Origin and History

The establishment of the Observatory was proposed in the framework of the follow-up to the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for development (Stockholm, 1998). Its launching was prepared by a series of regional consultations (Kinshasa, August 2000; Pretoria, January, 2001; Cape Town, May 2001) organized jointly by the Organization of African Unity, the Ford Foundation and UNESCO with the participation of some 90 experts representing the different regions of Africa as well as the disciplines concerned.

At the end of this process of consultations, OCPA was set up on the occasion of an expert meeting organized in May 2002 in Maputo, which adopted the project document of the Observatory and its work plan and budget for 2002-2003. It elected also a Steering Committee.

Mission

The Observatory was set up in 2002 with the support of the African Union (former Organization of African Unity), the Ford Foundation and UNESCO with a view to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and 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.

The Observatory is a service-oriented resource centre and a regional co-ordinating and monitoring body for a network of experts and institutions involved in policy and decision making, cultural administration and management as well as research, training and information.

Assessment

Over the last decade the Observatory has developed its activities with dynamism and creativity in spite of light structure and limited resources. It has contributed to the reflection on the role of cultural development, cultural industries and cultural policies in Africa. It is now widely known and recognized as a unique regional resource centre, reliable partner and an efficient permanent operational facility in Africa, which offers regular and useful services in its field of competence.

Activities and Achievements

I Information Activities and Services

One of the most visible aspects of the OCPA activities is the development of specialized information services including the OCPA web site, the electronic information bulletin OCPA news and the OCPA Documentation Centre and Data Bases.
I.1 OCPA Website: http://www.ocpanet.org

The OCPA World Wide Web resource centre has been developed since 2001 in co-operation with Culturelink, Zagreb. It contains basic information on OCPA (history, antecedents, project description, statutes, objectives, structures, partners, contact addresses) and its activities (news, meetings, data bases, documentation centre, publications, studies and reports, newsletter).

It lists also information sources concerning cultural policies and interactions between culture and development. The 'resources' section links to some 150 reference items (events, projects, publications, information sources), as many institutions of interest (including some 70 selected African and international cultural and artistic NGOs). Finally the on-line reference library in progress will facilitates the access to a selection of the important African cultural policy documents (working papers, reports, declarations and recommendations, action plans). Actually some 200 new documents (totalling around 3000 pages) are being added to the 100 documents already posted at this web site.

The web site was redesigned and its main pages have been translated in French. The new bilingual presentation of the OCPA web site was established in April 2006 on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of its launching.

I.2 OCPA News, the Electronic Information Bulletin

OCPA publishes regularly, OCPA News, its monthly electronic information bulletin. By June 2013, 308 issues have been produced. The mailing list contains actually more than 13000 addresses from Africa and the world. Presently each issue has 30 to 35 pages with short news and information about OCPA and its activities as well as on conferences, events, institutions, etc. with links to the address where more detailed information can be obtained. The total volume of the issues distributed represents some 9000 pages.

The OCPA News issues published since October 2002 are accessible on the OCPA Web Site at http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/newsletter/index2002-en.html

You can subscribe to OCPA News and register for the OCPA Data base of experts and institutions via the online form at http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/newsletter/mailinglist/subscribe-en.html.

I.3 OCPA Facebook

To complement these information tools, OCPA has launched a Face book page facilitating the dissemination of news about OCPA (mainly under the headings “Wall”, “Info” and “Photos”) as well as about current issues. It can be accessed at http://www.facebook.com/pages/OCPA-Observatory-of-Cultural-Policies-in-Africa/100962769953248?v=wall

I.4 Documentation Centre and Databases

In 2003 OCPA started to develop its documentation centre and data bases. The documentation centre contains an ever growing number of documents concerning cultural policies and cultural development in Africa published since the ‘60s. This documentation can be consulted by external visitors in the premises of OCPA. Since its creation OCPA has identified some 600 documents related to African cultural policy issues representing a total of 18.000 pages.

OCPA is developing its databases on:

- Cultural institutions, organisations and networks (1300 entries);
- Cultural specialists (1500 new entries);

OCPA also keeps updated the lists (contact addresses and web sites) of:

- African Ministries in charge of culture in Africa (including North Africa)
- regional cultural institutions and events
- training centres in cultural policy and administration
- donors and partners supporting cultural projects in Africa.

II. Research

II.1. Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa

In this field OCPA, in partnership with the Interarts Foundation (Barcelona), dedicated particular attention to the problems of cultural indicators of human development in Africa. In the follow-up of the International Seminar (Maputo, 2004) organized on this theme, OCPA realized the following activities:

- Task Force Meeting on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Maputo, August 2004);
- The Closing Meeting of the Task Force on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Nairobi, February 2005), where the OCPA Steering Committee examined the report of the Task Force and indicated three priority fields for the future research (poverty alleviation, health and peace);
- The OCPA/Interarts Meeting of Experts on research priorities for 2005-2008 (Dakar, November 2005), which recommended that in 2006 – 2007, OCPA’s effort be concentrated on the development of cultural indicators of development in the following priority fields: Culture and Peace, Culture and Health, Culture and Poverty, and Traditional Governance.
- Workshop (Maputo, February 2006) organized with the aim to examine and finalize the detailed research projects that OCPA commissioned in view of implementing a research programme proposed in the Dakar experts’ meeting.

II.2. Regional Preparatory Studies for the UNESCO World Report on Cultural Diversity in Africa

In the framework of a contract with UNESCO, OCPA has also realized in 2006 the preparation of a regional report in view of the launching of the UNESCO World Report on Cultural Diversity.

