



Biennale of  
**Luanda**  
Pan-African  
Forum for  
the Culture  
of Peace



UNESCO



**BIENNALE OF LUANDA**  
**PAN-AFRICAN FORUM FOR THE CULTURE OF PEACE**  
Luanda (Angola) 18-22 September 2019

**PRELIMINARY REPORT**



## INTRODUCTION

The first edition of the "Biennale of Luanda - Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace", jointly organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the African Union (AU) and the Government of the Republic of Angola, was held in Luanda, Angola, from 18 to 22 September 2019.

The Biennale of Luanda is in line with the Plan of Action on a Culture of Peace in Africa adopted in Luanda (Angola) at the 2013 Pan-African Forum "Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace". It follows Decision 558/XXIV, adopted in 2015, at the 24th session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Governments of the African Union, requesting the African Union Commission to work towards its organization, in consultation with UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Angola. A Funds-in-Trust Agreement (US \$505,215) was signed in December 2018 between UNESCO and the Government of Angola for the implementation of the Biennale's activities.

The overall objective of the Biennale of Luanda is to strengthen the Pan-African Movement for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence through the establishment of a multi-stakeholders partnership (governments, civil society, the artistic and scientific community, the private sector and international organizations). This initiative reinforces the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda, in particular Goals 16 and 17, and the Aspirations of the African Union, Agenda 2063, in particular: the "Agenda for Peace" and the flagship project "Silencing the Guns by 2020". The Biennale contributes as well to the implementation of UNESCO's Operational Strategy for Priority Africa (2014-2021) aimed at providing African responses to the transformations affecting African economies and societies.

### GENERAL OVERVIEW OF PARTICIPATION IN THE BIENNALE

The first edition of the Biennale of Luanda was organized around three main axis:

- 1) Partners Forum – an Alliance for Africa
- 2) Thematic forums: Forum of Ideas, Youth and Women's Forums
- 3) Festival of Cultures

The Biennale of Luanda was launched on 18 September 2019 with the official ceremony attended by three Heads of State, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the Director-General of UNESCO and the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureate. It ended on 22 September with an official closing ceremony and an end Concert in the presence of the well-known names of Angolan music and other international artists.

The opening ceremony was graced by the presence of His Excellence , Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola; His Excellence, Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, President of the Republic of Mali and African Union Champion for Culture, His Excellence, Mr. Hage Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia and Chairperson for the Southern African Development Community, His Excellence, Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AU Commission, Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO and Mr. Denis Mukwege, 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

The host country was also represented at the Biennale by Her Excellence Ms. Carolina Cerqueira, Minister of State for Social Affairs, Her Excellence Ms. Faustina Fernandes Inglês de Almeida Alves, Minister for Social Action, Family and Advancement of Women, His Excellence, Mr Manuel Domingos Augusto, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Her Excellence Ms. Maria da Piedade de Jesus, Minister of Culture and President of the Inter-ministerial Commission of the Biennale of Luanda, Her Excellence Ms. Maria do Rosário Bragança Sambo, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Her Excellence Ms. Maria Antonieta J.S. Baptista, Minister of Fisheries and the Sea, His Excellence Mr. Joao Melo, Minister of Communication, Her Excellence Ms. Maria Candida Teixeira, Minister of Education and President of

the Angolan National Commission for UNESCO, His Excellence Mr. Sérgio Luther Rescova, Governor of Luanda Province, His Excellence Mr. José Diekumpuna Sita N'Sadisi, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Angola to UNESCO and His Excellence Mr. Francisco Cruz, Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Angola to Ethiopia and Representative to the AUC and other members of the Government.

In addition to the Chairperson, the African Union Commission was represented by Her Excellence Ms. Amira El Fadel, Commissioner for Social Affairs and Her Excellence Ms. Josefa Sacko, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture. Her Excellence Ms. Specioza Naigaga Wandira-Kazibwe, Former Vice-President of Uganda, Member and Representative of the Pan-African Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa), a mechanism which is part of the African Union's Peace and Security Architecture, was also present.

UNESCO was also represented by Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations; Ms. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences and Mr. Moez Chakchouk, Assistant Director-general for Communication and Information as well as by the Directors and Heads of Office of the UNESCO field network in Africa and the Executive Officers of Education, Culture, Natural Sciences and Social and Human Sciences sectors.

Apart from the host country, the following countries were represented at the Biennale by official delegations, including Government Members: Cabo Verde, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Portugal, Republic of Congo and Rwanda.

We noted the presence of: H.E. Mr Fernando Elísio Freire de Andrade, Minister of State, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, representing the President of Cabo Verde, H.E. Mr Moumin Hassan Barreh, Minister of Muslim Affairs, Culture and Waqfs Property of Djibouti; H.E. Inas Abdel Dayem, Minister of Culture of Egypt; H.E. Ms Inas Abdel Dayem, Minister of Culture of Egypt, H.E. Ms Bezunesh Meseret, Minister of State, Minister of Culture of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr Clemente Engonga Nguema Onguene, First Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Higher Education and Sports, President of the National Commission for UNESCO of Equatorial Guinea, H.E. Ms N'Diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo, Minister of Culture of Mali, H.E. Mr Mohamed Sajid, Minister of Tourism, Air Transport, Crafts and Social Economy of Morocco, H.E. Mr Martin Andjaba, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture of Namibia, H.E. Mr Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal, H.E. M. Dieudonné Moyongo, Minister of Culture and Arts of the Republic of Congo and H.E. Esperance Nyirasafari, Minister of Culture of Rwanda.

A large number of ambassadors to UNESCO and to Angola, officials of the African Union, Directors and other officials from UNESCO HQs and the field structure and from the Angolan government were also present (Annex 5).

In addition to the African Union and UNESCO, the following international organizations and United Nations agencies were represented: European Union (EU), African Development Bank (AfDB), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), UN Women, International Organization for Migration (IOM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDC) in Ethiopia, United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Angola, United Nations Multidimensional Stabilization Mission in Mali (UNMISMA), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Mali, United Nations University for Peace and the Office of the UN Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region.

Many other representatives of the world of sport, music and the arts were also present with particular note to Didier Drogba, Vice-President of the Peace and Sport Association; A'Salfo, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and General Commissioner of the Anoumabo Urban Music Festival (Côte d'Ivoire) and Alphadi, UNESCO Artist for Peace, President of the International Fashion Festival in Africa (Niger).

Private sector representatives included the Biennale's Official Partners, ENI, Banco BNI and Total Angola, the Official Carrier Royal Air Maroc as well as Phoenix TV Multimedia Group, Weidong Group and Africa Development Solutions Group. Carrier Sponsors: TAP Air Portugal, TAAG and Ethiopian Airlines as well as Sponsors (Gold category) also supported the event, namely: Aceria de Angola, Multieventos, Unitel, Grupo Boavida, Noble Group, Niodior, Refriango, RCN, Kikovo, Grupo Arena, Cooperativa de credito, Tegma-Su and Planalto do Kinu.

The Biennale took place at four sites: the Talatona Convention Centre for the opening ceremony; the Antonio Agostinho Neto Memorial for the Partners' Forum and Thematic Forums, the Sao Miguel Fortaleza in Luanda for the Festival of Cultures and the "Marginal de Luanda" for the Moroccan village display and closing concert.

The throughout the entire Biennale counted with the presence of:

- Opening ceremony: around five hundred (500) people, added by a direct broadcast to the Memorial site (around 400 people).
- Partners' Forum and Thematic Forums: approximately six hundred (600) people per day, half of which from sixty-two (62) countries, including forty-five (45) African countries and seventeen (17) non-African countries; one hundred and sixteen (116) panelists and moderators (Annex 3).
- Festival of Cultures: 16 countries (South Africa, Angola, Belgium, Brazil, Cabo Verde, South Korea, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Italy, Kenya, Namibe, Mali, Morocco, Portugal and Rwanda) with more than 200 artists and musical groups and 15,000 visitors.
- End concert with more than 50 artists from Angola, Egypt, Namibia and South Africa and an audience of around 7000 spectators.

According to data from the Angolan emigration services, approximately **500 people** disembarked at Luanda airport as part of the Biennale between 16 and 23 September 2019.



## I. OPENING CEREMONY

Chaired by H.E. Mr João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola - in the presence of H.E. Mr Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AU Commission and Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO-, the opening ceremony was joined by Mr. Denis Mukwege, 2018 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, H.E. Mr Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta and H.E. Mr Hage Geingob, Presidents of respectively the Republic of Mali and the Republic of Namibia.

H.E. Ms. Maria da Piedade de Jesus, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Angola, opened the floor and welcomed the distinguished guests, participants and delegations and appealed Africans to unite to combine efforts in support of the promotion and construction of a culture of peace for the sustainable development of the continent. Specifically, she called upon the support of leaders, intellectuals, students and researchers, to increase their interaction in the quest and the implementation of better solutions for the establishment of lasting peace in Africa.

Mr Denis Mukwege, in his address, stressed that "the culture of peace must be at the center of the attention of all, both individually and collectively" while recalling that the necessary resources must be drawn from the rich tangible and intangible African heritage, too often ignored and little exploited. A cultural heritage of which the Charter of Kurukan Fuga or the Mandé is one of the existing powerful symbols. He argued that the culture of peace in Africa must above all be a re-appropriation by Africans of their own cultural heritage.

The next speaker, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, recalled that "the revival of violent extremism and religious intolerance in some parts of the continent", indicating that in Africa "the desire for peace is greater than anywhere else". He sees, this first edition of the Biennale as an opportunity to assess the state of peace in the continent and to identify available cultural resources that can bring Africa long lasting peace. As a means of preventing new threats to peace and security in the continent, the Chairperson of the AU Commission emphasized as well the need to reinforce governance at regional and international levels.

In her address, the Director General of UNESCO, Ms. Audrey Azoulay commended the commitment of the President of the Republic of Angola in making Luanda the capital of peace, not only because of the lessons learnt from the long and dreadful civil war but also by hosting the signature of the recent agreement between Rwanda and Uganda on the 21th August. Recalling the birth of the concept of a "Culture of Peace" in 1989, in Yamoussoukro (Ivory Coast), she stated that now, thirty years later, "we have learned that resilience and sustainable peace protection can only be achieved by the societies themselves. Mechanisms to protect peace through security alone have shown their limitations. These security mechanisms are necessary but never sufficient". This explains why this Biennale emphasizes the key role of education and culture for the prevention violence and for resolving conflicts, as well as the need for involvement of civil society in peace endeavors. She concluded by noting that the Biennale's ambition is also to encourage the "mobilization of the greatest number of public and private partners" to invest in education, culture and science in the continent, in order to enable the expansion in time and efforts of peace advancement.

In his exhortation, H.E. Mr Hage Geingob referred to pertinence of the backdrop of the high table: "The banner gives us a clear indication why we are here today. It is showcasing young people who are the essence for Africa's future: investing in them, providing them opportunities to learn, to work and to contribute to Africa's development is key for the promotion of the Culture of Peace in Africa. The backdrop also makes reference to Technology which underscores the importance of investing in 21<sup>st</sup> century technologies in order to allow Africa to develop itself and become an independent and competitive world player; The banner further displays young women dressed in traditional attire, reminding us of the need to invest in and recognize the key role women play in

Africa's peace and development. There is a need to cherish, respect, value and preserve our rich, diverse and unique cultural heritage, all key elements for the preservation of peace. And finally, we see these young women and the older lady looking at each other which brings up the sense of community, solidarity, the collective that is very much part of us as Africans and allows us to live in harmony, young and older generations building together prosperity and peace in Africa. Yes, this is what the Culture of Peace is about!".

