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**OCPA and Interarts Experts Meeting on Research  
Priorities  
(Dakar, 16-17 November 2005)**

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**Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa  
Maputo 2005**

## **Introduction**

1. The meeting was convened in Dakar from 16 to 17 November by the Observatory of Cultural Policies of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA, Maputo, Mozambique) and the Interarts Foundation (Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain) with the support of the Spanish Ministry of Culture.
2. It took place on the occasion of the „International Conference on Cultural Diversity, Social Cohesion and Sustainable Development: Cultural Diversity for Human Development, Alleviating Poverty, Overcoming Inequality and Promoting Empowerment” and the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Network for Cultural Diversity convened, in co-operation with the Senegalese Coalition For Cultural Diversity and the Senegalese Coalition Of Socio-Cultural Actors, in Dakar, Senegal from 17-20 November 2005.
3. It was organized with the participation of 10 experts, observers from 5 countries (Cameroun, Central African Republic, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and representatives of 5 organizations (Interarts, Groupe 30, INCD-Southern Africa, UNESCO and OCPA; see list of participants in Annex 2). Two experts informed OCPA that they could not participate in the meeting (Senegal and South Africa).

### **Agenda item I: Opening and adoption of the agenda**

4. In their opening addresses Lupwishi Mbuyamba, Executive Director of OCPA and Annamari Laaksonen, representative of Interarts expressed their thanks for the support of the the Spanish Ministry of Culture and recalled that the meeting was convened in the framework of the co-operation between OCPA and the Interarts Foundation launched in 2003, which permitted the realization of the following activities
  - a. The organization of the International Seminar on Cultural Indicators of Sustainable Development in Africa (Maputo, March 2004) organized with a view to contribute to the preparation of
    - the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development to be held within the Universal Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004;
    - the OCPA research programme in this field;
  - b. The establishment of a Task Force of experts of Culture and development with a view to assist the Interarts Foundation, UNESCO and OCPA in mapping the resources (information, expertise and partnership), existing and to be mobilized in Africa and the international level, in order to implement the activities and recommendations proposed by the Seminar in view of elaborating cultural indicators of human development in Africa.
  - c. The organization of the meeting of the Task Force (Maputo, 6-7 August 2004), which elaborated the document “Cultural Indicators: Views from Africa” defining the strategic priorities for research into cultural indicators of development.
  - d. The publication and dissemination of this strategic document in Catalan, English, French, Kiswahili, Portuguese and Spanish namely on the occasion of the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development (Barcelona, August 2004).
5. Lupwishi Mbuyamba recalled also that at its last meeting (Nairobi, 13 February 2005 the OCPA Steering Committee examined the report of the Task Force adopted on its closing meeting (Narobi, 12 February 2005 and inicated three priority fields for the future research:

- Culture and poverty alleviation
- Culture, health and combating epidemics
- The role of culture in peace, conflict prevention and resolution

6. He then presented the objectives of the meeting:

- Follow-up and up-date the task force's work on cultural indicators for development in Africa;
- Identification of priority themes and cooperation projects for 2006-2008;
- Identification of partners and funding bodies;
- Drafting of a research agenda;
- Preparation of the Euro-African Campus on cultural co-operation.

7. The meeting then adopted the its agenda (see Annex 1)

### **Wednesday, 16 November**

#### **Agenda item II: Identification of priority themes and cooperation projects for 2006-2008.**

8. This point was introduced by Máté Kovács, who reminded that OCPA had established the proceedings of the Maputo Seminar, which could be produced as a joint publication by OCPA and Interarts.

9. As to the research projects, he pointed out that the priority fields have already been proposed by the OCPA Steering Committee. But these are huge areas. The meeting could thus identify within these areas specific research projects on indicators the elaboration of which seems most viable an on short term and for which

- there is an urgent demand
- the necessary expertise and knowledge is available
- financial resources can be mobilized.