To this effect, OCPA realized documentary research, a bibliography and a series of studies and it organized also a Regional Consultation of Experts (Maputo, February 2006).
II.3 Regional Research Project on Cultural Policies for Local Communities and Cities in Africa

This regional research is being carried out with the participation of experts from 10 African countries with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID, Madrid) and the Trust Africa Foundation (Dakar). It is being carried out on the basis of the recommendations of the two experts meetings held respectively in 2007 and 2008 in Maputo, and in the light of the mid term of the Workshop organized in cooperation with CERDOTOLA in Yaoundé (December 2008).

II.4 Development of Methodological Tools

The work carried out in this field has lead to the elaboration of the following documents:


- Strategy Document “Cultural Indicators of Human Development: Towards an African Perspective,” (E/F/Port/S/Kiswahili), Maputo, 2004

II.5 Documentary Research on Cultural Policies in Africa

The continued documentary research effort lead to complementing and finalizing the Compendium of Reference Documents for Cultural Policies in Africa (396 pages, including decisions, recommendations and declarations adopted since 1960, namely by the OAU/AU and UNESCO). This work contains also a historical overview of cultural policy priorities in Africa throughout the last four decades and a bibliography of some 600 documents. The concise version of this book was distributed in the First Session of the African Union of Ministers of Culture, Nairobi, December 2005. The English version was published in 2006, the French and Spanish versions were made available in the series ACERCA/AECID in 2009.

All the three version are also accessible online at

http://www.aecid.es/export/sites/default/web/galerias/programas/Acerca/descargas/Cuadernos_Acerca_ingles.pdf - in English

http://www.aecid.es/export/sites/default/web/galerias/programas/Acerca/descargas/Cuadernos_Acerca.pdf - in French


II.6 Inquiry and study on the Situation and problems of the Regional Cultural Institutions in Africa

This research was carried out in the framework of the preparation by OCPA of the Round Table on “Strengthening Partnership between African Cultural Institutions and the African Union” convened by the AU Commission on the occasion of the 2nd Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Algiers, October 2008). As mandated OCPA prepared a draft strategy for the implementation of the Round Table recommendation which was discussed in the 2nd SICADIA conference (Yaounde, April 2009) which entrusted OCPA to coordinate the implementation of the strategy. This mandate was also confirmed by the 3rd session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Meeting of experts) Abuja, 25 – 29
October 2010) to which OCPA presented a report at the invitation of the AU Commission on the efforts made infollowing up the recommendations of the Algiers Round Table. The OCPA Executive Director was also asked to present to the Conference the Consensus Statement of the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 5 – 7 October 2009.


The report, commissioned by UNESCO Windhoek Office, was established by Lupwish Mbuyamba, OCPA Executive Director with the contribution of Ms Moliehi Ntene, Interim Director of Culture (Lesotho) and Mr Stanley Dlamini, Senior Officer for Culture of Swaziland.

It is based on a study on the respect of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue as important instruments for the implementation of the development agenda. To this effect the cultural policies of three countries in Southern Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland were examined as case studies.

II.8 On-going Research (2012 - 2013)

Regional Research Project on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty Reduction in Africa

Implemented with the support of the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation for Development this research project is undertaken in the perspective of the UN General Assembly Resolution on Culture and Development Doc/A/66/187 adopted on 20 December 2010 emphasizing “that culture is an essential component of human development, it represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and an important factor in the fight against poverty, providing for economic growth and ownership of development processes”.

In this perspective the regional research project is designed with a view to

- create a framework for exchanging ideas on the contribution of culture to poverty reduction in Africa;
- collect, produce, capitalize, analyze information and experiences about the problems and achievements related to this issue in the various contexts and regions of Africa;
- identify conditions, methods and tools required for strengthening the contribution of culture to poverty reduction in Africa;
- identify “best practices” and produce a series of case studies or country reports in the field.

II.9 Other research activities

OCPA prepared the concept paper of the AU Consultative Committee of Experts (Addis Ababa, July 2005) convened in order to contribute to the First AU Conference of Ministers of Culture(Nairobi, December 2006) and also a document (African Cultural Policy Framework) for the First Pan African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, November 2006). In this framework it contributed also to the establishment of the Cultural Charter for African Renaissance (revised version of the 1976 Cultural Charter for Africa) and the Nairobi Plan of Action for the Development of the Cultural Industries in Africa (revised version of the1992 Dakar plan of Action)approved for the principle by the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture in Nairobi and finally adopted by the 2nd Conference of Ministers in Algiers (2008).
OCPA Summary Presentation: Objectives and Achievements 2002 – 2013

II.10  Studies and occasional papers

OCPA has also realized and published studies and occasional papers on issues like:

- Cultural Change and Networks in Africa' (2005 for Culturelink)
- The African Renaissance and Culture (2006 for Harambe)
- Creative economy as a development strategy: a view of developing countries (2008 for ITAU Brazil)
- Culture and Development in Africa (2008 for Africa Studies, Pécs University and Publikon)
- Cultural Statistics in Africa (2008 for the IUS Maputo Workshop)
- Linking cultural diversity, dialogue and sustainable development in training for cultural actors” Situation and trends in Africa, Regional report (2009 for UNESCO/ENCATC)
- Training in Cultural Policies and Management in Africa, - article by Máté Kovács published in Arts management Newsletter, Germany, December 2010;
- Observatory of cultural Policies in Africa and its action - article by Máté Kovács published in the 9th edition of “AFRICOM News” (June 2011);
- Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies in Africa (Accra, 1975) - article published in November 2011 by Máté Kovács in the 1st issue of the e-journal Wale'keru, the on-line Journal on Culture and Development, Latin American Laboratory for Research and Innovation in Culture and Development (L + iD), University of Girona (UDG, Girona, Spain), and Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar (UTB, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia). This digital publication can be accessed at http://www.walekeru.net.
- Cultural Heritage and International Co-operation for Development in Africa by Máté Kovács.
- The inaugural lecture Lupwishi Mbuyama for the academic year at the Higher Institute of Arts and Culture (ISARC Matola, Mozambique) on “Challenges of teaching the arts and culture in the XXI century in Africa and Mozambique”.

