

[Pour la version française cliquez ici.](#)

*In 2022 OCPA Celebrates the 20th Anniversary
of the Launching of its Activities*

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

The Observatory is a Pan African international NGO created in 2002 with the support of African Union, the Ford Foundation, and UNESCO. Its aim is to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and to enhance their integration in human development strategies through advocacy, information, research, capacity building, networking, co-ordination, and co-operation at the regional and international levels.



OCPA NEWS

No 415

26 April 2022

OCPA News aims to promote interactive information exchange within Africa and between Africa and the other regions. Please send us information for dissemination about new initiatives, meetings, research projects and publications of interest for cultural policies for development in Africa. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Contact: OCPA Secretariat, Avenida Patrice Lumumba No. 850, Primeiro Andar,
Caixa Postal 1207, Maputo, Mozambique**

Tel.: + 258 21306138 / Fax: +258 21320304 / E-mail: secretariat@ocpanet.org

Executive Director: Lupwishi Mbuyamba, director@ocpanet.org

Editor of OCPA News: Máté Kovács, mate.kovacs@ocpanet.org

OCPA WEB SITE - www.ocpanet.org

OCPA FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/pages/OCPA-Observatory-of-Cultural-Policies-in-Africa/100962769953248?v=info

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/observatory-of-cultural-policies-in-africa>

**You can subscribe or unsubscribe to OCPA News via the online form at
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/newsletter/maillinglist/subscribe-en.html> or
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/newsletter/maillinglist/unsubscribe-en.html>**

Previous issues of OCPA News at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/newsletter/index-en.html>

*

OCPA is an official partner of UNESCO (associate status)

**We express our thanks to our main partners who contributed to the creation of OCPA and
the development of its activities, namely our initial sponsors**



and other partners

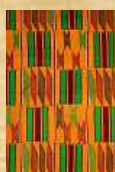


ENCATC



CBAAC





In this issue

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

- A.1 Talks with officials from the Addis Ababa office of the SELAM program
- A.2 Online meeting on the European initiative “Global Cultural Relations”
- A.3 Online meeting with the Open Society in South Africa - OSISA
- A.4 Cooperation with the ACP-EU Programme Culture-Creating in Central Africa
- A.5 OCPA and the first AU Consultation on Arts Education
- A.6 OCPA Publications

B. News, events and projects in Africa

- B.1 East Africa: Renewed AU-UNESCO Campaign for Promoting Kiswahili
- B.2 Gambia: NCAC Strengthening National Capacities for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage
- B.3 Africa: Call for applications - The African Image Festival
- B.4 Second edition of the “Create in Central Africa” program
- B.5 Côte d'Ivoire: FICAD - the 2022 edition is in line with government actions
- B.6 Tunisia: 2nd edition of the International Festival of Theater in the Desert

C. News about cultural policies, institutions and resources in Africa

- C.1 Ghana Seeks Reparation of Stolen Cultural Heritage, Artifacts
- C.2 Morocco: Meeting on the projects of the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication
- C.3 Angola: Minister assesses Art and Culture Foundation projects
- C.4 Morocco: Culture, a lever for the development of territories and regions
- C.5 Ivory Coast: Françoise Remarck, the new Minister of Culture and Francophonie
- C.6 Morocco: Essaouira, pilot city for UNESCO's cultural indicators of the 2030 program Essaouira

D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

- D.1 Protection of Cultural Property – Military Manual (UNESCO, ISBN: 978-92-3-100184-0, 89 p.
- D.2 International Arts Education Week (May 23-29, 2022)
- D.3 UNESCO awards \$600,000 to strengthen the status of the artist (15 April)
- D.4 Message from the UNESCO Director-General on the World Art Day 15 April 2022
- D.5 Message from the UNESCO Director-General on the World Book and Copyright Day 23 April 2022

E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

- E.1 Links to portals
- E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica
 - Nigeria, Egypt to Sign MOU on Arts, Crafts Development
 - Mauritius: Prime Minister Inaugurates the Matisse Exhibition at the Blue Penny Museum
 - Tunisia: Cultural Dialogues is a new program for Tunisia's Ministry of Cultural Affairs

F. Info from newsletters and information services

- F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA – ACORNS)
 - Focus on Innovation for the Vitality of Arts and Culture Sector
 - Zimbabwe's music strategy undergoes validation
- F.2 Agenda 21 Culture
 - Conference on Migration and Culture in Cities
- F.3 Music World News - News of the International Music Council (IMC)
 - The Middle East and North Africa is the music industry's fastest growing global market
- F.4 Ettijahat – Independent Culture Newsletter
 - South-South Arts Fellowships - Connecting Cultural Workers in Africa, Asia and the Pacific
- F.5 Cybekaris – the Monthly Newsletter of the Interarts Foundation
 - 1st Forum for the Arts in Education
- F.6 Sauti za Busara

- Sauti za Busara 2023: Call for Artists

XXX

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

The month of April will have been a period of various negotiations with established partners and others who are on the way.

