



Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA)

Meeting of the Task Force on Cultural Indicators

Nairobi, 12 February 2005

FINAL REPORT

Introduction

1. The meeting of the OCPA Task Force on Cultural Indicators, created on the occasion of the international seminar in Maputo, took place in Nairobi from on 12 February 2005.

2. The aim of the meeting was to review the activities performed by the Task Force since its creation in March 2004 and formulate conclusions and recommendations to be submitted for consideration by the OCPA Steering Committee at its session called for the 13 February 2005.

3. The meeting was attended by

a. The members of the Task Force Present

Paul Nchoji Nkwi, PAAA, Cameroon
Fernando Dava, ARPAC, Mozambique
Zagba Oyorsey, Ghana

Apologies were received from the following Task Force Members: Alioune Sall (Senegal), Alinah Segogbye (Botswana), Stephen Chifunyise (Zimbabwe).

4. Also attending the meeting were some members of steering Committee, namely

Pierre Dandjinou (Benin), President, and the following members:

Marcel Diouf (African Union)
Fairuz Mullagee (South Africa)
Augustine Hatar (Tanzania)
Angeline S. Kamba (Zimbabwe)
Lupwishi Mbuyamba (DRC).

5. Ms Gladys Gatheru, Deputy Director of Culture (Ministry of Gender Sports Culture and Social Services), representative of the host country also attended.

6. The representatives of the OCPA Secretariat included Máté Kovács, International Co-ordinator and Pedro Cossa, Local Co-ordinator.

Opening session

Item 1: Welcome addresses

7. The meeting was officially opened by Pierre Dandjinou, Chair of the Steering Committee, who welcomed the participants and expressed his gratitude to the representative of the host country and recalled the mandate of the Task Force.

8. Subsequently, in her welcome address, Ms Gladys Gatheru, Deputy Director of Culture (Ministry of Gender Sports Culture and Social Services), while greeting the meeting's participants congratulated OCPA for its achievements and expressed her best wishes for the success of the deliberations foreseen during the two-day deliberations. (See the text in Annex III of the Report)

Item 2: Agenda and Work Programme

9. The meeting adopted its agenda and programme, which are attached to the report in Appendices I and II.

Working sessions

10. After the opening remarks by the President of the OCPA Steering Committee, the meeting was chaired by Paul Nkwi sitting in for Alioune Sall who was unable to attend.

Session 1

Item 3: Presentation of the Task Force Report

11. The draft report of activities was presented by Paul Nkwi, on behalf of the OCPA/Interarts Task Force, who highlighted among others the following:

- a) The production of the strategy document "Cultural Indicators: Views from Africa" resulting from the Maputo Task Force Meeting (6-7 August 2004);
- b) The successful participation in the Task Force members in the African delegation to the Congress on Cultural Rights and Human Development (Barcelona, 23-27 August 2004);
- c) Active involvement of the Task Force members in several important African and international events and projects
 - the consultation on the Human Development Report (HDR) from an African perspective;
 - the Experts Meeting on the World Cultures Report (The Hague, September 2004);
 - the First Conference of Intellectuals of Africa and the Diaspora (Dakar, October 2004).

12. He also emphasized that the work of the Committee has contributed to the formulation of new ideas for the development of OCPA, namely

- a) the transformation of the Task Force into Standing Technical Committee of OCPA;
- b) the study of producing an African Cultural Report;
- c) the evaluation of cultural institutions in Africa.

Session 2

13. The participants taking the floor in the subsequent discussion congratulated the Task Force for the work realized, praised the quality and dynamism of its members. Two of them informed the meeting that the Prince Claus Foundation was positively impressed by the OCPA participation in the preparation and the work of the Barcelona International Congress on Cultural Right and Human Development (August 2004) that it supported financially.

14. It was stressed that through its high quality work the Task Force maintained the momentum created by the International Seminar on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Maputo, March 2004).

