and Social Development Process" held respectively in Mali and Cameroon on the initiative of the Mali National Women's Union, the Cameroon National Women's Union (ONUN). Each of these two Seminars was attended by women's organizations from the Region.

The Yaounde Seminar was organized in conjunction with ECA. At these meetings the emphasis was placed especially on the fact that the root-causes of under-development must be searched for within the system inherited from the colonial era and that it was of overriding importance to completely eschew once and for all these causes and institute in their place new forms of structures if the objectives for progress had to be attained in favour of the broad masses. The Resolutions stressed the fact that progress could be achieved including general satisfactory social needs only through sustained efforts in introducing radical progressive measures at the national level. It was essential to change as a matter of urgency, the outmoded economic structures and ensure true land reforms which would lead to a total mobilisation of women's potentialities.

It must be noted that a very important seminar for the solidarity with the struggles in Southern Africa was to be jointly organized by the OPF and the National Union of Libyan Women. Unfortunately, since our sisters would not be available during the proposed period, December 1977 - January 1978, we had to postpone to a later date this important meeting on the Anti-Apartheid Year.

In April 1978, however, OPF was able to organize in Luanda on the initiative of the Angolan Women's Organization and in conjunction with the Democratic International Women's Federation a Round Table Conference on Southern Africa. The theme of this meeting was: "Strengthening of Solidarity with Children, Women and Peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia in their Struggle for National Liberation and Consolidation of National Independence, Democracy, Progressive Development and Peace in Africa". The aim of this Round Table which had brought together a large number of representatives of African Women's Organizations as well as progressive organizations, was to highlight the need to organize activities of solidarity with the women and children of the Liberation Movements and Frontline countries.

#### Relations with OAU and other Pan-African Organisations.

Faithful to its policy stand and constitution in which it has fully subscribed to the OAU Charter, the OPF has made it incumbent upon itself to ensure its active participation in all the various OAU meetings which are special opportunities for us to follow the development of events in Africa. Highly convinced of the overriding importance of OAU's actions, it is only appropriate to pay a resounding tribute to the decisive role being played by the OAU in its capacity as a special forum for discussing and co-ordinating African policies for the attainment of the objectives the Peoples of Africa have assigned themselves through their eminent Leaders; and for the realisation of the political and economic liberation and Unity of the African Continent.

During the year just ended therefore, the OPF availed itself of the opportunity to participate in the deliberations of the Twenty-Ninth and Thirtieth Sessions of the Council of Ministers and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Assemblies of African Heads of State and Government held in Tripoli, Libreville and Khartoum.

The Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and the Fourteenth Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State held in Libreville from 23 June to 5 July were attended by many representatives from African Countries. With the exception of the People's Republic of Benin, all other countries were present including representatives of all the Liberation Movements and Pan-African Organizations. Some of the issues discussed were the question of interference in the internal affairs of States and the violation of the principles enshrined in the OAU Charter.

2) Intensification of political and diplomatic mobilisation of Member States with a view to securing total isolation of the racist regimes; and of increasing the political and material assistance to the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. The Thirtieth Session was mainly devoted to the consideration of budgetary and administrative matters as well as some important political issues.

On the request of some members, the Tripoli Session was informed about - the question of the Canary Islands (recognition of their African Identity).

- the problem of frontiers between Lesotho and South Africa and
- the development of the Middle East question.

The consideration of these problems was finally postponed to the OAU Sessions to be held in Khartoum from 7 to 21 July 1978.

Thirty-First Session of the Council of Ministers and  
Fifteenth Summit, Khartoum.

The Agenda was heavily loaded. Forty-eight items to be considered, excluding the item on other matters. The two important reports were introduced by His Excellency Mr. Williams Eteki, Secretary-General, the first on the activities covering the six preceding months (February - July 1978) and the second one on the four-year term of office (July 1974 to July 1978).

The other major items were on the decolonisation of Comoros (Mayotte); the Middle East; the unsatisfactory application of sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa; the refugees problems; Ad hoc committee reports on regional conflicts and disputes; and African candidatures within UN Specialised Agencies.

Many economic and Social questions were also discussed. These were problems relating to drought, nomadism, the Law of the Sea, the project of the Pan-African Telecommunication Union and Afro-Arab Co-operation.

The final items were the election of the Secretary-General and his Assistants, and the date and venue for the Sixteenth Summit.

The deliberation finally ended with the brilliant election of his Excellency Mr. Kodjo, Togo's Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the OAU Secretary-General.

