



O.A.U.

FORD FOUNDATION

**OBSERVATORY OF CULTURAL POLICIES IN
AFRICA (OCPA)**

**TASK FORCE MEETING
Maputo, Mozambique , 30-31st May 2002**

**Meeting jointly organized by UNESCO, OAU
and Ford Foundation**

2nd DRAFT REPORT

May 2002

INTRODUCTION

A Meeting of the Task Force of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA) was organised in Maputo at Hotel Avenida, from 30-31st May 2002. The meeting, jointly organised by UNESCO and the OAU with support from the Ford Foundation was a Report-Back on the progress of the activities undertaken by the Task Force since the launch of the Observatory in May 2001.

The Agenda (**Annex 1**) was as follows:

1. Opening Ceremony
2. Adoption of the Agenda and Programme
3. Adoption of the Project Document
4. Adoption of the Strategic Document
5. Report on the Website: Phase 1
6. Draft Statutes
7. Structures and Venue
8. Adoption of the Logo
9. Governance & Task Force Activities
10. Adoption of Programme & Budget
11. Round Table: Orientation for the Future
12. Report of the Meeting

The participants to the meeting (**Annex III**) included members of the Task Force with apologies from the Chairperson, Mr. Stephen Chifunyise, representatives from UNESCO, OAU, Ford Foundation, SADC Sector for Culture, Information and Sport, African Itinerant College, APNET, CRAC, MADESA, SIDA, World Culture Forum, UNDP/ICT-D Policy Adviser for Africa, Article 27 Arts and Culture, Fund for Culture Development, representatives and officials from different cultural institutions, government ministries, embassies, non governmental organisations, cultural experts, university officials and academics.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING

1. OPENING CEREMONY

In the absence of the Chairperson of the Task Force of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA), Mr Stephen Chifunyise, and the delayed arrival of the Vice-Chairperson Mr. Pierre Dandjinou, the Regional Cultural Adviser and Representative of UNESCO Maputo, Mr. Mbuyamba, chaired the opening ceremony session. He welcomed the participants and gave a brief background to the Maputo Meeting, mentioning in particular the various meetings that had taken place before, on the need for the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa i.e. Lome, Stockholm, Kinshasa, Pretoria, Cape Town and now, Maputo.

He informed the participants that the Task Force had successfully completed a series of activities that it was asked to undertake. He recognised the role of the consultant, Mr Mate Kovacs who had effectively played a crucial role of liaison and linking the necessary networks. He thanked CultureLink (Zagreb) for hosting the Website of the OCPA. He also thanked Dr. Pwono of the Ford Foundation for facilitating access to financial resources through the Institute of Cultural Enterprises. He recognised the role played by the OAU and Mr. Marcel Diouf in particular, for putting the OCPA as a priority.

Mr Mbuyamba outlined the way forward as being the need to mobilise all stakeholders i.e. government, private sector, non-governmental organisations, inter-governmental organisations to support this cause. He thanked the government of Mozambique through the Deputy Minister of Culture, His Excellency L. Covane for accepting to host the meeting and for its commitment and involvement to subsequent meetings and future activities related to the OCPA. In this regard, he also thanked the government of South Africa for their support in the Pretoria and Cape Town Meetings, the government of Mauritius for their willingness to host a meeting that will look at cultural priorities vis a vis NEPAD in 2003.

In conclusion he requested the participants to commit themselves in order to achieve high level results that will make OCPA a reality.

During the opening ceremony four speakers gave presentations:

- 1-Dr Alinah Segobye, a member of the Task Force
- 2-Dr Damien Pwono of the Ford Foundation
- 3-Mr Marcel Diouf of the OAU
- 4-His Excellency L. Covane, Deputy Minister of Culture

Dr. Alinah Segobye, a member of the Task Force outlined in detail the background to the OCPA, the activities the Task Force had been requested to do at the Cape Town Meeting, and its achievements so far as:

- i) OCPA Website currently hosted by Culturelink Network (Zagreb)
- ii) The Strategic Document
- iii) The Draft Project Document

The Representative of the OAU Mr. Marcel Diouf informed the participants that the OAU considers the OCPA a major initiative which is happening at the same time as the transformation of the OAU to become the African Union. He further stressed that the peace and tranquility that is in Mozambique should inspire the OCPA Task Force in its work and that the Report of the 1993 Conference of Ministers that took place in Maputo as well as various existing documents should be translated into all the necessary languages and recorded and made available to a wider audience through the Observatory. He committed the OAU as a full partner to this important endeavor.