III Training in Cultural Policy and Management

Capacity building is one of the priorities assigned to OCPA. In this field it has realized and co-organized the following activities:

III.1 Studies, reports and documents
- Elaboration of a Regional Training programme in Cultural Policy and Management (2005), in English;
- Directory of African Cultural Administration Training Centres, in co-operation with UNESCO and ENCATC (contains the data of 67 institutions and programmes);
- Linking cultural diversity, dialogue and sustainable development in training for cultural actors” Situation and trends in Africa, Regional report (2009 for UNESCO/ENCATC);
- Five CDs in English, French or Spanish with the training materials prepared for various training seminars (Madrid, Las Palmas, Maputo, Yaoundé and Dakar: see details below).

On-going project
- Elaboration of a Manual for Training Specialists in Cultural Policy and Administration in Africa (2013) - Through this regional project OCPA wishes to produce and disseminate a training manual on cultural policy and management, as a new training tool, based on the experience gained by OCPA and various other African institutions acting in this field, which can facilitate professional training in cultural policy and management.

III.2 Organization meetings and regional, sub-regional and national training seminars

OCPA organized with various partners 11 sub-regional and national training seminars with the participation of some 250 professionals working in the field of culture. These events include namely the following
- Regional Consultation on Training of Cultural Development Personnel in Africa, UNESCO/CRAC in co-operation with OAU and OCPA, Nairobi, Kenya, 19 December 2002;
- Culture and Development in Africa Seminar for East Africa (Nairobi, March 2005, in cooperation with UNESCO and Cultural Engineering), in English;
- Entrepreneurship Development Workshop for Central Africa (Nairobi, March 2005 - in co-operation with UNESCO and Cultural Engineering), in French;
- Training Seminar in Cultural Policy and Management for Portuguese Speaking Countries (Madrid, April 2006) – in co-operation with the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECI, Madrid) and Interarts Foundation (Barcelona).


- Training Seminar on Cultural policies of Local Communities (Maputo, Mozambique, 26 - 28 June 2009) - in co-operation with the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECID, Madrid)

- Training seminar on “Cultural Policies and the development of Cultural industries in Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroun, 14 – 19 September 2009) in co-operation the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECID, Madrid) and the CERDOTOLA;

- Training Seminar on "Cultural policies and local development of creative and cultural industries" for the countries of West Africa (Dakar, 7 - 11 December 2009) - in co-operation with the Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECID, Madrid), the West African Museum Programme (WAMP, Niamey) and the Senegalese National Commission for UNESCO.

- Training Seminar for Strengthening the Network of Cultural Institutions in West Africa (RECAO), implemented in EPA/OCPA/CRAC partnership (Porto Novo, 19 April - 24 May 2010)


- Training seminar held at the adminsitration and management of cultural structures (N'Djamena, Chad, 20 to 24 March 2012) organized by OCPA, CERDOTOLA (Yaounde) and THEMACULT (Théâtre Maoundoh Culture, N’Djamena) with the support of the International Theatre Institute (IIT, Paris) and the Association Zon'Action (La Roche sur Foron in France), the seminar was held with the participation of Central African directors of theatres and cultural enterprises of and representatives of CEMAC (Bangui), the Ministry of Culture of Chad and CICIBA (Libreville).

III.3 OCPA Internship Opportunities for Trainees and Volunteers

The Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA, Maputo, Mozambique) offers advanced undergraduates and post-graduates the opportunity to gain practical experience in developing and implementing information, research, training, networking and co-operation projects relating to cultural policy in Africa for having strong interest in these areas.

Over the last ten years some 7 young professionals from Germany, Mozambique, Spain and Zimbabwe have benefited from this possibility. Four of them from Italy, Mozambique, Spain have realized their thesis under the guidance of the OCPA staff members.

Several of these young professionals have further on contracted as staff members or consultants for short term missions in OCPA itself or other professional organizations such as the Arterial Network (Cape Town), the Mont des arts (Kinshasa), the Festival Feux de Brazza and the Prince Claus Fund(Amsterdam).
IV  Co-operation and Development of Networks

IV.1  Co-operation Networks

Since its creation, OCPA has been developing co-operation networks with the institutions concerned and potential partners in Africa and other regions. This co-operation took various forms (co-organization, co-financing, joint publication, reciprocal invitation, advisory service, technical assistance) has permitted to develop joint research and training projects, regular exchange of information among others with UNESCO, the Swiss Commission for UNESCO, the International Organization of the Francophony, Spanish Agency for International Co-operation for Development (AECID, Madrid), ARPAC – Institute for Social and Cultural Research (Maputo), Pan African Association of Anthropologists (PAAA, Yaounde) African Futures Institute (Pretoria), the University of Botswana (Gaborone), the University of Nairobi, Culturelink (Zagreb), the Interarts Foundation (Barcelona), the Middle East Center for Culture and Development (MECCAD, Amman, Jordan), Cultural Engineering (Doha), Institute for Cultural Enterprise (London–New York), International Network for Cultural Diversity (Ottawa), Regional Training Centre for Cultural Administrators and Entrepreneurs (CRAC, Lome, Togo), the West African Museum Project (WAMP, Niamey), Arterial Network (Cape Town), etc. OCPA has a regular exchange of information bulletins with some 150 organizations and international networks.