Champion of the African Union for Arts, Culture and Heritage, H.E. Mr Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta allocation started with a commendation of "the fine example of resilience the people of Angola and its leaders have demonstrated by overcoming the handicaps resulting from the slave trade first, colonization second, and a long civil war last". He then stressed that the culture of peace will only prevail if it is recognized that it is first and foremost a culture of the relationship between peace, democracy and development. And that it requires the acknowledgment of the need for a "human brotherhood" within and outside borders of countries, and that concomitantly peace must become a manifestation of behavior that favors negotiation and compromise as means of resolving differences and disputes. He concluded his address by expressing "the wish that the Biennale of Luanda be the place where the destiny of Africa" is affirmed in the hands of his children, the place where the determination to make natural, cultural and human resources the pillars of African construction that the African Union's Agenda 2063 seeks to reaffirm.

In his launching speech of the first edition of the Biennale for the Culture of Peace, H.E. Mr João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço began by rejoicing the close collaboration of the Angolan Government with the African Union and UNESCO. He stated that as "privileged space for the promotion of cultural diversity and African unity, the Biennale of Luanda forms an unique platform for governments, civil society, the artistic and scientific community, the private sector and international organizations to discuss and define strategies for the prevention of violence and conflict with a view to building lasting peace". As a result of this inclusive dynamic, he particularly welcomed the participation of young people from Angola, Africa and the diaspora as a guarantee of the emergence of a force, through exchanges of innovative ideas, for solving the socio-economic problems that faces Africa. He recalled as well, that as part of the AU agenda to promote a culture of peace and non-violence, one of its key objectives is to "Silence the guns by 2020". To achieve this objective, he invited all to draw inspiration from the values of pan-Africanism.

After the official inaugural session of the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the Biennale de Luanda, a pan-African Forum for the promotion of the culture of peace, the Heads of State, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director-General of UNESCO deepened their views in a high-level panel discussion moderated by Ms. Georgia Calvin-Smith, a journalist from the international media house France 24 and Mr. Amilcar Xavier , a journalist from the Angolan Public Television (TPA).

To exemplify the importance of investing in sciences and young people as well on the need to create smart partnerships as means of pursuing peace and development, the participants witnessed the signature of an agreement between the Government of the Republic of Angola and UNESCO for an amount of US \$50 million for a national doctoral training programme in science, technology and innovation, which will benefit 165 young doctoral students between 2020 and 2027.

The morning session concluded then with the symbolic offer of the *Peace flower* by young children to the members of the high table.

## II. PARTNERS FORUM - ALLIANCE FOR AFRICA.

In order to ensure that the democratic construction of Africa is built on sustainable humanistic, socio-cultural and economic basis, the partners forum axis of Biennale was organized with the aim to mobilize different partners to engage them in the support of projects and initiatives in service of peace and sustainable development of the continent, its populations and diasporas. As such very first UNESCO's Partners' Forum in Africa was a real showcase of the Luanda Biennale, creating an *Alliance for Africa*.

The Partners Forum was carried out through five distinct sessions:

1. The signature of the Agreement between UNESCO and Angola for doctoral training in the presence of the Heads of State during the opening ceremony
2. Pledges of support
3. Three exchange panels
4. " Partners' Meetings" between field offices, UNESCO Sectors and partners
5. Closure of the Partners' Forum

### II.1. Signature of the Doctoral training on coastal vulnerability in central Africa

The Director General of UNESCO, Ms. Audrey Azoulay and Her Excellence, Ms. Maria do Rosário Bragança Sambo, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology on behalf of the Government of Angola, signed a project agreement of US 50 Million , a sub-regional initiative for institutional capacity building in ocean sciences and the fight against coastal vulnerability in Africa. Coastal vulnerability is a source of conflict, bringing economic and social vulnerability, in particular in the era of climate change.

### II.2. Pledges

Three UNESCO partners manifested their commitment and highlighted the Organization's impact as a strategic partner:

- The Republic of Equatorial Guinea, which announced additional funding of US \$5 million for UNESCO to support the establishment of the African-American University of Central Africa (AAUCA);
- The African Development Bank (AfDB), which has reaffirmed its commitment, particularly in the field of sustainable natural resource management;
- Phoenix TV<sup>1</sup> (Hong Kong/China), a multimedia group, announcing the signature of the partnership renewal with UNESCO on 3 September 2019 ensuring continuing visibility to UNESCO's actions in the world and Africa in particular.

### II.3. Exchange panels

The panels brought together private and public companies, African and non-African Member States, bilateral cooperation agencies, development banks, philanthropic foundations, regional economic communities and international, cultural and sports organizations. The diversity of partners underlines the extent of the international commitment to peace in Africa and UNESCO's capacity to leverage such a wide support.

The panels were preceded by an introduction by, Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations and Her Excellence Ms. Rachel Annick Ogoula Akiko,

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<sup>1</sup> Phoenix Television is a television network of 6 channels that offers channels with Mandarin and Cantonese-language content that serve the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong along with other markets providing news, information, and entertainment programmes.

Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Gabon to UNESCO and Chairperson of the Africa Group. Both speakers welcomed the partners and thanked them for their availability and support of the Biennale of the Culture of Peace, reiterating the crucial importance of the creation of this alliance for Africa's peace and development.

### **II.3.1 The Role of United Nations Organizations, International Organizations and Development Banks**

Moderated by Mrs Audrey Pulvar, Journalist, Founder and CEO of African Pattern, this panel was attended by :

- H.E. Mr Tomas Ulicny, Ambassador, Head of the European Delegation to Angola;
- H.E. Mr Yang Shen, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the People's Republic of China to UNESCO;
- H.E. Mr Ibrahim Albalawi, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO;
- Ms Stéphanie Gottwald, XPRIZE Judge and Professor of Linguistics and Literacy, Tufts University, United States of America;
- Mr. Dominique Roland, Director of the Arts Centre, Enghien les Bains.

All speakers in this panel reiterated that Africa remains a priority for the entities they represented, reaffirming their institutions commitment to support Africa in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. In doing so, several referred to the need in considering African endogenous cultures', essential to manage change and genuine transformation towards a culture of peace. In the same spirit, the promotion and valorization indigenous populations was recognized as a key factor for many African countries efforts in the promoting and recognition of their own cultural diversity, an essential stepping stone to building and consolidating social peace.

Some panelists referred as well to the essential role of women in conflict prevention and resolution in Africa. In that regard, they exhorted African governments to take into account gender related peace and security concerns and strive for the inclusion of women in peace processes in order to achieve long lasting harmony.

Several of the speakers reiterated also their continued support African governments in leveraging demographic potential of the continent's young people through relevant education and training for employment creation and thus enhancing peacebuilding.

Reference was also made to the need to support resilience and social inclusion of African cities, whereby the contribution of UNESCO's network of creative cities and the focus on identifying creativity was recognized as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.

Concluding, this panel proposed the following recommendation:

**The United Nations Organizations, development banks and other multilateral organizations, should continue to promote initiatives promoting the Culture of Peace as an indispensable element in support of governments' efforts in the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development.**



### II.3.2 The role of Private sector, Foundations and the Media

This panel was moderated by Mrs Audrey Pulvar and attended by:

- Mr. Guido Brusco, ENI Executive Vice President for the Sub-Saharan region;
- Mr. Danrui Wang, President of Weidong Group;
- Mr. Samba Bathily, Founder of the Africa Development Solutions Group;
- Mr. Didier Drogba, Vice-President of the Peace and Sport;
- Mr. Olivier Juny, Chief Executive Officer of Total Angola;
- Ms. Eva Cortez, in representation of the Executive Director of Banco BNI, Angola.

Several panelist referred to Africa's wealth in natural resources, but also to the lacks the infrastructure to enable its exploitation, while poverty is often linked to the lack of energy. The need of energy for economic development is driving major oil groups in Africa to diversify their energy production activities, particularly in response to global warming. Aware of the need for diversification and a shift towards sustainable energy sources, many players are investing more in solar energy, thus exploiting the opportunity of the sunniest continent in the world. By providing access to basic services, rural electrification, will reduce the rural exodus and social divide, and creating jobs, especially for young people, and as such solar energy contributes to peace.

In addition, new technologies such as digital technology and artificial intelligence, offer now essential opportunities for Africa's development and to the increasing demand of support from States to their youth. Hence investing into technological growth through education and training, is another fundamental path for a culture of peace.

Banks, they key actors of the private sector as part of their corporate social responsibilities, are keen to support sustainable development by financing cultural and social projects that promote peace.

Sport on the other end, are excellent vehicles for promoting the culture of peace, being able to convey messages on peaceful co-existence in particular with the current conflicts related to the increasing migration flows and crime. Media have a strong and impact particularly on young people and as such a huge responsibility to change attitudes and codes of conduct. Changing towards a culture of peace in the continent requires the combined efforts of governments, public authorities, the private sector and civil society.

Concluding, this panel proposed the following recommendation:

The **private sector** is urged to expand its collaboration with the public sector, strengthening thereby public-private partnerships and reinforce in particular the collaboration with UNESCO, to facilitate the implementation of innovative and comprehensive programmes for the promotion of the Culture of Peace.

### II.2.3 Networks of civil society organizations and Cultural Festivals»

This panel was moderated by Mrs Audrey Pulvar and attended by:

- Mr. Yacouba Konaté, Director-General of the Abidjan Performing Arts Market (MASA);
- Mr. Ardiouma Soma, General Delegate of the Pan-African Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO);
- Mr Seidnaly Sidhamed, known as *Alphadi*, UNESCO Artist for Peace - President of the International Fashion Festival in Africa (FIMA);

- Mr Salif Traore, known as *A'Salfo*, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador - Commissioner-General of the Anoumabo Urban Music Festival (FEMUA);
- Mr. Frédéric Jacquemin, Chief Executive Officer AFRICALIA ;
- Mr Jean Noël Loucou, Permanent Secretary of the Network of Foundations and Research Institutions for the Promotion of a Culture of Peace;
- Mr Ekene Johnpaul Ikwelle, President of the Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace.

In this panel, creativity was recognized to be the heart of Africa and arts the most vibrant forms of its expression. Whether in music, fashion or painting, the arts, a powerful form of dialogue, delivers strong messages to populations and especially to young people who identify themselves with artists and brands. Artists have, therefore, an obligation to convey messages of peace, unity and justice. Some African artists are already spreading messages in their countries calling for national reconciliation or promoting sustainable development, the fight against global warming, etc., thus contributing to the construction and consolidation of a culture of peace and non-violence.

As a constituent of the arts, cinema can also be a powerful amplifier of peace and stability. There is an important cinematographic heritage in Africa with a wide range of production in several countries. Africa's development and stability will therefore require the constant development of cultural and artistic industries. Creativity in this field is, moreover, a formidable source for a growing economy, because behind the arts there is also economic development through job creation, in particular.

Africa's creativity is now recognized worldwide, as the ancestral know-how of African art has long influenced the world. The appropriation by young people of their culture and traditions for the promotion and development of cultural and artistic industries can thus be an effective solution against economic fueled emigration. Youth is an opportunity for Africa, but only if they are well prepared. For this citizenship education along the fostering of a culture of exchange and dialogue between young people n the continent is required.

Concluding, this panel proposed the following recommendation:

**African governments** are urged to enable political and legal ecosystems favorable to the promotion and development of cultural and social entrepreneurship of young people, young women, and indigenous peoples, and to the contribution of artists to the construction of peace in view of opportunities offered by arts in the support of African reconciliation and unity.

#### **II.4. Partners' Meetings**

Two "Partners' Meetings" were envisaged to enable exchanges between Heads and Directors of field offices, their teams and UNESCO's new or long-term partners.

