

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

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



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

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

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In this issue

A. News from OCPA

In Memoriam Eduard Miralles i Ventimilla (1971 – 2018)

Activities of the Executive Director and his Colleagues

A.1 OCPA at the Pan-African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 5-7 September 2018)

A.2 Participation in the Seminar on Strengthening ACALAN's Partnership with African Cultural Institutions

A.3 Meeting on the Conclusions of the AU Workshop on the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance

A.4 Program for young creators on "Emerging Scenes" (Ouagadougou, 23 – 29 September 2018)

A.5 OCPA Publications

B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Namibia hosted Arts Summit of Southern Africa

B.2 InSEA Seminar in Namibia on Building Social Cohesion through Arts

B.3 Togo: Regional workshops on the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage

B.4 Morocco: New edition of the World Heritage and Music Festival in Essaouira

B.5 Central Africa: ECCAS - Meeting of Ministers of Culture scheduled for November in Congo

B.6 African Dance Workshop with Great Choreographers (Ecole des Sables, 22 October – 3 November)

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

C.1 Zimbabwe: Hon Kirsty Coventry, Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation

C.2 Zimbabwe: Cain Mathematic, New Minister of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage

C.3 Cameroon: Training against the illicit trafficking of cultural property - MINAC at the front

C.4 Congo-Brazzaville: Cultural Management - Call for applications for training

C.5 Mauritius - The Minister of Culture: "Making the creative industry an economic pillar"

C.6 Namibia Creative Industry Guide 2018

D. News, institutions, resources and events in other regions

D.1 Global Youth Culture Forum - Jeju 2018

D.2 Edinburgh International Cultural Summit, 22-24 August 2018 - Connecting Peoples and Places

D.3 Atelier for Young Festival Managers - Gothenburg

D.4 Atelier for Young Festival Managers (Malta, 23-29 March 2019): Extended deadline for application

D.5 Meeting of Ministers of Culture of the 5 + 5 Dialogue Countries (Lisbon, 21 September 2018)

D.6 New Strategy of Action for Like

E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

- Liberia: Reorganization of the National Cultural Troupe and the National Arts and Cultural Center
- Africa: Should African Schools Teach More Local Languages?
- Liberia: Cultural Affairs and Tourism Minister Outlines Strategic Vision
- South Africa: Ramaphosa to Unveil Mandela Statue At UN HQ On Heritage Day
- Zimbabwe: Artists' Recommendations to the Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation Minister

F. Info from newsletters and information services

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies

- South Africa: The National Arts Council Welcomes a New Dawn
- World Cities Culture Summit San Francisco (San Francisco, 14-16 November 2018)

F.2 Africultures

- Portraits of producers from French-speaking sub-Saharan Africa

F.3 Culture resource – Mawred (Beirut)

- Culture Resource Launches the Programme WASL!

- Morocco: A New Strategic Approach to the Development of the Moroccan Film Sector
- The Ninth Report on Cultural Policies in the Arab Region

F.4 News from Ettijahat

- New Grants Awarded Under the Fifth Edition of Laboratory of Arts 2018

F.5 Agenda 21 Culture Circular

- High-level Seminar on “Cultural Rights in the City” (Mexico City, 18-20 October 2018)

F.6 Culturelink Newsletter

- General Assembly of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends
- EU Competences and National Cultural Policies: Critical Dialogues (CULPOL) Project Completion

XXX

A. News from OCPA/Les Nouvelles de l’OCPA

In Memoriam Eduard Miralles i Ventimilla (1971 – 2018)

The Observatory of Cultural Policies wishes to express its sadness following the demise of Eduard Miralles i Ventimilla occurred on 30 August. Eduard Miralles has for many years been a fundamental voice in reflections on local cultural policies and on culture and development in Catalonia, Spain and at international level.

Among other duties he performed in the field of culture, since 2008 he was also the President of the Interarts Foundation, an important partner of OCPA and thus we had the opportunity to appreciate his readiness for cooperation and his contributions to reflections on cultural policy and its interactions with sustainable development.

Keeping in mind his memory, we wish to express our condolences to his family and his colleagues.

Read this article at <http://www.agenda21culture.net/news/eduard-miralles-i-ventimilla>.

Activities of the Executive Director and his Colleagues

A.1 OCPA at the Pan-African Cultural Congress (Addis Ababa, 5-7 September 2018)

The Executive Director took part in the 5th session of the Pan-African Cultural Congress organized by the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa. At this meeting, he presented a paper on the Founding Values and Ideas of the African Renaissance and of the Pan-Africanism. At this meeting, Dr. Damien Pwono, an OCPA Technical Committee member also presented a very noteworthy communication on cultural diplomacy and made proposals for a new strategy of cultural action of the African Union.

It should be noted that Lupwishi Mbuyamba was elected 1st Vice-President of the Bureau of the Congress chaired by Daves Ghuza, President of the Arterial Network.