IV.2  Co-operation Agreements

In some cases this partnership was formalized, or is the process to be so, through the conclusion of co-operation agreements, namely with Institute for Social and Cultural Research (ARPAC, Maputo), Mont des Arts (Kinshasa), Culturelink (Zagreb), the Interarts Foundation (Barcelona), Ecoledu patrimoine africain (EPA, Porto Novo), the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies (IFACCA, Sydney), CERDOTOLA (Yaoundé), the CELHTO-UA (Centre d’études linguistiques et historiques par tradition orale de l’Union africaine, Niamey), the WAMP (West African Museum Programme, Niamey), CDEA Culture and Development East Africa (Dar el Salaam) and ISArC (Instituto Superior de Artes e Cultura, ISArC, Machava, Moçambique).

Co-operation agreements are being prepared with various organizations including the AU Commission, UNESCO, the OIF, Agenda 21 – Culture (Barcelona), ACALAN (African Academy of Languages, Bamako) and the Network South – North Culture and Development as well as with the Universities of Vienna (Austria) and Hildesheim (Germany).

IV.3  Co-operation with African Universities

OCPA continued to develop its co-operation with African Universities, namely with the

- University of KwaZulu Natal (Center for the Arts, Durban)
- University of Botswana (Gaborone)
- Africa University (Mutare, Zimbabwe)
- University Eduardo Mondlane (Maputo, Mozambique)
- Nairobi University.

IV.4  Technical and Scientific Committee

For implementing its activities OCPA is relying on African cultural policy experts making part of its Technical and Scientific Committee who, in their fields of competence contribute
to the formulation and realization of the programme activities. Some of these experts have in fact progressively been acting as OCPA staff members at distance.

IV.5 National Focal Points

In some 42 AU Member States OCPA has national focal points, correspondent and/or partner organizations who at the various levels (ministries of culture, civil society, arts organizations, research institutions, etc.) ensure co-operation and a two way flow of information between OCPA and their country.

IV.6 Co-ordination between African Cultural Institutions and the African Union

As mandated by the Second Ordinary Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Algiers, 19 - 23 October 2008) to co-ordinate the follow-up of the recommendations of the Roundtable of experts from cultural institutions in Africa (17 18 October 2008) on the theme “Strengthening Partnership between African Cultural Institutions and the African Union”, OCPA drafted a regional strategy for the implementation of the recommendations of this Round Table. This strategy was discussed at the Summit of Cultural Institutions of Africa and the Diaspora (SICADIA, Yaoundé, 9 – 10 April 2009) which entrusted OCPA to co-ordinate the implementation of the strategy. This mandate has also been confirmed by the 3rd session of the Conference of Ministers of Culture (the Meeting of Experts) to which OCPA presented a report about the follow up given to the recommendation s of the Algiers Round Table.

IV.7 Project "Strengthening the Network of Cultural Institutions in West Africa (RECAO) - Co-operation EPA – OCPA

As a partner of the School of African Heritage (EPA, Porto Novo, Benin), OCPA is participating in the implementation of this project financed by the Regional Fund for the Promotion of Cooperation and Cultural Exchanges in West Africa (ECOWAS-UEMOA).

V OCPA Publication Series

V.1 Already Published


- Compendium of basic reference texts on cultural policies in Africa, OCPA, Maputo, 2006, 396 p. Printed in Belgium published in co-operation with UNESCO, OIF and the Swiss national Commission for UNESCO includes decisions, recommendations and declarations adopted namely by the OAU/AU as well as a historical overview of cultural policy priorities in Africa throughout the last four decades and a bibliography of some 600 documents.

- Publication in 2009 of the Spanish and French versions of the Compendium in co-operation with the Spanish for International Co-operation for Development) in printed version. The e-versions of the book are accessible and can be downloaded in English at

Atelier sur les recherches de politiques culturelles pour les collectivités locales et les villes en Afrique organisé par le CERDOTOLA et ’OCPA n coopération avec l’AECID et Trust Africa, Documents de travail, Yaoundé, 2008, 110 p. (pagination mixte)


OCPA Calendar for 2010, OCPA, Maputo, 2009


Reports of some 25 meetings and training sessions organized by OCPA are published on the OCPA web site. (These reports can be accessed on the OCPA web site at http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/meetings/index-en.html.)

Some 20 articles published in books and reviews of the OCPA Partners (Culturelink, AFRICOM, Interarts - Barcelona, África e Mediterraneo, Wale keru, Arts Management,
Itau Cultural – Sao Paolo, Brazil, University of Pêcs – Hungary, University of Gerona – Spain Catalonia, Institute for African Culture and International Understanding - IACIU, Abeokuta, Nigeria, etc.

V.2 Manuscripts Ready for Publication

- Cultural Policies for Local Communities and Cities in Africa
- Proceedings of the Intergovernmental Conference of Ministers on Language Policies in Africa (Harare, 1997)
- Capacity Building in Cultural Policy and Management in Africa.

