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**FINAL REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE CREATION OF A NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS  
AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION  
OF A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**20- 21 SEPTEMBER 2013**

# MEETING OF THE CREATION OF A NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA

## FINAL REPORT

The inaugural meeting of the Network of foundations and research institutions for the promotion of a culture of peace in Africa, was held from 20 to 21 September 2013 at the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Twenty-six (26) African and non-African organizations responded positively to the joint invitation of UNESCO and the Felix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation for Peace Research, to define a similar vision and a converging approach on how to build a culture of peace, at national and international level.

The 20<sup>th</sup> of September was dedicated to the opening session, the presentation of the "founding members" and the adoption of the communiqué for the creation of the network. September 21<sup>st</sup> was dedicated to the definition of the cooperation and research areas.

### **The inaugural session**

The inaugural session was marked by four addresses and a message.

Mr Vincenzo Fazzino, Senior Programme Specialist of the Africa Department of UNESCO, welcomed and thanked all the participants for coming. He mentioned that twenty-six (26) organizations had responded favorably to the joint invitation of UNESCO and the Felix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation for Peace Research, while eight (8) others, who could not attend the meeting, expressed the wish to be associated to the project.

In turn, Mr Jean-Noël Loucou, Representative of the Felix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation for Peace Research, thanked the African Union, UNESCO, Ethiopian authorities, and all participants; and underlined the importance of the meeting which aims to establish guidelines for the promotion of a culture of peace in Africa. He emphasized the necessity to pool all efforts and resources in an organized network to define strategies, develop training programmes for peace and conduct awareness and mobilization campaigns in line with the Luanda Action Plan. In his concluding remarks he reiterated the commitment of the Felix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation in the implementation of the recommendations of the proposed network.

Mr Federico Mayor, former Director-General of UNESCO and President of the "*Fundacion Cultura de Paz*" sent a video message to support the creation of the Network as he was not able to attend the meeting.

His Excellency Mr Olawale I. Maiyegun, representing the African Union Commission, focused his speech on Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance, stating that Africa's development must

be ensured and the glory of the continent must be restored in line with the Strategic Plan of the African Union Commission. He concluded on the need to advocate for peace.

Mr Firmin Edouard Matoko, Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office with the AUC and ECA and representative to Ethiopia, ended the series of speeches by first excusing Ms Lalla Aicha Ben Barka, Assistant Director-General for Africa of UNESCO, who was not able to attend the meeting and transmitted the acknowledgments of Ms Irina Bokova, the Director-General of UNESCO. He recalled the outcomes of the Pan-African Forum which was held in Luanda and the need for a mobilization of partners. The African Union, in cooperation with UNESCO, launched a “Make Peace Happen” campaign as a starting point of a great movement for a culture of peace and the African Renaissance.

The inaugural session ended with a group photo of all participants.

### **The presentation of the “Founding Members”**

Under the Chairmanship of Mssrs. Vincenzo Fazzino (UNESCO Paris), Jean-Noël Loucou (F. Houphouët-Boigny Foundation), Firmin Matoko (UNESCO Addis Ababa) and Ms Aissatou Hayatou (AUC), the twenty-six (26) “Founding Members” organizations were presented. The representatives further presented the objectives and missions, activities and projects, and their reasons for participating in the Network as follows.

Created on September 4, 2006, the **Agostinho Neto Foundation** was presented by its President, Ms Maria Eugenia Neto. Its objectives are:

- to promote and disseminate the research, life and work of Dr. Agostinho Neto,
- to promote the activities to improve the welfare and the status of Angolans, to promote education, science, technology and culture
- to encourage creativity and innovation, as well as scientific and technological research,
- to promote the activities that help human development of Angola, and
- to promote and protect human rights.

Since its creation, the Agostinho Neto Foundation has published books, CDs and DVDs on the life and work of Agostinho Neto, and, more recently, his record (5 volumes of documents) stored in the Portuguese political police (PIDE-DGS) Archives. It also collects national and international testimonies on Agostinho Neto and participates in the management of the cultural Neto centers located throughout the country, socio-cultural and patriotic activities, as well as vocational training and literacy. It collaborates to the Sagrada Esperanca Literary Award (*Sacred Hope*, which is also the title of a collection of Dr. Neto’s poems).

The **Eduardo Dos Santos Foundation** which is also an Angolan private foundation bears the name of the current president of Angola. According to its Director, Mr Joao de Deus Gomes Pereira, the foundation has field activities in education, health and culture. It also does research

on the history of Angola and awards prizes for education, health and culture. Joining the Network will allow it to partner in its areas of priority activities.