A.1 Talks with officials from the Addis Ababa office of the SELAM program

The Executive Director of OCPA had a first meeting with Mr. Teshome Wondimu, the Director and Mrs. Lucy Ilado, the Regional Director for the program of SELAM, an organization established with the assistance of the Swedish Arts Council in Addis Ababa to support the preservation of the creative freedom of artists around the world. The exchanges focused on the assistance desired for the establishment of a partnership of this association in Mozambique and the participation of the cultural actors of the country, after a dozen other African countries, in the implementation of the project PANAF.

A.2 Online meeting on the European initiative “Global Cultural Relations”

A second online meeting took place with Mr. Thierry d'Anna from the Institut Français, on a European initiative, Global Cultural Relations, with a view to a possible participation of OCPA in the planned reflections.

A.3 Online meeting with Open Society in South Africa - OSISA

The third online meeting took place with Mrs. Elfia Ellesse of the OSISA Organization on organizing various cultural programs into a regional entity called OSF-Africa monitoring the Culture sector and its projects. The exchange aimed to obtain additional elements to the discussions already initiated on this development, in particular to identify a framework for presenting research and field projects to an expected funding program.

A.4 Cooperation with the ACP-EU Programme Culture-Creating in Central Africa

The ACP-EU Program Culture-Creating in Central Africa, which has associated OCPA with the promotion of the initiative, has announced the launch of its second Call for proposals, the deadline of which is June 6, 2022. In addition to the promotion of 'Call the Observatory encourages cultural entrepreneurs in the Region deemed eligible to participate in the submission of relevant projects.

A.5 OCPA and the first AU Consultation on Arts Education

Finally, OCPA was invited to take part in the first African Union Consultation on the Arts Education program in order to prepare a common strategy for the Continent in this essential file to ensure a complete training of African youth. and the continuity of creativity. Lupwishi Mbuyamba, the Executive Director, and Hamadou Mandé, the Deputy Research Coordinator were responsible for representing OCPA at this meeting on April 29 and 30 in Lusaka, Zambia.

A.6 OCPA Publications

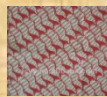
In relation with its research activities OCPA has produced some **25 books and publications** such as a strategy document (2004) and a research programme (2007 and 2010) on the cultural

indicators of human development in Africa, a book on “African Musics – New Stakes and New Challenges” (with UNESCO, 2005), the Observatory’s 1st and 2nd Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action (2006 and 2011), the Compendium of basic reference texts for cultural policies in Africa (E/F/S, 2006 and 2009), the Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of National Cultural Policies in Africa (2008 and 2009). The Proceedings of the International Symposium on Policies, Strategies and Experiences in Financing Culture in Africa was published in 2010, the Manual for Training Specialist of Cultural Policy and Management in Africa and the book on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty reduction in Africa were produced in 2013. More recently, in 2019, OCPA published with the support of UNESCO a book entitled Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue: An African Experience as well as the book prepared and published with the support of Africalia on ”Anticipating Cultural Policies in Africa by 2030”.

Most of the Reports of some 25 meetings and training sessions organized by OCPA are published at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/meetings/index-en.html>.

Some 25 articles published in books and reviews of the OCPA Partners (Culturelink, AFRICOM, Interarts - Barcelona, África e Mediterraneo, Wale keru, Arts Management, Itau Cultural – Sao Paulo, Brazil, University of Pécs – Hungary, University of Gerona – Spain, Catalonia, Institute for African Culture and International Understanding - IACIU, Abeokuta, Nigeria, African Institute of the United Nations for Economic Development and Planning - IDEP, Dakar, etc.

For previous news and OCPA activities click on
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 East Africa: Renewed AU-UNESCO Campaign for Kiswahili

The renewed push for Kiswahili to become a lingua franca in Africa promises to benefit the continent and the world. The effort, set to reduce Africa's reliance on foreign languages in official communications, is meant to lead to the recognition of Kiswahili, and to the promotion of Pan-Africanism.

Today, of the 54 countries on the continent, English is the official language in 27 and French is the official language in 21 countries. Both are languages of former colonizers. Their continued use attracts funding and other benefits from these countries.

