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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAMME ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

FINAL REPORT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN FORUM “SOURCES AND RESOURCES FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE”

LUANDA, ANGOLA, 26-28 MARCH 2013

SUMMARY

This document (191 EX/4.INF) contains the final report of the Pan-African Forum for a Culture of Peace, organized jointly by UNESCO, the African Union and the Government of Angola and held in Luanda, Angola, from 26 to 28 March 2013.

The report was submitted officially to the Director-General of UNESCO by the Forum's General Rapporteur, H.E. Mr Olabiyi Babalola Joseph Yai, former Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Benin to UNESCO, on 11 April 2013.

PAN-AFRICAN FORUM: “SOURCES AND RESOURCES FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE”, LUANDA (ANGOLA) 26-28 MARCH 2013

FINAL REPORT¹

From 26 to 28 March 2013, the Pan-African Forum “Sources and resources for a culture of peace”, organized jointly by UNESCO, the African Union and the Government of Angola, took place in Luanda under the auspices of H.E. Mr José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola.

As indicated in the concept note of the Forum:

“The goal of this Pan-African Forum is to harness Africa’s sources of inspiration in the form of cultural, natural and human resources and to establish concrete proposals for building and developing sustainable peace, since peace is the cornerstone of endogenous development and Pan-Africanism. Inspired by the convictions listed in the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, UNESCO and the African Union support the idea that cultural diversity and African unity are a factor of balance, a force for African economic development and conflict resolution, and a way to reduce inequality and injustice in the service of national integration. This Forum is part of UNESCO’s Intersectoral and Interdisciplinary Programme of Action for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence. It also aims to contribute to the implementation of the African Union Commission Strategic Plan, focusing mainly on regional integration, peace and security and democracy. This event will also be part of the celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Organization of African Unity.”

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony was honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola, Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, and H.E. Mr Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union.

Ms Irina Bokova thanked the Angolan Authorities for their welcome and for holding the Forum, and said that the Forum was an opportunity for UNESCO and the Africans to reflect over the way to contribute to one of the major issues of the moment: peace. The Director-General highlighted the fact that the Forum was taking place in Angola, a country that had succeeded in achieving sustainable peace after many years of war, proving that the quest for peace was closely linked to sustainable development, youth and women’s participation, and the respect of cultures and identities.

H.E. Mr Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union first thanked the host country on behalf of the President of the Commission for holding the forum. He then stressed the importance of the work carried out by UNESCO for the development of Africa in the fields of education, culture and science. He also recalled the important contribution of the General History of Africa and its pedagogical use. He finally noted that the theme of the Forum joined that of the 50th anniversary of the OAU/AU which would be celebrated that year and would focus on “Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance.” He finally concluded by stressing that peace and development were inseparable.

¹ **General Rapporteur:** H.E. Mr Olabiyi Babalola Joseph Yai, former Ambassador and Permanent delegate of Benin to UNESCO

Co-Rapporteurs:

- Mr Edouard Firmin Matoko, Director of the Liaison Office with the AU and ECA and UNESCO Representative to Ethiopia
- Afonso Valentim, Director of the Office of Studies, Planning and Statistics, Ministry of Culture of Angola

Eminent personalities and special guests were also present at the Forum and their contribution showed once again the need to promote a culture of peace in Africa through African values and traditions and local experiences of conflict prevention and resolution.

H.E. Mr Joaquim Chissano, former President of the Republic of Mozambique, emphasized the link between peace and governance and said that issues related to governance and the exercising of authority gradually became causes of conflict as citizens obtained access to higher levels of education and training. The development of a culture of peace therefore required the State's implementation of inclusive policies and the establishment of a permanent dialogue for conflict resolution and the promotion of citizenship.

Mr Federico Mayor, former Director-General of UNESCO, recalled that the culture of peace was at the heart of UNESCO's mission. He underscored the fact that the Forum was being held in Africa, the cradle of humanity, and was a message for the world and for youth in particular. Ms Bineta Diop, President of Femmes Afrique Solidarités (FAS) noted that without peace and security there could be no development for all. She also recalled the crucial role of African women in the search for peace and called for greater involvement of women in conflict resolution.