VI Meetings

VI.1 Regional and International Meetings

OCPA has organized by (alone or with other partners) some thirty conferences and meetings, namely the following

- Regional Consultation on Training of Cultural Development Personnel in Africa, UNESCO/CRAC in co-operation with OAU and OCPA, Nairobi, Kenya, 19 December 2002;
- OCPA Steering Committee Meeting (Maputo, 1 – 2 March 2004);
- The International Seminar on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Maputo, 3 – 5 March 2004) in co-operation with Interarts (Barcelona);
- Meeting of the Task Force on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Maputo, 6 – 7 August 2004) in co-operation with Interarts (Barcelona);
- Closing Meeting of the Task Force on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Nairobi, 12 February 2005);
- OCPA Steering Committee Meeting (Nairobi, 13 February2005);
- OCPA/Interarts Meeting of Experts on research priorities for 2005-2008 (Dakar, 16-17 November 2005);
Meeting of Independent Experts (and Meeting of Government Experts preparing the First ordinary Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Nairobi, 13 - 14 December 2005);

Workshop on Research programme on cultural indicators (Maputo, February 2006);

Regional Consultation concerning a preliminary report on Cultural Diversity in Africa (Maputo, February 2006);

OCPA Partners’ and Donors’ Meeting (Brussels, April 2006);

OCPA/Interarts Seminar on Culture, Development and Euro-African Co-operation (Maputo, April 2007).

OCPA Forum on Economy of culture and cultural policies for local communities (Dakar, November 2007)

OCPA Steering Committee Meeting (Maputo, 6-7 April 2008)

Meeting of the Scientific Committee in Charge of the preparation of the First Euro-African Campus of Cultural Co-operation (Maputo, 8-10 April 2008)

Round Table on “Strengthening Partnership between African Cultural Institutions and the African Union” convened by the AU Commission on the occasion of the 2nd Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Algiers, October 2008) – intellectual preparation

Workshop on Surveys of Cultural Policies for Local Communities and Cities in Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroun, 1-3 December 2008) with CERDOTOLA

Colloque «L’Afrique et la culture africaine dans le monde globalisé du 21ème siècle» et Sommet des Institutions Culturelles Africaines et de la Diaspora (SICADIA, Yaoundé, 7 - 10 avril 2009) with CERDOTOLA

First Euro-African Campus for Cultural Co-operation (Maputo, 22-26 June 2009) jointly with the Interarts Foundation with the support of AECID and in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Culture of Mozambique and the City of Maputo

Symposium on cultural institutions in the sub-region of West Africa organized within the framework of the RECAO project (implemented by the School of African Heritage in partnership with OCPA and the CRAC) from 5 to 9 July 2010 in Porto Novo, Benin;

Symposium on Music at the heart of the development of Africa (Douala, 15-17 November 2010) organized by CERDOTOLA in partnership with OCPA;

Workshop on indicators on cultural rights and gender equality (Dar el Salaam, 17 – 19 January 2012) organized by CDEA Culture ad Development East Africa in partnership with OCPA.

Commemorative Session dedicated to the 10th Anniversary of OCPA (in the framework of the ISArC Biennale of Arts and Culture (Matola, Mozambique, 29 November 2012)

