



arts & culture

Department:
Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

4th PAN- AFRICAN CONGRESS (PACC4)

SANDTON CONVENTION CENTRE

SANDTON, SOUTH AFRICA

25 – 27 MAY 2015

FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION OF THE 4th PAN-AFRICAN CULTURAL CONGRESS

1. The African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of South Africa, Department of Arts and Culture (DAC) organized the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress (PACC4) at Sandton Convention Centre, South Africa from 25 to 27 May 2015.
2. The purpose of the African Union Pan-African Cultural Congresses is to create a platform for cultural experts and practitioners to dialogue and make recommendations on policy issues pertaining to the culture and arts sector. The 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress was organized under the theme: *Unity in Cultural Diversity for Africa's Development*
3. Delegates at the 4th Pan- African Cultural Congress made the following recommendations and priorities actions in the promotion of unity and cultural diversity.

I. ON THE THEME OF THE CONGRESS: "UNITY IN CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT"

4. Cultural diversity is the quality of diverse or different cultures, as opposed to monoculture. The expression "cultural diversity" can also refer to having different cultures respect each other's differences as such, there is need to promote cultural diversity;
5. There is need to expand and promote local arts and culture festivals, and to invite participants from other countries to foster integration and tolerance between cultures;

6. There is need to put an end to the suppression of cultural expressions of one group by another;
7. Member States should make use of Media platforms to foster understanding, appreciation and tolerance and to enrich the debate about development and peace

II. PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063

8. African Union Agenda 2063 a framework for unity, prosperity and development over the next 50 years; The need to ensure effective implementation of key instruments (the AU Agenda 2063 and the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance) and keeping to commitment in 10 years plans was stressed;
9. The need for commitment from all stakeholders in developing clear domestic and foreign policy which are aligned to Agenda 2063 was underlined;
10. Arts and culture is central to Agenda 2063. Artists, cultural workers, curators and practitioners have a crucial role to play in the implementation of all 07 Aspirations of Agenda 2063 in particular Aspiration 05 which is: An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics”
11. In order to popularize Agenda 2063 cultural workers are encouraged to develop popularization tools such as the development of cinematic expressions on each of the 07 aspirations and the on goals of Agenda ;
12. The slogan “*One Africa, One Vision, One Destiny*” was adopted

III. CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

13. By acknowledging and promoting respect for cultural diversity within a human rights approach the Member States can facilitate dialogue, prevent conflicts and protect the rights of marginalized groups thus creating optimal conditions for achieving development goals;
14. Culture is a fundamental pillar for lasting peace and development for any state, it embraces freedom and democracy and it should be considered how arts and culture can be used for diplomacy in dealing with conflicts;
15. The need to focus on human development, indigenous people and children whilst promoting cultural diversity was underscored;
16. Cultural diversity and human rights are crucial pillars for development in Africa.

IV. CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND CULTURAL GOVERNANCE

17. The Congress encouraged the creation of ECOSOC Chapters which will allow for effective civil society representation in cultural affairs of the continent;
The need to protect heritage sites in situations of conflict was underscored;
18. A model culture policy for Africa is proposed, containing the elements of institutional structures and decision making, arts policy domains and instruments – World Cultural Policy (WorldCP) Africa;
19. Member States are encouraged to develop databases and mapping of existing artistic trends;

V. INTERCULTURAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE AND LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY

20. There should be a review of immigration policies to promote intercultural dialogue, free trade and free movement of people;
21. Linguistic diversity is an asset of Africa therefore African languages should be employed as a resource in the development of the continent
22. Member States are encouraged to make efforts for their citizens to understand African History and use of African Creativity to enhance economy and develop new creative industries;
23. The people of Africa should be encouraged to build on their own cultural values, and common identity.

VI. LANGUAGE AS A DEPOSITORY AND VEHICLE OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND FACTOR FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

24. The need to speed up implementation and use of the Pan-African Lingua Franca (Kiswahili) was underscored;
25. The AU working with the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) should develop the legal and political instruments that are necessary for the promotion of the Pan-African Lingua Franca both in local, national and at continental level;
26. There must be ways of sensitizing the masses of Africa to the effect that the Pan-African Lingua Franca will in effect ensure African unity, good governance, better human rights practices and improved lives in general;

VII. THE CREATIVE ECONOMY: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

27. Member states and Civil Society Organizations are encouraged to implement the African Union Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries;
28. Systems should be put in place to up-skill practitioners in the informal sector and to increase their access to markets and opportunities;
29. Promotion of cultural diplomacy by encouraging Member States to have cultural attaches whose work will be to promote national culture in the host country as well as create links with international networks;
30. Member states should be encouraged to have cultural statistics and to boost investment in the creative economy sector;
31. Renewed attention on developing the African Cultural Common Market should be accelerated;

VIII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

32. Monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress should be done by the following: Bureau of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress; African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC); and the African Union Commission.

IX. FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

33. Convene a follow up meeting of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress to develop an implementation plan of the recommendations of the Congress;
34. Publish and disseminate the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress proceedings: Report and Framework for Action;
35. Ensure that the proceedings of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress are adopted by the 2nd Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS2) to be held in 2016 and the African Union Executive Council;
36. AU Member States, Civil Society Organizations and AU Commission work together in the implementation of the recommendations of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress.

Done at Sandton, South Africa on 27 May 2015

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