H.E. Mr José Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola finally opened the Forum's work, in particular announcing that war was a calamity and that peace was a pressing need for the development of the African continent. He emphasized that peace-building was the fruit of reconciliation, forgiveness, trust and acceptance of others. Peace required a relentless commitment of the entire society at all levels (political, economic, social, cultural, legal and military). Young people today must be trained in the values of a culture of peace and tolerance in order for them to become the moral heritage of society.

THE DISCUSSIONS

The discussions of the Forum in which representatives of more than thirty African Member states, independent experts, representatives of organizations and professional associations and of civil society participated, were held in plenary roundtables and workshops focusing on three main themes:

- Cultural sources and resources for a sustainable peace in Africa;
- Natural resources management: sources of conflict or opportunity for sustainable development; and
- Human resources for peace and development: the great challenge of African youth.

The presentations and discussions shone a new light on African sources and resources essential to the building and promotion of sustainable peace in the continent. The general observation was that resources were numerous but that generally speaking, they were not known and exploited in a rational manner to support development and peace. Whether they were human or material resources, tangible or intangible cultural wealth, there was an urgent need for tools that enabled their valorization and exploitation.

The first roundtable chaired by H.E. Mr Banza Mukalay Nsungu, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and President of the Conference of African Ministers of Culture, was devoted to cultural sources and resources for sustainable peace in Africa.

Participants stressed the inherent solidarity of African cultures in which the values of peace, tolerance and respect for others prevailed. These values were rooted in traditional practices of conflict prevention that could be found today in many countries. Among the resources most associated with that feature of African culture, practices regarding conflict prevention and resolution, such as joking relationships, the mediation role of traditional and religious leaders, local

traditional legal systems and so forth. All those values and practices should be valued on a daily basis and should be part of the curriculum from an early age. The values of a culture of peace must be taken into account in national educational policies and school curricula. They must also be academically acknowledged through research and publications to be made available to the general public. African youth were often exposed to certain adverse foreign cultural influences with regard to local customs. In that context it was imperative to promote cultural activities based on identity and local values. Participants also noted that Africa should pay more attention to the economic potential of culture and its contribution to development. They finally concluded that Africa should not have a complex because of the wealth of its resources and its endogenous experiences in the prevention and resolution of conflicts.

The second roundtable chaired by H.E. Mr Joao Teta, Secretary of State, Ministry of Sciences and Technologies of the Republic of Angola, devoted to natural resources and their role as sources of conflicts or opportunities for sustainable development re-stated a common observation that Africa was a continent with huge natural resources which paradoxically failed to contribute to its development.

Those resources, which in most cases crossed several boundaries and were not limited to one country, nonetheless provided invaluable opportunities for development and regional integration. They were noted, however, as being sources of regional crises and conflicts. Several reasons were given, among which the main ones were: poor governance and non-equitable distribution of natural resources among the beneficiary communities, the absence of national policies, uncontrolled exploitation and overexploitation, and particularly the lack of tools helping to make an inventory of existing natural resources in view of better exploitation (for example it was estimated that only 30% of resources were exploited owing to lack of scientific information on their sites). Participants also noted that some conflicts came from the outside because they represented critical geostrategic resources. It was also noted that the natural resources available to Africa (freshwater, marine resources, natural ecosystems, mining and mineral resources) were to be considered primarily as assets for peace and development and it was up to African leaders to take the necessary measures to protect them. National policies involving local communities and young people, the development of specific strategies taking into account the local traditions of natural resource management and indigenous know-how relating to the conservation of ecosystems were essential both at national and regional levels. Green and blue economies were also discussed as sources of job creation and revenues. It was clear that the transition towards these economic patterns would increase employment prospects and offer a unique opportunity for African youth to improve their welfare. It was therefore important to consider the issue at all levels through strong advocacy and to integrate it in all employment and educational policies as well as those concerning vocational education and training.