15. Now OCPA should make every effort for launching a research project for the elaboration of selected cultural indicators of development that are needed for further possible projects such as the production of an African Cultural Report and integration of a cultural approach to development strategies (NEPAD, MDG, poverty reduction, HIV/AIDS prevention, etc) and projects.

16. Some money is already foreseen for this research in the OCPA draft programme and budget for 2005, but it would be necessary to produce a specific project document for a regional research programme on this issue for submission to potential donors.

17. In view of these challenging projects, OCPA should also establish a roster of experts that can be consulted and mobilized. The setting up of this roster could start on the basis of the OCPA Data base of cultural institutions and specialists containing already some 2000 entries. It was underlined that for establishing a good roster, OCPA should identify first the field of activities in which expertise may be required.

Item 4: Follow-up of the Universal Forum of Culture (in Barcelona) and Item 5: Relation with Diaspora and African Cultural Centres

18. After the introduction made by Zagba Oyorley, Máté Kovács and Lupwishi Mbuyamba informed the meeting about the following

- The strategy document was published in English and French; it is posted on the OCPA web site in English, French, Spanish and Kiswahili and is also available in Arabic and Catalan versions. It was widely distributed in several hundred of printed copies in the First Conference Intellectuals of Africa and the Diaspora and in other meetings. The echo of this document was very positive. In this relation several participants emphasized the importance, for OCPA and its visibility, of accelerating the production of new publications.
- Interarts are undertaking the preparation of the proceedings of the Barcelona meeting.
- Inspired by this successful co-operation experience, Interarts Foundation is proposing to OCPA to organize a Euro-African Campus for promoting cultural co-operation between the two regions. It will take place in Dakar in September 2005.
- With regards to the First Conference of Intellectuals of Africa and the Diaspora (Dakar, October 2004), Marcel Diouf informed the meeting that the report of the conference is posted on the AU web site (that of the Culture Commission is also available on the OCPA web site) and that the second conference will take place in Brazil.
- In line with the recommendations formulated in Barcelona, the OCPA list serve has been continuously expanded to include the cultural institutions and specialists of the diaspora, namely those of the American continent (North, South and Central including the Caribbean).
- The proceedings of the International Seminar on Cultural Indicators of Human Development in Africa (Maputo, March 2004) will be completed as soon as the three missing contributions are received. OCPA will proceed to the final editing in view of the publication of the Seminar's materials.

19. Several participants raised the importance of statistics and indicators for the research and development action because these can be used for successful advocacy with respect to the place of culture in development and the attention paid to the preservation and development of culture in national budget and international co-operation resources.

20. As to the co-operation with the diaspora and other regions, AU has created a division for “citizenship, civil society and diaspora” as a priority area. It is promoting the development and establishment of Africa Houses and African Cultural Centres in many countries throughout the various region of the world.

21. Mr Diouf informed the meeting about the AU’s interest in being involved as a partner in the African Cultural Report project. As to the assessment of African cultural institutions, he informed the participants of the intention of the African Union to organize a meeting as part of the preparatory work towards the July 2005 AU Summit to be held in Tripoli on education and culture. Therefore, he suggested that the activities of OCPA with respect to the evaluation of cultural institutions should be conducted in collaboration with AU.

Session 3

Item 5: Relation with Diaspora and African Cultural Centres - Zagba Oyorley

22. Zagba Oyorley said in his view the cultural and creative industries presented good opportunities for building and developing relations with the African Diaspora. In Britain, for example, there were a number of important research centres and policy makers and organisations that were keen to collaborate. The Africa Centre in London being but one of such. There were also opportunities offered by the international work of the Arts Council of England and the British Museum both of which are active supporters of the Africa ’05 initiative which was a year long programme showcasing African creative excellence in major venues in the UK.