In order to participate in these exchanges, an online registration system was set up. One hundred and seventy-two (172) people expressed interest in meeting with the field offices. To prepare for the exchanges, sixty (60) project files from the different regions were prepared by the field offices:

- North Africa Region: 14 project sheets
- East Africa Region: 9 project sheets
- West Africa Region: 17 project sheets
- Central Africa: 6 project sheets
- Southern Africa Region: 8 project sheets
- Multi-region: 6 project sheets

While the actual exchanges have not materialized during the Biennale due to changes in the programming, the collected projects present a wealth of opportunities to tap from for future dialogue with partners at country or regional level.

## **II. 5. Closing of the Partners' Forum**

The Partners' Forum concluded with a closing ceremony with addresses from the following persons:

- Mr. Mohamed Djelid, Deputy Director, Bureau of Strategic Planning, UNESCO;
- Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO;
- Ms. Angela Martins, Head of Culture Division, Department of Social Affairs of the African Union Commission;
- Mr. Aguinaldo Guedes Cristóvão, Secretary of State for Culture, Angola.

This first Partners' Forum highlighted the importance of a multi-stakeholder alliance acting jointly to improve the future of Africa, exploring opportunities and tackling the challenges for a peaceful and prosperous continent. It has given a platform for dialogues and exchange between international organizations, non-governmental organizations, development banks, governments, the public sector and the private sector. Women, youth, the arts, innovation are at key for the realization of sustainable development objectives in Africa, the African Union Agenda 2063 and the culture of peace.

Those stakeholders reaffirmed UNESCO's responsibility, through its two priorities - Gender Equality and Africa - and through its youth programme, to work with the African Union, governments and civil society towards the changes that Africa needs for its sustainable development and stability.

## **III – THEMATIC FORUMS**

This axis was composed of three forums: Forum of Ideas, Youth Forum and Women's Forum.

With a total of 11 moderators, these different forums mobilized a wealth of experts, 84 in total distributed as follows:

- twenty-five (25) panelists for the Forum of Ideas:
- twelve (12) panelists for the Youth Forum:
- fifteen (15) panelists for the Women's Forum:
- twenty-two (22) panelists for the Parallel sessions

In addition to the young people from Angola, 58 young people from 41 African countries and the diaspora - Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Canada, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Mauritius, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United States of America, Zambia and Zimbabwe - attended the Youth Forum.

### III.1 – FORUM OF IDEAS

The Forum of Ideas focused on the theme of “Building and perpetuating peace in Africa: A multi-stakeholder movement”. The Forum of Ideas was built as a platform for reflection on the future of Africa through the sharing of experiences, best practices and innovative solutions. It consisted of the following thematic sessions:

1. Prevention of Violence and Conflict Resolution through Education and Culture
2. Prevention of Conflicts over Natural Resources
3. Leaving no one behind: Promoting the Integration of Refugees, Returnees, Displaced Persons and Migrants in Africa
4. Global Africa: Exploring the African Presence in the World
5. Free, Independent and Pluralistic Media to Promote Peace and Development in Africa

Complementary to those, several parallel were organized to deepen some of the issues related to the main sessions:

1. Addressing literacy challenges of disadvantaged children through advanced technology and smart partnerships
2. State of Peace and Security in Africa
3. Sustainable financing of Biosphere reserves in Africa – AfriblioFund
4. Addressing Coastal vulnerability in Central Africa
5. Reflections on current policies for the integration of people of African descent and contemporary migrants
6. The Baku Process: Promoting intercultural dialogue for human security, peace and sustainable development – Lessons and perspectives

The session on the plight of Person with Albinism was unfortunately cancelled due to agenda constraints.

#### **III.1.1 Thematic sessions of the Forum of Ideas**

##### **1. « Prevention of violence and conflict resolution through Education and Culture »**

This session was moderated by Mr. George PAPAGIANNIS, Chief of the Media Relations Section at UNESCO, and had the following panelists:

- Ms. Mbaranga GASARABWE, Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), United Nations Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Ms. Safira MAHANJANE, Director of the Alphabetization Department of the Ministry of Education and Human Development, Mozambique
- Mr. Hassan CHOUEIKH, Director Professional and Vocation training, Ministry of Tourism, Air transport and Social Economy, Kingdom of Morocco
- Mr. Antonio TSILEFA, Chair Coordination Committee of Regional Group of Technical and Vocational Training Institutions, Madagascar
- Mr. Filipe ZAU, Dean of the Independent University, Angola

The majority of current outbreaks of violence and conflict on the African continent arise within States and are increasingly less the result of clashes between States. Within the geographic and political

context that charts this current new map of violence and conflict, this session focused on the how UNESCO, given its global priorities, supports countries in their efforts to provide local stakeholders with the knowledge, skills, behaviors and values that support resilience necessary to live and work together. The discussions held in the session were centered, among others, on the efforts undertaken to face the contemporary challenges pertaining to community conflicts, the migrant crisis, and countering religious fundamentalism.

Specifically, the panelists showcased the best practices involving the following fields of action:

- Efforts towards family and inclusive education, including gender-sensitive initiatives that seek to change societal paradigms when it comes to girls and women's role in Mozambique.
- Inclusive social economy that harnesses traditional cultural practices by engaging creative industries to target youth employment in Morocco.
- the experiences and challenges of the UN mission in Mali, in particular on education to combat extremism and on the preservation of cultural heritage.
- Community empowerment through peace education and vocational training in southern Madagascar.
- The role of teachers in educating the next generation of students in Angola.

The session retained the following recommendations:

- 1) We call upon **UNESCO and other international** organizations to continue supporting **countries** in the promotion of inter- and cross sectoral informal, formal and non-formal education content and approaches that respect cultural diversity, the values of peace and tolerance and provide spaces for dialogue and "living together", including specific needs of vulnerable people and minorities;
- 2) Noting that millions of primary school age children are out of school; that 9 out of 10 in school do not achieve the minimum levels of literacy and numeracy and that many girls still continue to drop out of school at a very young age, we call upon **Governments and International organizations** to provide and support access to 21st century technology as a means of enhancing teaching and learning as well as addressing the literacy and learning needs of populations that have been left behind by conventional educational programmes;
- 3) Noting that cultural diversity and valorization of African culture is key for promoting self-esteem and the notion of pan-Africanism, we urge **countries** to develop and implement inclusive cultural policies that ensure the preservation of cultural tangible and intangible heritage, to foster a diversified array of cultural expressions and access to cultural and artistic practices;
- 4) We encourage **countries** to continue to support and promote African artists and cultural events that, as part of their social responsibility, promote dialogue and a culture of peace especially among young people;
- 5) We call upon the **African Union and Governments** to increasingly adopt and promote endogenous cultural knowledge, traditions and forms of cultural and artistic expression that have been effectively used for the prevention and management of conflict;
- 6) We urge the **private sector and international entities** to support **countries** in building a technological and financial environment favorable to the emergence of African creative industries and inclusive digital entrepreneurship reflecting the cultural and linguistic diversity of the continent.

## 2. « Prevention of conflicts over natural resources »

This session was moderated by Mr. Jean-Pierre Ilboudo, Head of the UNESCO Office and Representative in the Democratic Republic of Congo and acting Head of the UNESCO Office in Brazzaville (Congo) and had the following panelists:

- H.E. Ms. Josefa Lionel CORREIA SACKO, Commissioner, Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission
- Mr. Ousmane DORE, Director-General – Central Africa region- African Development Bank
- Mr. Adama TONDOSAMA, Director-General of the Ivorian Parks and Reserves Office (OIPR), Ivory Coast
- Prof. Amadou BOUREIMA, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, Abdou Moumouni University, Niamey, Niger
- Ms. Theresa PIRKL, Head of the Political Department of the Office of the United Nations Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region, Nairobi, Kenya
- Mr. Vladimir RUSSO, Executive Director of the Kisama Foundation, Angola

Africa is home to an abundance of natural resources that represents both the key to the growth and development of the continent as well as a unique and rich heritage to be preserved. Growing pressure from the exponential increase in the demand and the unfettered competition for natural resources exposes Africa's enormous wealth to numerous risks. The management of natural resources and the prevention of their overexploitation are challenges of crucial importance to avoid the devastation of the continent's common goods. Moreover, environmental degradation and the potential effects of climate change impose an additional strain on communities and their livelihoods.

Ensuing tensions that result from mismanagement of scarce resources threaten peace in the continent. According to a study published by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), natural resources have fueled at least 18 violent conflicts since 1990 and have been linked to at least 40% of all intrastate conflicts since the end of the World War II. As the global population continues to rise, and the demand for resources continues to grow, there is significant potential for conflicts over natural resources that are expected to intensify in the coming decades.

This session focused on sharing experiences of successful cooperation and case studies of projects and initiatives of UNESCO's flagship projects and other remarkable initiatives that contribute to conflict prevention in the management of domestic and transboundary natural resources in Africa.

Specifically, the session highlighted:

- UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme and World Heritage Convention, and the challenges and opportunities related to the transboundary cooperation for regional integration.
- Reinforcing the synergy between conservation and development, providing an the opportunity of exchanging experiences in this field in the political arena (African Union);
- from finance and development (African Development Bank) point of view;
- from the research perspective (University of Niamey);
- from the outlook of site management entities (OIPR, Côte d'Ivoire);
- from the view of UN agencies (Special Envoy Office to the Great Lakes Region);
- from the angle of national entities and their counterparts (Angola).

The panelists retained the following recommendations:

1. We call upon **Governments** to promote practices for the compatible and sustainable use and preservation of shared natural resources at country and transboundary levels and in particular of UNESCO World Heritage sites, biosphere reserves and geo parks, including through the enhancement of traditional and indigenous knowledge;
2. Noting that several major conflicts in the continent are related to the misuse of transboundary ecosystems particularly in the Sahel, Great Lakes, Lake Chad and Congo Basin regions, we encourage **States** to further strengthen collaboration to ensure the sustainable management of these joint natural resources;
3. In this regard, encourage partners from the private sector, development cooperation and civil society to add on to States efforts to set up innovative and sustainable endogenous financing mechanisms for the management of the natural resources in Africa;
4. Noting that Africa's geological and mineral richness are one of the key assets of Africa, we urge **countries, AUC and the UN** to develop national and regional mechanisms for the transparent management of extractive industries, including the development and enforcement of regulatory and operational consultation frameworks.

**3. *Leaving no one behind: promoting the integration of refugees, returnees, displaced persons and migrants in Africa***

The session was moderated by Ms. Marema Toure Thiam, Chief, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO Dakar Office and engaged the following panelists:

- Mr. AHMED SKIM, Director of Migration Affairs, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in charge of Moroccans Residing Abroad and Migration Affairs, Morocco
- H.E. Ms. Rebecca OTENGO, Ambassador of the Republic of Uganda and Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Refugees, IDPs and Returnees
- H.E. Mr. Jean Leon NGANDU-ILUNGA, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Ethiopia
- Ms. Santa ERNESTO, Director from the Ministry of Social Action, the Family and the Advancement of Women, Angola.

An estimated 68 million people are forcibly displaced worldwide and more than a third of these people are in Africa. This includes as well 6.3 million refugees and asylum-seekers and 14.5 million displaced persons. In this context, the African Union (AU) has chosen 2019's AU Theme as "Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa". With this choice, African leaders recognize the need for comprehensive and inclusive responses to major migration trends and their dynamics and challenges for the continent and abroad.

The high scale of the displacement crisis is compounded by risks of trafficking, human rights violations including sexual and gender-based violence, lack of adequate humanitarian assistance, detention of asylum-seekers, deportation, xenophobia and overall discrimination of refugees.

This session focused on best practices of countries identified by the African Union that could inspire others in improving their policies in support of refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrants.