For Kiswahili to gain acceptance and develop in such regions, adequate resources and political goodwill -- including financial and economic inputs - are imperative to ensure it will serve people as well as, if not better than, the languages they speak today.

For Kiswahili to grow globally, joint effort is needed. Kiswahili's recognition by AU and UNESCO is a step in the right direction proposed by the Campaign for Kiswahili.

Web site: <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/april-2022/renewed-au-unesco-campaign-kiswahili>

B.2 Gambia: New UNESCO Funded Project for Strengthening National Capacities for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage

On the 1st of April, the National Centre for Arts and Culture (NCAC) launched a two year project on 'Strengthening National Capacities for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage and Contributing to Sustainable Development in The Gambia.', aimed at establishing an inventory of The Gambia's intangible cultural heritage across the country.

NCAC will work in the seven regions of the country to research, list, photograph the myriad Gambian rituals, ceremonies, oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

This Inventory will be published as a reference tool for Gambian heritage and it will help to strengthen partnerships for sustainable development at the national level.

More at <https://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/headlines/ncac-unesco-launch-over-us50k-to-safeguard-intangible-cultural-heritage-project>

B.3 Africa: Call for applications - The African Image Festival

This Festival (Festim Afrique) is organizing its first edition in the Democratic Republic of Congo from June 28 to 30. To this end, it invites African artistic groups and the diaspora to take part in the great meeting of cultural and tourist diplomacy of the continent.

The event will take place in Kinshasa in the space of the Théâtre de Verdure, in Mont Ngaliema. It is the very first continental village, which is an interstate cultural and tourist intermingling distribution channel. This great pan-African cultural and tourist diplomacy event with an international vocation has the following activities: music; dance; the fashion; humor; theater; the movie theater; writing, painting and ceramic workshops; an exhibition of works of art from Africa and other continents, etc.

Festim Africa introduces the general public to national and international talents and allows them to understand the contours of the event.

Web site: <https://www.fratmat.info/article/219980/culture/appel-a-candidatures-le-festival-dimages-dafrique-lance-sa-premiere-edition>

B.4 Second edition of the “Create in Central Africa” program

Until June 6, companies in the cultural and creative industries (CCI) sectors of Central Africa, including Republic of Congo, Gabon, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, São Tomé and Príncipe and Chad, are invited to submit their projects under the “Create in Central Africa” program.

This grant will support initiatives aimed at strengthening the role of CCIs as economic, social and cultural actors. This, with the aim of increasing economic revenue from the creative sector, sustainably promoting the creation of jobs related to the cultural sector as well as better accessibility, recognition and enhancement of Central African artists and their works.

Thus, can benefit from this programme implemented by Interarts, Culture and Development, the Economic Community of Central African States and the National Institute of the Arts. Arterial Network and United Local Governments of Africa are also associated partners of the project.

Web site: <https://www.adiac-congo.com/content/deuxieme-edition-du-programme-creer-en-afrique-centrale-le-congo-eligible-136981>

B.5 Côte d'Ivoire: FICAD - the 2022 edition is in line with government actions

By inaugurating the 17th edition of the International Festival of Culture and the Arts of Daoukro on April 9, Honorable Akoto Kouassi Olivier, Commissioner General of FICAD announced that this event is in line with the action of the government which aims to strengthen the economic dimension of culture and the arts through the new name of the ministry in charge of Culture.

He underlined that culture is both a factor of development and social cohesion and has neither political nor religious coloring. "Today, through FICAD, it is Côte d'Ivoire in all its diversity that magnifies the beauty of arts and culture. This is a strong contribution on our part to the promotion of reconciliation and peace." he said.

He revealed that the FICAD, causes 500 temporary jobs offered to young people in the region for a week, with 100,000 festival-goers to the delight of the receptive hoteliers, restaurateurs and various businesses.

Source: <https://www.fratmat.info/article/219854/culture/ficad-akoto-olivier-place-ledition-2022-dans-le-droit-fil-des-actions-du-gouvernement>

B.6 Tunisia: 2nd edition of the International Festival of Theater in the Desert

It is in the village of Bishni, in Kebili, that the 2nd edition of this theatrical event in the Sahara was successfully held. The decentralization of art remains a priority for the organizing team, in addition to the promotion of the cultural sector in the regions, specifically in disadvantaged areas. Reviving domestic tourism and introducing locals to theater remain equally important. This 2nd session saw 28 performances from different countries such as Tunisia, Kurdistan, Morocco and Italy.

The program also included a puppet-making workshop, an international scientific symposium and training sessions. This mini-festival of the Sahara responded to the vision of the organizers: that of creating by diversifying the content and in new spaces other than in traditional places such as closed theaters.