The **International Centre for the Education of Girls and Women in Africa (CIEFFA)** based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, is a specialized agency of the African Union and a category 2 center of UNESCO. According to its Coordinator, Ms Yvette Dembele, its main objective is to promote the education of girls and women for their full participation in the eradication of poverty and the advent of a world of peace for sustainable human development. The center's main activities include advocacy and lobbying, research, production and publications, seminars, workshops and training, participation in partnerships. Its participation in the Network will enable to undertake cooperative projects of capacity building of youth in social entrepreneurship and promoting the culture of peace, and on the fight against gender-based violence.

The **International Centre for Research and Documentation on African Traditions and Languages (CERDOTOLA)** based in Cameroon, was established on August 25, 1977, as a regional center for research on oral traditions and the development of African languages. It has become an international center since December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and gathers six countries of Central Africa (Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad). The Centre works on the collection, retention, promotion, development and dissemination of the languages and oral traditions of Africa. Its Executive Secretary, Professor Charles Binam Bikoï, wants the Network to achieve the objective of promoting the African man in his culture.

The **West Africa Institute (WAI)** was presented by its Executive Director, Ms Djenéba Traoré, as a think tank dedicated to regional integration and social transformations that was created in October 2010 at the initiative of UNESCO, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), the Government of Cape Verde and the Ecobank Group. It is based in Praia, Cape Verde. WAI is the sole research institution in West Africa exclusively dedicated to regional integration. Its main missions are to promote knowledge on regional integration, to facilitate a platform for dialogue, meetings and exchanges on regional integration, to train a new generation of elites on regional integration and to negotiate a strategic partnership with similar institutions. It has already achieved significant results such as: innovative research on integration, implementation of an operational website, the signing of three strategic partnerships with the University of Bonn in Germany, the University of Coimbra in Portugal and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA).

The **Félix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation for Peace Research**, was presented by its Deputy Secretary-General, Mr Jean -Noël Loucou, as a private foundation with an international focus, established on November 10, 1973. It is based in Yamoussoukro, Côte d' Ivoire, and an annex is located in Abidjan. It aims to spread the message of Félix Houphouët-Boigny, the first president of the Ivorian Republic, to present and future generations, to share his work and his political and philosophical thought based on the constant search for peace. Its objectives are:

- To contribute to the research, preservation, maintenance and promotion of peace in Africa and in the world, in the spirit of the Constitution of UNESCO and the United Nations Charter;
- To be a center of research and reflection on peace and to contribute to a better knowledge of the history of African peoples and their struggle for freedom and justice;
- To be a forum for discussion, dialogue, reconciliation and human brotherhood.

A General Secretariat coordinates all activities, including those of the peace research and the historical research departments which organize scientific, educational and cultural activities. The Foundation partners with UNESCO to award the annual Félix Houphouët-Boigny prize for Peace Research, and with ISESCO to the establishment of a regional training center for peace. It provides, in all regions of Côte d'Ivoire, training in the culture of peace, citizenship and democracy. It has a searchable remote international documentation center, via its website. It publishes books, a newsletter and a scholarly journal entitled Dialogue and Peace. Its participation in the Network will support the development of training activities for peace and strengthen the mechanisms and institutions of peace.

The **UNESCO Chair for the Culture of Peace in Côte d'Ivoire** is led by Professor Gerard Lezou Dago and was established on December 5, 1997, with the signing of a settlement agreement with the University of Cocody (now University Felix Houphouët-Boigny) and has been operating since 1999. It is dedicated to training and research in the areas of legal, political and administration science, in the culture of peace and humanitarian action. It offers degree programs (Masters and PhD) and skills training. It also manages humanitarian and mediation missions in rural areas. By joining the Network, the chair expects to achieve innovative research with partner organizations. It already offers a research – action program on the endogenous mechanisms of management and resolution of conflicts in Africa, and a Pan-African conflict mediation contest in schools and universities.

The **Regional Centre for Research and Documentation on Women, Gender and Peacebuilding in the Great Lakes region** is based in the Democratic Republic of Congo. According to its Director, Ms Monique Kapuwa Kande, the center's priorities are: reflection on peace and gender in the Great Lakes region, documentation, networking and partnership. It has published studies on violence against women and their involvement in the conflicts in the Great Lakes. Membership in the Network will enable the center to develop partnerships with other members.