A.2 Participation in the Seminar on Strengthening ACALAN's Partnership with African Cultural Institutions (Nairobi, 20 - 21 September 2018)

In the same region of East Africa, in Nairobi, the OCPA Executive Director took part from 20 to 21 in the Seminar organized by the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) specialized AU institution, with the aim of strengthening the Academy's partnership with the most significant cultural institutions of the continent working in the field of languages and related disciplines.

Here also, he made a communication which consisted of a commentary on OCPA's mission and strategy of action and offered to ACALAN a cooperation which is part of the major concerns of the African Union to which the OCPA provides important technical support in the implementation of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance and the general framework of Agenda 2063 which advocates for the deepening of the research on the traditional knowledge of Africa where the promotion of the African languages has a place of choice, and advocates also for the use of this knowledge system for a forward-looking renaissance.

A.3 Meeting on the Reformulation of the Conclusions of the AU Workshop on the Implementation of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance (Maputo, June 2018)

Then, again in Nairobi on 24 and 25 September 2018, a limited technical meeting of experts invited by the African Union discussed the reformulation of the conclusions of the June Workshop in Maputo on implementation of the Charter with a view to making it a working document for the 3rd Conference of Ministers of Culture of all Africa convened from 21 to 25 October 2018 in Algiers. The meeting included, in addition to the Executive Director, members of the OCPA Technical Committee, including Ayeta Wangusa (Tanzania) and Stephen Chifunyise (Zimbabwe).

A.4 Program for young creators on "Emerging Scenes" (Ouaga, 23 – 29 September 2018)

Meanwhile, Dr. Mande Hamadou, Assistant Research Coordinator at OCPA, was launching a program for young creators in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, at Espace Gambidi, where he is the Artistic Director, entitled "Emerging Scenes", a meeting of young creators from 23 – 29 September 2018. Mrs. Maria Manjate, OCPA Program Officer took part.

Other important cultural programs that have been encouraged and welcomed by the OCPA during the period concerned are noteworthy:

- First General Assembly of Traditional Leaders in Abidjan;
- Meeting of the Bureau of the Pan-African Writers Organization (Nairobi, 26 - 28 September 2018);
- Forum of NGOs in liaison with UNESCO on Migration (Tunis, 26 to 28 September 2018).

The occasion of these different meetings gave the opportunity to exchanges with important personalities of culture in Africa and allowed to initiate new projects of programs whose details will be presented in the coming issue of OCPA News.

A.5 OCPA Publications

In relation with its research activities OCPA has produced some **25 books and publications** such as a strategy document (2004) and a research programme (2007 and 2010) on the cultural indicators of human development in Africa, a book on "African Musics – New Stakes and New Challenges" (with UNESCO, 2005), the Observatory's 1st and 2nd Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action (2006 and 2011), the Compendium of basic reference texts for cultural policies in Africa (E/F/S, 2006 and 2009), the Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of National Cultural Policies in Africa (2008 and 2009). The Proceedings of the International Symposium on Policies, Strategies and Experiences in Financing Culture in Africa was published in 2010, the Manual for Training Specialist of Cultural Policy and Management in Africa and the book on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty reduction in Africa were produced in 2013.

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

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

For previous news and OCPA activities click on

<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Namibia hosted Arts Summit of Southern Africa

The National Arts Council of Namibia (NACN) in collaboration with the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies (IFACCA), hosted in Namibia the Arts Summit of Southern Africa (ASSA), held in Windhoek, from the 21st – 23rd August 2018 under the theme “Human Creativity is a vital Economic, Social & Cultural Resource”. The Summit, the first for Southern Africa, sought to strengthen the creative economy, across SADC and increase awareness of the sector as a vital regional industry.

On Thursday 23 August the Africa Chapter of IFACCA adopted a collective Concluding Statement reflecting the findings from the Arts Summit.

In the statement, National Members from Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe collectively recognise human creativity as a vital economic, social and cultural resource that needs to be protected, promoted and developed; endorse shared principles; make recommendations; and agree to collaborative action to support the development of the region.

Read the Statement at

<https://internationalfederationofartscouncilsandcultureagencies.cmail19.com/t/i-l-nxljtd-zhyhtliir-jy/>

More information at: <https://www.assa2018.org/>

Contact: info@thepublicrelationsbox.com

B.2 InSEA Seminar in Namibia on Building Social Cohesion through Arts Education (Walvis Bay, 29 October -2 November 2018)

This InSEA SEMINAR, hosted by the Society for Arts Education in Namibia (SAEN) aims to promote InSEA in African countries and to foster dialogue and sharing of praxis and research about education through art. The organizers welcome educators, teachers, artists and

researchers from all the continents who are interested in this topic to share their experiences during this event. Sub-themes include for example the role of Arts Education in:

- Understanding identity: Safeguarding our diverse cultural heritage
- Artists involvement in formal arts education and gender-based violence
- Promoting a safe environment as well as freedom of expression and human rights
- Formal teaching in primary and secondary schools
- Economic empowerment through the arts.