In echoing the other speakers, Dr. Pwono of the Ford Foundation expalined that his organisation takes the establishment of OCPA seriously as it has the potential of providing a clear vision of African Cultural developmental efforts. Hence, he stressed the need to assess its implications in a much more critical manner, identifying important questions with regard to its role in the social, economical and political dimensions. He futher expressed the need to examine its role within the upcoming African Union. He thanked the leadership of UNESCO and members of the Task Force for achieving the results, he cited it as a clear example of how people should work together. He reminded the participants of the need to involve a wider audience and emphasised that for this African intiative to succeed it must relate to the global world.

Officially opening the Meeting the Deputy Minister of Culture, His Excellency L. Covane thanked the organisers of the meeting, UNESCO, for choosing Mozambique to host the Meeting this year when it is celebrating its Tenth Anniversary of Peace. He welcomed the participants to Mazambique and requested them to work seriously on the creation of the Observatory which had now become urgent and indispensable as a process of enhancing culture for the development of Africa. He highlighted the various meetings that had taken place before on the need for the OCPA which emphasized its importance for Africa's development. He requested the participants to put together their experiences in order to achieve results that would bring benefit to all countries in Africa and the continent as a whole. He then informed the participants that the Government of Mozambique was willing to host the headquarters of the OCPA as a gesture of solidarity and recognition of its importance and its role in the development of Africa. He wished the delegates fruitful deliberations and commitment in order for the meeting to succeed.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND PROGRAMME

With minor changes, both the Programme (**Annex II**) and the Agenda (**Annex I**) were adopted.

3. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING: 30 May 2002

All presentations took place in plenary sessions as follows:

Session 3.1: Adoption of the Project Document

The Project Document was represented by Mr. Mate Kovacs who began by thanking all the people that had reacted to the various communication that he had been disseminating in connection with the Observatory in the past one year. He analysed the Project Document (**Annex IV**) in three parts:

- 1-General Information
- 2-Detailed Description of the Project
- 3-Programme and Budget Proposal

He emphasised that this would be the basis and framework of activities for the Observatory with a Website being the key instrument for connecting people and information.

In contributing to this presentation, the participants recognised highly the work done by the Task Force and the need for the meeting to enhance the process they have started. They also expressed the need to intergrate the Observatory with other social, political processes especially NEPAD. It was also noted by the participants that the Observatory would need practical guidance to enable it monitor other developments and identify indicators relevant at the grassroot level to benefit Africa's needs.

In response, Mr. Mate Kovacs explained that experiences from other areas will be covered with the various tools that are being proposed and in cooperation with other networks worldwide. He also responded that it was not task of the Observatory to directly work with the grassroots, but that policy makers would use it for their work to benefit the rural communities and populations. He emphasised that in order to make the Observatory effective and improve the flow of information there was need for support from all stakeholders with regard to their contributions and interactions within the network.

In conclusion Dr. Pwono explained that the Observatory was for Cultural Policies in Africa signifying that its work should not be limited to African cultural policies only but to observe all other cultural policies that have implications for Africa. He suggested that the Task Force would need to address various cultural questions, their implications and inter-connectedness with other socio-economic and political issues.

