2nd Annual General Assembly Meeting of the African Youth Commission
#AYCGA2018
Theme: ‘Championing Youth Oriented Agenda for the Promotion of African Unity and Development’.

Chair’s summary report
The Activities of the African Youth Commission for the financial year (January-December) 2017

Activities

1. 1st ever African Youth Conference on African Unity and Development and General Assembly Meeting of AYC held at UNDP Regional Service Centre, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 22-25 January 2017

Number of Participants:
- 62 delegates from 32 African countries and Diaspora
- The Chairperson of AUC was represented in the meeting
- Youth Minister of Zimbabwe and a delegation from the Zimbabwe Youth Council attended the meeting
- AUC/UN officials, VSO International and other partners also attended

Outcome/Results
1. Youth assessed the AU year 2017 theme and proposed recommendations based on young people’s priorities to ensure appropriate channeling of investments in youth
2. Active and constructive youth engagement in African unity and development agenda promoted
3. AYC Executive Council elected into office and Advisory Board inaugurated
4. Draft AYC Charter/Constitution adopted
5. AYC work plan for 2017 developed based on the Youth Conference resolutions


Representation:
Boubakar Youghare, Executive Chairperson, represented AYC. The forum attracted 32 speakers and over 70 participants and stakeholders including; celebrated artists, youth leaders, civil society organizations, media, members of the diplomatic community and UN agencies.

Outcome/Results
1. Draft icon’s developed for each of the (7) aspirations of the AU Agenda 2063, as we have for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
2. Formulation of A Youth, Artists and Media (YAM) Campaign and action factory strategy for “Silencing All Guns in Africa by 2020”
3. 7th Citizens Continental Conference - 26-28 January 2017

The session was organised by Centre for Citizens' Participation on the African Union (CCPAU) and deliberated on issues young people in Africa are grappling with including unemployment, entrepreneurship, participation, activism, leadership and movements for change, radicalisation and organised crime.

**Representation:**
Natalie Sonia Mukundani, Deputy Executive Chairperson represented AYC in the Conference and made a presentation on the panel on Youth – harnessing the demographic dividend.

4. Call for Applications: Secretariat Position, African Youth Commission (Online Application)

In accordance with article 9, section (f) of the AYC constitution, the Executive Council are mandated to invite, review and appoint the Executive Secretary/Coordinator, Directors and other Staff members to steer up the day to day running of the Commission in between the sessions of annual General Membership Meetings.

Pursuant to this, the council invited suitable young African to express interest in vacant positions within the secretariat of African Youth Commission (AYC) from February 27th to 13th of March 2017.

**Number of Applicants:**
227 applied from across Africa

**Outcome/Results**
Eight (8) Successful applicants were appointed and took office effective 01 May 2017.

5. African Youth Conference held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

**Representation:**
Natalie Sonia Mukundani, Deputy Executive Chairperson, Mohammed Abdualshakoor Abdulrahman, Commissioner for Peace and Security, Azra Fredrick, Commissioner for Social, Economic and Environmental Affairs, Muthoni Kahuho, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, Velani Mbouweni, Commissioner for Human Resources, Science, Technology and Innovation for represented the AYC.
6. **UNESCO 2017 sub-Saharan Africa Regional Global Citizenship Education (GCED) Network Meeting held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 6-7 April 2017**

**Representation:**
Boubakar Yougbare, Executive Chairperson, represented AYC in the meeting alongside 70 representatives of GCED-implementing institutions from the sub-Saharan Africa region

**Outcome/Results**
1. AYC was given a speaking opportunity to present its work on youth
2. Contributed in mapping out different activities of selected partner organizations

7. **African Peacebuilding Innovations for Change (APIC) - East and West Africa Skills Training for Youth - led CSOs held in Kampala, Uganda, 1-16 June, 2017**

The AUC and the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) convened a 10-day Skills development training for selected Youth-led Organisations in East and West Africa.

The event provided a forum for discussions on the engagement of young people in peacebuilding processes as well as an opportunity for capacity building of young people and experience sharing for youth engagement in peacebuilding.