The **UNESCO Chair for the Culture of Peace, conflict resolution, human rights, democracy and good governance** of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was created in 2001 after the wars of the 1996s. Its holder, Dr. Anicet Assindie Mungala, is the Managing Director of the UNESCO Chair for Central Africa and the SADC states. It has offices in Bangui, Douala, N'Djamena, Bukavu and Lubumbashi. It offers 35 hours of weekly practical courses and graduate courses. Its sub-

regional status is a natural predisposition to the partnership possibilities offered by the Network.

The **Cairo Regional Center for Training on Conflict Resolution and Peace Keeping in Africa**, established in 1984, is headed by Ambassador Wael Naggar. The center offers courses in gender, peace and security as well as training for African peacekeeping forces. Mr Naggar finally suggested creating a harmonized peace education program for the Network.

The **Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)** depends on the University of Addis Ababa. Its representative, Ms Tigist Yeshiwas Engdaw, stated that the institute has proven expertise in the field of socio-political life, democracy and human rights. It leads research programs on peace and security, including on-going projects on South Sudan and Somalia.

The **Institute for Security Studies (ISS)** is based in Ethiopia but is not an Ethiopian institution, as specified by its Director, H.E.Mr ambassador Olusegun Akinsanya. Its main mission is to help African politicians in their quest for peace. It also proposes to involve youth and the private sector and to disseminate research on peace. Membership in the Network will enable to build partnerships to meet the challenges facing Africa.

**The University for Peace** has its headquarters in Costa Rica. An African Program has been implemented since 2002 under the direction of Dr. Jean Bosco Butera, in Ethiopia. It concerns twenty-six (26) African institutions and offers Masters courses and, soon, PhD courses. The Peace and Security newspaper reports research.

**The Omar Bongo Ondimba Foundation for Peace, Science and Environment** based in Libreville, Gabon, was established in 2009 to perpetuate the philosophy of dialogue and peace of the first President of the Gabonese Republic. According to its Executive Director, Ms Florence Yélé, the Foundation also promotes science, techniques and technology and awards an annual prize for scientific and technological research. It wishes to bring together all African UNESCO Clubs to create a Youth and Culture of Peace Award in 2014.

**The West Africa Center for Peace Studies (WACPS)** was created in 2004 in Accra, Ghana. According to its Executive Director, Mr Erasmus Ndemole Migyikra, the center provides research, advocacy and training to promote peace studies, human rights, gender, diplomacy, security and strategy, international law, development and African Studies. It collaborates with community groups, civil society, NGOs, research institutions and universities, etc. By joining the network, the center hopes to participate in joint research projects, exchange of ideas and experiences to promote peace and security.

**The UNESCO Transdisciplinary Chair on Human Development and Culture of Peace of the Florence University** , presented by Professor Paolo Orefice conducts a participative research on peace and development through three kinds of activities: research, training and cooperation. It values the intangible heritage of cultures and the knowledge of communities, especially in Latin

America (Chile, Guatemala and Brazil), and publishes books, including e-books, in the UNESCO Chair series of the University of Florence Editions. By joining the network, it aims to share a community of practice.

**The Guidance, Counseling and Youth Development Centre for Africa (GCYDCA)**, based in Malawi was created by the African Ministers of Education. It provides youth mentoring, training in entrepreneurship and culture of peace and regularly publishes a newspaper that reports on its activities.

**The UNESCO Chair for the Promotion of Peace and Human Rights at the University of Juridical and Political Sciences of Bamako (USPJB), Mali**, was established on January 25, 2006 and is headed by Professor Ibrahima Traore Albarka. Its mission is "to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation in the field of culture of peace and human rights, as well as democracy and tolerance." The Chair targets all social groups, but especially young academics who will be the policy makers of tomorrow. It organizes lectures, seminars and symposia in all the regional capital cities, including in the conflicted area of northern Mali. Its participation in the network is part of its policy of cooperation and partnership already implemented with other UNESCO Chairs, universities and associations to promote the culture of peace and human rights.

The presentation of the foundations and institutions continued during the session in the afternoon.

Mr Lupwishi Mbuyamba presented the **Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), based in Mozambique**. The organization is supported by UNESCO, the African Union and the Ford Foundation as its business areas are health, the fight against poverty, peace and governance. The Observatory focuses its research on the socio-cultural roots of violence and the springs of tradition. By joining the network, it proposes to focus on culture as a spring for the promotion of peace.