The third roundtable chaired by H.E. Mr Anatole Collinet Makosso, Minister of Youth and Civic Education of the Republic of Congo and President of the Conference of African Ministers of Youth, dealt with the challenges of African youth.

The first observation was that of youth representing the biggest part of the population and being faced with problems of employment, relevant training and the absence of civic participation. The second observation was that of youth having the feeling of being excluded from the decision-making process which affected them and which therefore led to frustration and violent attitudes and behavior. It should be acknowledged that youth constituted an asset for peace building, the youth of today were the leaders of tomorrow and it was necessary to provide them with adequate education, since they were at an age where they could develop a state of mind favourable to a culture of peace. Similarly, means should be given to youth and especially to young women to emancipate and empower them through entrepreneurship. Education and knowledge, which guaranteed economic empowerment, were critical ingredients to promote a culture of peace and non-violence. The mobilization of youth for a culture of peace happened also through associative movements, training and awareness-raising to issues of peace, non-violence, human rights, democracy and so forth. Such experiences already existed in Africa and should be promoted.

The last plenary session “Building a multi-partnership for a culture of peace in Africa-Make peace happen” marked the launch of a pan-African movement through the expression of specific commitments for a culture peace from a set of governmental and intergovernmental partners such as the Ministers of Culture, Youth and Sport, Education, Science and Technology from five African countries present at the forum, representatives of the African Development Bank, the Monetary Union of States in West Africa, the Mano River Union, the Gulf of Guinea Commission and Agencies of the United Nations system.

Representatives of foundations, private-sector organizations, civil society and thirty personalities joined the movement under the auspices of UNESCO and the African Union. Audiovisual messages of support and commitment to the movement also came from African personalities and the diaspora, such as: Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Forest Whitaker, Manu Dibango, Salif A'Salfo, Mo Ibrahim and Amadou Mahtar M'Bow.

The movement strengthened the “Make peace happen” campaign launched by the African Union in 2010. A number of countries expressed during the Forum their willingness to launch the campaign nationally. In that regard, it should be noted that Angola had already launched the campaign across the country.

On 25 March, the eve of the Forum, at the instigation of the Angolan National Commission for UNESCO, the National Campaign for a Culture of Peace was launched with the participation of more than three thousand young people from member organizations of the National Youth Council of Angola. The campaign was ongoing and would continue until the end of the year with artistic events such as music, theatre, dance, literature and media with posters and banners in public places, programmes and TV and radio spots as well as a very wide dissemination of text messages by local mobile phone operators (more than 10 million subscribers had already been reached).

The Angolan private sector was closely associated to the Forum and was committed to cooperating with UNESCO and the African Union for the official launch of the campaign and the movement for the promotion of a culture of peace in other African countries.

The conclusion of the discussions in the plenary session and in the workshops yielded elements for the design of an Action Plan along with recommendations and activity proposals for the building of a culture of peace in Africa.

The Action Plan adopted in the plenary session was intended for all the stakeholders of the African society: political leaders, national and regional institutions, civil society, community associations, youth and women’s movements, religious and traditional leaders, entrepreneurs and leaders from the private sector, among others.

Its enforcement would be subject to a permanent follow-up from the two institutions associated to the organization of the Forum, the African Union and UNESCO.

ANNEXES:

- *Action Plan for a Culture of Peace in Africa “Make Peace Happen”*
- *Resolution to support the Action Plan*

ACTION PLAN
FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA
“MAKE PEACE HAPPEN”

This draft Action Plan targets all the components of African society: political leaders, national and regional institutions, civil society, community movements, youth and women’s movements, traditional and religious leaders, the business community and leaders of the private sector, among others, in order for all the stakeholders to take ownership of it and take inspiration from it in the designing and implementation of programmes and short-, medium- and long-term activities.