Relations with other Pan-African Organizations. The OPF has always endeavoured to strengthen its relations with Pan-African Organizations such as the PYM (Pan-African Youth Movement) and the OATUU (Organization of African Trade Union Unity). The OPF is deeply conscious that it is only through a concerted action and close co-ordination between these movements that we can achieve an effective contribution towards the realisation of our common objectives, and mobilisation of the African masses towards the goals of the OAU. Unfortunately this co-ordination was not effective between the PYM and the OPF whose Headquarters is also in Algiers. There were therefore constant contacts between the two Organizations and joint efforts were being made to secure an easier co-operation,

The OPF was able to participate actively in the meeting of the PYM Executive Committee held in Bujumbura from 17 to 22 May 1978.

Finally, conscious of lifting high the banner of the African woman and the African Revolution, the OPF strove to establish good relations with the UN and its Specialised Agencies. We are extremely happy about these relations, especially with UNESCO which showed a special interest in OPF's activities, and during the first, half of 1978, granted the Togo National Women's Union, through our Organization, a financial assistance for the holding of three seminars in Lome.

Alongside these activities, OPF maintained close contacts with its member Organizations either by responding to their invitations such as the invitation from Guinean Women to the celebration of the Day of the Guinean Woman on 9 February 1978, and the invitation from the women of Congo on 3 March 1978, on the occasion of their Fourth Congress - or by organizing contact tours like the visit to the sisters in Madagascar on 15 April 1978.

These contacts facilitated considerably our relations with the National Organizations, and especially gave us the opportunity to bring to the notice of the High Authorities of the countries we visited, the preoccupations of the OPF. This was a further opportunity for our Organization to examine the activities, successes and sometimes the difficulties of the National Organizations.

These visits also made it possible for us to collect certain information and thereby understand why some of the organizations were not always capable of meeting their financial obligations (payment of contributions) to the OPF, despite their sincere attachment to our Organization. The economic problems facing many African countries had serious repercussions on their organizations and the latter therefore found themselves in many material and financial difficulties.

Nevertheless, despite the economic difficulties of the African Countries, the OPF appreciated the high degree of revolutionary commitments of many of them which readily offered to host OPF meetings (conferences, seminars, round table meetings).

It must be pointed out that at a Round Table on Southern Africa organized during the year just ended, and hosted by the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Madagascar decided to host the OPF Council to be held in Tananarive from 6 to 8 November 1978, to be attended by the OPF member organizations representing the Forty-nine OAU member States.

It is with legitimate pride that we wish to express our gratitude to all the African Countries which manifested their interest in and encouragement to our Organization through their support which we highly appreciate for its great significance and just value.

PROGRAMME OF ACTION - (1978-1979)

On the basis of the recommendations adopted at its 4th Congress held in Dakar in July 1974, for the 1974 - 1978 period, and on the basis of the programme of action adopted at the July 1977 Statutory meeting of the General Secretariat, the Panafriean Women's Organisation will during the year 1978 - 1979 undertake the following actions:-

- Strengthen the cooperation with national member-organisations in order to draw closer bonds with them and increase the exchange of experiences and support their actions.

- Pay a special attention to problems concerning the economic, social, political and cultural situation of the African woman in society. Foster and participate in all initiatives taken in this context such as the Yaoundé Symposium held from 12 to 22 July 1978 in close cooperation between E.C.A. and the Cameroun Women's Union.

- In the framework of the preparation and the implementation of the International Child Year and the Anti-Apartheid Struggle, convene a Symposium with the following theme: "Children victims of Apartheid - December 1978".

- In the context of the Anti-Apartheid Year, strengthen and extend OPE's participation in all meetings, conferences and seminars.

- Hold a Council of the Panafriean Women's Organisation with one representative of each member country (November 1978).

- Convene OPE's Congress ( 1979)

- Actively participate in the activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, namely those whose activities meet OPE's objectives.

- Actively participate in all meetings organised by O.A.U.: Khartoum Summit, Budgetary Session (February 1979), Conference of the African Ministers of Labour (April-May 1979).

- Participate in the activities of the N.G.O. Conference, namely to the special committees dealing with such problems as the status of women, decolonization and racism.

- Ensure the operation of the Permanent Secretariat at its headquarters and that of the Regional Secretariats in:

- the Ivory Coast (Abidjan)
- Cameroun (Yaoundé)
- Tanzania (Dar Es Salaam)
- Egypt (Cairo)

- Give material support to the Information and Assistance Center of Liberation Movements in Southern Africa opened by OPF at Dar-Es-Salaam / <sup>within</sup> the framework of the Anti-Apartheid International Year.

- Resume the publication of magazine "FEMME D'AFRIQUE" (Woman of Africa).