More at <https://lapresse.tn/128236/2e-edition-du-festival-international-de-theatre-dans-le-desert-le-theatre-aux-portes-du-sahara>



C. News about cultural policies, institutions and resources in Africa

C.1 Ghana Seeks Reparation of Stolen Cultural Heritage, Artifacts

A 22-member committee to lead Ghana's quest to seek reparation and restitution of trafficked cultural heritage and artifacts has been inaugurated in Accra. Chaired by Professor Kodzo Gavua, Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, the committee would identify researchers to elicit data that would support the government's call for restitution and reparation.

Speaking at the meeting, Deputy Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mark Okraku Mante, said Ghana was one of African countries which had its cultural materials illegally taken away by the colonial masters between the 15th and 20th centuries through looting, intimidation, and seizure, among others. Referring to historical data in February 1884, he noted that the British Forces invaded Kumasi and plundered countless valuable cultural objects. Many of the illicitly

trafficked materials, he said, had been sent to the British Museum, University of Oxford's Pitt Rivers Museum and other museums across Western Europe.

Restitution would help in repairing the damage that the actions of the colonial masters caused. Ghana will work with other African nations to form a strong voice in pushing for their demands.

More at <https://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/ghana-seeks-reparation-of-stolen-cultural-heritage-artifacts/>

C.2 Monitoring meeting on the projects of the Moroccan Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication

The Minister of Youth, Culture and Communication, Mohamed Mehdi Bensaid and the Wali of the Casablanca-Settat region and governor of the prefecture of Casablanca, Said Ahmidouche held a meeting focused on monitoring the ministry's projects in the Casablanca-Settat region. This meeting was part of the High Royal Guidelines aimed at increasing efforts to achieve strategic development priorities.

On this occasion, he stressed the pioneering role that the cultural aspect must play, particularly that linked to heritage, in sectors such as tourism, calling for efforts to create cultural animation through the creation of cultural enterprises. and the encouragement of cultural cooperatives.

This meeting was marked by a presentation by the governor of Casablanca on the rehabilitation projects of the historic sites of the city. These projects are part of agreements signed before HM King Mohammed VI for an envelope of 232.5 million dirhams, and aim to enhance the cultural heritage of the economic capital of the Kingdom, by mobilizing the various external services, institutions elected representatives, as well as the services of the Ministry.

Source: <https://www.mapnews.ma/fr/actualites/culture/casablanca-settat-m-bensaid-tient-une-r%C3%A9union-autour-des-projets-du-minist%C3%A8re-de>

C.3 Angola: Minister assesses Art and Culture Foundation projects

Luanda — The Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment, Filipe Zau traveled to the island of Luanda to learn about the artistic and cultural projects of the Art and Culture Foundation constituting the four pillars of the foundation: education through the arts, the foundation as a cultural centre, social enterprise and the social sector.

Through the Cultural Center, the foundation offers families cultural environments - concerts, cinema every Wednesday, theater with the Youth of Mulemba. "More than 400 children attend our schools. We have opened our amphitheater, named after the late musician Wyza, to people looking for a space to carry out their activities," the official said.

The Art and Culture Foundation is an integral part of the Menomadin Foundation International Global Impact Foundation and a social responsibility contribution of the Mitrelli Group. It was founded on Luanda City Day, January 25, 2006.

More information at <https://www.angop.ao/fr/noticias/lazer-cultura/ministro-visita-projectos-artisticos-e-culturais-da-fundacao-arte-e-cultura/>

C.4 Morocco: Culture, an essential lever for the development of territories and regions (President of the ICC/CGEM federation)

Culture is one of the essential levers for the development of territories and regions, told Neila Tazi, president of the federation of cultural and creative industries (ICC). "Culturally, each

region enjoys extraordinary potential with heritage and creative riches, which provide support for developing a cultural industry".

Ms. Tazi, also a member of the Gutenberg-Morocco association, and producer of the "Gnaoua and world music" festival in Essaouira, welcoming the initiative of the Brotherhood of Gutenberg companions for the holding of this important conference, underlined the "need to increase awareness of the role of culture among those responsible in the regions, whether they are local elected officials or economic players".

"A quality cultural offer is synonymous with a country's influence, just as it promotes the promotion of an entire ecosystem of professions", she explained, adding that with the adoption of a "strategy for the cultural and creative industries, very perceptible spin-offs will be there".