VI.2 Participation at International Conferences

From 2002 to the end of 2008, at the invitation of other organizations, OCPA was represented in some 100 international events such as the 2nd Summit of the African Union (Maputo, July 2003), the 32nd and 33rd session of the UNESCO General Conference (2003 and 2005), the Summit Meetings / Council of Ministers of SADC (Tanzania, 2003 and Mauritius in August 2004), the Committee of Experts for the preparation of the World Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development (Interarts, Barcelona, November 2003 and July 2004), the 3rd Euro-
American campus for Cultural Cooperation (Sevilla, December 2003), the Conference of Intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora (Dakar, October 2004), the Symposium on the contribution of cultural industries to sustainable economic development in the South (Ouagadougou, 2004), the World Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development (World Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004), the International Seminar on Training in management and cultural policies for cultural diversity and development (Girona, August 2004), the World Culture Forum (Sao Paolo, 2004), the Conference of Education Ministers of the AU (Algiers, 2005), the 2nd International Workshop on management training and cultural policies for cultural diversity and development (Guadalajara, Mexico, April 2005), the First Conference Culture.Mondo (Aichi, Japan, June 2005), the 2nd World Conference Culturelink (Zagreb, June 2005), the 6th Annual Conference of the International Network for Cultural Diversity (Dakar, November 2005), First Ordinary Session of the Conference of ministers of Culture of the AU, (Nairobi, December 2005), the 2nd World Culture Forum (Amman - Dead Sea, December 2005), the 6th Ordinary Assembly of Heads of status to African Union (Khartoum, January 2006), the World Conference on Arts Education (Lisbon, March 2006, the Public Dialogue "Heritage on the African Continent." (Johannesburg, April 2006), the African Film Summit (Johannesburg, April 2006), the 1st International Congress of Black Writers and Artists (Paris, September 2006), the Prince Claus Fund Conference on the Cultural Emergency Response (The Hague, Netherlands, September 2006), the 2nd Meeting of ACP Ministers of Culture and the 1st ACP Festival (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, October 2006), the 2nd Culture.mondo International Roundtable (Dubrovnik, Croatia, October 2006), Workshop on the Cultural Diversity in Conflict and Peace Making in Africa (Johannesburg, November 2006), the First Pan African Cultural Congress (PACC I, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 2006), the Conference on Culture and Human Development (Pamplona, November 2006), “The ARTerial: Conference on Vitalizing African Cultural Assets” (Goree Island, Dakar, March 2007), Meeting on the harmonisation and strengthening of music associations in South Africa (Pretoria, March 2007), Conference on Mutual Understanding of Africans and Arabs in education material producing (Kaduna, Nigeria, May 2007), the Executive Committee Meeting of CELTHO (Praia, Cape Verde, May - June 2007), CODESRIA Meeting on the Creation of an Institute of Good Governance (Dakar, June 2007), the Central Asian Round Table on Good Practices in Intercultural Dialogue (Almaty, Kazakhstan, June 2007), the Workshop on the Cost of Non-integration in Africa (Marrakech, Morocco, June 2007), Pan African Festival of Music - FESPAM (Brazzaville, July 2007), the Constitutive Meeting of the African Music Council (Brazzaville, July 2007), La Table ronde internationale sur «Démocratie, culture démocratique: sortie de crise et paix en Afrique» (Yamoussoukro, juillet 2007), the 2nd DOCKANEMA, an international festival of documentary films organised in (Maputo, September 2007), of colloquium celebrating the 25th anniversary of the West African Museum Programme (Dakar, Senegal, November 2007), the Interdisciplinary Conference on “Poverty Reduction in Africa (Gödöllő, Hungary, 9 – 11 November 2007), High Level Panel on Creative Economy and Industries for Development (UNCTAD, Geneva, January 2008), UNESCO Experts Meeting on ‘Cultural Diversity and Education (Barcelona, January 2008), AFRICOM Transition planning workshop (Cape Town, March 2008), the UNCTAD XII Conference, Creative Africa Dialogue, Accra, April 2008), Best Practices in Managing, Leading & Marketing Arts, Culture & Heritage Tourism (Johannesburg, June 2008), UNESCO Conference on the Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions (Paris, June 2008), Regional Seminar on the Agenda 21, culture and strategies for local development (Dakar, 2008), Regional filmmakers’ conference in Southern Africa (Windhoek, July 2008), Workshop on Traditional Music (Brazzaville, Rep. of Congo, August 2008), Regional Consultative Workshop UNESCO/UIS on the revised UNESCO
framework for cultural statistics (Maputo, September 2008), IIIrd extraordinary session of the Executive Board and Conference of Ministers of Culture of CICIBA (Libreville, October 2008), Second session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture (Algiers, October 2008), Reflection Session on Spanish–African relations (Casa Africa, October, 2008), Aspen Cultural Diplomacy Forum (Paris, November 2008), etc.

Since 2009 OCPA participated in the following main international meetings:

**2009**

- Le Groupe de réflexion informelle sur l’Observatoire culturel ACP (Bruxelles, 15 janvier)
- The Synthesis Colloquium of the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN, Addis Ababa, 5 - 7 February 2009)
- FESPACO2009 (Ouagadougou, 28 février - 7 mars 2009)
- Le Colloque «Culture et création, facteurs de développement» (ACP-UE, Bruxelles, 2 - 3 avril 2009)
- The Harare International Arts Festival (HIFA, 28 April - 3 May 2009)
- The Second National Conference on Culture in Mozambique (Maputo, 14 - 16 May 2009)
- The AU/SADC/UNESCO Technical Meeting on Culture, Tourism and Development (Harare, 30 – 31 July 2009)
- La Réunion d’experts sur le projet de politique culturelle nationale du Togo (Lomé, 25 – 25 août 2009)
- The 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 5 – 7 October 2009)
- The Second Arterial Network Conference (Johannesburg, 20-21 September 2009)
- The 4th World Summit on Arts & Culture (IFACCA, Johannesburg, 22 - 25 septembre 2009)
- The World Conference on Cultural Tourism.(Accra, 27 – 28 September 2009)
- The UNESCO’s Partners Forum (Paris, 5 October 2009)
- The 3rd World Forum on Music and IMC’s 33rd General Assembly (Tunis, 17 - 22 October 2009)
- The Third World Culturelink Conference (Zagreb, 13 - 15 November 2009)
- the Meeting on the identification of culture and development indicators (UNESCO, Paris, 14 – 16 December 2009)