23. In Brazil, Gilberto Gil’s, (Minister of Culture) patronage and work with UNCTAD on establishing an international centre for the Creative Industries was also important. Zagba Oyorley has been working with the UNCTAD coordinator of this project in developing an African input and also for the special meeting scheduled for Bahia in April 2005 to which he has been invited to speak. he would seek to highlight the work of OCPA in this context. Zagba Oyorley also said that he was working on initiatives with Sydney Bartley, Director of Culture in Jamaica and also Olu Alake, Head of Diversity at the Arts Council of England both of whom had joined the Task Force meeting in Barcelona.

24. Lupwishi Mbuyamba responded he had discussed with Zagba Oyorley ways in which his presence in London could be used to mobilise resources for OCPA including an approach to the Africa Commission.

Item 6: World Cultures Report and Meeting in The Hague (September 2004)

25. On behalf of the two members of the OCPA Steering Committee and Task Force associated with this project and meeting, Ms Angeline Kamba informed the participants about the discussions and outcomes of The Hague meeting, which examined the methodological aspects of the preparation of this periodical report.

26. She stressed with satisfaction that OCPA was considered as a main potential partner of the project for the African region. This is a challenging opportunity for OCPA, but it should have a clear view about the real capacities to meet this task. It should also examine how this can be combined with the other ideas of producing an African Cultural report taking into account the capacities, resources and time available. She also warned about the difficulty of realizing such a complex task.

27. For the time being there is no decision on how the African contribution could be integrated in the whole project (whether it could appear in a specific chapter or just as an input in the analysis of cultural situations and trends concerning the global trends).

28. It was stressed that in case OCPA decides to take part in the project, it already underlined, will need appropriate resources, possibly a specific structure and as it was already suggested, a repertory of experts who could be involved.

29. It was suggested that in a longer perspective OCPA should consider the two projects as alternative, but complementary ones. In this perspective, on a short term realistically OCPA could participate in the production of the World Cultures Report, while in a medium term perspective; it should make every effort for creating conditions for the production of an independent regional report.

Item 7: Guidelines for Research and Publications

30. Máté Kovács reminded the participants about the proposals made in this respect in the OCPA project document adopted in the 2002 Maputo Task Force Meeting.

“Objective 2: Develop a coherent research agenda on cultural policies in Africa

With a view to achieve this objective the Observatory should

- Adapt and develop methodological tools and guidelines;
- Analyze the data collected and establish information needs and research priorities;
- Develop a research agenda and co-ordinate the implementation of 12 co-operative research projects on priority issues such as cultural information; cultural policy and traditional cultures; culture and urban development; culture and education in Africa (in the framework of the OAU decade for education); cultural practices and participation; specific training needs and professional profiles; globalisation, African cultures and cultural policies; culture and the private sector; cultural rights; culture and economic development: cultural industry and entrepreneurship; cultural statistics and indicators; cultural policy and popular initiative, financing culture; etc.”

31. In this respect the 2004 Maputo Steering Committee emphasized the following:

“More and more countries wish to involve OCPA in the realization of their endeavours, - formulation of their national cultural policy, organization of meetings, etc; - and OCPA has to be ready to respond their expectations. OCPA should become a centre of excellence creating knowledge and new ideas. To this effect, beyond providing information, it should create new knowledge, relevant research findings and methodological instruments necessary for cultural policy design and evaluation (for example a manual or a guideline for assessing and formulating cultural policies).”

32. In absence of the necessary funds OCPA could not yet proceed to the elaboration of a medium-term research programme as suggested in the 2002 Project document, but in the light of the discussions, the following research priorities can be identified:

- Elaboration of cultural indicators of development;
- Cultural rights and their implications for cultural policies in Africa (in the light of the need to protect cultural diversity and as a response to the challenge of preventing and solving cultural conflicts);
- Financing culture and cultural management.