10. Lupwishi Mbuyamba reminded that the Task Force was transformed into a Technical Committee, which was created with a view to

- Bring on board new expertise from the various areas or disciplines concerning cultural policy, cultural development as well as culture and development issues;
- Broaden OCPA's network of specialists of for monitoring cultural trends and capitalizing related knowledge.

The Technical Committee will be composed of high-level specialists of cultural policy and related fields. The participants of its meetings will be selected in the light of the topics to be examined.

11. In his presentation Paul Nchoji Nkwi suggested to concentrate on interactions between culture and the three priority issues, namely on the impact that the latter can have on culture. Cultural research require a holistic vision of the society.

**Peace** – He stressed that we should define what we understand under the term „peace”. Not just an absence of war. In this field the research should focus on the core elements of the notion of peace. The African Institute of the University of Uppsala has looked into these questions in relation with the ethnicity problem in Africa. It is also important to look into peace in terms of investment.

**Health** – Health is not just a problem for doctors. We should examine what became the Bamako initiative of “Health for All” and draw lessons from the results and failures.

It should not be forgotten that the power structures are related to health, these problems should be analysed in terms of policies and action. There are some neglected areas in health, such as safe motherhood.

**Poverty** - Poverty is a part of all problems as poverty affects health, and peace in relation with equity. In the field of poverty we should undertake empirical studies for clarifying how to generate more income, and for identifying good practices. We should also identify a basic set of social conditions required for poverty alleviation. We should undertake these empirical studies in 5 to 6 countries. They should be designed as small scale research studies using the carefully selected and well defined common criteria.

**Traditional leadership and governance** – This aspect is related to all the three issues. We should identify who are the owners and key-gate keepers of culture. Traditional leadership has been neglected during the past decades, except in some countries like in South Africa. Traditional leaders could be better involved in Africa’s development for example through the building of an African Parliament for traditional leaders.

**African Cultural Report** - the indicators should be developed in relation with the project of producing this report (In this respect Lupwishi Mbuyamba pointed out that this should permit to advise the African Union and provide it with instruments with a view to design appropriate policies.)

12. In the subsequent debate Augustine Hatar, Doreen Sibanda, Lupwishi Mbuyamaba, Annamari Laaksonen, Paul Nchoji Nkwi and Máté Kovács underlined the importance of the following aspects to be taken into account in these research projects

- **Visibility** – The visibility of the project should be promoted through publishing the research results
- **Networking** – The project should promote co-operative research among African countries;
- **Statistics and indicators** – (such as basic figures on the number of artists and the economic importance of culture) are necessary for advocacy and for convincing decision makers about the the relevance of investing in culture. Beyond statistics and indicators, the project should produce other types of data (like the directory about the cultural institutions and organizations of the Southern African region) that permit to assess the situation and to know the actors of the cultural life of a given country or region.
- **Research on indicators** - Cultural mapping, cultural cartographies, the development of indicators of cultural development and cultural indicators of human development constitute a priority need for designing and assessing cultural policies and for promoting development strategies in a cultural approach. For example the number of artists as an indicator to measure the capacity of a given country to support creative work.
- **Training** - In co-operation with other partners, OCPA should promote training and identify training needs and the changes in the profiles required. It should provide complementary training to artists in fields like marketing, management of creative businesses, cultural production and management. In this field it should co-operate with the African Capacity Building Association. It should devote research to identifying the

needs in cultural and art education at the level of compulsory education. In addition OCPA could provide information on training possibilities existing within and outside Africa. These activities should enable artists and cultural actors to do better what they are already doing and permit them to develop their capacities towards more professionalism. The example of Iberformat, a Latin American training network shows that training is a complex process, it concerns many fields such as administration and management, research, information, animation and cultural co-operation.

- *Study on future trends* - The cultural situation is rapidly changing mainly in urban areas. Therefore the study of the present developments and foreseeable future evolution of the cultural life in African countries is a priority for adapting cultural policies and development strategies to the changing realities.
- *Role of the arts and culture in poverty reduction* – The study of these issues constitutes a priority for the problem of poverty alleviation in general, but also for improving and the condition of the artists and protecting the craftsmen .
- *Partners* – The implementation of these activities requires the mobilization of all possible partners (Member States, AU, UNESCO, decision makers, professional organizations and networks).

