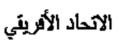
AFRICAN UNION





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African Union Continental Symposium on the Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent

18-20 September 2018 Accra/Cape Coast, Ghana

Work Program

Day 1 18 September 2018

Objective: the objective of Day 1 is to build awareness and understanding of the International Decade for People of African Descent; its rationale, mandate, and work program. The day's sessions will also highlight the status of implementation of the Decade in terms of activities and programs undertaken thus far around the various regions of the world.

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OPENING SESSION		
1000 – 1005	Opening Statement by Mr. Ahmed El Basheer, Director of CIDO	
1005 – 1010	Statement on behalf of OHCHR by Mr. Idrissa Kane, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, East Africa Regional Office, Addis Ababa	
1010 - 1015	Statement by Mr. Richard Ssewakiryanga, Presiding Officer of ECOSOCC	
1015 - 1025	Address by H.E. Amb. Kwesi Quartey, the Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission	
1025 – 1045	Keynote Address by Representative of the Government of Ghana	
1045 – 1115	Group Photo Tea/Coffee Break	
	SESSION 1	
FRAMING THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT		
1130 – 1200	Understanding the International Decade for People of African Descent: Justice, Recognition and Development	
	Presentation by Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu , Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva OHCHR to provide an overview of the Decade, its mandate, objectives, programme of	

	activities, and progress of implementation. The presentation will provide a comprehensive overview of the Decade to set the stage for the rest of the work program of the Symposium.	
1200 – 1300	Q+AGroup Discussion and Recommendations	
	LUNCH	
SESSION 2 THE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT		
1430 – 1530	PANEL PRESENTATION: National, Regional and Global Action towards Justice, Recognition and Development	
	This session consists of a moderated 4-member panel presentation to address the various elements of the Program of Activities of the Decade including the role of national, regional and global stakeholders; as well as lessons learned from the implementation process thus far.	
	 Mr. Akwasi Awua Ababio, Director of Diaspora Affairs, Office of the Presidency, Republic of Ghana Dr. Ahmed Reid, Member, UN Working Group on People of African Descent Mr. Idrissa Kane, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, East Africa Regional Office, Addis Ababa Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva 	
	Moderator: Mr. Tony Kutteng; Director, Diaspora Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Republic of Ghana	
1530 - 1550	Tea/Coffee Break	
1550 - 1700	Q+AGroup Discussion and Recommendations	
	End of Day 1	
	Day 2	

19 September 2018

Objective: Day 2 takes the learning from of the previous day's session to develop concrete and actionable measures by which the various stakeholders would contribute, in the short to medium term, to the implementation of the Programme of Activities of the Decade.

SESSION 3

IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING: THE ROLE OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

0900 - 1130 | Small Group Workshops

These workshops will develop specific actions to be taken within the framework of the implementation of the Program of Activities. Groups will develop and present a work plan on the following themes:

- 1. Institutional Cooperation: Reinforcing AU-UN partnership in the implementation of the Decade
 - (Thematic Leads: Dr. Fareed Arthur, Deputy Chief of Staff, African Union Commission and Mr. Idrissa Kane, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, East Africa Regional Office, Addis Ababa)
- 2. The Role of Civil Society (on the continent and in the Diaspora)
 - (Thematic Lead: Mr. Richard Sswewakiryanga, Presiding Officer, AU ECOSOCC)
- 3. Development and the Decade for People of African Descent
 - ➤ (Thematic Lead: **Mr. Ahmed Reid**, Member, UN Working Group on People of People of African Descent)
- 4. The Role of Women and Gender in the Implementation of the Decade
 - (Thematic Leads: Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva; and Dr. Desta Meghoo, Diaspora African Forum)
- 5. Popularizing the Decade: Awareness-raising and Public Information
- (Thematic Leads: Ms. Cynthia Prah, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Accra and AUC Department of Information and Communications)

1130 – 1150	Tea/Coffee Break
1150 – 1300	- Report of Small Group Workshops

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	LUNCH	
1400 – 1545	- Report of Small Group Workshops (cont'd)	
1400 1545	- General Discussion/Recommendations	
1545 – 1605	Tea/Coffee Break	
	SESSION 4	
NEXT STEPS: AFRICAN REGIONAL MEETING UNDER THE DECADE AND BEYOND		
1605 – 1645	Outlining Next Steps	
	Joint presentation by AU-CIDO and OHCHR to address specific follow-	
	up activities (in the lead-up to the African Regional Meeting on the	
	Decade and beyond) that emerge from the small group workshops;	
	including the identification of new partners, agencies, initiatives, and	
	constituencies that the each stakeholder group might engage as part	
	of the implementation process.	
	of the implementation process.	
	End of Day 2	
	Day 3	
	20 September 2018	
Objective: Day 3 will consist of a historical tour of the Cape Coast Castle – one the most		
prominent lega	cies of the Transatlantic Slave Trade on the West African coast and the site	
of the forced ex	spatriation of millions of people from whom communities of African descent	
around the wor	ld are descended. The visit is designed to tie together the themes of the	
International De	ecade for People of African Descent through a re-appreciation of the history	
and experiences	s at the root of the conditions of Afro-descendants around the world which	
the declaration	of the Decade seeks to address.	
SESSION 5: HERITAGE VISIT AND TOUR OF THE CAPE COAST CASTLE		
0700 - 1530	- Departure to Cape Coast	
	- Tour of the Cape Coast Castle	
	- Lunch	
	- Return to Accra	

END OF MEETING