**2010**

- African Cultural Capital Forum (Accra, 11 - 15 March) organized by Accra Culture and Arts Network (ACCRACAN);
- Seminar: Cultural Policy & NACZ Act 1985 - Reflections & Way Forward (Bulawayo Arts Forum, 15-16 March 2010);
• Conference on Art and Social Justice/‘the Art of Social Justice’ (Durban, 21 to 24 March 2010);
• First European Music Council Forum, dedicated to the topic of Cultural Diversity, and the meeting of the International Music Council Executive Board (Vienna, Austria, 18 – 21 April 2010)
• Training Seminar for Strengthening the Network of Cultural Institutions in West Africa (RECAO), implemented in EPA/OCPA/CRAC partnership (Porto Novo, ‘19 April - 24 May 2010)
• International Seminar "Culture and Development" (Girona, Spain, 4 – 5 May 2010) organized by AECID and the EU Commission;
• Training Workshop on the 2009 UNESCO framework for cultural statistics organized for Francophone Africa by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics - UIS, Montreal (Dakar, 4 to 7 May 2010);
• Board Meeting of the African Arts Institute - AFAI, (Cape Town, South Africa, 14 - 15 May 2010);
• Symposium on cultural institutions in the sub-region of West Africa (Porto Novo, 5 to 9 July 2010) organized within the framework of the RECAO project implemented by the School of African Heritage in partnership with OCPA and the CRAC);
• Participation in the Training Seminar on Management of Cultural Institutions and Projects (Abidjan, 12 - 16 July 2010)
• ECOWAS Technical Committee Meeting on Culture (Bamako, 20 – 23 July 2010);
• 6th National Arts and Culture Festival of Mozambique (Chimoio, Manica province, 28 July - 3 August);
• International Symposium on 'Traditional Music(s) of Africa, link between generations’, coordinated by CERDOTOLA (Yaounde) and organized in the framework of the Festival «Feux de Brazza», (Regional Centre for Research and Documentation on Oral Traditions and Development of African Languages, Yaounde) (Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, August 7 to 13, 2010);
• Conference on Global Africans, pan-africanism, decolonisation and integration of Africa – past, present and future (Abuja, September 21 - 24, 2010) organized by CBAAC;
• Meeting on the Role of Cultural Observatories in the Future in Europe (Bilbao, Spain, 8 - 9 September 2010) organized in the framework of the project „Monitors of Culture” by the Institute of Leisure Studies of the University of Deusto.
• 3rd Conference of AU Ministers in charge of Culture (Abuja, Nigeria from 25 to 29 October 2010) on Sustainable financing of the cultural development sector. Participation and presentation by the Executive Director at the invitation of the AU Commission of the OCPA report on the follow up of the AU Round Table on regional cultural institutions (Algiers, October 2008) and of the Consensus Statement of the 2nd Pan African Cultural Congress.
• African Musics’ Market Le Kolatier and musical events organized in this framework (Douala, 14 – 20 November 2010)
• IMC (International Music Council) Board Executive meeting
• meetings of the African Music Council Executive Board and General Assembly
- Choral Conductors Workshop
- International Symposium on the Regional Music Market organised by CERDOTOLA in cooperation with IMC.
- 10th African Music Rostrum (TMAF)
- ACALAN Workshop with regional language and cultural centres: Identifying common ground and strategies (Zanzibar, 15 – 16 December 2010)

2011
- Validation meeting of the Draft national cultural policy document of the Republic of Benin (3 February 2011)
- Meeting on the establishment of a Management Centre for Cultural Heritage of the PALOPs (African countries whose official language is the Portuguese (Maputo, 21 - 22 February 2011).
- CBAAC (Centre for Black Arts and African Civilisations) Annual Black History Month Festival (Lagos, 24 February 2011).
- Expert meeting on "Strengthening the human and social capital in Africa: strategies and actions for the" Priority Africa "at UNESCO (BREDA, Dakar, 18 to 21 April 2011)
- Zimbabwe National Conference on the Creative Civil Society’s Arts And Culture Strategy Formulation (Harare, 26/27 May 2011)
- 6th session of the African Music Council Executive Committee (Cotonou, 20 – 22 June 2011)
- Validation Workshop on The Common Regional Cultural Development Policy Framework UEMOA (Ouagadougou, 9 – 11 August 2011)
- International Seminar "The Relationships between Communication and Culture for Development - A Commitment with the Millennium Development Goals" (Girona, 13-14 October 2011)
- National Arts and Culture Strategy Dialogue (Murewa, 26 – 27 October 2011)
- Casablanca forum for the promotion and development of cultural and creative industries in Africa and the Mediterranean region (17 – 18 November 2011)
- Creative Arts World Summit (Muscat, Oman, 28 - 30 December 2011)
2012

- Africa Regional Forum (Abeokuta, Nigeria, 1st March 2012) organized by the Institute for African Culture and International Understanding (IACIU, Olusegun Obasanjo Presidential Library);
- Sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee responsible for monitoring the implementation of development programs and cultural integration of ECOWAS (Cotonou, 16 - 19 April 2012);
- Colloque sur «Vues d’Afrique: Francophonie et gouvernance mondiale» (Kinshasa, 23 - 25 mai 2012)
- Technical Meeting of ECOWAS Member States’ Experts in Culture (Niamey, 25 to 28 June 2012).
- The Africa Regional Methodology Workshop on IACIU 2012-2013 Projects (Abeokuta, Nigeria, July 30-31, 2012)
- The IDEP 2012 Workshop on Cultures of Development (Accra, 16 - 17 August 2012)
- The 3rd Pan-African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 28 – 30 August 2012)
- EncontrARTE 2012 (Maputo, 31 August – 8 September 2012)
- The International Conference on Living with World Heritage in Africa (Johannesburg, 26-29 September 2012)
- The UNESCO Non-Governmental Partners Committee Meeting (Paris, 4 – 13 October 2012)
- The 4th Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Culture (Kinshasa, DRC, 29 October - 2 November 2012)
- Round Table on the Power of Culture (Mont des Arts, Kinshasa, 31 October 2012)
- The Biennale of ISArC of Arts and Culture (Matola, Mozambique, 26 – 30 November 2012)
- International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, 12-14 December 2012)

2013

- Colloquium on Good Governance for Cultural Policy (Hildesheim, Germany, 30 – 31 January 2013)
- The 3rd IDEP Workshop on Culture and Development (Ouagadougou, 25 – 26 February 2013)
- The Regional Summit on Women and Youth in the Promotion of Cultural Security and Development in Africa (Abeokuta, Nigeria, March 4-5, 2013)
- The UNESCO and African Union Panafrican Forum on Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace (Luanda, Angola, 26 – 28 March 2013)
- Colloque international sur la descendance esclave "Mémoire réconciliatrice, Concorde Humaine" (CIDE, Luanda, 1 – 3 avril 2013)
- Southern Africa Cultural Policy Seminar (Harare, 2 -3 May 2013)
International Congress "Culture: Key to Sustainable Development" (Hangzhou, China, 15 - 17 May 2013)

VII  Heritage
In this field OCPA’s action concerns the project (funded by the Prince Claus Fund) for the Rehabilitation in view of the restoration and interpretation of archaeological sites of Chibuene and Manyiken, Vilankulo affected by the floods of 2007. The project was carried out between 2007 and 2009.