1. CULTURAL SOURCES AND RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE IN AFRICA

Objective 1.1: Value the contribution of African culture for dialogue and reconciliation

General recommendations

- The culture of peace in everyday life should be reflected across all the programmes of the African Union and UNESCO.
- Culture – a source of energy, dignity, innovation, hope and people’s creative life – should not be instrumentalized to justify and exacerbate conflicts.
- Culture – as a symbol of esthetical, ethical and spiritual values – at the source of tensions and conflicts, should be valued according to the doctrine that “prevention is better than cure”.
- The relationships between culture and peace must be highlighted, and both must be comprised in a long-term perspective through daily practice, which implies different “ways of living together”.
- Culture and African values should not be handled with a negative approach or an essentialist and immutable approach. This risk should be avoided by replacing these values within universal values for the future and by preventing their manipulation and instrumentalization.
- The practice of peace derived from African traditions, such as the benefits from the creative life of peoples and the use of the word *peace* as a daily salutation, should be valued.
- The ethics of power and governance entirely dedicated to a culture of peace must be promoted.
- The central role given to the community and to traditional and religious leaders emphasizing the word given as a commitment should be recognized.
- The role of great witnesses and guarantors of peace – wise, traditional and religious leaders – should be highlighted.
- Development should be conceived as a vast enterprise of education and education as a vast enterprise of development, both irrigated by the principles of a culture of peace.

Proposals for action

- Identify and map all the factors, stakeholders and institutions that fuel conflict and those that warn or disarm them, with particular attention paid to the processes that take into account local traditions and practices.

- Develop a coherent policy framework allowing all identities to harmoniously combine and consolidate the processes of a culture of peace.
- Design a conceptual, operational and transversal framework that involves education, heritage and history in order to make sure that the concept of a culture of peace is included in public policies, with particular emphasis on action research.
- Conduct advocacy continent-wide for the integration of a culture of peace as a subject in its own right in educational systems, with particular emphasis on reviewing textbooks to eliminate any cultural, gender, ethnic, linguistic and religious stereotypes, and teach in African languages, particularly cross-border languages, on the transmission of traditional mechanisms of prevention and resolution of conflicts and the use of the General History of Africa.
- Extend the use of traditional mechanisms of conflict resolution and promote good practices and mechanisms of reconciliation that have produced tangible results across the continent.
- Launch a call to all African countries in order to provide the Africa Heritage Fund with adequate resources (heritage as a source of knowledge, awareness, sense of belonging and a privileged channel for dialogue).
- Raise the awareness of local communities and youth as to the value of this material and immaterial heritage and the quest for equilibrium between the imperatives of development and those of the preservation of the heritage along with intercultural and inter-community tourism.
- Develop a data base of African personalities, men and women, who have contributed to peace and the recognition of African culture.
- Promote permanent mechanisms of community dialogue and reconciliation locally with the participation of all components of society.
- Develop an action-research programme on endogenous methods of conflict prevention and resolution in Africa, along with a scholarship programme for young African researchers.
- Support the “Group of Wise Men” of the African Union, locally, nationally and regionally in its action in favour of peace in Africa.

Objective 1.2: Strengthen the links between Education and Culture to build educational curricula and effective training to promote the culture of peace in Africa

General recommendations

- The culture of peace, languages and history of Africa must be part of the formal and non-formal education systems, particularly in the training of teachers.
- Good practices in education for a culture of peace should be promoted and disseminated across the continent.
- The systematic use of the General History of Africa should be promoted as an educational reference tool for teaching a culture of peace.
- The use of local languages, folk tales and African history in African schools to bridge the gap between tradition and modernity should be promoted as well as the use of drama, music, dance and art to promote a culture of peace at school.

- Public and private education systems should include the development of skills for life to better prepare graduates to face all situations including the promotion of a culture of peace.
- The role of religions and spirituality should be strengthened in the teaching of values of a culture of peace.