Dr. A. Eselebor Willie is the National President of the **Society for Peace Studies and Practice (SPSP)**, a non-governmental organization which has its administration in Ibadan, Nigeria and its headquarters in Abuja. The organization aims to: promote the culture of peace, facilitate collaboration between academics and field workers, build and strengthen the structural and institutional framework to coordinate SPSP activities at all levels. The Society holds an annual conference, conducts field studies and publishes books. It has already produced a handbook on traditional methods of conflict resolution, published by the University of Ibadan.

**The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)** was presented by its former President, Ms Zenebeworke Tadesse. The Council was created in 1973 in Dakar, Senegal. Its main objectives are to facilitate multidisciplinary research, to promote the publications resulting from research, to develop capacity building of African researchers at all levels and to promote the principle of academic freedom. CODESRIA namely leads research on

the root of conflicts and post-conflict reconstruction and offers workshops to strengthen the research capabilities of young people. It set up an institute on governance, an institute for gender and an institute for young people. It publishes books, magazines, monographs and papers on its research interests in four languages (English, Arabic, French and Portuguese). Its participation in the network meets its goals of creating multiple forms of exchange and information among African researchers.

**The Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)** association, created in 1966 in Geneva, Switzerland, was represented by Ms Victoria Luyima, instead of its current President, Ms Binta Diop. She mentioned that FAS' mission rests on two pillars: the empowerment of women and the advocacy of laws, programs for the advancement of women. It contributed to the development of regional plans in the Mano River and Great Lakes regions and cooperates with several women organizations. The Network will help it in disseminating information and developing partnerships.

**The UNESCO Oliver Tambo Chair of the University of Fort Hare, South Africa, is named after Oliver Reginald Tambo, one of South Africa's most renowned intellectual and architect of the liberation of South Africa from Apartheid.** It is led by Professor S. Nasila Rembe who stated that the Chair has been prominent in the provision of human rights education and awareness, and in undertaking capacity building of officials with special responsibility for the promotion and the protection of human rights. It has also organized and participated in numerous workshops at the local, regional and international levels, and it has been very active in the work of the global network of UNESCO Chairs and even received the UNITWIN/UNESCO Award in 2002. It already had an experience of networking which unfortunately cut short due to a lack of necessary support and commitment, and therefore hopes that this new initiative will receive the total support of UNESCO and African governments.

**The Center for Peace and Development Studies (CPDS)** depends on the University of Juba, South Sudan. It was relocated to Khartoum until 2010 due to the war. According to its director, Dr. Leben Nelson Moro, it provides training at Masters and Doctorate level. Research mainly focuses on youth and violence, borders, identities and conflict, returnees from war. By joining the network, the center will participate in joint research programs and capacity building of its members.

**The Peace Research Institute (PRI) is part of the University of Khartoum, Sudan.** Its Director, Dr. Manzoul Assal, said that research focuses on all issues of peace, several studies and reports have already been produced on these issues. By joining the network, the Institute will be able to bring its experience on the issues of war and peace that have greatly affected the modern history of Sudan.

**The Pax Africana Foundation** is based in Lome, Togo, and was represented by Mr Badabadi Kerezoué. Its areas of activity are issues of peace and the development and integration of the



African continent. Mr Kerezoué read a message of thanks and support from Mr Edem Kodjo, President of the foundation.

Three bodies of UNESCO were briefly presented by their officer in charge. M. Arnaldo Nhavoto spoke of the **Institute of Human capacity** established in 1999 and classified as a category 1 UNESCO institute.

Michael Croft presented the **UNESCO Regional Office in Nairobi** and emphasized the importance of culture. Ms Seraphine Toé heads the **Liaison Office of the United Nations to the African Union**, which works with AU on conflict resolution.

The debate then focused on the draft Final Communiqué of the Network of Foundations and Research Institutions to promote a culture of peace founding meeting. The name of the network, the nature of the membership, the working methods and the honorary president were discussed during this debate. The agreement was made on the project, with some amendments (see the final release), and the established interim secretariat will have to consider all the issues raised during the debate and make concrete proposals.

### **Defining areas of cooperation and research**

The meeting of September 21, 2013 was devoted to the definition of areas of cooperation and research of the network members. It was chaired by Mr Jean-Noël Loucou (Félix Houphouët-Boigny Foundation) assisted by Mr Vincenzo Fazzino (Africa Department of UNESCO) and was attended by twenty-three (23) participants.

The agenda focused on the identification of priority research themes and the proposed joint programs.

The meeting began with a minute of silence in memory of the victims of wars in the world. Mr Fazzino then read out the message from the Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of the International Day of Peace.