The issues discussed included:

1. the comprehensive treatment of migrants in the Kingdom of Morocco – AU Champion on Migration;

2. Uganda's inclusive Refugee Management Policy and Framework which ensures that refugees are granted asylum and access to the same rights as its citizens;
3. The DRC's experience on the management of IDPs, refugees, returnees in the complex geographical context of the Great Lakes and Central African region;
4. the historical and contemporary perspective of Angola when it comes to the Asylum seekers from the greater southern and central African regions.

The panelists retained the following recommendations:

- 1) We call upon the **African Union, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), African countries and transit countries and countries of destination** to adopt comprehensive gender-sensitive policies, frameworks, and measures in refugee management at the local, national and regional levels, addressing violence against woman as well as human trafficking;
- 2) We appeal to **international organization and countries** to increase national and public investment in the provision of shelter, adequate water and sanitation facilities, health services, quality education (including through ICTs) and childcare and other gender-sensitive services to for refugees and IDPs, complemented by long-term efforts to guarantee the right to housing, land and property;
- 3) We urge **countries** to prioritize the ratification, adoption and implementation of key legal and policy frameworks, in particular the Kampala Convention and the Maputo Protocol, and in collaboration with the **AUC** to establish an annual review mechanism to monitor and control compliance in order to improve the protection of women and children and eliminate harmful practices that exacerbate their vulnerability in situations of displacement;
- 4) We call upon the **AUC and countries** to adopt effective mechanisms, practices and structures for mitigation and management of climate change effects and reduction of the potential damage associated with climate-change-related displacement, including social protection systems that enhance the resilience of displaced women and children.

#### **4. « Global Africa: Exploring the African presence in the world »**

This session was moderated by Ms. Zeinab Badawi, BBC Journalist and producer of the series on the "General History of Africa" and included the following panelists:

- Mr. Augustin HOLL, President of the International Scientific Committee for the new volumes of the General History of Africa
- Mr. José CHALA CRUZ, Executive Secretary for Afro-Ecuadorian Development Cooperation – CODAE, Ecuador
- Mr. Abdi KUSOW, Professor, Department of Sociology, Iowa State University, USA
- Mr. Jason THEEDE, Senior Specialist on Labour Mobility and Human Development, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Mr. Ziva DOMINGOS, National Director of Museums and Angola's representative on the World Heritage Committee.

Africa and its Diasporas have often been presented as distinct groups, separated by oceans that have had only sporadic contact during brief historical moments. UNESCO, in line with the elaboration of the General History of Africa, seeks to challenge this binary and simplistic perspective of relations between Africa and its Diasporas by introducing the concept of a Global Africa. This concept makes it possible to understand the history of relations between Africans and people of African descent as an interconnected and continuous process, including the circulation of people, knowledge, know-how and cultural productions, and whose matrix is the African heritage.



This session highlighted:

- The African influence in the world and the diversity of contributions of people of African descent to modern societies.
- It examined the legacy of slavery and colonialism faced by people of African descent and their capacity to resist in the fight against racial prejudice, racism and discrimination.
- It focused on how the African diaspora participates in the development of the continent, and how they are a key actor to contribute to the Culture of Peace, in both endogenous and exogenous forms.

The session concluded with the following recommendations:

1. To **UNESCO**, in conformity with its mandate, to pursue in supporting the recognition, appreciation and promotion of the contribution, at the technical, scientific, cultural and human levels, of the Afro-descendant people building a new society worldwide, expanding its educational programme based on the General History of Africa, of textbooks and other teaching materials, in particular through non-formal and informal education, higher education, but also through information to the general public ;
2. To all **African States** concerned to promote actively the adoption and mainstreaming of the General History of Africa in their curricula and cross sector education system.
3. To the **African Union** and the **regional organizations**, to adopt relevant resolutions committing Member States to promote the links between Africans and Afro-descendants worldwide and the support of inter-continental collaboration for the promotion of the human rights of Afro-descendants.
4. To all the **States, civil society organizations, intergovernmental organizations, organizations and networks** working to promote human rights: to promote policies and interventions for the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, protection of human rights of people of Afro-descendance and annual review mechanisms to monitor the enactment of such policies.

**5. « Free, independent and pluralistic media to foster peace and development in Africa »**

Moderated by Ms Georgia CALVIN-SMITH, Journalist at France 24, the session had as panelists:

- Mr. AL AMIN Yusuph, Regional Advisor for Communication and Information, UNESCO Office in Harare
- Mr. Jérôme TRAORE, former President of the Court of Justice of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Burkina Faso
- Ms. Al-Shaymaa J. KWEGYIR, former Member of Parliament and activist for the plight of Persons with Albinisms, Tanzania
- Mr. Teixeira CÂNDIDO, Secretary General of the Union of Angolan Journalists, Angola

The media has a crucial role to play in promoting peace, justice and sustainable development throughout the world, and as such, also in the African continent. A dynamic, free, independent and pluralistic media landscape ensures that citizen's access to quality and unbiased information, encouraging people to express their opinions and therefore promoting greater political participation.

The media also serve as an accountability mechanism, raising important issues that might otherwise not be publicly debated or addressed, such as corruption, political wrongdoing or human rights violations, thereby strengthening the rule of law and good governance. These essential contributions of the media are essential to fostering peaceful societies and resolving conflicts.

With the advent of new media, there is a need for Africa to exploit technological innovations to empower people through media and information literacy to promote a climate of peace in Africa. In this regard, the session explored the following themes:

- combating hate speech, promoting freedom of expression, protecting press freedom, ensuring the safety of journalists and promoting conflict sensitive and gender responsive dialogue are all.
- the judicial application of ECOWAS Court of Justice when it comes to the protection of freedom of speech and of expression, as well as the protection of journalist's safety against arbitrary detention.
- the power of media in shaping public awareness and countering the social exclusion, the case of local and national radios in promote and the well-being of people with albinism in Tanzania;
- UNESCO projects that utilized media to effectively counter female gentile mutilation in the Maasai Community;
- the importance of Media independence and the challenges faced in the Angolan context.

The session agreed on the following recommendations:

- 1) Noting with deep concern that according to UNESCO more than 86% of the Judicial Status of cases of enquiry into Journalists Killings in Africa are still unresolved (2006-2018), we call **on all, Governments, and international organizations** to support capacity building activities for judicial officials (judges, prosecutors, lawyers) on freedom of expression and safety of journalists' standards to promote peace and rule of law;
- 2) Recognizing how citizens access to public data can reduce corruption and increase accountability; further recognizing that 20 countries in Africa, which have adopted legislation on Access to Information, we call upon **all Governments in Africa** to pass access to information (ATI) laws as a means to promoting freedom of expression and peace in Africa;
- 3) Keeping in mind the growing popularity of social media, and with it the dangers posed by misinformation and disinformation to a climate of peace in Africa, we **further recommend to Governments, international organizations and civil society** to invest in the empowerment of people to think critically about the information they receive through Media and Information Literacy (MIL) programmes.
- 4) Understanding that Person with Albinism continue to suffer from violence and large dsacle discrimination and exclusion in the African continent, we call upon UNESCO and the AUC to intensify it's support to countries to adopt and promote actions towards the elimination of prejudice and discrimination against PWAs and countries to adopt policies and strategies to counteract the exclusion and disadvantage of PWAs.
- 5) Recognizing that national court systems must be the first to guarantee the protection of journalists against the various types of attacks on their integrity in the exercise of their function, we urge **countries** to reinforce their independence to apply the legal provisions provided for in the international, regional and national instruments to defend journalists and media professionals from offenses.
- 6) Aware that Regional Courts as the ECOWAS Court of Justice have no criminal jurisdiction, we appeal to the **AUC** to consider the establishment of an autonomous criminal court, and the possibility of the creation of a criminal chamber within the Court of Justice.

### III.1.2 Parallel sessions

#### 1. « Addressing literacy challenges of disadvantaged children through advanced technology and smart partnerships»

The session was moderated by Mr Yao Ydo, Director of UNESCO's Regional Office for West Africa, Abuja (Nigeria) and had the following panelists:

- Prof. Stephanie Gottwald, Linguistics and Literacy Tufts University and Content Director, Curious Learning
- Mr. Creesen Naicker, Director Partnership Distribution, Curious Learning
- Ms. Zulmira Rodrigues, Chief Section for Cooperation with Regional Organizations in Africa, Africa Department, UNESCO
- Ms Marie Yasunaga, Programme Specialist in the Youth Section, Literacy and Skills Development, UNESCO;
- Ms. Loise Danladi Musa, Executive Secretary of the Bauchi State Agency for Mass Education, Nigeria

This session highlighted the effective solutions that digital technology offers in response to the learning needs of children and other learners.

After a review of the state of global and regional literacy and the challenges it poses, two initiatives supported by digital technology were presented: the "School Meet Learners" project in Nigeria and the "Curious Learning" literacy initiative.

Adapted from a project launched in Senegal as part of a partnership between UNESCO, the private sector (Proctor & Gamble) and the Ministry of Education, the "School Meet Learners" project aimed to provide literacy opportunities to 50,000 women and girls, using tablets. For socio-cultural reasons, and also, due to the security situation, many girls and women in Nigeria are unable to attend school. Thanks to this project, many girls and women learn at home, bypassing socio-cultural barriers and thus reducing their vulnerability to extremist violence.

Launched in 2011, "Curious Learning" is a research initiative to explore the potential of digital technology to improve child literacy, involving experts from MIT, Tufts University, George State University and other partners. It has developed self-learning applications for mobile phones or low-end computers including from the tablet driven UNESCO supported XPRIZE on Early Learning project in Tanzania (206-2019); applications that have been tested in several countries, including South Africa, rural areas in India, a slum in Uganda, children who cannot go to school in the United States and refugees in Syria.

In addition to the "Curious Learning" initiative itself, the session provided an opportunity to present a joint UNESCO-Curious Learning initiative on early learning by children aged between 6 and 10, currently under development, to gather participants' suggestions and stimulate their interest in possible collaboration and partnerships. Constructive comments were received on the project with a view to refining its design.

In addition, inspired by the concepts, approaches and technologies adopted by these initiatives, participants and panelists then discussed a range of questions on the potential of digital technology and the issues and potential risks associated with this type of initiative. These included approaches to teaching and learning, language choice, local content production, monitoring and evaluation, alignment of initiatives with national education systems, costs of learning and resource issues.

The session retained the following recommendations:

1. **Countries** are urged to expand children's access to meaningful learning opportunities to acquire basic literacy skills through digital technology, in particular for those excluded from quality learning, including out-of-school children, children with disabilities, children living in rural areas and children affected by natural or man-made disasters;
2. In that regard, recognizing the opportunities offered by 21<sup>st</sup> century technologies, **UNESCO** is called upon to support **countries** in promoting literacy programmes supported by digital technology through a holistic and humanistic approach to learning, encompassing cognitive, social and emotional dimensions, so that learners are autonomous lifelong learners; and explore effective ways to integrate this learning into in school-teaching as well as the lives of children and families, including family literacy approaches, and to link literacy to other areas, such as family planning, sexual reproductive health education, education for sustainable development and global citizenship;
3. As such the participants applaud and support the **UNESCO – Curious Learning** initiative, whereby the quality of literacy learning assisted by digital technology improves the relevance of content and learning processes to the profile, context, needs and aspirations of children, with particular attention to the use of African languages, local content and cultures as well as a cost-effective solution for second chance education of the excluded;
4. **Countries** are therefore encouraged to mobilize adequate national and external resources, to adhere to such kind of initiatives so that disadvantaged children can acquire the necessary skills to become full-fledged citizens empowered to contribute to the development of their countries in a peaceful manner.

