



AFRICAN UNION AFRICAN DIASPORA SIXTH REGION (AUADS) HIGH COUNCIL

CONCEPTUALISATION AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE “LEAVE NO COMMUNITY BEHIND UBUNTU-GOVERNANCE STRATEGY”

PART 1

AT THE OCCASION OF THE AUADS HIGH COUNCIL SIDE EVENT
Accra/Ghana, July 20, 2024 in connection with the AU ECOSOCC
20 Anniversary

property of the AUADS Sixth Region High Council B.A.B.



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ABOUT THE IDEA

The African Union African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council is an approved and adopted IDEA, that was presented by the initiators, Dr. Barryl A. Biekman (Netherlands) and Dr. Tumenta Kennedy (Germany-Cameroon) after the Regional Consultation Conference in Paris 2007 that was organized by the African Union (CIDO) in cooperation with the mandated South African Government. The IDEA was the result of the Call from the organizers for sending modalities aimed to effectuate the Article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act (2003) and to mobilize and organize the Global African Sixth Region Diaspora.

ABOUT THE PROCESS OF ADOPTION AND PURPOSE



After the promotion and presentation from 2007 to 2022 of the “Leave No Community Behind Model”, it was officially adopted respective approved and reaffirmed:

- In 2007 during a special by Diaspora Cadres organised Roundtable in Paris, followed by AU Technical Expert meetings where †Dr. Joseph Chilingi (AU ECOSOCC member) qualified the Model as best practice;
- In 2008 during a Roundtable, with Diaspora Leaders from Europe, that was organized by the AU Permanent Mission in Brussels;
- During several “Regional Town Hall Meetings” with Sixth Region Regional Diaspora Grassroots Cadres in cooperation with the Sixth Region Diaspora Caucus (SRDC);
- By the AUADS Sixth Region Regional Facilitators Working Groups and Finally;
- In 2023 during the Pan African Roundtable (10-14 July 2023) that was organized in Maputo Mozambique in connection with the 20th anniversary of the Article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act where the Model was re-affirmed. And where we underlined the main purpose of the AUADS Sixth Region High Council as follow:

“To serve as a governing mechanism with the aim to represent the interests and aspirations of the Global African Sixth Region Diasporas within the African Union”.



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1. NOTES IN ADVANCE

1a. African Diaspora Definitions

1a. 1 African Union Definition

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1a.1 THE AFRICAN UNION'S DEFINITION

Several meetings has spend before this African Union Definition was adopted by African Union Officials namely"

The African Diaspora consists of people of African descent and heritage living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union".



1a.2 THE HIGH COUNCIL's DEFINITION

Several meetings has spend followed by an AUADS Sixth Region Facilitators Special Commission on Legal issues, before this High Council's Definition was adopted:

"The African Diaspora consist of peoples of African origin living outside the continent, and, returnees without permanent residency/citizenship in an African country, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality, and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of a united Africa and its Diaspora."



1b. THE GOVERNANCE CONTEXT

The starting point of the High Council's Governance Model is the integration of the African Diaspora into the systems, structures and organs of the African Union and the African Nation States. This requires an organization that is based on the principles of good governance as if the High Council is a Diaspora government body.

In almost all countries of the sixth Region where the African Diaspora lives, they lack governments such as CARICOM for the Caribbean Community. This is one of the reasons that for example the African Union and CARICOM are able to partnering on equal basis as far it concern the Diaspora policies. This means that we had to find a solution for all the Sixth Regions this, without leave anybody behind, in order to be able to communicate on an equal footing with the African Union, its affiliated bodies as well with the African Nation States.

1b. CONTINUATION THE GOVERNANCE CONTEXT



That solution has been found in the African Union African Diaspora High Council, Non Governmental Governance Structure. The Structure guarantees the various principles as befits a public government body.