C.P.F. MISSIONS-UNEXPENDED EXPENSES FOR 1977

13. 6. 1977	1 Return ticket Brazza - Algiers-Brazza for Mrs. OKOTOKA-OPF General Secretariat Meeting in Algiers .....	AD 5,844
16. 8. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Lagos-Algiers for Mrs. HINDLE - Anti-Apartheid Conference - Lagos .....	AD 6,107
4. 9. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Tripoli-Algiers for Mr. BEMMEL - Contact with the National Union of Libyan Women to obtain a subvention for the establishment of an Information Centre for the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa .....	AD 1,879
17.10. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Geneva-Algiers for Mrs. BEMMEL - Disarmament Conference, Geneva .....	AD 1,377
17.10. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers -Geneva-Algiers for Mrs. KAMALI - Disarmament Conference Geneva .....	AD 1,377
30.10. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers - Yaounde-Algiers for Mrs. BEMMEL - O.P.F. Regional Seminar in Yaounde, Cameroon .....	AD 9,799
30.10. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Yaounde-Algiers for Mrs. APPOLUS - O.P.F. Regional Seminar in Yaounde, Cameroon .....	AD 9,799
6.11. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Bamako-Algiers for Mrs. KAMALI - Second Congress of Mali National Women's Union .....	AD 5,794
29.12. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Addis Ababa - Algiers for Mrs. BEMMEL - Contact with Ethiopian Women.....	AD 7,939
29.12. 1977	1 Return ticket Algiers-Addis Ababa - Algiers for Mrs. APPOLUS - Contact with Ethiopian Women.....	AD 7,939
TOTAL .....		AD 57,854 =====

O.P.F. MISSIONS-TRANSPORT EXPENSES FOR 1978

7.2. 1978	1 Return ticket Algiers-Brazza-Algiers for Mrs. BAKHAR - Congress of the Revolutionary Union of Congo lese Women	AD 9,550
14.2. 1978	1 Return ticket Algiers-Tripoli-Algiers for Mrs. BAKHAR- OAU Conference Tripoli	AD 1,379
18. 2.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers-Tripoli-Algiers for Miss APPOLUS - OAU Conference .....	AD 975
18. 2.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers-Tripoli-Algiers for Mrs. APPOLUS - OAU Conference Tripoli	AD 977
28. 2.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers -Brazza-Algiers for Mrs. APPOLUS - Revolutionary Union of Congolese Women .....	AD 7,045
10. 4.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers-Tananarive Dar- Es-Salaam - Algiers for Mrs. BETTAHAR - Contact with the Women of Madagascar for the preparation of the O.P.F. Council meeting, and with the Tanzanian Authori- ties in connection with the establishment of an information centre for the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa .....	AD 12,026
10. 4.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers- Tananarive Dar- es-Salaam - Algiers for Mrs APPOLUS - Contact with the women of Madagascar and Tanzanian Authorities.....	AD 7,343
11. 4.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers- Moscow- Algiers for Mrs KAMARA- Council of the Interna- tional Democratic Women's Federation in Moscow.....	AD 3,503
23. 5.1978	1 Return ticket Algiers- Budjumbura-Dar- es-Salaam for Mrs. APPOLUS Executive Committee Meeting of the Pan-African Youth Movement and contact with Tanzanian Women.....	AD 7,140

TOTAL..... AD 49,942

HOTEL EXPENSES OF SOME DELEGATES

10 July 1977: Per diem allowance for Mrs OKOTOKA, Congolese  
delegate to the OPF General Secretariat Meeting in  
Algiers .  
- AD 409.00

3 August 1977: Per diem allowance for Mrs FAHMY, delegate from  
Egypt - contact with the OPF General Secretariat.  
- AD 332.00

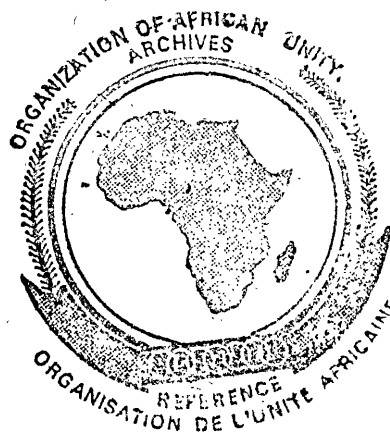
13 June 1978 : Per diem allowance for the representative of the  
FDIF Secretariat General:- Contact with OPF.  
- AD 140.00

13 June 1978 : Per diem allowance for Mrs CHESSON,  
delegate to the OPF General Secretariat  
Meeting.  
- AD 998.30

TOTAL AD 1,878.30

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURE

I	Expenses in respect of OPF General Secretariat Meeting in July 1977 .....	AD 11,723.60
II	OPF missions:- Transport expenses for 1977 .....	AD 57,854.00
III	Hotel expenses for some delegates .....	AD 1,879.30
IV	OPF missions:- Transports expenses for 1978.....	AD 49,942.00
		<hr/>
TOTAL		AD 121,398.90
		or US \$ <u>30,349.72</u>



1979-03

# Consideration of Application for Subvention from Pan-African Women's Organization

Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

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