## **2. « State of peace and security in Africa »**

This session was moderated by Ms. Ana Elisa Santana Afonso, Director of UNESCO's Liaison Office with the African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and UNESCO Representative in Ethiopia and it had as panellists:

- Ms. Michelle Ndiaye, Director of the Programme «Peace and Security in Africa» of the Institute of Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa University;
- Prof. Samuel Kale Ewusi, Director of the Africa Regional Programme, United Nations University for Peace;
- Ms. Shewit Hailu Desta, Head of the Department for Conflict, Early Warning and Preventive Diplomacy of the African Union Commission;
- Mr. Ibrahim CEESAY, Executive Director and Founder of the African Artists for Peace Initiative;
- Dr. Yonas Adaye Adeto, Director of the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia;
- Mr. Charles Binam Bikoi, Executive Secretary of the International Research and Documentation Centre on African Traditions and Languages (CERDOTOLA);
- H.E. Afonso Eduardo Inguila, Ambassador and Director of Africa, Middle East and Regional Organizations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Angola.

This session was devoted to the presentation of the 2019 Annual Report on the State of Peace and Security in Africa of the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) of Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia). This report has become the flagship annual report of the "Tana High-Level Forum on Security in Africa", commonly known as the "Tana Forum", which provides a synoptic analysis of pressing peace and security issues on the continent. In an informal and collaborative environment, the "Tana Forum" extends the formal meetings of African Heads of State and Government.

Without claiming to document all the peace and security challenges faced by the continent in a given year, the Annual Report on the State of Peace and Security in Africa is intended to draw attention to those considered to be the most important and cross-cutting, particularly in terms of disruption and harm to African citizens and States. Its ultimate objective is to revitalize and strengthen African agencies and encourage them to conceptualize and implement proactive and innovative measures to address the challenges posed by peace and security issues on the continent.

Based on the fact that African trends reflected global trends, the discussion noted that peace and security are global problems, which can only be solved through global solutions. However, participants encouraged Africans to believe in their ability to empower and organize themselves to deal with the continent's conflicts. Indeed, considerable efforts are being made in the continent to prevent and resolve conflicts; unfortunately, these efforts are too often aimed at fighting detailed "fires" and when one conflict is resolved, another has already emerged. What is needed is a multidimensional approach and treatment of conflicts.

At the end of the discussion, the following recommendations were made:

1. Considering that peace and security are global problems requiring global solutions, on the one hand; and that conflicts have multiple causes, **international entities and nations** are requested to prioritize the multidimensional treatment of conflicts in Africa, also taking into account the issue of wealth creation and the socio-economic development of countries;
2. Considering that unemployment and lack of employment for young people can be sources of conflict, we call upon **governments**, with **UNESCO's support**, to strengthen education and training for the employability of young people; and to prioritize peace education, particularly by focusing on women's capacity-building, higher education and teacher training;
3. We request that human rights issues are integrated into a comprehensive peace programme in Africa within **the AU** framework, also working with different institutions;
4. We recommend that research and reflection on African epistemology and grammar on the culture of peace within the framework of Aspiration 5 of Agenda 2063 is strengthened and in accordance with the African Charter on Cultural Renaissance;
5. We propose that the "Annual Report on the State of Peace and Security in Africa" of the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) of Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) becomes part of the future editions of the "Biennale of Luanda - Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace", to show trends in the state of peace in Africa;
6. Request **UNESCO** to be associated with the celebration, in 2022, of the centenary of the birth of President Agostinho Neto, who, through his artistic work, promoted the liberation of his country and the unity of the Angolan people.

### **3. « Sustainable financing of Biosphere reserves in Africa - AfrilioFund »**

This session was moderated by Mr. Salah Khaled, Director of UNESCO's Multisectoral Office for Central Africa, Yaoundé (Cameroon) and contributed to by:

- Mr. Ousmane Dore, Director General of the Regional Office for Central Africa of the African Development Bank Group;
- Mr. Adepoju Adeshola, Executive Director of the Nigeria Forestry Research Institute (FRIN), and President of the African MAB Network in Africa (AfrimAB);
- Ms. Noëline Raondry Rakotoarisoa, Chief Section, Network of Biosphere Reserves in Africa and Capacity Building, UNESCO.

Biosphere reserves (BRs) are "learning places for sustainable development" at local, national, regional and global levels. These are sites for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems, including conflict prevention and biodiversity and climate change management. UNESCO is working with the African Development Bank (AfDB) to develop a strategic partnership in favor of the AFRIBIOFUND. This fund will be a major contribution to help African Member States to implement Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 15 (Life on Earth) and SDG 13 (Climate Change). Indeed, the availability of sustainable funding will improve the performance of individual BRs and the regional network in Africa.

The session brought together 20 participants from 12 countries, aimed at raising awareness of the AFRIBIOFUND initiative, and providing a common understanding of the issues and challenges related to the sustainable management of biosphere reserves in Africa. Additionally, the session offered an opportunity for sharing experiences on cooperation between UNESCO and the AfDB on the sustainable financing of biosphere reserves.

The recommendations of the session are as follows:

1. For **UNESCO and countries** to build upon the experiences and lessons learned from initiatives such as the Congo Basin Forest Fund and the African World Heritage Fund to create links and synergies with other Funds such as the Climate Fund;
2. **To the AfDB**, to ensure that AFRIBIOFUND is operationally flexible and can finance quick-impact actions, with a focus on green economy-based activities that benefit local communities.

**4. « Ownership of the Sub-Regional Initiative for Institutional Capacity Building in Ocean Sciences and Coastal Vulnerability in Central Africa »**

Organized with the aim of strengthening ownership of an ongoing development initiative between the Central African countries (Angola, Cameroon, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea) and the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO), this session, consisting of two discussion panels, was jointly opened by:

- Ms Francisca Delgado, Focal Point of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of Angola;
- H.E. José Diekumpuna Sita N'Sadisi, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of Angola to UNESCO and Chairman of the Central Africa Sub-Group;
- H.E. Mrs Maria Antonieta J.S. Baptista, Minister of Fisheries and the Sea of the Republic of Angola.

**4.1. « Actions to minimize the negative impact of climate change on the blue economy and the role of IOC-UNESCO in promoting ocean sciences and its contribution to the African Decade for the Seas and Oceans »**

Dr. Giza Martins of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Angola moderated this first panel discussion which counted with contributions from :

- Mr. Pier Paolo Balladelli, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations system in Angola
- Mr Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary of IOC/UNESCO (through video)

The following thematic were addressed:

- Global Actions to minimize the negative impact of climate change on the blue economy as well as major challenges of coastal vulnerability.

- The role of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO) in promoting ocean sciences and its contribution to the African Decade for the Seas and Oceans.

4.2.« Regional initiative on capacity building in ocean sciences and coastal vulnerability in Central Africa; Inventory of oceanographic research stations in Angola and Environmental monitoring of oil production areas »

This session counted with 3 moderators: Dr. Nelma Caetana of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Angola, Dr. Cristino Mario Ndeitunga of the Ministry of Land Planning and Housing of the Republic of Angola and

The following presenters addressed the audience:

- Mr Justin Ahanhanzo, IOC Regional Liaison Officer
- Dr Filomena Vaz Velho, from the Ministry of Fisheries and the Sea, Republic of Angola
- Ms Francisca Delgado, IOC Focal Point at the Ministry of Fisheries and the Sea, Republic of Angola
- Dr Manuel Xavier, from the Ministry of Environment, Republic of Angola

Presented themes:

- The Regional Initiative on Capacity Building in Ocean Sciences and Coastal Vulnerability in Central Africa (CBOSCVCA)
- The status of marine and coastal environment observation and monitoring systems in Angola.
- Protocols that meet international standards for environmental monitoring of oil production areas in Angola.

This session allowed also an 8-year-old girl, Licypriya Kangujam, winner of the World Children's Peace Prize, from New Delhi, India, on behalf of all the world's children suffering from war, hunger or floods and extreme weather events, to call on governments, families and adults to put into practice the rules of good conduct, equity, respect, equality and solidarity taught in schools and in families. She called on all of them to apply the generous speeches they profess and asked participants to support the global march for peace and respect for children that she is preparing and that will be launched in India before the end of 2019.

This global session on "Ownership of the Sub-Regional Initiative for Institutional Capacity Building in Ocean Sciences and Coastal Vulnerability in Central Africa", adopted the following recommendations:

1. Request the **Government of the Republic of Angola** to transmit the full report of this session (including its recommendations) to the **African Union**, while requesting the latter's support for the joint implementation, within the framework of Agenda 2063, of the "Integrated Maritime Strategy of the African Union to 2050". The "African Union Decade for the African Seas and Oceans (2015-2025)", the "African Charter on Maritime Safety and Security and Development in Africa" known as the "Lomé Charter", in order to develop a continental and pan-African programme on coastal vulnerability in Africa;
2. Request the mobilization and support of the **Governments of the countries concerned in Central Africa** for the implementation of the recommendations, development and implementation of the subregional framework programme;
3. Request the **Central Africa Regional Sub-Group within the African Group to UNESCO** to present the report and recommendations on the margins of the 40th session of the UNESCO General Conference in November 2019;

4. Request **regional integration and financing institutions in Central Africa** to provide support and financial assistance for the implementation of the recommendations, development and implementation of the subregional framework programme;
5. Request for its technical and financial support from the **United Nations System in Central Africa** for the implementation of the recommendations, as well the implementation of the subregional framework programme;
6. Considering the complexity of the confluence zone represented by the coastline, and taking into account UNESCO's intersectoral and multidisciplinary mandate, invite **UNESCO** to adopt an intersectoral approach for the definition, formulation, development and implementation of the CBOSCVCA subregional initiative to optimize support.
7. Request the **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO** to ensure that the proposed training on maritime spatial planning in Central Africa is fully integrated into the ongoing process and consultations with the Permanent Delegations of the countries concerned in order to avoid any duplication, on the one hand; and to work in good cooperation with the sectors concerned at UNESCO to ensure the transversal and intersectoral nature of the initiative, on the other hand;
8. Recognizing **Governments roles through their ministerial institutions, Permanent Delegations to UNESCO** and academic institutions in the development process of the CBOSCVCA Initiative, recommend the establishment of a Task Force to pursue advocacy with the governments of the respective countries, the UNESCO Secretariat and regional and international partners; and a scientific and technological Task force consisting of national and regional experts.

**5. « Reflections on current policies for the integration of people of African descent and contemporary migrants»**

This session was co-moderated by Mr. Luis Kandjimbo, Director General of the Higher Institute of Metropolitan Polytechnics, Angola and Mr. Dimitry Sanga, Director, UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office for West Africa in Dakar, Senegal.

The following panelists contributed to the discussions:

- Mr. Edizon Federico Leon Castro, Professor and Researcher on the African Diaspora, Ecuador
- Ms. Susana Matute, Director of Afro-African Public Policies, Ministry of Culture, Peru
- Prof. Abdi Kusow, Department of Sociology, Iowa State University, USA
- Mr. Cornélio Caley, Adviser to the Ministry of Culture, Angola

Demographically, the diaspora represents a significant part of the global Africa. It is more educated and skilled than its continental counterpart. Moreover, it has contributed significantly to the development of countries of destination. This session was envisaged to provide an in-depth discussion on how to approach the relationship between the diaspora and the African continent. It sought to bridge the gap between theory and practice on the ties that bind the concept of global Africa and the realities encountered.

There is a need to distinguish between the classic long-standing diaspora, the afro-descents, and the contemporary one. The relationship of the latter with the continent is currently based on their economic power, represented in part by the financial weight that remittances play.

As far as the classic (long standing) diaspora is concerned, there is a need to create a system where it is encouraged to have a good understanding of the continent so that the latter can tap into the skills and competencies that might be transferred by the former. However, in doing so, one has to be cautious of the potential of creating greater inequalities between the returning diaspora and the local population.