More information at <https://www.mapnews.ma/fr/actualites/culture/la-culture-un-levier-essentiel-pour-le-d%C3%A9veloppement-des-territoires-et-r%C3%A9gions>

C.5 Ivory Coast: Françoise Remarck, the new Minister of Culture and Francophonie

Abidjan, 04-20-2022 - Françoise Remarck joins the new Government of Côte d'Ivoire, still chaired by Prime Minister Patrick Achi, as Minister of Culture and La Francophonie. Having worked for thirty years in the distribution, media and innovation sectors, she replaces Harlette Badou N'Guessan Kouamé in this position.

Françoise Remarck studied at the Abidjan Business School (ESCA) from which she obtained an engineering degree in 1986. During her professional career, she held increasingly important management positions.

In April 2015, Françoise Remarck became Director of Institutional Relations and Communication at the Compagnie Française d'Afrique de l'Ouest. At the end of 2017, she co-founded Africa Kirawa Fund, specialized in supporting young entrepreneurs on innovative projects with a strong social impact on the continent. It is involved in financing entrepreneurs in the Cultural and Creative Industries in Africa.

President of the Board of Directors of Canal+ Côte d'Ivoire, Françoise Remarck serves on the boards of A+ Ivoire and BICICI. She is also a member of the investment committee of Comoé Capital, an investment fund that supports the development of SMEs in Côte d'Ivoire.

Very committed to young people and women, Françoise Remarck has extensive experience in management, business development and negotiation, as well as solid networks of influence.

Source: <https://rti.info/article/policy/11177>

C.6 Morocco: Essaouira, pilot city for UNESCO's cultural indicators of the 2030 program Essaouira

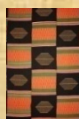
"It is Essaouira that will embody for Morocco, the place, the role and the centrality of Culture in the United Nations 2030 program for sustainable development", declared Mr. André Azoulay, Adviser to HM the King and Founding President of the Essaouira-Mogador Association who spoke in Essaouira in the context of a follow-up seminar (March 31 to April 1) around the thematic indicators set up by UNESCO to assess the contribution of culture to the achievement of the sustainable development goals of UN by 2030.

Reinforced by the national and international validation of its strategy and by the possibility now given to it by the Ministry of Culture and UNESCO to scientifically measure its achievements, lessons learned and weaknesses, civil society Souirie de la Cité des Alizés got down to the definition of a 2030 roadmap which will privilege the role of "Culture in the reconquest of a

universality reconciled with the respect, the legitimacy and the richness of all its diversities", explained the Advisor to HM the King.

This workshop, whose work ended on Friday, was thus an opportunity to nurture and highlight the legitimacy of the selection of Essaouira as the city that best embodies these UNESCO cultural indicators of 2030 program.

Read more at <https://www.mapnews.ma/fr/actualites/culture/essaouira-ville-pilote-pour-les-indices-culturels-de-lunesco-du-programme>



D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

D.1 Protection of Cultural Property – Military Manual (UNESCO, ISBN: 978-92-3-100184-0, 89 p.

Cet ouvrage, publié par l'UNESCO et l'Institut international de droit humanitaire, a été élaboré par un groupe d'auteurs (O'Keefe, Roger, Péron, Camille, Musayev, Tofig, Ferrari, Gianluca), Le fait est clair - la destruction de biens culturels est un crime. Au cours des conflits armés, ce manuel peut aider les acteurs internationaux à agir pour protéger le patrimoine avant qu'il ne soit trop tard.

Téléchargement gratuit à <http://on.unesco.org/2gTUbBS>

D.2 International Arts Education Week (May 23-29, 2022)

The decision of the 36th session of UNESCO's General Conference in 2011, this week was proclaimed as the International Arts Education Week.

Art is an basic component of a comprehensive education for the full development of the individual. The skills, values and behaviours promoted by arts education are more paramount than ever. These competencies - creativity, collaboration, and imaginative problem solving – develop resiliency, nurture appreciation of cultural diversity and freedom of expressions, and cultivate innovation and critical thinking skills.

Art brings us closer together. A painting, an artefact, a piece of ancestral music speaks volumes about the history of civilizations and the ties that bind them. It makes us to feel and to understand what unites humanity in the diversity of its cultures and expressions and thus contributing to our sustainable future.

UNESCO is committed to joining forces with its Member States to step up cooperation, mobilizing civil society, educators and arts professionals to fully harness the potential of both culture and education.

D.3 UNESCO awards \$600,000 to strengthen the status of the artist (15 April)

On the World Art Day, UNESCO is announcing concrete action in support of artists and culture professionals worldwide via the UNESCO-Aschberg programme. Over US\$ 600,000 will go to the following Member States to improve the status of the artist and promote artistic freedom: Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Gambia, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Palestine, Peru, Romania, Seychelles, Tunisia and Uganda. This will support the strengthening of national

legislation and policies, capacity building on artistic freedom, monitoring the social and economic rights of the artists and advancing advocacy.