The Organization calls art educators, artists and art education practitioners from all continents to bring their experiences, through workshops.

Participants may submit a proposal for presentation, workshop or performance by filling the second part of the registration form (a short abstract up to 500 words). Authors may submit a more complete visual essay for peer-reviewing to be published in a special issue of IMAG.

Web site for more information: <http://insea.org/Walvis-Bay-2018>

Contact: Christiana Afrikaner: deliewen@gmail.com

B.3 Togo: Regional sensitization workshops on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage (17 September - 2 October 2018)

The Ministry of Culture and the National Commission for Cultural Heritage are launching on Monday regional workshops to raise awareness about the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

The PCI aims at the respect of the intangible cultural heritage, the sensitization at the national and international level and encourages the development of the international cooperation.

Although fragile, ICH is an important factor in maintaining cultural diversity in the face of increasing globalization. Having an idea of the intangible cultural heritage of different communities is useful for intercultural dialogue and encourages respect for other ways of life.

Guy Lorenzo, Minister of Communication, Culture, Sports and Civic Education since 2015 emphasized the importance of intangible cultural heritage that lies in the wealth of knowledge and know-how that it transmits from one generation to another.

This transmission of knowledge has social and economic value that is relevant to minority groups as well as to majority social groups within a state, and is as important for developing countries as it is for developed countries.

'We can not talk about safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage and sustainable development without talking about sustainable protection and consumption, reducing poverty and inequalities, productive and decent jobs, hence economic growth and inclusive development ', says Guy Lorenzo, the Minister of Culture.

Source: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201809170301.html>

B.4 Morocco: New edition of the World Heritage and Music Festival in Essaouira

The curtain was raised in Essaouira, on the second edition of the Festival "Heritage and World Music", by organizing a series of enticing artistic and cultural activities and rich in color. Initiated by the "Tarabout" Association, in partnership with the provincial delegation of culture and the Essaouira-Mogador Association, this three-day festival aims to highlight the richness

and diversity of the national heritage, with a focus on the singularity of the trade winds city as a space of diversity and cultural and artistic plurality.

As a prelude to this festival, the organization at the Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdallah Museum was held on Friday morning, with a thematic conference on the topic "From Popular Culture to Intangible Heritage", with the participation of researchers and local actors.

On the menu of this Festival is an exhibition of literary works, literary competitions for the benefit of students, a workshop on "Heritage, interpersonal communication and personality", a competition of sand sculpture at the beach of Essaouira and a day dedicated to sport.

More information at <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201809170382.html>

B.5 Central Africa: ECCAS - Meeting of Ministers of Culture in November in Congo

The information was given by the representative of UNESCO in the country, Vincenzo Fazzino, when he left the audience granted on August 31 in Brazzaville, the Minister of Culture and Arts, Dieudonné Moyongo who have raised announced the holding of the Conference of Ministers of Culture Space of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) that the Republic of Congo scheduled for late November.

During this, all aspects of culture and heritage will be debated. "The question of cultural industries is very important to put the centrality of culture back into the economic diversification of different countries," said Vincenzo Fazzino.

The representative of UNESCO and the Minister of Culture also addressed the question of world heritage, intangible, tangible as well as the importance of the documentary heritage. "The Congo is home to a very important archive of French Equatorial Africa, which is not only the heritage of this country but a heritage to share with other countries.

UNESCO has legal instruments and programs such as the Memory of the World Program to project this documentary heritage, "he said, adding," We had already had experience in two aspects, to know how to accompany the Congolese State in the drafting of the legal texts which make it possible to protect this inheritance, the process already works because there is the drafting of the legal texts, in particular on the notion of the inheritance.

Source: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/2018090>

B.6 Dance Workshop with Great Choreographers from Africa (Ecole des Sables, Toubab Dialaw, Senegal, 22 October – 3 November 2018)

Since 1998, Ecole des Sables organizes dance workshops for dancers from Africa and elsewhere. The Center contributes to the development of the African Contemporary Dance and is a real platform for encounters and exchanges. The workshop is addressed to dancers of the world interested in learning African contemporary dance at the Ecole des Sables.

Ecole des Sables is located near Toubab Dialaw, a fishermen's village 53 kilometers south of Dakar. It holds 2 dance studios (400 m2 and 280 m2), 24 bungalows for accommodation, a restaurant, a conference room and an infirmary.

The workshop costs 930 € including accommodation and meals, transfer from and to the airport, and 60 hours of dance classes. The travel costs to Senegal, international health insurance are to be covered by the participants.