Proposals for action

- Encourage and support States revising school curricula at all levels of teaching in order to introduce a culture of peace into formal and non-formal education systems.
- Invest more in research focused on action that contributes towards promoting positive African values for a culture of peace; in particular making intensive use of local researchers and strengthening the added value of the newly established Pan-African University.
- Encourage Member States to develop programmes and policies that promote the use of drama, music, dance and art to promote a culture of peace, an integrated and holistic approach to curricula development and approaches for formal, informal and non-formal platforms for the promotion of a culture of peace
- Develop more consultative and collaborative approaches to elaborate education for peace programmes, as those being used by ECOWAS, with a focus on the training of trainers.
- Create extracurricular activities, particularly for children and youth, including programmes on local radios and television stations that promote a culture of peace.
- Organize a joint UNESCO-African Union Conference of Ministers of Education and Culture to strengthen the link between Education and Culture as well as the promotion of a culture of peace (see AU Summit, Khartoum, 2006)

<p>Objective 1.3: Develop the economy of culture, provider of employment for youth in the vision of sustainable development of the continent</p>

General recommendations

- A conceptual framework should be developed for dealing with the reconciliation process including cross-cutting factors such as economic, natural and cultural resources, and governance, among others.
- Internal tourism and cultural exchanges should be promoted to enhance a better appreciation of cultural diversity.
- Media, including Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), should be developed and used to promote a culture of peace. Media is a crucial partner in moulding the minds of people and instilling a culture of peace
- Cultural industries should be promoted at school level – tangible and intangible cultural heritage for peace as well as employment creation for youth in the areas of cultural and creative industries.
- Actors in the cultural sector should be provided with opportunities for accessing funding in order to contribute to national economic development.

- Member States should be encouraged at all levels to ratify and implement the Charter for Culture and African Renaissance as it contains also important provisions for the promotion of culture for development.
- An AU Summit of Heads of State should be devoted to culture-related issues and in particular to the issue of cultural industries and the economy of culture.

Proposals for action

- Encourage Member States to facilitate the creation of an environment conducive to developing and improving cultural tourism.
- Invite African embassies to disseminate African cultural and creative industries for their popularization, promotion and growth.
- Develop a data base with relevant information for the cultural stakeholders (such as available opportunities, quality criteria, international standards, protection of intellectual property rights) to improve cultural production.
- Support the development of national policies to encourage youth entrepreneurship through programmes targeting social entrepreneurship and employment in the sector of cultural industries (craft, arts, music, festivals, cinema and so forth).
- Encourage States to adopt appropriate legislation to regulate the creation and development of all means of communication, including those resulting from new technologies.

2. THE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PREVENTION OF CONFLICTS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Objective 2.1: Promoting scientific cooperation and diplomacy for sharing transboundary resources
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General recommendations

- Political commitment should be encouraged for better watershed management and to ensure the sustainability of shared resources at the highest level.
- The capacities of universities should be strongly encouraged and strengthened, as should the involvement of the region's scientists and scholars in the production of knowledge for effective management of transboundary resources, especially in terms of transboundary biosphere reserves and watersheds.
- Mechanisms for sustainable financing of cross-border initiatives should be put in place involving in the first place domestic financial resources to ensure the fair sharing and redistribution at the local level of benefits from their use, including those from tourism.
- Technical and inter-institutional cooperation should be strengthened to ensure the sustainability of cross-border initiatives.
- Decision-makers should be made aware of the importance and usefulness of remote sensing, in particular for the management of shared resources (water, soil, coastal areas, forests and so forth), and to provide local communities with tools of remote sensing for the management natural resources with the support of the scientific community.

- Greater involvement and participation of all stakeholders should be encouraged, including those of the base, in the management of watersheds and transboundary biosphere reserves.

Proposals for action

- Ensure extensive dissemination of the “Biosphere Reserve for Peace” concept in Africa, especially by valuing the experience of the cross-border biosphere reserve of the Senegal River, to encourage the creation of other reserves of the same type across the continent.
- Encourage Member States to integrate the concept of a “Biosphere Reserve for Peace in Africa” in training at all levels and especially at university.
- Encourage Member States to build interdisciplinary studies and inventories of resources at the borders as a basis for border management agreements.
- Support the Network of African watershed management agencies to strengthen exchanges and sharing of experiences and institutional cooperation.
- Support the creation of a regional institute of remote sensing for the advancement of remote sensing in the political decision-making and monitoring of conflicts in Africa at the Pan-African University.
- Identify the Great Water Stream of the Gulf of Guinea as a laboratory to study and solve the challenges of marine and coastal ecosystems in Africa, using remote sensing, with the help of universities of the region.