33. As to publication strategy, the Project document

“Objective 3: Develop a Publication Programme and Public Information Strategy on Cultural Policies for Development in Africa

With a view to achieve this objective the Observatory should

- Elaborate and implement a publication and public information strategy;
- Publish and disseminate
 - an OCPA Newsletter in English and French (on paper and by e-mail)
 - studies, reports and best practices
 - directories and reference documents in printed and electronic format (CD);
- Produce and disseminate public information material about the Observatory and the role of cultural policies in Africa.

34. The OCPA Steering Committee drew the attention to the need to accelerate the production of publications and study the possibility of publishing an OCPA Journal.

35. Since the Maputo Steering Committee session two publications have been produced (OCPA Dossier and the Strategy Document) and five others have been prepared (a volume of the reports from preparatory meetings, African music, Proceedings of the Abidjan Workshop on Culture in the NEPAD, proceedings of Maputo Seminar on Cultural Indicators, and the Compendium of reference document for designing cultural policies in Africa), which can be produced as soon as the final editing is finished and the funds necessary are made available.

36. As a part of the publication strategy, OCPA is making an extensive use of its web site for making accessible all important documents and reports produced in the framework of its activities, and informs regularly its public about these resources through OCPA News.

37. Apart from the financing the Steering Committee could examine the problems of dissemination taking into account the needs and purchasing capacities of the African institutions.

38. Paul Nkwi stressed the need of extending the research to issues necessary of high levels of applicability. Themes that address practical problems are critical in understanding the culture and development challenges and in improving the quality of life of cultural owners.

39. As to the publication strategy, Paul Nkwi stressed the need to serialise the publications of OCPA. He went further to ask how far OCPA criticized cultural policies because governments are very sensitive. It may be having a guideline on how cultural policies could be formulate may be the best way to start.

40. Pierre Dandjinou stressed that OCPA should be in line with current concerns of the countries. Maybe using the best practices of cultural policies may be beneficial. He went on to emphasize the need for OCPA to copyright its products.

Item 8: Guidelines for the programme of activities in 2005

41. In presenting the item, Lupwishi Mbuyamba emphasized the need to develop partnership with the regional bodies interested in policy relevant research in their specific fields. OCPA should concentrate its activities to the following fields:

- Production of new knowledge related to cultural development and policy (practices, attendance and participation)
- Publication of a high level journal
- Publication of books and reports
- Study on cultural diversity and liberty
- Development of a documentation centre

- Further development of the existing information services
- Research and studies (oriented more and more to produce new knowledge)
- Promotion methodological instruments
- Training (training programmes and strategies, guideline for training)
- Advisory services

42. In the subsequent discussion it was pointed out that it was important to identify themes of critical policy interest such as culture and HIV/AIDS, music, agriculture, poverty, the MDG). The theme for 2005 would be Culture and the MDGs. Augustine Hatar suggested that OCPA should concentrate every year on a theme and mobilize interested researchers and research institutions on these issues.

Item 9: Conclusions and recommendations

43. At the end of the meeting the Task Force presented a series of conclusions and recommendations to the Steering Committee as follows:

1. That Interarts Foundation's proposal to organise a Euro-African Campus for promoting cultural co-operation in Dakar in September 2005 should be strongly considered. This should lead to eventual adoption of long term cooperation of capacity building
2. The establishment of a technical committee based on the experience of the Task Force. Bringing on board new expertise from other areas or disciplines would strengthen the new committee. The setting up of a roster based on OCPA database of cultural institutions and specialists should also be considered.
3. Considering the participation of OCPA in the conference of African intellectuals, though minimal, proactive steps should be taken for its full participation in the second conference due to hold in Brazil. This will offer an occasion to reconnect with the Diaspora.
4. Given the present importance given to culture by the African Union, OCPA should establish more active steps in working with the AU on a number of critical areas of policy and action.
5. With respect to the African cultural report, the Task recommended, that while waiting for the invitation of Prince Claus Fund for any collaborative efforts, OCPA should proactively prepare the TOR and the list of experts. At the invitation of the Pan African Association of anthropologists (PAAA), a session will be organised during the 15th Annual conference of the taking place in Yaoundé, Cameroon from 8-12 August, 2005 on the theme "Feasibility of a Culture Report."
6. OCPA would avail itself for the World culture Report whenever this does take place.
7. With respect to Research, the task force, emphasized applied and field research but recommended that every year, OCPA should choose a theme, which will be circulated for possible research interest among African scholars or culture experts. The Task force is recommending that the theme for 2005 should be *Culture and the MDG*. A number of themes were also suggested for the years to come, namely, *Culture and Agriculture*, *Culture and Gender Equity*, *Culture and Wealth Creation*. OCPA will collaborate with ILO for the organisation of training on Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship. However, the following areas for applied research were also suggested: HIV/AIDS, Poverty, Children's Right, Education, Agriculture and conflict and their interaction with African cultures