- A Constitution and Statutes as legal basis for the actions and operations on all levels of the organization; regulations, procedures, protocols, electoral systems and bodies designed to ensure the democratic quality of the High Council and the Executives;
- Based upon the Pan-African vision: self-determination, decolonized mindset, emancipatory mindset and on the principle of consensus- collectivity.
- Accountability;
- Professional, Quality, Purposefulness and Efficiency;
- Transparency, Openness, Just and Trustworthy (Integrity);
- Well thought and Progressive;
- Based on personal and organisational accountability.



2. REFERENCES

- Article 3q African Union Constitutive Act (2003);
- The Consolidated Outcomes of the several Regional Consultation Conferences 2007;
- All the Technical Experts Summits that were organized by the African Union in co-operation with the South African government with as high points the decision to make 20 Seats available into the ECOSOCC Standing Committee for the African Diaspora and the adoption of the May 25, 2012 African Diaspora Declaration;
- The United Nations (UN) Durban Declaration and Program of Action 2001 and all the affiliated UN Declarations, Resolutions, Mechanisms and Instruments including on Reparatory Justice;
- All the UN and other International Treaties and affiliated Declarations, Resolution, Mechanisms and Instruments, regarding Human and Peoples Rights including the Rights of People of African Descent;
- The UN Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024;
- African Union Agenda 2063;
- The Post 15 (MDG/SDG) and Post 20 Beijing Agenda;
- The May 2022 Addis Ababa Agreements & Resolution;
- The July 2023 Maputo Agreements.



3. VISION

Every African and African Diaspora Person should be able to fully enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms on basis of equality as declared and described in all applicable international Treaties and Resolutions on Human and Peoples Rights. This includes Children, Youth, Women, Girls, Boys and Older Persons Rights.

The socio- economical disparities, un-equities, exclusions and marginalization of peoples of African Descent caused and influenced by the heritage of the heinous past should be tackled.



3. CONTINUATION VISION

This implies eradicating all manifold forms of Afrophobia against African Peoples and in Diaspora as consequences of the Past and the hindrances for sustainable development and equal opportunities.

An important beginning of the recovery we see in the unification and reintegration of the African Diasporas through article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act as the Sixth Region of the African Union.



3. CONTINUATION VISION

In a clearly physical and political-ideological organized manner, the Global African Diaspora Family will be stronger as communities. The various perspectives can be formulated through a participatory process that the African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council is offered and be made known to all relevant stakeholders.



3. CONTINUATION VISION

In a clearly physical and political-ideological organized manner The Global African Family will be able to properly implement the Article 3q of the African Union Constitutive Act and all the related Resolutions and Declarations such as the May 2012 Diaspora Declaration, whereby respect, equity, equality and equal opportunities are key-aspects.

And thus open the door for the Diasporas implies the creation of spaces in all segments and levels of the African Union including the Nation States. This includes the developing of legal, political and constitutional frameworks.

4. THE MISSION

In line with the IDEA the primary mission is:

- To provide a coherent governance and organizational voice for the integration and full participation of the African Diaspora in the African Union, ensuring their representation and engagement in AU Diaspora states decision-making process.

Establishing and maintaining the participation at a prominent, well-informed, political, diplomatic and strategic level;

- Providing a tangible vehicle for focusing on the resourcefulness, expertise and experience of the Diaspora in defining a stronger, more positive future in the interest of Africa, and to the benefit of all African people and the Diaspora and a future in all the States where The Diaspora are restrict;
- To be a consistent, reliable reference point for AU-Diaspora networking, partnership and collaboration.





5. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives are as follows:

- To organize and mobilize the Global African Diaspora towards the advancement of shared goals, including social, economic, cultural, and political development;
- To protect the rights and interests of the Diaspora by advocating for policies and actions that address their specific needs and challenges;
- To facilitate meaningful dialogue and collaboration between the Global African Diaspora and the African Union, fostering mutual understanding, cooperation, and partnership;
- To promote the principles of Ubuntu, inclusivity, and the "leave no community behind" model in all aspects of its work.