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**Thursday, 17 November 2005**

**Agenda item III: Research agenda for OCPA**

13. On the second day of the meeting the group of experts composed by Augustine Hatar, Doreen Sibanda and Paul Nchoji Nkwi proposed a Draft Research Agenda concerning five critical areas

- a) Culture and Peace
- b) Culture and Health
- c) Culture and Poverty
- d) Traditional Governance
- e) African Culture Report

As to the detailed proposals he suggested the following guidelines:

*14. Guidelines for the development of the proposals*

OCPA is undertaking a series of research projects in an effort to develop cultural indicators in a number of critical areas, namely peace building, health, poverty and traditional governance. The experts are being requested to use the following format for the development of the proposals:

- 1) Background or overview of the theme
- 2) Justification or rationale (formulation of the problem)
- 3) Project objectives
- 4) Expected outcomes
- 5) Project management
- 6) Target population
- 7) Implementation strategies
- 8) Implementation partners/collaborative partners
- 9) Monitoring and evaluation
- 10) Detailed budget and budget justification

## 11) Logmatrix

In the process of the research, the following issues will be taken into account

### *Porposal 1: Culture and peace: search of indicators*

- a) Social Roots of violence / concepts: Theoretical and conceptual issues;
- b) Traditions and customs on conflict resolution and management;
- c) Peace Building: common and specific elements or indicators;
- d) Identification of institutions and organisations engaged in peace building initiative: Strengths and weaknesses;
- e) Development of a cultural indicators or an early warning system; monitoring of conflicts;
- f) Peace and democracy, the building of a democratic culture;
- g) Empirical cases of effectiveness of peace building program and initiative;
- h) The way forward.

### *Porposal 2: Culture and health/culture in health*

- a) Situational analysis: policy evolution and policy evaporation: the Alma Ata Declaration of Primary Health Care, the Bamako Initiative, cost recovery/sharing programs and their impact on health;
- b) Health for all in the year 2000, MDGs
- c) Cultural issues linked to health seeking behaviour (traditions, norms, taboos, etc.);
- d) Emerging and re-emerging diseases;
- e) Impact of culture on major killers (HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc.);
- f) Neglected health areas: safe motherhood and reproductive health issues;
- g) The way forward.

### *Porposal 3: Poverty; empirical cultural indicators*

- a) Theoretical and conceptual issues: alleviation, reduction, eradication, wealth creation. Who are the poor? Social and structural constraints to poverty alleviation or wealth creation;
- b) Social roots of poverty or the cultural dimensions of poverty;
- c) Capability approach: hat people have potentially and physically to combat poverty;
- d) Empirical case studies: success stories and failures: contribution of culture to the economic life of a country (statistics showing how income can be generated by cultural activities and manifestations);
- e) The inclusion of traditions and customs into the tourist industries (role of artists, environment, traditional leadership, local people in poverty alleviation);
- f) The way forward.

### *Porposal 4: Traditional governance*

#### Research Phase 1:

- a) Situational analysis of 20 countries on the integration of traditional governance into the political and development process;
- b) In-depth studies 5 to 6 empirical cases.

Conference Phase: Organisation of conference of traditional leaders, experts, artists and other stakeholders.

Research Phase 2: The proceedings of the conference would permit the identification of research issues for further in-depth studies.

The experts are expected to work also on the following:

- a) Common standard questionnaire for all empirical studies;

- b) Choice of sites for empirical studies (geographical and cultural representative );
- c) Indication of key experts to be associated with the research phase.

*Conditions*

- 1) The draft proposal must be submitted before the January 5, 2006;
- 2) Each expert will be paid \$1,000 after the submission and finalisation of the proposal while the coordinator will receive an honorarium of \$500;
- 3) The proposal will become the property of OCPA;
- 4) Length of the proposal: not more than 20 pages.