8. On publication, it was proposed that all OCPA publications should be serialised; copyrighting all its publications is very important. Efforts should be made to assist local cultural producers to protect their rights.
9. In order to spread the good practices in cultural policy formulation, it is being recommended that OCPA produced five regional reviews of cultural policies (Central, West, Eastern, Southern and Northern Africa
10. It was also being suggested that OCPA finalise guidelines for policy definition and formulation, which would serve as tool for governments and regions desiring to develop their policies. There is need to develop database of managers and executives of policy in the respective countries. OCPA should be encourage to broker meetings on international cultural policy so that OCPA should become routinely an African “think-tank”
11. Given that OCPA’s dissemination tools have been the website, books and published reports, it is being suggested the CD-ROM should be used as an additional tool for dissemination. Although publishing a journal required resources and dedication and sustainability, it is being suggested that the publication of a Journal (Revue) should be considered. The establishment of a documentation centre in Maputo should also have outlets in other countries.
12. With respect to 2005 Programme of Activities, the Task Force placed special emphasis on capacity building and recommended that a series of training programmes should be designed, and the courses outline developed. The work done by the ex-Itinerant College could serve as a basis in addition to its own strategy.
13. In order to create greater visibility, it was proposed that OCPA seek representation with major international bodies such as the African Union, AIF (Agence International de Francophone), CPLP and other multi-lateral and bilateral cooperation agencies.
14. A Memorandum of Understanding should be signed between CODESRIA and OCPA so that to offer its next round of themes and scholarships consideration should be given to culture and development.
15. Efforts should be made to out-source funds from potential donors in the north, such as NORAD, DANIDA and SIDA.

Closing of the meeting

In the closing meeting, the Task Force was invited to submit concrete recommendations to the consideration by the Steering Committee in defining orientations for OCPA’s future development.

In his closing remarks the Chair expressed his thanks to the members of the task Force, to all participants and to the OCPA Secretariat, for their contribution to the successful organization and work of the meeting.

Appendices

Appendix I.: Agenda

Appendix II: Programme

Appendix III: Welcome address by Ms Gladys Gatheru, Deputy Director of Culture (Ministry of Gender Sports Culture and Social Services, Kenya)

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa
Observatoire des Politiques Culturelles en Afrique

**Meeting of the Task Force
Nairobi, 12 February 2005**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks
2. Adoption of the Agenda and Programme
3. Presentation of the Task Force Report
4. Follow-up of the Universal Forum of Culture (in Barcelona) and of the Conference of Intellectuals (in Dakar)
5. Relation with Diaspora and African Cultural Centres
6. Culture Reports and Meeting in Hague
7. Guidelines for Research and Publications
8. Guidelines for the programme of activities in 2005
9. Conclusions and recommendations to the Steering Committee

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa
Observatoire des Politiques Culturelles en Afrique

Meeting of the Task Force

Nairobi, 12 February 2005

PROGRAMME

- 9:00 - Opening Remarks-
- Pierre Dandjinou, OCPA Chair
 - John Odhiambo, Representative of International Council of African Museums (AFRICOM), Kenya
 - Gladys Gatheru, Deputy Director of Culture, Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, Kenya
- Election of the Bureau
- Adoption of the Agenda and Programme