VII.1  On-going Activity
Two damage assessment missions in Mozambique (financed by the Prince Claus Fund) for identifying priority actions to be undertaken in the framework of programme Cultural Emergency Response for repairing the damages caused by the tropical storms n cultural structures and monuments (22-28 April 2012 and 17-27 May 2012).

VIII  Advocacy
On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the independence of 17 African countries (2010) a series of public conferences on African Cultures and Cultural Policies were launched. By August 2010 7 conferences have already been held (Kinshasa, Accra, Bulawayo, Vienna, Budapest, Niamey and Abidjan) and several others are in preparation. The conferences are aimed in particular at the promotion of the implementation of the Charter for the African Cultural Renaissance and the Plan of Action of the Cultural and Creative Industries in Africa adopted by the AU Conferences of ministers of Culture respectively in 2005 and 2008.

IX  Technical Assistance and Advisory Services
OCPA is regularly invited to provide information, advice and technical assistance by the AU and its member states in the field of cultural policies and co-operation. These activities include:

- Contribution at the request of the AU Commission to the review of the Cultural Charter for Africa (Port Louis, 1976) and the Dakar Plan of Action for the Development of Cultural Industries in Africa (Dakar, 1992)
- Preparation at the request of the AU Commission of a draft cultural policy framework for Africa for the First Pan African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 2006)
- Preparation at the request of the AU Commission of working documents for the 2nd sessions of the AU Conferences of Ministers of Culture, namely for the Round Table of Experts from cultural institutions in Africa (17 18 October 2008) on “Strengthening Partnership between African Cultural Institutions and the African Union”;
- Contribution to the elaboration or the review of national or local cultural policies of various African countries such as Angola, Benin, Botswana, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Seychelles, Togo, Zimbabwe or cities like Saint Louis of Senegal and Kinshasa, Brazzaville, Maputo.
- Contribution to the consultations in view of the Feasibility Study on the Pan African Cultural Institute.

**X  List of Past and Current Donors**

OCPA is carrying out its activities in cooperation of various international partners, it has namely benefitted from the financial support of the following organizations

1. **Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilisation, CBAAC**  
   National Theatre, Lagos, Nigeria

2. **Commission suisse pour l'UNESCO**  
   Département fédéral des affaires étrangères  
   Bundesgasse 32, CH-3003 Berne, Suisse

3. **ENCATC - European Network of Cultural Administration Training Centres**  
   Square Sainctelette, 19 • B-1000 Bruxelles

4. **Ford Foundation (Headquarters)**  
   320 East 43rd Street  
   New York, NY 10017 USA

5. **Organisation internationale de la Francophonie**  
   13 quai André Citroën • 75015 Paris (France)

6. **Regional Fund for the Promotion of Cooperation and Cultural Exchanges in West Africa (ECOWAS-UEMOA)**  
   Commission de l'UEMOA, Avenue du Professeur Joseph KI-ZERBO  
   01 BP 543 Ouagadougou 01 - Burkina Faso

7. **Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development**  
   Hoge Nieuwstraat 30, 2514 El Den Haag, NETHERLANDS

8. **Spanish Agency for International Co-operation (AECID)**  
   Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional, Av. Reyes Católicos 4  
   28040 Madrid, ESPAÑA

9. **UNESCO Headquarters, Accra Office and Windhoek Office**  
   7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France and  
   8, Mankralo Street - East Cantonment P.O. Box CT 4949 Accra, Ghana and  
   38-44 Steen Street, Klein Windhoek, P.O. Box 24519, Windhoek, Namibia

10. **TrustAfrica**  
    Lot 87, Sacré Coeur 3 Pyrotechnie xVDN, BP 45 435 Dakar–Fann, Sénégal

**Status and Organization**

OCPA is an international Pan African NGO registered in Mozambique, an official partner of UNESCO (associate status). It is governed by a Steering Committee composed by seven recognized cultural specialists representing the various sub-regions of AFRICA. The Executive Secretariat is implementing the Observatory’s programme in the framework of a medium term strategy and plan of action. OCPA is carrying out its activities in cooperation with a wide network of African and international experts and institutions.
I Composition of the Steering Committee

President: Pierre Dandjinou (Benin)
Members: Marcel Diouf (Senegal)
          Augustine Hattar (Tanzania)
          Angeline S. Kamba (Zimbabwe)
          Renato Matusse (Mozambique)
          Lupwishi Mbuyamba (DRC)
          Fairuz Mullagee (South Africa)

II Executive Secretariat

Executive Director: Lupwishi Mbuyamba, director@ocpanet.org
Research Co-ordinator and Editor of OCPA News: Máté Kovács, ocpanews@ocpanet.org
Assistant Research Co-ordinator: Estevão J. Filimão, ejfilimao@gmail.com
Assistant Research Co-ordinator: Hamadou Mande, theatrecorneille@yahoo.fr
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Web Site Manager: Aleksandra Ivir, webmaster@ocpanet.org
Liaison Officer and Documentalist: Octavio Ernesto Manganhele, davmangas@gmail.com