*Coordination*

Each expert contracted to write the proposal will work closely with OCPA coordinator. The responsibilities of the coordinator are to backup the appointed expert, provide him/her with the essential intellectual stimuli, and assist in the finalisation of the draft proposal. Such in case, the expert fails to complete the proposal, the coordinator will be responsible for completing the process. After the technical meeting, the coordinator will be required to finalise the drafts taking into account comments made.

*Proposal on Peace and Culture*

- a) Isaac Mazonde : Expert
- b) Augustine Hatar: Coordinator

*Proposal on Health and Culture*

- a) Isaac Nyamongo: Expert (inyamongo@yahoo.com)
- b) Paul Nchoji Nkwi: coordinator

*Proposal on Poverty and Culture*

- a) Alione Sall : Expert
- b) Doreen Sibanda, Coordinator

*Proposal on Traditional Governance*

- a) Paul Nchoji Nkwi Expert/Coordinator

*Research Theme 5: African Cultural Report*

N.B. With regards this theme no guidelines are proposed as the terms of reference of this project have already been defined at the request of the steering Commotte by Angeline Kamba.

15. In the subsequent debate the participants stressed the importance of taking into account
- traditional medicine and health practices as well as traditional pharmacopeia,
  - existing experience in using cultural resources in combating poverty (shona sculpture in Zimbabwe, Tengenenge).

As to possible partners the speakers draw the attention of the research work realized at the Gaborone and Butare Universities and by the ETHNONET network in conflict prevention and resolution.

**Agenda item IV: Campus for Euro-African Cultural Co-operation. Project Proposal**

16. This point was presented by Annamari Laaksonen who pointed out that the Campus is meant to facilitate exchange and co-operation between African and European cultural actors. The proposed event would be modelled on earlier Campuses organised by the Interarts Foundation over the last ten years for promoting cultural co-operation at the Euro-Mediterranean, Euro-American and Euro-Asian levels.

Organized jointly by Interarts and OCPA, this first Euro-African Campus would have the following objectives:

- To develop methods and strategies of project management in cultural co-operation;
- To offer training and professional development;
- To identify key priority areas of action for each region;
- To discuss and promote individual projects and good practices;
- To generate contacts between operators and facilitate future networking;
- To generate cooperation projects;
- To strengthen culture in cooperation for development.

Its expected results are

- To create a database of names, organisations and projects
- Provide information about existing and planned projects
- Launch new Euro-African co-operation projects and networks.

As to its format the Campus would be a 4 to 5-day event, combining a daily plenary session with afternoon workshops, round tables, etc. It is expected that a maximum of 40 speakers/experts will be invited, plus around 130 participants benefiting from travel grant and accommodation. Plenary sessions will combine lectures, panels followed by discussion about important topics, problems, good practices and concrete experiences. Workshops will be proposed concerning issues like heritage, visual and performing arts, creative industries, research and culture and local development.

The first edition of the Campus for Euro-African Cultural Cooperation could be held in Dakar (Senegal) in 2006 or 2007 if the necessary funds are confirmed in the first semester of 2006. Dakar is proposed as a platform for international cooperation due to its geographic position is also favourable for an event. Efforts are underway to secure mainly logistical and promotional. Should the event prove successful, subsequent editions could be held alternatively in Africa and Europe.

17. Participants could include artists, cultural entrepreneurs, organisations and networks, policymakers, development organisations, researchers, etc. The flexible nature of the event provides arts practitioners to meet those active in the field of research, policy-making and development, their concerns being complementary and joint initiatives being a potential outcome. In this context, the Campus may serve to test the ground, check hypotheses, introduce agents and inaugurate new co-operation structures.