**Representation:**
Mohammed Abdualshakoor Abdualrahman, Commissioner for Peace and Security and Keolebogile Lebogang Maruapula, Director for Outreach and Engagement represented AYC in the training


**Representation:**
Natalie Sonia Mukundani, Deputy Executive Chairperson and Muthoni Kahuho, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy represented AYC in the Forum
9. **AYC Leadership Retreat**

The three-day Retreat held at Ngong Hills Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, July 28-30, 2017 hosted by Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO), Jitolee and supported by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)

**Number of Participants:**
It brought together 37 participants mainly the Executive Council, Secretary, Advisory Board members of the AYC, key partners from 16 African countries and stakeholder youth groups based in Kenya

**Outcome/Results**
1. The retreat addressed the definition of the AYC, its scope of operation, values and vision.
2. It prepared a short term plan of action focusing on a thorough membership mapping, capacity building of members within the network in alignment with relevant programmatic areas, as well as increased partnership scoping with regional, continental and international bodies.
3. The leadership agreed to develop a long term strategic document in line with thematic areas on employment and entrepreneurship; health and well-being; governance and human rights; as well as peace and security.


**Representation:**
Kolo Kenneth Kadiri represented AYC in the Forum.

The meeting brought together Youth Ministers, senior government officials, youth representatives, youth workers and other youth development stakeholders from across the Commonwealth

11. **Women Advancing Africa Forum held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, August 9-12, 2017**

Women Advancing Africa (WAA) is one of Graca Machel Trust's flagship programs, to showcase women’s contributions and leadership in tackling the development challenges of Africa.

**Representation:**
Dr. Angela Gichaga, Commissioner for Gender, Rural Economy and Agriculture represented AYC in the Forum

**Outcome/Results**
1. AYC was given a speaking opportunities and Commissioner Angela presented the AYC’s work on Youth and contribution to empowering young women and girls in Africa
12. Responsible Business Forum on Sustainable Development Africa
held in Johannesburg, South Africa, 31 August to 1 September 2017

The Responsible Business Forum 2017 examines each of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in-depth with plenaries and workshops featuring case studies and perspectives from businesses, governments, UN agencies and international experts. Building on the SDG agenda from RBF Singapore 2016, the Africa forum guided companies to concretely contribute to achieving the goals through inclusive growth.

**Representation:**
Velani Mboweni, Commissioner for Human Resources, Science, Technology and Innovation and Azra Fredrick, Commissioner for Social, Economic and Environmental Affairs and some members based in Johannesburg represented AYC in the Forum

RBF Africa brought senior government officials from across the Africa region together with leaders from UN agencies, businesses and media, to build wider support for delivering the UN global goals.

**Outcome/Results**
The two Commissioners participated in panel and spoke on behalf of the African Youth Commission on the opportunities that the SDGs present in achieving Africa’s 2063 priorities and also brought the youth perspective to the forefront at the event.

13. Capacity building training for young women organised by the International Centre for Girls and Women’s Education in Africa (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) held at AUC Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

**Representation:**
1. Dossou Dalila Aurelle from Benin
2. Gloria Toghon Tchegnonsi from Benin
3. Mizan Welderufael Massa from Ethiopia
4. Bitania Lulu from Ethiopia
5. Salimatou Fatty from Gambia
6. Sally Njogu from Kenya
7. Idah Nduku Muema from Kenya
8. Olyvia Gatwiri Shikule from Kenya
9. Olamide Ogunsanya from Nigeria
10. Solange Uwera from Rwanda
11. Salha Aziz from Tanzania
12. Janeth Missiri from Tanzania
13. Irene Kalumuna Novatus from Tanzania
14. Annet Dianah Nannono
15. Anoziva Marindire from Zimbabwe
14. Regional Youth Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance 2018 (DGtrends) held in East Africa (Kampala, Uganda), West and Central Africa (Abuja, Nigeria) North Africa (Tunis, Tunisia) and Southern Africa (Lusaka, Zambia)