UNESCO received 108 project proposals following a call in September 2021. Projects were evaluated, with priority given to Africa and Small Island Developing States, as well as projects focused on youth and gender equality.

More at the the UNESCO-Aschberg programme web site:

<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/donors/unesco-aschberg-programme-artists-cultural-professionals>

D.4 Message from Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of World Art Day – 15 April 2022

“Just as man needs oxygen to survive, he also needs art and poetry.” These words by Aimé Césaire remind us how vital art and culture are to humanity.

This World Day is a timely reminder that art can connect us even in the most difficult of circumstances. Indeed, the power of art to bring people together, to inspire, heal and share, has become increasingly clear during recent conflicts and crises, including COVID-19.

Indeed, in a sector where employment is often informal and unstable, and in the absence of an appropriate social safety net, artists and culture professionals too often find themselves vulnerable in the face of the loss of income brought on by crises and conflicts. This shows us just how much we need to accord artists appropriate status, as urged by UNESCO's 1980 Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist, in order to bolster respect for their rights and boost the resilience of arts and culture.

The challenge of keeping art alive is twofold: we must support culture professionals and cultural institutions, and promote access to art for all. In order to better identify priority needs, we must listen to the voices of the art world in all their diversity. This is the aim of UNESCO's ResiliArt movement, which was launched to affirm the resilience of art and prepare for the future.

The challenges we face today can only be met through far-reaching cultural policies aimed at helping creative communities overcome this crisis and protecting and improving the status of artists. The UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development – MONDIACULT ensure that the voices of artists and civil society are fully heard as countries set the agenda for culture for the years to come.

Web site: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381143>

D.5 Message from Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, for World Book and Copyright Day 23 April 2022

Books have long embodied the human capacity to conjure up worlds, both real and imagined, giving voice to the diversity of human experience. They help us share ideas, obtain information and inspire admiration for different cultures, enabling far-reaching forms of dialogue between people across space and time.

The potential of books to advance individual fulfilment and create social change is undeniable. In the words of renowned Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie: “To choose to write is to reject silence.

”This is why UNESCO is resolutely committed to promoting access to books and reading – for example, through our World Book Capital programme. In 2022, the Mexican city of Guadalajara is taking up the mantle of World Book Capital, with a year-long programme that

focuses on the role of books and reading in triggering social change, combating violence and building a culture of peace. Despite the importance of books in sustaining social wellbeing, the publishing industry is currently facing major upheavals – most notably the digital transformation. These challenges became all too clear during COVID-19, when falling revenues amplified the vulnerability of authors and book sellers, like other creative professionals across the value chain. Cultural diversity was also threatened as the number of titles published ineluctably diminished.

In uncertain times, we must cherish and defend books as symbols of hope and dialogue.

This means standing in solidarity with the professionals who disseminate our literary heritage – writers, editors, publishers and translators. As they build bridges across continents and cultures, these professionals must be protected, and their value acknowledged. UNESCO is firmly committed to this goal. At a time when digital technology is changing the face of the publishing industry, we advocate for the fair remuneration of authors and the protection of cultural diversity. We support the work of publishers through undertakings such as partnerships with the International Authors Forum, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and the International Publishers Association.

On World Book and Copyright Day, I call upon all of UNESCO's partners to share the message that books are a force to address contemporary challenges, to understand political and economic realities, and to combat inequalities and misinformation. Storytelling is an incredibly effective tool when it comes to educating younger generations. Indeed, books are vital vehicles to access, transmit and promote education, science, culture and information worldwide. For this reason, every year, on 23 April – a date that marks the departure of three great authors of universal literature, Miguel de Cervantes, William Shakespeare, and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega – we celebrate their power to spark innovation, generate knowledge and change minds.