18. Main themes could be chosen among issues like culture and development, cultural rights, cultural communication, cultural diversity

19. OCPA and Interarts will seek the co-operation of possible partners like UNESCO and other UN agencies, AIF, European Commission, African Union / NEPAD Secretariat, Secretariat of ACP countries, national development agencies, foundations, NGOs. Support will be sought from the relevant institutions to cover costs related to staff, travel, accommodation, simultaneous translation (E/F), hosting of the event and dissemination, with possible funds being earmarked for the publication of the proceedings and outcomes as well.

20. The meeting expressed its support for the Euro-African Campus. Doreen Sibanda noted that if Dakar could not host this event, Harare could offer a good venue for it on the occasion of the coming Biennial of the Arts (2007).

21. Oumar Sall draw the attention to the diversity of problems and situations in the various regions of Africa, which should be reflected in the programme of the Campus. Lupwishi Mbuyamba noted that the Campus could be an effective Interarts/OCPA contribution to the promotion of the Convention on Cultural Diversity.

**Agenda item V: Messages from partner organizations**

22. During the meeting the Chair gave the floor to the observers and representatives of partner organizations who presented their objectives and activities (Group 30, INCD Africa, Central African Republic).

**Agenda item VI: Co-operation projects and calender of activities for 2006**

23. Máté Kovács and Lupwishi Mbuyamba informed the participant about the on-going and planned co-peration activities of OCPA and the development of co-operation with African and European partners, namely as to

- OCPA/African Union co-operation for the preparation of the Pan African Cultural Congress (Nairobi, 4-9 December 2005), the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the Conference of Ministers of Culture (Nairobi, 13-14 December 2005) and the AU Summit of Heads of State on Culture and Education
- Co-operation Agreements with Culturelink, Interarts, IFACCA, UEMOA, CODESRIA, Cultural Commons, EPA, etc.
- Organization of a donors' meeting (Brussels, 23 February 2006)
- Co-operation with ACP Secretariat, AIF, AECI, CRAC, Africalia, Prince Claus Foundation, etc.
- Development of the OCPA web site (Culturelink)
- Publications (UNESCO, Swiss National Commission for UNESCO)

**Closing**

24. In their closing addresses Annamari Laaksonen and Lupwishi Mbuyamba expressed their thanks to the participants on behalf of Interarts and OCPA for their contribution made to the meeting.

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**OCPA and Interarts experts meeting  
(Dakar, 16-17 November 2005)**

**Preliminary Programme and Agenda**

*Wednesday, November 16 th 2005.*

**Opening Session**

14h30: **Opening**

- Opening addresses
- Presentation of the participants.
- Approval of the Agenda

**Session I**

15h00 **Research projects.**

- Partners message (INCD Southern Africa)
- Follow-up and update on the task force's work on cultural indicators for development in Africa (the documents produced by the Task force); progress, development and future actions.
- Identification of priority themes and cooperation projects for 2006-2008.
- Identification of partners and funding bodies.
- Drafting of a research agenda.

16h: Coffe Break.

18h: End of the Session.

*Thursday, November 17 2005.*

**Session II**

09h 30: Euro African Campus on cultural co-operation and cooperation in 2006.

- Funding aspects and possible sponsors

- Draft programme and identification of key elements / themes
- Main institutions and organisations involved
- Regional aspects and logistics ( languages, regions, people).
- List of possible invitees (Gender / Discipline /Region /etc.).
- Calendar.

11h : Coffee Break.

11h30: Partners Message: Central African Republic

- Action Plans
- Calendar for 2006
- Responsibilities and tasks
- Conclusions

13h : End of Meeting

## **List of Participants**

### Experts:

- Mr Augustine Hatar (Tanzania)
- Mr Paul Nkwi (Cameroon)
- Ms Doreen Sibanda (Zimbabwe)

### OCPA:

- Mr Lupwishi Mbuyamba
- Mr Máté Kovács

### Interarts:

- Ms Annamari Laaksonen

### UNESCO:

- Ms Mulekeni Ngulube

### Observers:

- Mr Oumar Sall (Groupe 30, Sénégal)
- Mr David Anadjio (République centrafricaine)
- Mr Jeeva Rajgopaul (INCD-Southern Africa, South Africa)