The chairman then suggested that the research topics would be based on the priorities identified in the Action Plan of Luanda and a round table was used to specify the views of participants.

According to Mr Tindy-Poaty (**UNESCO National Commission of Gabon**), it was not necessary for the chairman to propose new topics as all themes had been identified in the Action Plan of Luanda. Professor Mungala of the UNESCO Chair of the Democratic Republic of Congo proposed to stick to point 4-1 of the Action Plan of Luanda, which aims "to create a sustainable and continental Movement for Peace, able to mobilize the African States, the private sector, the artists and the African leaders, the international organizations and the regional development stakeholders as well as NGOs and grassroots organizations."

According to Professor Nasila Rembe, the Luanda Plan of Action is not exhaustive as it does not define the concept of culture of peace and does not indicate the specificity of Africa. In addition, it does not take into account key issues such as social justice, good governance and democracy. As such, Professor Rembe proposed to retain these priority themes and deriving sub-themes.

Professor Gerard Lezou, from the **UNESCO Chair in Cote d'Ivoire**, suggested that each of the member organizations of the network would choose, according to his speciality, one of the themes identified by the Action Plan and would unite with others to treat it. One of the pillars of the Action Plan could be chosen and a call for expressions of interest could be made.

For Professor Paolo Orefice, from the **UNESCO Transdisciplinary Chair of the Florence University**, the content was already available with the four programs of the Action Plan, the question being how to implement them. This could be done through training, research and cooperation. He proposed to implement a community of practices as his chair offers a participative research-action.

Dr. Eselebor Willie, from the **Society for Peace Studies and Practice of Nigeria**, first lamented on the absence at the meeting of major players such as universities and young people. He then questioned the role of foundations and the setting of priorities. He finally suggested consolidating the Luanda Action Plan by adding the topics omitted, and that the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) that have an agenda with objectives be used as an inspiration.

Mr Kouassi Malanhouan, from the **UNESCO Chair in Cote d'Ivoire**, emphasized the methodological approach used to define a vision, the goals and priorities of action research-action.

Dr. Leben Nelson Moro, from the Center for Peace and Development Studies, South Sudan, suggested taking into account the themes of identity, tribalism, religion, and changing attitudes for a culture of peace.

According to Professor Giovanna Del Gobbo (**UNESCO Transdisciplinary Chair of the Florence University**), there is a clear link between the definition of the culture of peace and the methodology. This is why research-action is needed to identify best practices and operationalize the culture of peace.

Summing up the discussion, the chairman said that the work was in line with the Action Plan of Luanda and that the Network was free to define new research themes, which is precisely the purpose of this work session. It is therefore necessary to move to concrete proposals.

Three proposals were made by the UNESCO Chairs of Félix Houphouët-Boigny University of Cocody and the University of Florence, and the Omar Bongo Ondimba Foundation.

Professor Lezou, from the **UNESCO Chair in Cote d'Ivoire** made two proposals. The first project is a research-action on endogenous methods of prevention and resolution of conflicts in Africa.

It is a Pan-African project that will be carried out in the 55 Member States of the African Union, particularly in five strategic areas: North Africa, Southern Africa, East Africa, West Africa and Central Africa. It will mobilize financial resources to support research undertaken by professors, researchers and graduate students. There will be 11 researchers by area, for a total of 55 people. The expected results are:

- Best practices for application of traditional mechanisms of prevention and resolution of conflicts are identified and known;
- Means of wide dissemination of traditional mechanisms for prevention and conflict resolution are available;
- The traditional mechanisms of prevention and resolution of conflicts are effectively used by African individuals.

The second proposal had already been made the day before during the inaugural meeting of the Network. It relates to the establishment of a Pan-African conflict mediation contest in schools and universities.

Professor Paolo Orefice (**UNESCO Transdisciplinary Chair of the Florence University**) proposed to establish a community of practices based on an interdisciplinary approach and participatory research-action. The methodology of research-action revolves around the problematization of the empirical and disciplinary analysis, formulation of hypotheses, evaluation and modeling. The menu of the website of the community would include the project, network, participants, activities (discussions, workshops) and documents (all documents to be produced).

This proposal raised a discussion. Indeed, according to Dr. Willie, the CoP should focus on the qualitative method rather than the quantitative one and the empirical analysis should be replaced by the experimental method. In addition, he stated that the existence of the CoP website should not prevent the creation of a website solely dedicated to the Network. For Ms Traoré, a deadline should be set for creating this website and find good will to do so, which poses the problem of fundraising for all activities of the Network. Dr. Willie therefore suggested providing a sustainable financing plan, annual contributions, and income-generating activities. Professor Rembe finally proposed to solicit the African Union, UNESCO and other organizations.