Web site: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381271?15=null&queryId=N-8ada2d13-dcc0-42cf-81c8-046c8013a507>



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<https://allafrica.com/arts/>

<http://www.africaonline.com/site/africa/arts.jsp>

<http://www.apanews.net/news/fr/rubrique.php?id=65>

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2003/646/culture.htm>

<http://english.alarabonline.org/display.asp?code=zculturez>

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

Nigeria, Egypt to Sign MOU on Arts, Crafts Development

Nigeria and the Republic of Egypt have agreed to deepen their bilateral cooperation through a Memorandum of Understanding on ways of developing their arts and crafts sector. This is one of the decisions reached when the Director General, National Council for Arts and Culture, Otunba Segun Runsewe, received in audience a delegation from Egypt led by the Ambassador Ihab Ahmed in his office. The ambassador remarked that he had been following the activities of

Otunba Runsewe who has positively projected the image of Nigeria within the culture and tourism space adding that the NCAC is working very hard to transform Nigeria's rich and diverse cultural heritage into a viable economy. Egypt was exploring ways of strongly collaborating with Nigeria through the NCAC to create a platform to showcase both country's rich cultural heritage. Runsewe said that the diplomatic relationship between both countries have witnessed robust growth over the years. Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202204160077.html>

Mauritius: Prime Minister Inaugurates the Matisse Exhibition at the Blue Penny Museum

The Blue Penny Museum is displaying, from April 15 to June 11 2022, the works of the famous French painter Henri Matisse. In his address, the Prime Minister lauded the Blue Penny Museum for proposing such a high-profile cultural event in Mauritius. Despite the numerous challenges faced by museums across the world amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the Blue Penny Museum has been successful in organising an exhibition to commemorate the bicentenary birth anniversary of the great poet Charles Baudelaire and at the same time valorise the works of art of the talented painter Henri Matisse, he highlighted. The Prime Minister further recalled that these two geniuses of literature and the arts still guide, in our present time, young foreign and Mauritian artists alike in their quest of creativity and innovation, he emphasised.

The Blue Penny Museum endeavours to organise regular temporary exhibitions to renew the interest of its visitors and to make disseminate knowledge regarding the history and art of Mauritius. Source: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202204150304.html>

Tunisia: Cultural Dialogues is a new program for Tunisia's Ministry of Cultural Affairs

Tunisia's Ministry of Cultural Affairs has announced a new series of meetings to bring together creative children and young people. Starting on 4 March, the weekly meetings, called Cultural Dialogues, aim to stimulate conversation and enhance the critical vision of young people across Tunisia. The Tunis Institute of Translation, the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, the Tunis Opera Theatre and the Tunis International Centre for Digital Cultural Economy are scheduled to participate in programming that contributes to enriching the knowledge, intellect and artistic imagination of children and young people.

Source: <http://www.culture.gov.tn/>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA – ACORNS)

Focus on Innovation and Vitality of the Arts and Culture Sector

In an increasingly complex and turbulent world, artists and cultural professionals bring much-needed vitality to support innovations that will, in turn, bring inspiration and reflection, as well as accelerate socio-economic development. This was amongst the key messages of the recently concluded **World Government Summit 2022** in the United Arab Emirates, which annually draws leaders from around the world to analyse how technology and other key drivers will change the future of governments and their ability to respond to accelerated changes. Culture as an indispensable driver for the realisation of development – in particular, the ambitious universal 2030 Agenda for sustainable development – was also strongly reiterated at **the**

Regional Consultation of Ministers of Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean this February. At this meeting, a call was made for debates about development at this time of global change to be broadened in order to better harness culture's transformative power.

As the United Nations' 2030 Agenda is firmly anchored in human rights, achieving the sustainable development goals needs to be done in a manner that protects the cultural rights of individuals, communities and groups of people. **UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights**, Ms. Alexandra Xanthaki is currently looking into this critical issue for her upcoming 2022 report to the General Assembly.

On the value of culture's transformative power, the **Conference of Ministers of Culture organised by the Council of Europe and the Italian Ministry of Culture** was held earlier this month with a central motif on the role of creativity and cultural heritage for empowering civil society, encouraging public debate and providing an education platform for democratic citizenship. At the heart of their concern is the crisis in Ukraine. **The Ukrainian Minister of Culture and Information Policy** Oleksandr Tkachenko highlighted not only the negative impact and damage incurred to Ukraine's cultural heritage and culture, but also how they are facing this with resilience and using their creative forces.

These recent discussions on culture in various international fora reiterate the message of the UNESCO Global Report, *Re|Shaping Policies for Creativity*: that in these times of accelerated change, we urgently need the vitality of a cultural sector which nurtures both sustainable development and innovation. For this vitality to thrive, we must advance artistic freedom as a fundamental pillar of cultural policy. On 3 May, we will be releasing our Discussion Paper for the 9th World Summit on Arts and Culture which reflects on this concern. Please join us for the virtual public launch of our Discussion Paper on 10 May.