Session 3.2: Adoption of the Strategic Document

The Strategic Document (Annex V) was presented by Mr. Burama Sagnia, Coordinator of African Itinerant College for Culture and Development who began by defining in a broader context two key concepts;

- Strategic Planning Process
- Networking

He explained that these concepts would help define the direction to follow in the creation of OCPA and further outlined its Strategic Planning Process as being;

- Problem Analysis
- Swot Analysis (Environment Scanning)
- Strategic Goals
- Strategic Priorities (coverage, leverage & organisational set-up)
- Consultative Process
- Approval and Implementation

With regard to the concept of Networking, Mr. Sagnia defined it within the context of linking people for exchange of information, skills and materials. He presented various models of networking highlighting their characteristics and problems and indicated which model would be most suitable for the OCPA. He also presented guidelines and indicators of successful networking. He briefly went through the Strategic Document together with the participants highlighting;

- The Conceptual Framework
- Operational Framework
- Strategic Framework

In reaction to this presentation, the participants wanted to know whether the OCPA needed a business plan or a strategic plan. They also expressed the view that they needed more time to critically examine the strategic document in order to make useful contributions. They pointed out various issues within the document that required modification, further clarification and inclusion: for example explanations of certain accronames of organisations; financing of the Observatory; target beneficiaries; inclusion of organisations such as ECA, ADB, and Sahel countries; inclusion of not just African governments but also political parties; OAU Charter and a detailed description of African history especially the liberation movements; the book industry as a major stakeholder acknowledging its successes in mobilising various other networks such as PABA; and the need to intergrate the OCPA within the Round Table on the African Union and NEPAD.

In commenting on this discussion Mr Montiel of Culture & Development Section, UNESCO-Paris emphasized the importance and role of the Observatory on Cultural Policies in social and economic development .

In addition, Mr. Mbuyamba suggested to the meeting that all comments and contributions from participants could be best presented in form of a memorandum to the Task Force so that changes, modifications and additions could be taken into consideration effectively. He also noted the importance of APNET as a major partner in this process.

Session 3.3: Report on the Website : Phase 1

Mr. Mate Kovacs made a presentation of the Website, which is currently hosted by Culturelink (Zagreb). He outlined its coverage, explaining the information contained in it. He mentioned the important aspects as being the need to highlight the objectives of the OCPA and reflect on the link between culture and development and its role in the elimination of poverty and improvement in the quality of life of African people. He further outlined the various aspects of the Website, the structure and the services that are available, its strength and weaknesses.

The debate that followed focused mostly on the identification of a suitable name for the Observatory and the designation of its Home Page. The Meeting agreed on two designations, either OCPAFRICA.Net or OCPANET.Org, whichever was going to be available.

N.B. During this discussion the Vice-Chairperson of the Task Force Mr. Pierre Dandjinou joined the meeting and assumed the responsibility of Chairperson of the meeting.

Session 3.4 : Draft Statutes

The Task force did not table the Agreement with host country for technical reasons, however, a document on Draft Statutes was presented by Dr. Casimiro Davane, the former Attorney General of the Republic of Mozambique. He informed the participants that the statutes were made up of 29 Articles which were based on the Mozambican legislation with a focus on six major areas;

- i) Designation, duration, headquarters, nature and scope
- ii) Programme and objectives (Activities, funding and working languages)
- iii) Membership (Admission, affiliation, rights, duties and responsibilities)

- iv) Composition (General Assembly, Steering Committee, Secretariat)
- v) Symbols (Emblem,Flag, Logo etc)
- vi) Temporary Provisions (Dissolution and Liquidation)

Session 3.5: Structures and Venues

In addition to the above presentation, Mr. Mate Kovacs referred participants to the Draft Project Document which specifies the requirements a country would need to fulfil in order for it to host the OCPA. He explained to the participants what status and structure the organisation would need to have, what characteristics the location should have, what office space and facilities would be needed and offered, and what funding strategies were envisaged by the host country to make the project sustainable.

The debate that followed suggested the need to develop a criterion with specific terms of reference with regard to what is required to effectively establish the OCPA, this should then be put to countries to enable them to outline what they are willing to offer and successfully bid for the hosting of the OCPA. The criteria (**Annex V**) to be followed when selecting a host country were summarised as follows:

3.5.1: Host Country

1. Political and economic stability,
2. Good infrastructure e.g. travel links both nationally and internationally,
4. Good critical mass of international donors in country for funding raising Purposes,
4. Government must show interest in cultural policy/cultural industries
5. Government must show respect for NGOs and political independence of such structures,
6. Excellent information technology facilities and agencies to assist with the On going development of OCPA's IT capacity,
7. Country to show a financial commitment e.g. at least 25% of the annual budget in cash or kind.

