



DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE

2nd Annual General Assembly Meeting of the African Youth Commission
Theme: 'Championing Youth Oriented Agenda for the Promotion of African Unity and Development'.
23-27 March 2018, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

African Union Heads of State and Government are “CONVINCED that Africa’s greatest resource is its youthful population and that through their active and full participation, Africans can surmount the difficulties that lie ahead” (Preamble to African Youth Charter).

Introduction

The African Youth Commission (AYC) is an independent Pan-African youth network founded by youth leaders to foster synergy amongst youth and youth organisations on the continent and Diaspora. Officially inaugurated on January 2017 by Honourable Patrick Zhuwao, the Minister of Youth, Indigenisation and Economic Empowerment of Zimbabwe in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the network is determined and committed to provide a space and voice for youth and youth organisations to set and drive their own agenda, promote the involvement of young people as key partners in the implementation of the Africa 2063 Agenda as well the UN Agenda 2030 for sustainable development, support advocacy actions on the ratification and implementation of the African Youth Charter, other youth rights-based legal instruments and contribute to advancing the AU Shared Values through a network of locally based youth actors.

Background

Pursuant to its constitutional mandate, in accordance with article (11) subsections 2 of the AYC constitution, the leadership of the Commission through its Secretariat is mandated to plan, prepare and coordinate the Commission’s annual Meetings. To this effect, the African Youth Conference on African Unity and Development was organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 22-25th January 2017 which prepared the first ever plenary session of Annual General Assembly Meeting of the African Youth Commission.

The second edition of Annual General Assembly meeting (GA) will take place in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe from 23th to 27th March 2018. The GA will bring together 100 delegates from Africa and Diaspora for a very extraordinary session. Delegates will participate in a pre-youth forum to discuss the role of young people in contributing to the attainment of African Union Vision: “**Integrated, prosperous & peaceful Africa driven by its own citizens & representing a dynamic force in the global arena**”. The pre session will allow delegates from Africa and Diaspora to work in a seven-committee team on Agenda 2063 Aspirations:

1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable



- development
2. An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance
 3. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
 4. A peaceful and secure Africa
 5. An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
 6. An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth
 7. Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner

The idea of the committee work is to enable the frank and inspiring exchange of ideas on how to promote the involvement of young people as key partners in the implementation of the Africa 2063 Agenda. The sessions will increase the delegates' knowledge about AU's Shared Values, prepare them for active participation in society, contribute to the development of their personal skills and provide a forum for debate and reflection on current topics of African politics.

Format of the Sessions: Pre Activity and Plenary Session of the GA

The GA2018 session will take the format of Teambuilding, Committee Work and General Assembly.

Teambuilding

During Teambuilding, the delegates will learn to know each other through a series of activities and games.

Committee Work

During Committee Work, the delegates in their respective committees will analyse the 10 year Implementation Plan of Africa 2063 Agenda to reflect collectively, identify gaps surrounding it and propose solutions for its effective implementation. The output of Committee Work will be adopted as a GA resolution.

General Assembly

Whilst the General Assembly Meeting (GA) will be a plenary for all delegates to consider the report of the Executive Chairperson on behalf of the Commission, review and validate the draft AYC strategic plan (2018-2020). In GA, the committees will come together to present and debate the resolutions they have proposed for the effective and all inclusive implementation of the Africa 2063 Agenda. In the end, the GA resolutions are put to a vote for adoption.

Language

The deliberations of the meeting will be conducted in English and French.