Session 1

- 9.30 - Presentation of the Task Force Report- Paul Nkwi and Zagba Oyorley
- 10:30 - Coffee Break
- 11:00 - Follow-up of the Universal Forum of Culture (in Barcelona) [comments by Mate Kovacs] and of the Conference of Intellectuals (in Dakar), [comments by Marcel Diouf]
- Relation with Diaspora and African Cultural Centres,. Zagba Oyorley
- 12:30 - Lunch Break

Session 2

- 14:00 - Culture Report and Meeting in Hague, Angeline Kamba
- Guidelines for Research and Publications, Mate Kovacs and Paul Nkwi
- 15:00 - Guidelines for the programme of activities in 2005-, Lupwishi Mbuyamba, Mate Kovacs and Paul Nkwi
- 16:00 - Coffee Break

Session 3

- 16:30 - Conclusions and recommendations to the Steering Committee- Paul Nkwi
- 17:00 - End of the Meeting



**SPEECH READ BY MS GLADYS GATHERU, AG. DEPUTY
DIRECTOR OF CULTURE**

Task Force Meeting of the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA)

Nairobi, Kenya 12 February 2005

**The Chairperson of OCPA, Mr Pierre Dandjinou,
Mr Marcel Diouf, African Union,
The Executive Director, Mr Máté Kovács,
Distinguished Participants,**

This morning, I feel greatly honoured to be the one to open this very important meeting on the Observatory for Cultural Policies in Africa on behalf of the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services.

I am informed that this is the 3rd Board Meeting of OCPA the first one having been held in 2002 in Maputo. Thank you for choosing Nairobi-Kenya to host such a worthy delegation of experts.

I understand the Observatory was born out of recommendations of the intergovernmental conference on cultural Policies for Development (Stockholm 1998) which proposed to 'encourage the establishment of networks for research and information on Cultural Policies for development including a study of the establishment of an observatory of Cultural policies'.

I note that the overall objective of the NGO is to monitor cultural policies in the African region and enhance their integration in human development strategies through advocacy, information, research, capacity building, networking, coordination and co-operation at the regional and international levels.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is amazing how much OCPA has achieved along those set objectives within only about three years of existence. The creation of a web site as a World Wide Web resource Centre put Africa in the limelight exposing the region cultural wealth and diversity.

Allow me at the juncture ladies and gentlemen to challenge this team to bring to reality the registration of OCPA as a regional Pan African NGO. The onus of integrating culture and development will depend very much on the kind of cultural policies in place or being drawn.

Sound policies will steer communities forward and enhance development while weak ones will stifle development.

As you deliberate today and tomorrow therefore, it is my hope that you will come up with strategies that are practical, and appropriate to the African environment. I am of course aware that as much as the cultural experts offer ideas and strategies on integrating culture and development, much will depend on the various governments' willingness to put into practice the recommended guidelines. The governments must create enabling environments for cultural development.

On the Lips of many leaders now, are the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These desired goals can only be realized if every sector's potential is exploited. In poverty reduction for instance, culture is central and Africa, spearheaded by OCPA and other cultural institutions must take up the challenge of improving the cultural industries directly or indirectly related to their work. I am glad to note that capacity building is part of OCPA's assignment. I trust that it will truly become a service-oriented resource centre that will make a difference. There is so much to draw from the African region in terms of culture.

Allow me now to express my gratitude to the organizers of this Task Force and Steering Committee Meeting organizers, the management of Nairobi Safari Club, all participants for their efforts to make this meeting a reality and a success.

I wish you fruitful deliberations and wish you an enjoyable stay in Nairobi, Kenya.

I welcome you all and hope that you will have time to see part of our rich cultural heritage not to mention the beautiful scenery and wildlife.

With those remarks, I now declare the OCPA meeting officially open.

Karibuni Kenya!

Thank you.