Representation:
50 participants, 10 per region

15. The Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa 2017 (FIFAfrica17) held at Sunnyside Park Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa, 27-29 September 2017

Representation:
Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary represented AYC in the Forum

Outcome/Results
The ES met with Prof. Hubert Gijzen, Regional Director and Representative of UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa and pitched the AYC GA 2018 to him for possible support

16. UNECA Workshop on Policy Options for Youth in Africa and an Interregional Youth Policy Toolbox held at UN Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-6 October 2017

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has developed a youth policy toolbox in the context of the school-to-work transition.
The Youth Policy Toolbox aims to act as a repository of knowledge, experience and good practices, and host learning modules that provide policymakers with a comprehensive resource for developing inclusive and responsive youth policies.

Representation:
Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary represented AYC in the Forum

Outcome/Results
AYC was given a speaking opportunity to present its work on youth and contribution to attainment of the demographic dividend in Africa

17. The 3rd Afro-Arab Youth Festival 2017 held at Olympic Center, Maadi, Cairo City, Arab Republic of Egypt, 6 – 10 October 2017

Representation:
Boubakar Yougbare, Executive Chairperson, Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary, some members of AYC represented AYC in the Festival alongside 250 participants from African & Arab Countries
18. AYC Strategic Planning Meeting held at the Great Seasons Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda, 6-9 November 2017

The strategic planning meeting in Kigali was a follow up to the AYC Leadership Retreat held in Nairobi to build on the draft strategy objectives, expected actions and results for the proposed four thematic pillars

**Number of Participants:**

It brought together 23 participants mainly the Executive Council, Secretary, Advisory Board and members of the AYC

**Outcome/Results**

1. Offered an opportunity for AYC leadership (EC, Secretariat, Advisory Board and members) to reflect collectively, identify gaps in draft strategy objectives, expected actions and results for the proposed four thematic pillars and share experiences on developing a practical youth’s own oriented agenda in Africa.
2. Engaged and stimulated a broader view and input from the membership, youth and youth organisations through online and physical consultations.
3. During the meeting a draft Strategic document was developed and will be presented to the general membership at 2nd Annual General Assembly meeting for review and validation.

19. Annual Meeting of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBS) held in Kigali, Rwanda, 9-10 November 2017

**Representation:**

Nandjim Tchalla, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Natalie Sonia Mukundane, Deputy Executive Chairperson, Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary, Kidus Mehalu, Director for AU Affairs, Regional Economic Communities, NEPAD and UN Agencies, and some members of AYC participated in the meeting

20. UN Interregional Youth Policy Forum held at UNESCAP, Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand, 21 to 23 November 2017

The Forum concludes the interregional project on “Strengthening the capacity of Governments in the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) regions to respond to the needs of youth in formulating inclusive and sustainable development policies”.

**Representation**

Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary represented AYC in the Forum

A working relation with UNECA, other participants from Asia, Africa and Middle East established
21. 6th African Internet Governance Forum - AfIGF2017 held at Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 4-6 December 2017
AfIGF brought together African participants and outside partners to discuss Internet Governance issues and share best practices. It was organized by African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and National Telecom Regulatory Authority of Egypt (NTRA).
**Representation**
Kawsu Sillah, Executive Secretary and Keith Andere AYC Secretariat represented AYC in the Forum.
**Outcome/Results**
Kawsu and Keith met and discussed with stakeholders to support Youth participation in ICT and Internet Governance related discussions. Also met with Registry Africa Marketing Manager and CEO and discussed possible partnership for AYCGA2018 and other youth initiatives championed by the Registry Africa.

22. Annual High Level Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance 2018 (DGTrends) held in Pretoria, South Africa
**Representation**
Boubakar Yougbare, Executive Chairperson and some members of AYC participated in the Dialogue.

23. UN ECA African Economic Conference held at UN Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, 4-6 December 2017
**Representation**
Kidus Mehalu, Director for AU Affairs, Regional Economic Communities, NEPAD and UN Agencies participated in the Forum.

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