3.5.2 Host Institution

1. Must reflect research capacity,
2. Should have basic, good infrastructure and administrative systems e.g. office space, fax, copying facilities, etc.,

3. Should have an interest in cultural policy,
4. Should have infrastructural capacity to organise and/or host international events,
5. The profile of the institution should be credible internationally and help to raise the profile of OCPA accordingly,
6. The institution must have credibility within the arts and culture community locally,
8. Its funding activities must not conflict with, but rather enhance or Complement OCPA's fundraising capacity locally and internationally.

The participants noted the political will, commitment and readiness from the government of Mozambique to host the OCPA. They were informed that the government of Mozambique considers the OCPA a very important activity and a priority, and what they could offer the interim Secretariat could be discussed and agreed upon later.

The Meeting agreed and requested UNESCO Office-Maputo to host the interim Secretariat of OCPA under the Board of Administration to be elected which would then have the responsibility of developing guidelines and the Programme to enable the process of establishing the OCPA to move forward.

WORK PROGRAMME : 31 MAY 2002

The Meeting revisited the Agenda and proceeded as follows:

- 1) The Logo
- 2) Task Force Activities and Budget
- 3) Governance during the Transitional Phase.
- 4) Round Table
- 5) Rapporteur's Report

Session 3.6: Adoption of the Logo

The MADESA representative Mr. August Leendertz gave a presentation of the Logo. He informed the participants that his organisation was given the task to work on the Logo at the Cape Town Meeting last year. He further explained that MADESA worked with two other agencies and came up with two models of the logo:

- Logo 1 - The eye shapes that intersect and join to form the African Continent signifying the aim and objective of OCPA which is to observe different cultures of Africa and beyond, with ochre orange representing Africa and the intersecting lines showing the networking.
- Logo 2- The concept behind it being the flow of information, ideas, culture etc into and out of Africa, with the flow symbolised by the curved shapes radiating out of the African continent, also signifying the objective of OCPA which is information dissemination.

The meeting voted on Logo No. 2 for the Observatory and congratulated Madesa for its achievement.

Session 3.7: Governance and Task Force Activities

This session begun by a presentation by Mr Mate Kovacs of some models of Cultural Observatories that are available throughout the world. This included Culturelink (Zagreb), Interarts (Barcelona), and Observatory of Financing Culture in Central and Eastern Europe based in Hungary. Mr. Kovacs described their structures, how they are funded, and the number of personnel they have and how they are managed to enable the participants to have an idea of what kind of structure they would want the OCPA to take. He explained that each structure has advantages and disadvantages ie a light structure is easy to handle, flexible but does not have the strength of institutional representativity and hence is very fragile.

Commenting on governance Dr. Pwono suggested that the next step was the need to develop a criterion for the composition of a governing body, a group of people that would guide the vision of the OCPA its programme of activities and the budget. He suggested that whatever body is selected would take the form of a Board with a profile that goes beyond generalities as provided in the Project Document but rather focus on the professional requirements that would ensure the success of the OCPA. He stressed that a network without a Board would always raise the questions of responsibility and accountability. In this context he suggested three workable options

- i) The Task Force could convert itself into a Board.
- ii) The leadership of the Task Force could combine with a few new names to create the transitional Board.
- iii) A complete new Board with the Task Force playing an advisory role.

The continuing debate on this issue highlighted the need to include a Statute that would legislate the transition to take place effectively i.e. it would define the role of the Task Force and the new Board during the transition. Other participants mentioned continuing with the same Task Force as a new committee would be difficult to set up before the necessary statutes and by-laws were adopted. Finally, there was a general consensus and agreement on the need for some committee, in form of a Board that would take responsibility and accountability for the transitional period. It was agreed that the Head of the Task Force and the UNESCO Regional Cultural Adviser work together to nominate seven Board Members, two representing the major sponsors, and at least one to come from the Task Force. They nominated the following to the Board:

Chairperson:

Members:

The Meeting agreed that the Board would operate within the following terms of reference:

