



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	
<p>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.</p>	
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	<p>Understanding the International Decade for People of African Descent: Justice, Recognition and Development</p> <p><i>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</i></p>

	<p>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.</p>
1200 – 1300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q+A • Group Discussion and Recommendations
LUNCH	
SESSION 2 THE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT	
1430 – 1530	<p>PANEL PRESENTATION: National, Regional and Global Action towards Justice, Recognition and Development</p> <p><i>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.</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Akwasi Awua Ababio, Director of Diaspora Affairs, Office of the Presidency, Republic of Ghana 2. Dr. Ahmed Reid, Member, UN Working Group on People of African Descent 3. Mr. Idrissa Kane, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, East Africa Regional Office, Addis Ababa 4. Ms. Gloria Nwabuogu, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva <p>Moderator: Mr. Tony Kutteng; Director, Diaspora Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Republic of Ghana</p>
1530 - 1550	Tea/Coffee Break
1550 - 1700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q+A • Group 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	<p>Small Group Workshops <i>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:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutional Cooperation: Reinforcing AU-UN partnership in the implementation of the Decade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>(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)</i> 2. The Role of Civil Society (on the continent and in the Diaspora) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>(Thematic Lead: Mr. Richard Sswewakiryanga, Presiding Officer, AU ECOSOCC)</i> 3. Development and the Decade for People of African Descent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>(Thematic Lead: Mr. Ahmed Reid, Member, UN Working Group on People of People of African Descent)</i> 4. The Role of Women and Gender in the Implementation of the Decade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>(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)</i> 5. Popularizing the Decade: Awareness-raising and Public Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>(Thematic Leads: Ms. Cynthia Prah, United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) in Accra and AUC Department of Information and Communications)</i>
1130 – 1150	Tea/Coffee Break
1150 – 1300	- Report of Small Group Workshops

LUNCH	
1400 – 1545	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report of Small Group Workshops (cont'd) - General Discussion/Recommendations
1545 – 1605	Tea/Coffee Break
SESSION 4	
NEXT STEPS: AFRICAN REGIONAL MEETING UNDER THE DECADE AND BEYOND	
1605 – 1645	<p>Outlining Next Steps</p> <p>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.</p>
End of Day 2	
Day 3	
20 September 2018	
<p>Objective: Day 3 will consist of a historical tour of the Cape Coast Castle – one the most prominent legacies of the Transatlantic Slave Trade on the West African coast and the site of the forced expatriation of millions of people from whom communities of African descent around the world are descended. The visit is designed to tie together the themes of the International Decade for People of African Descent through a re-appreciation of the history and experiences at the root of the conditions of Afro-descendants around the world which the declaration of the Decade seeks to address.</p>	
SESSION 5: HERITAGE VISIT AND TOUR OF THE CAPE COAST CASTLE	
0700 – 1530	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Departure to Cape Coast - Tour of the Cape Coast Castle - Lunch - Return to Accra
END OF MEETING	