5. CONTINUATION OBJECTIVES

- To provide policy recommendations and project proposals to the African Union on matters relevant to the Diaspora and the Implementation of the African Union – African Diaspora Declaration and Program of Action;
- To support the Claim of Reparatory Justice for the crimes against Africa and African People in the context of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, slavery and colonialism;
- To press for adaption and implementation of the Right to Return as a Human Right by the African Union Member States;
- To promote the principles of Ubuntu, inclusivity, and the "leave no community behind" model in all aspects of its work.



6. CHARACTERISTICS

Is inclusive, not exclusive (i.e., it invites all who are committed to Pan African Unification regardless of religion, political ideology or group affiliation).

Characteristics of the actions, behavior, attitudes, norms and values of African Diaspora Sixth Region High Council are based on the Pan African- (6a) and the Ubuntu Philosophy (6b).

Two ideological currents that are inextricably linked to each other on the basis of which our organization wishes to distinguish itself from other organizations.



6a. PAN AFRICANISM

A closer look at the Conceptual Framework in a nutshell:

Pan is the term for 'inclusive'.

Pan-Africanism refers to a worldwide movement (social movement) that is aimed at the 'restoration' of Africa in the broadest sense of the word of what has happened to Africa since the entry of European Nations as a result of the Berlin Conference in 1884.

Pan Africanism is aimed at sustainable progress, prosperity, peace and stability for the interest and benefit of Africa, Africans and Africans in Diaspora wherever they may be. Important motives for the realization of this movement as a basic ideology are the colonial systems and instruments that have caused the greatest division, exclusion, marginalization and oppression with regard to Africa and African people so that after centuries no solution has been found for effectively combating the 'scourge' of colonialism. The goal of the Pan-Africanist is to change this. With the African Union Agenda 2063, the African Union Heads of State aim to achieve the RECOVERY.



6a. CONTINUATION PAN AFRICANISM

A Pan Africanist is focused on:

Promoting unity among Africans and people of African descent.

Repairing shattered African family structures, family relationships and rituals.

The transformation of systems, structures and instruments as a result of the Maangamizie and the related pseudo-scientific delusions about Africa and African humanity (Afrophobia) into systems, structures and instruments with the following characteristics: human, human dignity and justice.

The behaviour within the ranks of the High Council is characterized by the belief in the following observations, respectively:



6a. CONTINUATION PAN AFRICANISM

Africa is recognized as Motherland, meaning the continent (is not just a demarcated country).

A strong belief in African identity (ancestral departure and birthright).
Value for the Collective.

To have the hope and belief that colonialism and oppression will be defeated and replaced by sustainable progress and prosperity development of and in the interests of the African community wherever the African people live in the world.



6b. UBUNTUISM

Ubuntu, (Ubu (wholeness), ntu (unity)) is a movement based on Humanism in which the human being in connection with the other is central and forms a whole. I am because you are there and because we are there and in connection with the ancestors. The behavior is characterized by passion, care and dedication among and for each other; mutual peace by countering behaviors that encourage divide and rule.

Ubuntuism is considered one of the oldest ideological currents of humanity and humanity in South Africa. It is best known for the embedding of this movement in the political system of the Republic of South Africa after the dismantling of the apartheid system. The manners are based on the belief that others are not a limitation but rather an enrichment for the aspirations of the group to which a person belongs in order to achieve optimal progress.



6b. CONTINUATION UBUNTUISM

Above all, it is about recognizing the humanity and spirituality of the other in order to be able to be a complete human being within the Collective in the first place within the framework of joint action. In this context, the 'we' principle applies. "I" is especially relevant in the context of the "we" principle. I'm because of You.

Ubuntuism is characterized by Humanism, which is based on the following core values:

- ***Human dignity***
- ***Self-determination,***
- ***Equality,***
- ***Responsibility,***
- ***Tolerance***
- ***Solidarity,***
- ***Reasonableness***
- ***Justice***