1. To establish the legal framework for OCPA, including the formalizing and registration of the legal entity.
2. To appoint consultants and agencies to undertake initial tasks as required to get OCPA off the ground e.g. finalizing the website, designing logos, building and consolidating OCPA network systems.
3. To develop a Business Plan, including a critical path with particular tasks, time frameworks, a marketing plan and two to three-year budget.
4. To oversee the establishment of the basic infrastructure of OCPA, including but not limited to:
 - a. issuing “tenders” for countries and/or institutions to host OCPA
 - b. making a decision on the host country/institution
 - c. devising and negotiating an agreement with the host country and/or institution.
5. Establish a Board as per the formalized legal document to oversee, guide and be responsible for OCPA.
6. Oversee the planning of, and management of the marketing and launch of OCPA.

Session 3.8: Adoption of the Programme and Budget

A Work Plan and Budget (**Annex VI**) totaling US\$150 000-00 was presented by Mr. Pierre Danjinou with the following major lines:

- (1) Secretariat Personnel made up of Regional Coordinator & Bilingual Secretary to be supported by international and national consultants
- (2) Secretariat Office Equipment & Furniture
- (3) Research, Meetings, Training and Networking
- (4) Information Services & Publications

In his presentation Mr. Dandjinou also explained that the Work Plan and Budget was based on the understanding that:

- 1-The Secretariat of OCPA would temporarily work from Maputo (UNESCO Office),
- 2-A needs and risk assessment would be undertaken before the full operation of the OCPA,
- 3-A training and capacity building workshop and institutional development were necessary requirements of the process of establishing the OCPA,
- 4- The Business and Strategic Plan would include a budget line for marketing, internet subscription and all the other information technology and network costs.

The Meeting adopted the Work Plan and Budget as presented by the Task Force and emphasized the need for using the Work Plan & Budget effectively in order to mobilize the necessary resources.

Session 3.9: Round Table: Orientation for the future

3.9.1 World Culture Forum

Mr. Diouf, the OAU Representative informed the meeting of the upcoming Pan African Conference (to prepare for the World Culture Forum to take place in 2004), whose objective will be to assess the impact, achievements and role that culture has made in Africa. He explained that in collaboration with UNESCO and Ford Foundation, this meeting will examine the state of affairs in terms of culture since 1956 and 1963. He recalled that the Heads of State and Government adopted the OAU Cultural Charter in Mauritius in 1976 and that the first Pan-

African Conference of Ministers of Culture took place in Mauritius in 1986. He hoped that the Mauritian Government would for these reasons accept to host the 2003 Meeting once again. Mr. Diouf also explained that it was his wish to give the OCPA visibility during this Forum. He further stressed the importance of the Pan-African Conference in enabling the new generations to know what happened in the past in order for them to move forward.

3.9.2 International Network for Cultural Diversity (INCD)

Mr. Mike Van Graan of Article 27 Arts and Culture, South Africa made a presentation on the International Network for Cultural Diversity (INCD). He explained that it is a worldwide network of artists, cultural groups, creative industry representatives and NGOs whose work is to ensure that no single culture dominates the other in line with UNESCO's theme on the importance of cultural diversity between and within nations. He presented the history of INCD, its calendar of events especially the upcoming Cape Town Meeting in October of this year to which all the participants were invited. He also informed the participants as to who are the members of the INCD, its structure and funding sources. He stressed the relevance and importance of the OCPA to the success of the work of the INCD.

3.9.3 Declaration on Cultural Diversity

Mr. Edgar Montiel the Chief of Culture & Development in UNESCO Paris informed the participants on the upcoming UN Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa in August this year. He explained that UNESCO's participation will take the form of a position paper which will include the activities of all sectors of UNESCO and their contribution towards Sustainable Development. He informed the participants the various aspects that the sector for culture would be focusing on in the said position paper which he outlined as:

- i) the importance of the link between education and culture and the importance of including cultural education in the school curricula.
- ii) the impact of new technologies and globalization on cultural diversity which has led for example to the disappearance of certain languages, art cinemas etc.

- iii) the use of the new technologies to record for posterity, cultural events, cultural activities, oral traditions and knowledge based systems that are disappearing.
- iv) the legal dimension of the declaration on cultural diversity which gives countries the legal process to implement cultural diversity and make it workable.
- v) the implications of various multi-media which although have ultimately become cultural industries have no regulatory mechanism.