The session adopted the following recommendation:

Considering that the diaspora has played a significant role in intellectually shaping Pan-Africanism, and how it fed the liberation movements leading to the self-determination and independence of various African countries, **invite** the African Union and its member states to reach out to the diaspora through the establishment of relevant channels with the view of reinvigorating these links to the continent.

**5. « The Baku Process: Promoting intercultural dialogue for human security, peace and sustainable development - Lessons and perspectives»**

The section was moderated by Mr Vasif Eyvazzade, Secretary of the International Working Group on "The Baku Process", Deputy Head of Administration, Head of Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan and attended by:

- H.E. Mr. Anar KARIMOV, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Azerbaijan to UNESCO
- Prof. Mike HARDY, Executive Director, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, University of Coventry, Advisor to the Government of Azerbaijan (through video)
- Mr. Hugue Charnie NGANDEU NGATTA, Programme Specialist for Social and Human Sciences, Abuja Regional Office, UNESCO

The session focused on a historical presentation of the "Baku Process" as a global platform established to bring together States, international and regional organizations and civil society to promote respect, understanding, dialogue and tolerance among cultures.

Taking place every two years as an initiative of the Government of Azerbaijan, with UNESCO as a technical partner, the Baku Process is a framework promoting intercultural dialogue and offering opportunities for cooperation with Africa, in particular by making intercultural dialogue an engine for human security, peace and sustainable development.

The presentation of the Baku Process was an opportunity to recall that Azerbaijan and Africa have long-standing ties dating back to the 1960s, when 8,000 African students were offered scholarships to study in Azerbaijan, including the former President of Angola. Azerbaijan's commitment to Africa still prevails based on a strategic vision built on three elements:

1. assistance by the International Agency for Azerbaijan, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa;
2. development assistance and capacity-building, particularly in girls' education;
3. Protection of cultural heritage through training and capacity building.

The session adopted the following recommendations:

1. Considering the implementation of the "International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures" (2013-2022), call for the creation of synergies between the "Baku Process" and the "Biennale of Luanda - Pan African Forum for the Culture of Peace";
2. Ensure the participation of young people from Africa in the "Baku Process", with a view to promoting intercultural dialogue and the culture of peace and encouraging the participation of **all African countries**.

### III.2 – Youth Forum

As a space for reflection and exchange between young people from the continent and the diaspora, the Youth Forum, with the general theme "Youth and the Culture of Peace", was the subject of two sessions: one on "Youth, peace and security" and the other on "Creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation".

#### 1. « Youth, peace and security »

The session was moderated by Mr. Bonheur Djerabe Djatto, Expert in Information and Communication Technologies and Early Warning and Conflict Prevention of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and attended by:

- Ms. Mfrekeobong Ukpanah, Head of the African Union Youth Network, Team for Peace and Security (Nigeria);
- Mr John Paul Ekene Ikwelle, President of the Pan-African Youth Network for the Culture of Peace (Nigeria);
- Mr. Achakele Christian Leke, Coordinator of "Local Youth Corner" in Cameroon;
- Mr Noemio Dylan Mukoroli, Regional Coordinator of the Pan-African Youth Network for the Culture of Peace (Namibia);
- Ms. Fathia Hassan Moussa, National Coordinator of the Global Peace Initiative Foundation in Djibouti;
- Mr Domingo Massangano, Vice-President of the National Youth Council of Angola.

The session focused specifically on the implementation in Africa of the United Nations Security Council resolution 2250 (2015), which states that *“young people should actively participate in the establishment of lasting peace and work towards justice and reconciliation, and that the demographic importance of today's youth is an asset that can contribute to the sustainable establishment of peace and economic prosperity”*. It focused also on the implementation of resolution 2419 (2018), and on article 17 of the African Youth Charter (2006), by which States Parties are invited to *“strengthen the capacities of youth and youth organizations in peacebuilding, conflict prevention and conflict resolution through the promotion of intercultural education, education for civility, tolerance, human rights, democracy, mutual respect for cultural, ethnic and religious diversity, and the importance of dialogue, cooperation, responsibility, solidarity and international cooperation.”*

Although confirming the importance and validity of the issue of engaging young people in all issues concerning peace and security on the continent, the debates and exchanges highlighted the lack of political will of African States to implement these resolutions and the African Youth Charter. They highlighted to a large extent, also the lack of awareness by young people and their organizations, of these normative instruments and the equally widespread view that these instruments would only concern countries in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict.

In addition, the debates and exchanges made it possible to recall the precedence of the African Youth Charter, precisely in Article 17, in relation to the UN resolutions, on the call and requirement to involve young people in peace and security issues. It also emphasized the initiatives of the Peace and Security Department of the African Union Commission in the implementation of these UN resolutions and Article 17 of the African Youth Charter.

Among these initiatives, reference was made of the launch of the "Youth4Peace" programme, which aims to engage and involve young people and their organizations in promoting peace and security on the continent. This programme includes, inter alia, the appointment of five African regional youth

ambassadors for peace and the commissioning of a study to assess the role and contributions of young people in peace and security on the continent. In this context, the Peace and Security Department is increasingly involving young people in mediation processes and the AU Security Council now includes young people among its members.

The participants have also recognized that the implementation in Africa of these standard-setting instruments is also the responsibility of young people themselves and their organizations and that it is important that they act more collectively and proactively by taking ownership and designing the best ways of implementing them.

## **2. « Creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation »**

The session was moderated by Mr. Marius Tchakounang, Head of the French-speaking AUF Digital Campus (Cameroon), provided the moderation and attended by:

- Ms Fadwa Gmidien, Vice-President of the Pan-African Youth Network for the Culture of Peace (Tunisia);
- Mr Zié Daouda Koné, Incubation and Innovation Centre of the Ivorian National Commission for UNESCO (Côte d'Ivoire);
- Mrs Dora Massounga, Director General of Warisse (Gabon);
- Mrs Yvette Ishimwe, General Manager of IRIBA WATER GROUP LTD (Rwanda);
- Mr. Maxwell Katekwe, Head of Monitoring and Evaluation of Restless Development (Zimbabwe);
- Mr. Jofre Euclides Dos Santos, Director General of the Youth Institute (Angola).

Out of a population of 1.2 billion, Africa has 420 million young people aged between 15 to 35. A significant proportion of this large youth population is unemployed. Each year, only 3 million formal jobs are created for 10 to 12 million young people entering the labour market. The purpose of this second session of the Youth Forum was to highlight not only the concrete solutions and good practices of young people themselves, in terms of entrepreneurial innovation for economic empowerment and job creation, but also the challenges (in terms of financing, training and support, etc.) they face on a daily basis as economic or social entrepreneurs.

During the exchanges between panelists and the public, it became clear that, even if some of them may be entrepreneurs by vocation, most of them have become so out of necessity, i.e. to escape unemployment.

One of the greatest challenges experienced by young entrepreneurs on a daily basis is the pressure steaming from family reticence that do not believe in entrepreneurship and instead encourage the option of salaried civil servant jobs, as they are in general better guaranteed and more secure. In addition to the pressure of family, entrepreneurs face daily difficulties in accessing financing (seed money and operation's funding), adequate and less expensive training as well as isolation due to lack of solidarity and networking among the entrepreneurs.

While the exchanges noted the existence in many countries of policy and programmatic initiatives in support of youth entrepreneurship, it is nevertheless true that they also pointed out that these government initiatives are not always sufficient and do not rise to the challenge.

The examples of good entrepreneurial practices presented in this session are the following, which are mainly related to economic entrepreneurship and less to social entrepreneurship:

- "Warisse", a Gabonese company specializing in cultural tourism, created in 2018, which aims to create fifty (50) direct and indirect jobs over the next five (5) years and generate a combined turnover of approximately US\$ 150,000.
- Consulting firm of secure software architecture and sustainable development under Tunisian law, whose objective, for the next five (5) years, is both growth, profitability and partnership.
- UNESCO incubation center and social innovation laboratory, created since 2017 and run by young people, in Côte d'Ivoire, whose vocation is to strengthen the capacities of young entrepreneurs with training adapted to the realities of their activities (market research, simplified accounting, financial education, management, and fundraising) and to host start-ups and network them. For the next five years, the ambition is to multiply similar incubation centers in other cities of Côte d'Ivoire; partnerships with universities for access to resources (studies, theses and scientific articles, etc.), train more than 20,000 young people in entrepreneurship and allow the installation of more than half.
- Programme "Promoting a culture of peace among young people in Zimbabwe", implemented since 2017 in Mufakose, Ushewokunze and Hopley Farm, aimed at educating young people for tolerance by providing them with knowledge and skills that should then be transformed into attitudes. Since 2018, 489 young people have already benefited from it.
- "IRIBA Water Group", a Rwandan company established in 2016, specializes in the treatment and supply of water to rural and urban communities and provides innovative commercial solutions to facilitate access to safe water. Over the next five (5) years, IRIBA Water Group is expected to create about 91 decent jobs in Rwanda and another neighboring country (the DRC or Uganda). In terms of profitability, it aims for an annual turnover equivalent to US\$ 750,000 with a profit margin of 20%.

The session ended with the presentation of the Egyptian African Leadership Programme by Dr. Rascha Ragheb, Executive Director of the National Training Academy in Egypt. An initiative of Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sissi, the aim of the programme is to select and train young Africans who have demonstrated strong leadership potential and excellence during their academic studies.

The Youth Forum concluded with a "African Youth Commitment for a Culture of Peace", annexed to this report, which includes 12 commitments and recommendations to the African Union, the Regional Economic Communities and the Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace (PAYNCOP) (see Annex 2).

### **III.3 – Women's Forum**

Under the general theme "Women and the culture of peace", the Opening Ceremony of the Women's Forum was chaired by Ms. Zulmira Rodrigues, UNESCO's Chief of Section for Cooperation with Regional Organization in Africa and Coordinator of the Forum of Ideas of the Biennale and opened by :

- Ms Anne Lemaistre, Head of Office and UNESCO Representative in Côte d'Ivoire;
- H.E. Ms Specioza Naigaga Wandira-Kazibwe, Former Vice-President of Uganda, Member and Representative of the Pan-African Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa);
- H.E. Ms Carolina Cerqueira, Minister of State, Minister of Social Action, the Family and the Advancement of Women of the Republic of Angola.

The Forum was split in two sessions: 1. "Vulnerability of girls and women to violence / Women as peace agents" and 2. "Women's networks for peace in Africa"

## **1. « Vulnerability of girls and women to violence / Women as agents of peace »**

The session was moderated Georgia Calvin-Smith, Journalist of France 24 and engaged the following panelists:

- Ms. Loise Danladi Musa, Executive Secretary of the Bauchi State Agency for Mass Education, Nigeria
- Ms. Askah Buraci Otao, Educator for the Gionseri Girls Highschool, and beneficiary of the “UNESCO Mentorship Programme for unlocking the potential of Girls in STEM”, Kenya
- Dr. Carmel Matoko Miabanzila, Director of Bacongo Base Hospital, Republic of Congo
- Dr. Iqbal El-Samaloty, Secretary General of the Arab Network for Literacy and Adult Education, Egypt
- Ms. Elisa Ravengai, National Coordinator of Federation of Organization of Disabled People, Zimbabwe
- Ms. Júlia Quitócuá, National Director for Women’s Rights and Gender Equality of the Ministry of Social Action, the Family and the Advancement of Women, Angola

As a result of stereotypes, discrimination, societal norms and stigma based on their gender, girls and women are pay generally the heaviest toll in society both in times of peace as during conflicts. While the situation among countries in the continent may vary, generally, compared to other parts of the world, Africa is the continent where progress in combating violence and discrimination against women and girls is slowest.