Zimbabwe's music strategy undergoes validation

Stakeholders in the creative sector gathered in the capital for the validation of the five-year National Music Strategy document crafted by the National Arts Council of Zimbabwe and sector partners drawn from the country's 10 provinces. The strategy document draft is considered to be part of broader development efforts in the Zimbabwean cultural and creative industries (CCI) sector. <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2022/03/music-strategy-undergoes-validation/>

Web site: <http://www.ifacca.org>

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Agenda 21 Culture

Conference on Migration and Culture in Cities

European cities are increasingly multicultural. Migrations contribute to the mixing of populations, make different cultures coexist and shape composite identities. At a time when many European cities are asking themselves how to acknowledge difficult local histories, the association L'Age de la Tortue will organise, in partnership with the Erasmus+ programme and Eurocities, an event on "Migration and Culture in Cities: Exchanging Experiences Throughout Europe". The event will be held on next 2 June 2022 at Paris' National museum of immigration history. It will offer the opportunity to share experiences on art, culture and migration in cities.

Read more at https://agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/concept-note_en.pdf

Web site: <https://www.agenda21culture.net/>

Site internet: <https://www.agenda21culture.net/>

F.3 Music World News - News of the International Music Council (IMC)

The Middle East and North Africa is the music industry's fastest growing global market

A new report by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry says the region is fulfilling its promise: The Middle East and North Africa is becoming a new powerhouse within the music industry. According to the Global Music Report 2022 by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, Mena experienced a 35 per cent growth in music revenues in 2021, establishing it as the world's fastest growing territory of that year. Coming second was the Latin American market which recorded a 31.2 per cent climb, followed by the US and Canada, Europe and Asia who all recorded increases in revenues in their respective markets. However, the buzz of the industry centres on Mena's rapid growth, largely powered through a combination of streaming consumption and a bigger regional push by major music companies.

https://www.thenationalnews.com/arts-culture/music/2022/03/23/the-middle-east-and-north-africa-is-the-music-industrys-fastest-growing-global-market/?utm_source=newsletter_373&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news

Site web: <http://www.imc-cim.org>

Contact: <http://www.imc-cim.org/contacti-us.html>

F.4 Ettijahat – Independent Culture Newsletter

South-South Arts Fellowships - Connecting Cultural Workers in Africa, Asia and the Pacific

These Fellowships aim to nurture wider and deeper connections among cultural workers within the Global South. The Fellowships will support initiatives that enable long-term professional networks, alliances and collaborations among cultural workers living and working in developing economies in Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

Five Fellowships are being offered in 2022. Selection is through an open call for applications. Fellows will be expected to bring an initiative with them, which they have already been developing in some way and through which they intend to deepen and strengthen network building over the period of the Fellowship. Selected fellows will work on their proposed initiatives over six months from July to December 2022 – they will organise two virtual or hybrid activities during this period. They will be offered different forms of support. Fellows will collaborate and share learnings and findings among themselves.

Web site: <https://ettijahat.org/>

Contact: <https://ettijahat.org/site/contact>

F.5 Cybekaris – the Monthly Newsletter of the Interarts Foundation

1st Forum for the Arts in Education

The National Council for Culture and the Arts (CoNCA), with the Board of the Forum for the Arts in Education, organised the 1st Arts in Education Forum on 1 and 2 April 2022 in Barcelona. The attendance by over 400 professionals and 700 online users confirm that the Forum was necessary and has responded to a very present need, both in the education and culture sectors. After the plenary and working sessions, the mapping of the arts in education, a work in progress, was also presented. At the closing ceremony, the CoNCA presented the draft of the Arts in Education Charter (https://www.interarts.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Carta-de-les-Arts-a-lEducacio_Declaracio_Post-event.pdf), which will be finalised on the basis of conclusions of the Forum. The event was the formal commitment by the Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya and local administrations to ensure that the arts are included in the

compulsory education curriculum. See more at <https://www.interarts.net/news/1st-forum-for-the-arts-in-education/>

Web site: <https://www.interarts.net/>

F.6 Sauti za Busara

Sauti za Busara 2023: Call for Artists

The Call for Artists is now open for the 20th season of Sauti za Busara festival, set to shake the walls of Stone Town, Zanzibar during 9 – 12 February 2023. Sauti za Busara showcases unique and diverse music, primarily from the African Continent and diaspora. Musicians representing the Arab World and Indian Ocean region are also welcome to apply. The Call for Artists is open only until 31st July 2022. Preference is given to:

- Music with cultural identity connected to Africa, the Arab World and Indian Ocean
- Women artists, or groups led by women
- Young, new and emerging talents
- Music with messages that are positive, relevant and useful for society
- Music that is performed '100% live'!

For more information and link to application form, see <https://www.busaramusic.org/call-for-artists-2023>.



Please send addresses, information, and documents for the OCPA list serve, database, documentation centre and web site!

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