In concluding this session the Chairperson, Mr. Pierre Dandjinou stressed the need for cultural diversity to be preserved and maintained. He further stressed the relevance of the OCPA as a major way through which Africa would be bringing diversity to globalization and contribute to the information society.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND THE REPORT OF THE MEETING

The meeting went through the Report of the Meeting presented by the Rapporteur and after minor changes adopted it as a true reflection of the two days' proceedings, findings and conclusions.

5. CLOSING CEREMONY

At the closing ceremony, a memorandum of understanding was signed by all the major sponsors i.e. UNESCO, OAU and Ford Foundation, as a commitment to mobilise the necessary resources to enable OCPA to be operational.

UNESCO Representative Mr Mbuyamba congratulated Mr Dandjinou, the Vice Chairperson of the Task Force for guiding the discussion effectively which made it possible for them to work together towards a common instrument. He also informed the participants of the Government of Mauritius' interest in hosting the next meeting for the Observatory.

The Representative of the OAU, Mr Diouf, reiterated the need to begin initiating the process towards the organisation of the Pan African Conference on Culture in May 2003 in Mauritius by mobilising the

necessary resources as well as partners, NGOs and government officials in order to make it successful. He thanked the Mauritian Government for accepting in principle to host the Pan-African Conference. Mr Diouf also thanked the Task force for presenting high quality documents representing high professional standards. He indicated the interest of OAU in collaborating with all the other partners in this process and promised to inform member states about the setting up and importance of the OCPA at each gathering and whenever there is an opportunity in order for it to obtain the necessary support.

Mr Montiel, Chief of Culture & Development, UNESCO Paris said that UNESCO was happy to be associated with this initiative of the Observatory and satisfied with the seriousness of the work shown by all those involved as evidenced by the realisation already of the targets and objectives set. He hoped that with the team spirit that has already been shown, the Observaorty would be able meet the challenges of the future for the benefit of Africa with alot to contribute to Africa.

Dr Pwono, the Representative of the Ford Foundation congratulated the Task Force Meeting for the seriousness of the work undertaken. He emphasized that the OCPA was very important in the sense that it would act as a mirror to enable the continent to see what had happened in the past and also define what would happen in future. He explained that Ford foundation was committed to this initiative and would like to make it work, but also requested the Task Force to be more creative in identifying other sources of funding so that there are more partners on board.

In his closing remarks, the Vice Chairperson of the Task Force and Chairperson of the Meeting, Mr Dandjinou emphasized the importance of the OCPA especially in relation with its foreseen contribution to the Information Society and its help in narrowing the digital divide between the North and South. He further explained that the OCPA would also increase the knowledge base of the African society and help it move towards poverty alleviation.

He thanked members of the Task Force who worked as volunteers for their commitment and requested them to continue in the same spirit in order for the OCPA to succeed. He challenged the Board to work towards more success.

He finally thanked all contributors to these achievements, UNESCO, OAU, Ford Foundation and the Mozambican Government. Mr Dandjinou recognised the importance of the funding provided by Ford Foundation

5.1: VOTE OF THANKS

The participants thanked UNESCO and the Regional Cultural Adviser, Mr Mbuyamba in particular, for the work done by UNESCO in championing the need for an OCPA. They further thanked UNESCO-Maputo for accepting to host the interim Secretariat for the OCPA.

They also thanked Ford Foundation and OAU for their continuous commitment to cultural development in Africa, and especially, for their involvement and collaboration in moving the process of OCPA forward. They paid tribute to the Task Force for the good work done, for the professional documents that were presented, for the secretarial support and translators that were provided during the meeting, and especially for working tirelessly to make the OCPA a reality. They thanked MADESA for designing a logo which will give the OCPA a distinctive image.

Finally, the participants thanked the Government and the people of Mozambique for allowing the organization of the meeting to take place in Maputo despite the train accident that they had which cost the lives of so many Mozambicans and conveyed their heartfelt condolences.

Maputo, May 31st 2002

The Participants.