The session focused on projects and initiatives by Angola, UNESCO and the African Union in the continent and on how to counter gender-based violence, and to empower women and girls to be active key players in the decision-making process in the efforts to shape their society. It also provided a few examples on the efforts of notable women and organizations that are involved in promoting gender equality, and their contributions to mainstreaming the culture of peace in Africa.

The panelists shared experiences on initiatives focused on fostering education that empowers girls and young women, be it to oppose problematic gender roles, countering violent extremism, as well as improving adult literacy rates among women and stimulating their participation in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education.

## **2. « Women's Networks for Peace in Africa »**

The session was moderated by Ms. Ana Elisa Santana Afonso, Director of the UNESCO Liaison Office with the African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and UNESCO Representative to Ethiopia and attended by:

- H.E. Ms Specioza Naigaga Wandira-Kazibwe, Former Vice-President of Uganda, Member and Representative of the Pan-African Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa);
- Ms. Awa Ndiaye Seck, UN Women Representative in the Democratic Republic of Congo;
- Ms. Victoire Lasseni-Dubozé, President of the Pan-African Women's Network for the Culture of Peace;
- Mrs. Jeanne d'Arc Kanakuze, Executive Secretary of the Pro-Femmes/Twese Hamwe Collective;
- Ms. Coumba Fall Venn, Administration of the Pan-African Centre for Gender, Peace and Development of solidarity in African women;
- Dr Yemisi Akinbobola, Co-founder of the African Women in Media Network (AWiM).

In Africa, the struggle for freedom has not always been solely men's. Throughout history, like the Angolan queen Njinga Mbandi (around 1581/83-1663), the Senegalese queen Ndeté Yalla (1810-1860), the South African Charlotte Maxeke (1874-1939) or the Malagasy Gisèle Rabesahala (1929-2011), many women of diverse origins and conditions have taken their part as citizens in the emancipatory struggles against slavery and colonialism. By working for the freedom and independence of their countries, these African women were at the same time working for their own emancipation.

Everywhere, emulators from Njinga, Ndeté, Yalla, Maxeke and Rabesahala, through various women's organizations, are mobilized and committed both to the recognition of their rights and to the advent of true egalitarian, inclusive and peaceful societies.

Aware of the need to come together to act together in favour of equal rights as one of the foundations for peace and development on the continent, African women activists and their organizations are increasingly forming national or transnational federating entities.

This session was an opportunity for the panelists to present their respective organizations, namely:

- The "Pan-African Women's Network for the Culture of Peace", created, with the support of UNESCO and the United Nations System, in 2018, in Gabon;
- The "Pan-African Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation" (FemWise-Africa) created, in 2017, by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU); "Femmes Africa Solidarité" (FAS), created in Dakar, Senegal, in 2006, and which offers, through its Pan-African Centre for Gender, Peace and Development, academic training and capacity building programmes;
- The "Pro-Femmes/Twese Hamwe Collective" created in 1992 in Rwanda and winner of the "UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence" in 1996;
- The "African Women in Media" (AWiM) network, created in 2016, in Nigeria.

The session was also an opportunity for the UN Women Representative to present this United Nations organization dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment.

The Women's Forum adopted the following recommendations:

1. Recognizing the need to build truly inclusive peaceful societies, and acknowledging that the fulfilment of women and girls human rights is systematically lagging behind or being violated, we call upon **all African States** to intensify the development and implementation of inclusive and gender transformative policies that address the vulnerability of women and girls to violence as well as interventions for advocacy and education against cultural, social and political practices and norms that perpetuate vulnerability of women and girls to violence;
2. Acknowledging that education is key to inclusion and equity, we specifically call upon **Governments** to support women and girls programmes to promote their access to quality and inclusive education including the reduction of their vulnerability to gender-based violence.
3. Recognizing the key role of African women as agents and promoters of peace on the continent, acknowledging their limited capacity in contributing to reduce violence and be part of the decision-making process with regard to peace, we encourage an enhanced coordination between United Nations (in particular **UNESCO and UNWOMEN**), the **African Union, the regional and national women organizations and the network of civil society**;
4. We propose the organization of a conference to follow-up, exchange experiences and best practices in peace and non-violence, as well as conduct research on women leadership,

the role of women in conflict prevention, including women and medias, as well as in the promotion of a culture of peace.

5. Recognizing that girls and women with disabilities still face intersecting barriers and lack the support necessary to participate fully in society, and in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, we remind **States party** to this Convention of their obligations to guarantee and promote "the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities without discrimination of any kind on the basis of disability and gender" and to comply with the established provisions by developing and implementing adopted laws and policies, through a process of close consultation and their active participation.

#### IV. CLOSING CEREMONY

The closing ceremony of Biennale of Luanda was chaired by Ms. Zulmira Rodrigues, UNESCO Chief of Section for Cooperation with Regional Organizations and Coordinator of the Forum of Ideas. It initiated with the reading of:

- The "Communiqué of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace Forum for the Biennale on the Culture of Peace in Africa" by Ms. Safira Mahanjane, Director of the Literacy Department of the Ministry of Education and Human Development, Mozambique (Annex 1);
- The "African Youth Engagement for a Culture of Peace" by Mr John Paul Ekene Ikwelle, President of the Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace (Nigeria) (Annex 2).

And concluded with the two final interventions by:

- Mr. Salah Khaled, Director of UNESCO's Multisectoral Regional Bureau for Africa;
- H.E. Mr. Joao Melo, Minister of Communication of the Republic of Angola.

#### V. FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

The Festival of Cultures, which took place at the National Museum of Military History in Fortaleza de São Miguel and adjacent areas, was a multidisciplinary event, a space for exchange between artistic and cultural expressions, contributing to the promotion of African values of peace and non-violence. For five (5) days, various artistic and cultural activities were presented: traditional and contemporary dances, music, cinema, theatre, poetry, literature, visual arts, crafts, gastronomy, creative and environmental awareness workshops, with different interactive knowledge platforms such as creative workshops, shows and exhibitions on different types of dance (semba, capoeira, traditional ballet and percussion).

The Festival of Cultures has shown an international character, highlighting new ways of sharing and exchange. Sixteen (16) countries participated, namely: Angola, Belgium, Brazil, Cape Verde, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Italy, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Portugal, Rwanda, South Africa and South Korea, bringing together more than two hundred (200) artists and musical and cultural groups. Fourteen (14) stands and dedicated spaces were at the disposal of the countries to exhibit their cultural diversity, their gastronomy and to organize various shows and cultural events. In addition, a Moroccan Village was erected at the Marginal of Luanda, showcasing exceptional crafts as well a Fashion-show and gastronomic delights.

The programme responded to the preferences and interests of different generations, with a wide variety of offerings, including in addition to the variety of arts, various musical genres such as classical music, hip-hop, rap, afrojazz, semba, kizomba, blues, pop-rock and traditional music.

Films screening took place in the Museum's auditorium, presenting national and international oeuvres. Particular importance was attached to the presentation of the film "La miséricorde de la jungle / The Mercy of the Jungle", winner of the FESPACO 2018, by Mr Ardiouma Soma, Executive Director of the Pan-African Film and Television Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO), and by its director, Joël Karekezi. Kamy Lara's film "Beyond My Footsteps" was also highly appreciated by the audience.

There were gastronomic events from Egypt (18/09), Italy (19/09), Cuba (20/09) and Kenya (21/09), in addition to two Angolan events: Chef Quitaba (21/09) and Restaurant Art`z (22/09).

A total of 156 artistic performances were given, 58 by participating countries and 98 by Angolan artists. The creative workshops and the "Word Tree" registered a total of 430 participants. There were 13 restaurants and food courts serving more than 5300 people. More than 550 participants attended the workshops. In total, the Festival of Cultures brought together around 15,000 participants.

## **VI. CLOSING CONCERT**

A major closing concert was held on 22 September at the Luanda Marginal, with the participation of Angolan musicians and other African countries. In addition to more than thirty-two (32) Angolan musicians, musical groups from South Africa, Egypt and Namibia participated in an interaction with national artists in front of an audience of approximately 7000 spectators.

## **VII. PARTNERS AND SPONSORS OF THE BIENNALE**

The Biennale of Luanda was also an opportunity to create and develop partnerships with international and national companies that have supported the activities of the first edition, thus providing a good basis for ensuring the sustainability of future editions

Different categories of partnership and sponsorship were mobilized both by the Angolan entities as by UNESCO.

UNESCO was able to benefit from the contribution of the following partners:

- ENI (Official Partner - sponsorship contract / contribution of 500,000 euros);
- Royal Air Maroc (Official Carrier - sponsorship contract / 70 free tickets in economy and business class);
- TAP Air Portugal (Sponsor Carrier - 10 free economy class tickets);
- Ethiopian Airlines (Sponsor Carrier 15 free economy class tickets and 20% discount on other tickets);
- Aceria de Angola (Gold Sponsor - 150 rooms offered in Hotel Diamante and 22 rooms offered in Hotel Presidente).

Angola was able to benefit from the contribution of the following partners:

- Official partners: BNI and Total
- Carrier Sponsors : TAAG



- Gold Sponsors : Multievents, Unitel, Boavida Group, Noble Group, Niodior, Refriango, NCR, Kikovo, Arena Group, Credit Cooperative, Tegma-Su, Kinu Plateau.

## VIII. VISIBILITY AND MEDIA COVERAGE

The organization of the Biennale benefited from a communication and visibility at the international and national levels:

### UNESCO :

- UNESCO website in:
  - French: <https://fr.unesco.org/biennaleluanda2019/>
  - English : <https://en.unesco.org/biennaleluanda2019/>
  - Portuguese: <https://pt.unesco.org/biennaleluanda2019/>
  - Arabic: <https://ar.unesco.org/biennaleluanda2019/>.
- Flyers presenting the Biennale of Luanda in EN, FR, PT : [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1S2gUQ9Mj-LXGtJx7k6TVQNw1kQpjRUP"\);](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1S2gUQ9Mj-LXGtJx7k6TVQNw1kQpjRUP)
- International press tools in EN, FR and PT: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1sjgN9Hr91Arxj8lyCMIh8Y7svjM7enF>) envoyé à more than 150 media and cultural institutes (Alliances Françaises, *British Council*, instituts culturels belges, Institut Camões, etc.) ;
- Official Teaser of the Biennale of Luanda :
  1. French : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UsaVIW6zYI&feature=youtu.be>;
  2. English : [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgx\\_7emlBGU&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgx_7emlBGU&feature=youtu.be);
  3. Portuguese : [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xP2dR\\_YNLGM&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xP2dR_YNLGM&feature=youtu.be).
- 8 thematic videos introducing the Ideas Forum and the Youth Forum in EN / PT : <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WINMcmB9esRUuQk4P-87U99CivJDTs0k> / videos are also available in short version in a format more adapted to social networks;
- Promotional video with Mr. Forest Whitaker: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=423735314937899>;
- Promotional video with Mr. Alphadi : <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=470270490437155>;
- Video interview with Eni CEO Claudio Descalzi: [https://www.linkedin.com/posts/unesco\\_globalgoals-biennaleluanda2019-activity-6582352810241859584-RO8w/](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/unesco_globalgoals-biennaleluanda2019-activity-6582352810241859584-RO8w/);
- Promotional video with Mrs Awa Meite, Senegalese fashion designer : <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2450686838535157>;
- Video celebrating the International Day of Peace with young African panelists: [https://twitter.com/UNESCO\\_fr/status/1175439545677910016](https://twitter.com/UNESCO_fr/status/1175439545677910016);
- 2850 copies of the reprint of the Courier, "Culture: the bedrock of peace" were distributed in FR, EN et PT
- Campaign in social networks