Objective 2.2: Strengthen the role of cosmogonies, traditional and indigenous knowledge for sustainable development

General recommendations

- African States and the United Nations have the responsibility to address issues of justice and human rights with respect to indigenous peoples as part of their efforts towards sustainable peace and development. This can be realized through inclusive approaches and dialogue that respect and foster human rights and acknowledge and respect cultural distinctiveness.
- National authorities should be encouraged to respect, understand and value indigenous cultures, as they are generally marginalized and disempowered. This recognition can take the form of legal recognition, as illustrated by the case of Republic of Congo, Burundi, Central African Republic and Rwanda, where the rights of indigenous peoples have been enshrined in national law.
- Valuing and respecting traditional knowledge on its own merits, must go hand-in-hand with respect for knowledge holders, namely indigenous peoples. This includes respecting their rights to be heard, to participate in policy processes and decision-taking, to maintain their cultural distinctiveness and lifestyles, as well as their rights over the lands and resources that they depend on.

Proposals for action

In view of the United Nations General Assembly World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014:

- The AU, supported by the United Nations system, should ensure the wide dissemination of the reports of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, and the relevant clauses of the African Charter, which clarify the definition and status of indigenous peoples in

the African context, so as to help dispel widespread misunderstandings and misinterpretations.

- Insure a broader recognition of the traditional knowledge systems of indigenous peoples, including that of indigenous women, due to their great value for indigenous and mainstream society alike, and their important contributions to other knowledge systems, including contemporary science, good governance systems, and conflict prevention and resolution.
- Protect and safeguard indigenous peoples' languages and knowledge, including their inter-generational transmission. Mechanisms to protect the Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) of indigenous peoples need to be reinforced, including through community-based protocols and capacity-building and the principles of equitable benefit-sharing need to be upheld.
- Develop culturally-sensitive approaches in the domains of formal education and health to ensure respect for the diversity of cultural identities, policies and practices, and in this manner foster a culture of peace in Africa.
- Government authorities should initiate a formal dialogue process with indigenous peoples and relevant civil society organizations to explore together opportunities for the peaceful resolution of conflicts over resource exploitation and management.

Objective 2.3: Developing green and blue economies, providers of employment for all and especially for youth.

General recommendations

- The importance and contribution of green and blue economies should be fully recognized as they increase employment prospects and offer a unique opportunity for African youth to improve their well-being. It should therefore be considered with the utmost importance at all levels through additional advocacy and mainstreaming in the ongoing actions and reform processes.
- The education sector must ensure that all workers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and attitudes that can contribute to sustainable development. This is one of the key areas of concern for UNESCO, which chairs the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.
- There is the need to create a culture of youth involvement and participation and to realise that achieving a culture of peace is a process, system, situation and management case. Therefore there is a need for an integrated innovation model that would promote development of social enterprise and a culture of peace in Africa in an integrated manner. There are undeniable advantages of using integrated innovation in the promotion of a culture of peace along with social enterprise and the promotion of a green economy.

Proposals for action

- Promote advocacy at all levels (international, regional, sub-regional, national) on the importance and opportunities to be seized for the transition to green and blue economies and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), and identify the modalities of such a transition through mainstreaming in the relevant ongoing actions and reform processes at all levels.
- Encourage the establishment of exchange networks (on relevant knowledge and best practises) among local economic and civil society players (women's and youth associations, for example) and expertise centres nationally and internationally (including virtual universities and relevant existing networks).
- Incorporate in transformative TVET the green and blue knowledge and skills as well as education for a culture of peace aimed at preparing youth for different green and blue jobs.
- Facilitate youth entrepreneurship with programmes on social entrepreneurship and youth employment in the blue and green economies (such as ecological tourism, recycling, and biological agriculture).
- Adapt aid mechanisms to micro-enterprise involved in innovative projects in sectors such as: agriculture, health, renewable energy and ecological architecture by preparing training, monitoring and follow-up mechanisms locally.