The final proposal was presented by Ms Florence Yélé (**Omar Bongo Ondimba Foundation**). Her foundation will organize a regional forum in June 2014 on the theme: "African youth facing the challenges of a culture of peace." This forum will bring together African UNESCO Clubs, UNESCO National Commissions, National Youth Councils and Associated Schools. The expected results should be the creation of a pan-African network of youth, and a youth award for a culture of peace.

In the discussion that followed the presentation, some participants like Mr Wael Naggar, questioned the advisability of creating another network, as the Foundation Network had just

been launched. Professor Sixpence stated that this new network should be created by the young people and for them.

**At the end of the second day, the participants adopted and signed a communiqué in which they solemnly engage to create the NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA.**

They also decided to create an Interim Secretariat to prepare the report of the network creation meeting, to study the appropriate legal status, and to organize the first meeting of the network installation.

- The Interim Secretariat would make proposals on all issues raised and would submit them to the members of the Network. The three projects presented were retained with the obligation to submit as soon as possible the final texts that will be sent to the Network through the Interim Secretariat.
- Network members would send blurbs of their organization to the Secretariat for the preparation of the final report of the inaugural meeting. They could also develop other research projects, and provide other foundations and research institutions in the context of the enlargement of the network.

**THE GENERAL RAPPORTEUR**

**JEAN-NOEL LOUCOU**

FELIX HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY FOUNDATION

FOR PEACE RESEARCH

## **FINAL COMMUNIQUE**

**ANNEX: COMMUNIQUE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS  
PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA**

We, the participants of the meeting on the establishment of the network of foundations and research institutions for the promotion of a culture of peace in Africa , held in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia ) on September 20 , 2013:

- **Reaffirming** our commitment to the UNESCO Constitution and the Constitutive Act of the African Union
- **Recognizing** the need for a holistic approach on the ways and means to promote a culture of peace in Africa
- **Affirming** our commitment to contribute to the implementation of the "Plan of Action for a Culture of Peace " adopted in Luanda (Angola) , following the Pan-African Forum on "Sources and resources for a culture of peace " (March 2013)

**Make a solemn commitment** to create the NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA in order to achieve the following objectives:

- Coordinate our actions in order to ensure a common understanding and community of practices in pooling our resources in the implementation of our actions;
- Strengthen the visibility of our organizations and our activities among citizens and institutions at national and international level;
- Contribute to the implementation of the Luanda Action Plan by the elaboration and implementation of joint programmes;
- Endeavor to implement the AU 2063 Agenda and the UNESCO Intersectoral Programme on Culture of Peace;
- Expand the network to African and non-African organizations with similar objectives

**Resolve to:**

- Create an interim Secretariat composed of:
  - FONDATION FELIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY POUR LA RECHERCHE DE LA PAIX – COTE D’IVOIRE
  - INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES
  - EDUARDO DOS SANTOS FOUNDATION - ANGOLA
  - CHAIRE UNESCO POUR LA CULTURE DE LA PAIX, LE REGLEMENT DES CONFLITS, LES DROITS DE L’HOMME, LA DEMOCRATIE ET LA BONNE GOUVERNANCE (R. D. CONGO)

- CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHE ET DE DOCUMENTATION SUR LES TRADITIONS ET LES LANGUES – CAMEROUN
- CENTRE REGIONAL DE RECHERCHE ET DE DOCUMENTATION SUR LES FEMMES, LE GENRE ET LA CONSTRUCTION DE LA PAIX DANS LA REGION DES GRANDS LACS – R. D. CONGO
- CHAIRE UNESCO POUR LA CULTURE DE LA PAIX - COTE D’IVOIRE
- UNIVERSITY OF PEACE-AFRICA
- PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE - SUDAN
- CAIRO REGIONAL CENTER FOR TRAINING ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACE KEEPING IN AFRICA – EGYPT -
- GUIDANCE, COUNSELLING AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE FOR AFRICA - MALAWI
- CENTER FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES – SOUTH SUDAN

- The secretariat will be responsible for:

- The elaboration of the report of the meeting on the establishment of the network
- The elaboration of appropriate legal instruments
- The preparation of the first meeting of the establishment of the network

Addis Ababa, September 20, 2013