### **Overview of the Campaign in social networks**

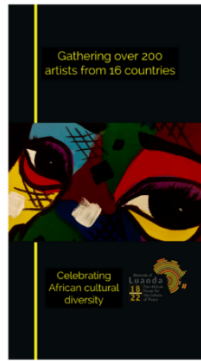
The campaign was carried out on 27 June and ended on 30 September. The video content was created in English, French and Portuguese. Videos represented 43% of our social content and 57% of our visual content. 134 messages were created, excluding 16 Instagram stories (8 in English and 8 in French):

Examples of stories about Instagram:

- Twitter : 57 Tweets
- Facebook : 52 messages
- LinkedIn : 20 updates
- Instagram : 5 messages

The hashtags used:

- #BiennaleLuanda2019
- UNESCO4Peace
- Africa4Peace



### Angola :

- Angola website in Portuguese: <https://bienaldeluanda.gov.ao/>
- Video teaser : <https://zh-cn.facebook.com/lisrepublicano/videos/496594971134937/>
- Video teaser : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhOB1sIAO7c>
- Video teaser : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZigAP33NNk>
- Video teaser : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7QMan3m1L8>
- Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/platinaline/photos/junte-se-a-n%C3%B3s-participe-na-bienal-de-luanda-um-evento-de-promo%C3%A7%C3%A3o-da-paz-cultur/3109767615704492/>
- A communication campaign on social networks and public signage was undertaken:



- Mini-buses of the Biennale were covered with the Biennale logo and slogans
- ATM machines were dressed in the Biennale slogan

### Media coverage:

Following media relations with several hundred journalists and media through a kit sent to more than 150 media and cultural institutes (Alliances Françaises, British Council, Belgian cultural institutes, Camões Institutes, etc.), the following results were recorded:

**Written press:** A number of 387 articles were published on the Biennale in the national and international press: Angola 150, Egypt 53, Portugal 32, Morocco 31, Austria 25, United States 24, South

Africa 18, Canada 12, France 8, Cuba 7, Mozambique 6, China 5, India 4, Iraq 3, Cabo Verde 3, United Arab Emirates 3, Brazil 3.

An article signed by the Director-General of UNESCO was published in the: Jornal de Angola: <https://www.pressreader.com/angola/jornal-de-angola/20190918/282144998054285> and on the French magazine Marie-Claire <https://www.marieclaire.fr/biennale-luanda-unesco,1323992.asp>

In addition, several TV reports were recorded and published on YouTube:

Euronews:

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXX6AHI\\_MLM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXX6AHI_MLM)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWA3PEKjHSc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGBqYtcu9iw>

ONU News :

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzXTYK9jkbC>

Angolan public television:

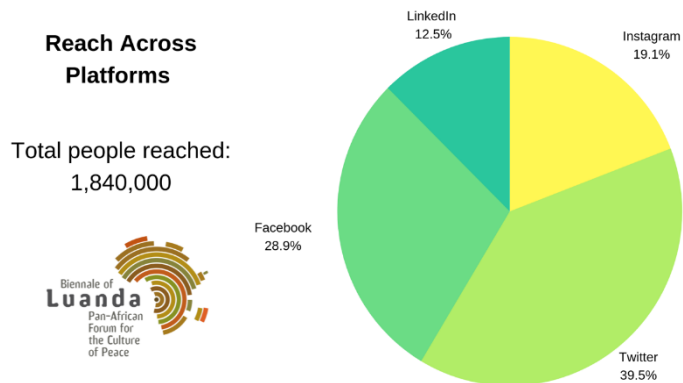
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DU6iveZKFqo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrKlfOAvkxs>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2\\_hNccrFyvl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_hNccrFyvl)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMiLeP3MjZE>

Platina line :

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79wiD\\_VLaYo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79wiD_VLaYo)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iX6iPSamJUK>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3Eo9pmAlcY>

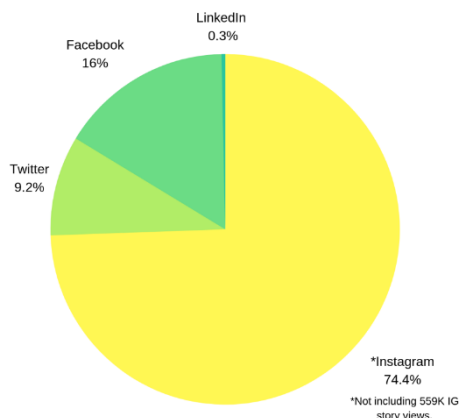
### **Social Media:**

In terms of results: **1,840,000** people were reached across all platforms with more **than 28,000** likes:



## Likes Across Platforms

Total number of likes:  
28,207



## IX. CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A FUTURE EDITION

- As the preparation of the first edition of the Biennale began at the end of January 2019 (following the signature of the UNESCO-Angola Agreement at the end of December 2018), it was difficult to set up the organization of an event of such magnitude in only seven months. **For the next edition of the Biennale, it is imperative to start preparations at least 18 months before the planned date.**
- In addition, during the preparatory period of this first edition, it was necessary to create teams in charge of its implementation within each co-organizing entity (UNESCO, African Union and Angola). In most cases, these teams could not be mobilized on a full-time basis. **For a future edition, it will be necessary to set up dedicated teams, preferably based in Luanda, with a sharing of responsibilities and well-defined tasks between the three entities and a permanent coordination mechanism.**
- The period of mid-September generally coincides with the opening of the United Nations General Assembly, which makes it difficult to mobilize high-level personalities for an event such as the Biennale. In addition, this period follows summer holidays at UNESCO which delays the organization. **Despite the symbolic opportunity offered by the celebration of the International Day of Peace on 21 September, it would be desirable to consider the May-June period for a future edition of the Luanda Biennale. The dates around May 16 "International Day of Living Together" or May 25 "Africa Day" would be possibilities.**
- One of the major logistical challenges having been the management of local transport between the various sites of the Biennale (the Talatona Convention Centre for the opening ceremony; the Antonio Agostinho Neto Memorial for the Partners' Forum and the Thematic Forums; the Sao Miguel Fort in Luanda for the Festival of Cultures and the "Marginal de Luanda" for the closing concert), **it would be appropriate for a future edition to concentrate the majority of activities in a single site, as close as possible to hotel infrastructure.**
- In order to ensure the follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations of the Final Communiqué and the African Youth Engagement for a Culture of Peace, a Standing Committee was recommended. **As these are recommendations of a regional nature, it would be important to translate them into programmatic axis and integrate them into an Action Plan for the Culture of Peace in Africa. The African Union-UNESCO Joint Commission could monitor this action plan and report on its implementation every two years at each edition of the Biennale.**

## **X. ANNEXS**

1. Final communiqué of the Luanda Biennale
2. African Youth engagement for a culture of peace in Africa
3. List of the countries of origin of the participants in the various Forums of the Biennale
4. Government Representatives and Heads of Ministerial Delegations
5. Ambassadors to UNESCO and Ambassadors to the AU
6. Photo gallery - Luanda Biennale

**Annex 3. Countries of origin of the participants in the various Forums of the Biennale: 62 (45 African countries and 17 non-African countries):**

- |                                     |                   |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Angola                           | 21. Estonia       | 43. Portugal                    |
| 2. Azerbaijan                       | 22. Ethiopia      | 44. Republic of Congo           |
| 3. Belgium                          | 23. France        | 45. Rwanda                      |
| 4. Benin                            | 24. Gabon         | 46. Saudi Arabia                |
| 5. Botswana                         | 25. Gambia        | 47. Senegal                     |
| 6. Brazil                           | 26. Ghana         | 48. Seychelles                  |
| 7. Burkina Faso                     | 27. Guinea        | 49. Sierra Leone                |
| 8. Burundi                          | 28. Guinea Bissau | 50. Somalia                     |
| 9. Cabo Verde                       | 29. Italy         | 51. South Africa                |
| 10. Cameroon                        | 30. Ivory Coast   | 52. South Korea                 |
| 11. Canada                          | 31. Kenya         | 53. South Sudan                 |
| 12. Central African<br>Republic     | 32. Liberia       | 54. Tanzania                    |
| 13. Chad                            | 33. Mauritius     | 55. Trinidad and<br>Tobago      |
| 14. China                           | 34. Madagascar    | 56. Togo                        |
| 15. Cuba                            | 35. Mali          | 57. Tunisia                     |
| 16. Democratic<br>Republic of Congo | 36. Morocco       | 58. United States of<br>America |
| 17. Djibouti                        | 37. Mauritania    | 59. Uganda                      |
| 18. Ecuador                         | 38. Mozambique    | 60. Uruguay                     |
| 19. Egypt                           | 39. Namibia       | 61. Zambia                      |
| 20. Equatorial Guinea               | 40. Niger         | 62. Zimbabwe                    |
|                                     | 41. Nigeria       |                                 |
|                                     | 42. Peru          |                                 |

**Annex 4. Government Representatives and Heads of Ministerial Delegations:**

- 1) Cabo Verde: H.E. Mr. Fernando Elísio Freire de Andrade, Minister of State and Parliamentary Affairs, representing the President of Cabo Verde.
- 2) Djibouti: H.E. Mr. Moumin Hassan Barreh, Minister of Muslim Affairs, Culture and Wakfs Goods
- 3) Egypt : H.E. Ms Inas Abdel Dayem, Minister of Culture
- 4) Ethiopia: H.E. Mrs Bezunesh Meseret, Minister of State for Culture
- 5) Equatorial Guinea: H.E. Mr Clemente Engonga Nguema Onguene, First Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Higher Education and Sports, President of the National Commission for UNESCO
- 6) Mali: H.E. Mrs N'Diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo, Minister of Culture
- 7) Morocco: H.E. Mr. Mohamed Sajid, Minister of Tourism, Air Transport, Crafts and Social Economy
- 8) Namibia: H.E. Mr Martin Andjaba, Minister of Education, Arts and Culture
- 9) Portugal: H.E. Mr. Augusto Santos Silva, Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 10) Republic of Congo: H.E. Mr Dieudonné Moyongo, Minister of Culture and Arts
- 11) Rwanda : H.E. Ms Esperance Nyirasafari, Minister of Culture

## **Annex 5. Ambassadors to UNESCO and Ambassadors to the AU**

- **Ambassadors, Permanent Delegates to UNESCO**

1. Angola: H.E. Mr. José Diekumpuna Sita N'Sadisi
2. Azerbaijan: H.E. Mr. Anar Karimov
3. China: H.E. Mr. Yang Shen
4. Democratic Republic of Congo: H.E. Mr. Kizabi Manda
5. Equatorial Guinea: H.E. Mr. Santiago Ngoua Nfumu Eyenga
6. Gabon: H.E. Ms. Rachel Annick Ogoula Akiko, President of the Africa Group
7. Kenya: H.E. Mr. Phyllis Kandie
8. Mali: H.E. Mr. Oumar Keita
9. Mozambique: H.E. Augusto Alberto Maverengue
10. Namibia: H.E. Mr. Albertus Aochub
11. Republic of Congo: H.E. Mr. Henri Ossebi
12. Saudi Arabia: H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Albalawi
13. Togo: H.E. Mr. Sankardja Lare-Sambiani
14. Uganda : H.E. Mr. Johnny Muhindo Muthahi
15. Uruguay: H.E. Ms. Alejandra De Bellis

- **Ambassadors, Permanent Delegates to the AU**

1. Angola: H.E. Mr. Francisco Cruz
2. Democratic Republic of Congo: H.E. Mr. Jean Léon Ngandu-Ilunga
3. Uganda: H.E. Ms. Rebecca Otengo