3. YOUNG PEOPLE, ACTORS OF CHANGE FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

Objective 3.1: Promoting the involvement and the inclusion of youth in society

General recommendations

- Inclusive national youth policies aligned with international and regional instruments, notably the African Youth Charter, including gender equality, must be formulated revised, and if necessary, improved with the participation of youth.
- The formal and non-formal systems must include education for peace, tolerance and human rights, while taking into consideration the need for revising the concept of education as a whole. This concept needs to be reshaped in an innovative way.

Proposals for action

- Encourage Member States to sign and ratify the African Youth Charter and develop Action plans adapted to every national context. A mechanism for follow-up and monitoring should be put in place in order to systematically check the progress achieved by every Member State.
- Create an African Youth Observatory.
- Set up in all African States youth training in leadership, citizenship and social justice.
- Create a fund to promote youth employment – with the support of the African Development Bank (ADB) – in order to promote social entrepreneurship.
- Put in place a system of dissemination of the Charter among young people through the media, social networking, audiovisual presentations and so forth.

Objective 3.2: Developing the use of ICT and media, and valuing promising models for African youth

General recommendations

- Education of youth and the development of their critical thinking skills to analyse and wisely use broadcasted/received information should be systematic.
- Positive and constructive contemporary and historical figures (such as athletes, musicians and artists) should be used, diffused and valued by media during sport and artistic events.
- Capacities of information sector young professionals should be strengthened on the issues of a culture of peace in order to provide them with the tools and relevant knowledge to raise awareness and inform the population.
- Sport should be systematically promoted as an instrument for fighting against violence and any kind of discrimination in this regard
- Policies should be promoted in every country protecting freedom of expression, pluralism in media and protection of journalists as well as universal access to information.

Proposals for action

- Create a media observatory for a culture of peace capable of detecting messages inciting violence or reinforcing stereotypes of one community vis-à-vis another, and alerting national and international bodies to prevent crises and conflicts.
- Develop and create community radio and multimedia centres and ensure the training of local journalists in a culture of peace.
- Support peace initiatives through sport activities and teaching sport activities in contexts of formal education.
- Develop professional and ethical media training and ensure the improvement of journalists' working conditions.

Objective 3.3: Valuing women's role in African society as the custodian of values and promoting gender equality among youth

General recommendations

- The fundamentals of African intangible cultural heritage should be revisited to create bridges with modernity and to promote the transfer of intergenerational knowledge, ensuring gender equality and equal opportunities for all.
- The contribution of youth and women should be promoted as a source of solutions – not problems – and as agents of change and social transformation.
- The development of women's movements and associations and the promotion of women's leadership should be encouraged at all levels.

Proposals for action

- Launch a research and dissemination program of traditional practices of conflict prevention and resolution which enhances the role of African women.
- Design communication tools for parent awareness on the fight against gender-based violence (Information Education Communication - IEC).
- Strengthening cooperation with Centres and specialized NGOs (such as CIEFFA, FAS, FAWE, GCYDCA Malawi and Mano River Women's Peace Network) for promoting women and young women's education.
- Defining indicators for monitoring at the country level.

4. ACTIONS FOR CREATING A CONTINENTAL MOVEMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND UNESCO

Objective 4.1: Creating a continental and sustainable movement for peace, capable of mobilizing African States, the private sector, artists, African leaders, international organizations and actors of regional development as well as NGOs and grassroots organizations

