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Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Telephone : 00 251 11 551 7700 Fax : 00 251 11 551 7844
website : www.africa-union.org

3rd SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION

CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE

25 – 29 OCTOBER 2010

ABUJA, NIGERIA

CAMC/EXP/15(III)

**THEME: *SUSTAINABLE FINANCING OF THE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR IN
AFRICA***

**CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 3RD SESSION OF THE AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS IN
CHARGE OF CULTURE**

25- 26 October 2010

CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 3RD SESSION OF THE AU CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF CULTURE

A. Introduction

The African Union Commission (AUC) is committed to promoting African culture through the Department of Social Affairs (DSA) and the Culture and Sports Division by working together with Member States, RECs, and cultural institutions both within and outside Africa.

In order to contribute to the accomplishment of its mandate the DSA held from 09 – 11 November 2009, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia the 2nd Pan - African Cultural Congress (PACC2), a wide forum of African public and private cultural development stakeholders and international development partners under the theme: “Inventory, Protection and Promotion of African Cultural Goods”. The outcomes and mainly the recommendations stated in the Consensus Statement of the PACC2 have to be endorsed and consolidated by the next Conference of Ministers of Culture before it is sent along with the relevant Decisions to the AU summit for final endorsement.

In this context, the Third (3rd) Ordinary Session of the Africa Union Conference of Ministers of Culture (CAMC III) will take place in Abuja, Federal Republic of Nigeria, from 25 to 29 October 2010 under the theme “***Sustainable Financing of the Cultural Development Sector in Africa***”.

Thus, CAMCIII will therefore address important culture and development issues with the overall objective to push forward the African Cultural development agenda and its contribution to Peace building, Integration and socio-economic development in Africa as well as call upon the Member States and development partners to provide sustainable funding to the sector.

B. Main objectives of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture

The main objectives of the Third Ordinary Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture are:

- Launch the continental Campaign for the African Cultural Renaissance 2010-2012 aimed at accelerating the ratification of the Charter for the African Cultural

Renaissance and promoting the role of culture in the integration and sustainable development of the continent;

- Share good practices and adopt the strategy for the sustainable financing of culture in Africa;
- Consolidate and adopt the political and technical recommendations from the PACC2;
- Address crucial issues regarding the development of culture in Africa in general such as the sustainable financing of cultural development sector in Africa;
- Consider and adopt key recommendations with a view to promote African culture and enhance its role in attaining sustainable socio-economic development in Africa;
- Review the Feasibility Study for the establishment of the Pan African Cultural Institute (PACI);
- Review and adopt recommendations and policies related to the popularization, ratification and implementation of legislation of the protection and promotion of African cultural goods including the return of cultural goods to its countries of origin;

C. AGENDA

The Conference will consider the following main agenda items:

1. Consideration of AU Commission's Report on cultural activities
2. Consideration of the Report of the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress
3. Consideration of the Feasibility Study on the Establishment of the Pan African Cultural Institute (PACI)
4. Consideration of the implementation programme of the Campaign for the African Cultural Renaissance 2010-2012;
5. Consideration of the draft strategy for the sustainable financing of Culture in Africa;
6. Items proposed by members States
7. Date, venue and theme of the 4th AU Conference of Ministers of Culture
8. Any Other Business
9. Consideration and Adoption of the Ministerial Meeting Report

D. FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

The Third Ordinary Session of the Conference of AU Ministers of Culture will be conducted as follows:

a) Meeting of Intergovernmental Experts, (25 – 26 October 2010)

Experts from Member States will meet over two (2) days to deliberate on the above-mentioned agenda items and prepare a report for the Ministers.

b) Meeting of Ministers, (28 October 2010)

The Ministers will consider the report of the Experts' meeting.

c) Cultural events (29 October 2010)

E. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE

It is expected that the recommendations of the experts meeting will inform the discussions of the meeting of Ministers and will lead to a concrete road map for effective collaboration by the various actors and stakeholders in the field of culture.

The Conference will adopt the following documents:

- draft strategy for the sustainable financing of culture in Africa;
- the recommendations of the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress (PACC2);
- the recommendations of the Feasibility Study to Establish the Pan-African Cultural Institute (PACI);
- the implementation programme of the Campaign for the African Cultural Renaissance 2010-2012;

In addition the following are expected:

- documentation of good practices regarding sustainable financing of the Culture;
- renewal of the Member States commitment to accelerate the ratification of the Charter for the African Cultural Renaissance;
- strengthening of the ties and partnerships between the Member States, cultural development partners, RECs, International Organizations, Diaspora, and the AUC for the Culture development and the promotion of the role of Culture vis-à-vis the integration and the sustainable development of the continent.

F. DOCUMENTS

In addition to the relevant documents which will be available on the AU website, reports and other documents will be circulated during the Conference, in accordance with the draft Agenda items.

G. ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

The AU Commission will organize the Conference while the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will host the event.

H. PARTICIPANTS

Participants to the Conference will include: Ministers of Culture of the AU Member States, Culture Experts, International and Continental Cultural Associations, CSOs, International Organizations and Agencies, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and AU Commission representatives.

I. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Information on the Conference will be posted on the AU website:
www.africa-union.org

For additional information, kindly, contact the following officials:

- **African Union Commission**

Olawale Maiyegun, PhD
Director
Department of Social Affairs
Tel. Off. (+251) 115517700 Ext. 300
Direct: (+251) 115513522
Emails: MaiyegunO@africa-union.org

Mr. Darafify Ralaivao
Head of Culture and Sports Division
E-mail: darafifyr@africa-union.org or darafify@yahoo.com
Tel.: +251 11 515 71 75

Ms. Angela Martins
Senior Cultural Officer
E-mail: MartinsA@africa-union.org or ascenssao@yahoo.com

• **MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM**
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

Mrs. Grace Isu Gekpe
Assistant Director (Multilateral)
Tel : +234 092342755
+234 8033310117
Email : gekpeisu@yahoo.com

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