Proposals for action

- Define concrete modalities of partnership between UNESCO, the AU and the development funding institutions in Africa such as the African Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank and regional financial institutions so that they can include a culture of peace in their programmes of support to countries in post-conflict reconstruction.
- Create an African group on a culture of peace, composed of representatives of the AU, UNESCO and key development stakeholders in Africa such as ADB, the World Bank, ECA, RECs, foundations, the private sector and civil society. This ad-hoc structure will be responsible for resource mobilization and monitoring the implementation of the Luanda Plan of Action.
- Invite the African Union's Commission and UNESCO to take adequate measures to set up joint mechanisms (AU/UNESCO Joint Commission) for the follow-up and implementation of the Action Plan.
- Invite all partners to register their actions for lasting peace within the movement and to make them enduring.
- Promote early-warning mechanisms for crises at national and regional levels and strengthen them through the training of operators and mediators at the local level, particularly by involving women.
- Develop a composite index of a culture of peace, the result of a set of indicators from the eight areas of action of a culture of peace, which can serve as a basis for monitoring a culture of peace locally, nationally and regionally.
- Promote reflection forums to involve all stakeholders at the national, sub-regional and regional levels, to review the actions already undertaken, questioning the fundamental concepts – often a source of misunderstanding and manipulation – and contribute to the identification of possible innovative actions for a culture of peace in Africa.

Objective 4.2: Strengthening the AU “Make peace happen” campaign for raising public awareness – and in particular youth – about the role each can play to build and consolidate peace and non-violence in everyday life

Proposals for action

- Invite Members States and partners to support the efforts to mobilize financial and technical resources for conducting the campaign at national and continental levels.
- Invite Member States and partners to support the information and communication strategy of the campaign.
- Invite African artists to convey the message of peace across the continent and urge them to create cultural products capable of raising youth awareness on a culture of peace.

- Strengthen the cooperation between UNESCO and AU for the campaign and especially for the celebration on 21 September of the International Day of Peace.

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ACTION PLAN
FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA**
“MAKE PEACE HAPPEN”

Recalling that:

Peace is reverence for life.

Peace is the most precious possession of humanity.

Peace is more than the end of armed conflicts.

Peace is a mode of behaviour;²

Thanking the Government of the Republic of Angola for organizing in Luanda the Pan-African Forum for a culture of peace, that has enabled the launch of a continent-wide movement for a culture of peace;

Congratulating the Government of the Republic of Angola for implementing a national campaign for the promotion of a culture of peace;

Thanking also the Ministers and the representatives of Member States and regional and sub-regional cooperation institutions along with civil society organizations for their active participation in the Forum;

Recalling the fundamental commitment of the African Union and UNESCO to promote peace and sustainable development in Africa;

Taking into consideration that the Forum is part of the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the OAU under the theme “Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance” and the overall UNESCO strategy for priority Africa;

Recalling the “Make peace happen” campaign, launched by the African Union in 2010;

Convinced that building a culture of peace in Africa requires an endogenous, holistic and transdisciplinary approach in which education, culture, communication and science play a key role;

Convinced that a culture of peace involves the African society as a whole including the diaspora;

We, the participants of the Luanda Pan-African Forum for a Culture of Peace in Africa:

- Take note of the commitment of the partners for the implementation of actions in the framework of a continent-wide movement and the International Campaign for a Culture of Peace;
- Take advantage of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the OAU/AU to renew our commitment to promote a culture of peace in Africa;
- Adopt the Action Plan for a culture of peace in Africa and encourage all stakeholders both from governments and civil society to participate by implementing it at local, national, regional and international levels;

- Invite the Government of Angola to transmit this Action Plan to African regional organizations, UNESCO and all concerned international, bilateral and multilateral partners as well as private-sector partners;
- Invite especially the Government of Angola to kindly submit the Action Plan to the relevant organs of the African Union, including the Executive Council and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in order to provide the guidelines necessary for its implementation continent-wide;
- Invite the Member States to put in place the appropriate mechanisms involving all national partners (public and private, traditional and religious leaders) to ensure implementation of the Action Plan, notably through the designation of focal points in charge of promoting the international campaign for a culture of peace;
- Request the African Union Commission and UNESCO, co-organizers of this Forum, to kindly take adequate measures and put in place joint mechanisms (AU/UNESCO Joint Commission) for the follow-up and implementation of the Action Plan.

Luanda, 28 March 2013