Web site: <http://ecoledessables.org/>



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

Culture in the new cabinet of Zimbabwe

As it appears in the list of the new cabinet appointed on 8 September 2018, the field of culture will be divided between two ministries: the Ministry of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation and the Ministry of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage headed respectively by Kirsty Coventry (Ms) and Cain Mathema.

C.1 Zimbabwe: Hon Kirsty Coventry, Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation and the Ministry of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage

Kirsty Leigh Coventry (born 16 September 1983) is the current Minister of Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation in the Cabinet of Zimbabwe as of September 2018. She is a former swimmer and world record holder, and the most decorated Olympian from Africa. She is a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and in early 2018, was elected the Chairperson of the IOC Athletes' Commission, the body that represents all Olympic athletes worldwide.

Coventry attended and swam competitively for Auburn University in Alabama, in the United States. At the 2004 Summer Olympics, in Athens, Greece, Kirsty Coventry won three Olympic medals: a gold, a silver, and a bronze, while in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing she won four medals: a gold and three silver.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kirsty_Coventry

Read also Zimbabwe: Conversing With Minister Kirsty Coventry on the Arts at <https://allafrica.com/stories/201809180198.html>

C.2 Zimbabwe: Cain Mathema, New Minister of Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage

Cain Ginyitshe Mathema (1947) was appointed as the Minister of Home Affairs and Culture at the beginning of September 2018. He is also a writer, Zimbabwean politician and member of the ZANU-PF party. He is the former Minister of Welfare Services for War Veterans, War Collaborators and Former Political Detainees. Mathema has been Ambassador Governor and Resident Minister for Bulawayo West.

Mathema has authored a number of books including:

- Wealth and Power: An Introduction to Political Economy (1988)
- ZANU (PF) and economic independence (1994)
- I love you Joy Hwami (1992)
- Ulimi Lwami (Poetry series) (1998)
- Socialism and Christianity (1992)
- I drew for the liberation struggle (1989)
- Co-operatives, what about them? (1988)

Read more at <http://www.moha.gov.zw/> and https://www.pindula.co.zw/Cain_Mathema

C.3 Cameroon: Training against the illicit trafficking of cultural property - MINAC at the front

The Ministry of Arts and Culture and UNESCO form the cultural actors for an effective fight against this scourge which spoliages a good part of the national heritage.

"A global problem, global response". Real art strainers, airports and borders are constantly confronted with the illicit traffic of cultural goods. The actors in the field do not always have the keys to overcome this scourge. Frequently, handicrafts are seized instead of works of art.

To remove any ambiguity about the authenticity of these objects and find effective measures to protect these heritage objects, the Ministry of Arts and Culture decided to take the bull by the horns. In close collaboration with the UNESCO Multisectoral Regional Office for Central Africa, MINAC organized a three-day workshop at the National Museum in Yaounde on the illicit traffic of cultural property in Central Africa.

According to Narcisse Mouelle Kombi, Minister of Arts and Culture, thousands of illegally sold art objects are stored in the reserves of Western museums.

For three days, the men on the ground will be equipped in the distinction of the authentic objects and those which are not it to differentiate the work of art. But also on the knowledge of the institutions responsible for protecting cultural heritage in times of peace and war.

Source: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201809060680.html>

C.4 Congo-Brazzaville: Cultural Management - Call for applications for training

Intended for administrators and managers of cultural structures and projects as well as artists' managers, the seminar will take place from October 8 to 18, as part of the "Pointe-Noire, crossroads of the arts" project.

The training is organized by the Yaro Cultural Space, in partnership with the project "Ségou, creative city" and the Foundation Festival on Niger of Mali. It will take place at the Jean-Baptiste-Tati-Loutard cultural center and concerns six Central African countries, including the Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Cameroon and the Central African Republic. and Chad. This seminar will be moderated by Luc Mayitoukou, director of Zhu culture (Senegal), trainer and international expert in cultural administration.

The goal is to build the capacity of participants in the day-to-day management of their organizations (administrative management, good governance, leadership, contracts, rights and others). For more information (conditions of participation and submission of applications), interested persons can contact the organizers by email at: espaceyaro@yahoo.fr. The deadline for applications is 23 September.

Note that this training was initiated as part of the project "Pointe-Noire, crossroads of the arts", which consists, through multiple cultural and artistic activities, to give visibility to this city and to challenge more local authorities to the establishment of a cultural policy.

More information at <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201809050798.html>

C.5 Mauritius - Minister of Culture: "Making the creative industry an economic pillar"

"We are trying to start collaborating with the different stakeholders in visual and dramatic art to address the complexities of these two areas. We are reviewing a series of financial assistance to make it accessible to artists and stimulate the sector," said Pradeep Roopun, Minister of Arts

and Culture, September 21, at a conference organized by the President's Fund for Creative Writing operating under the auspices of the ministry to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Mauritius. He added that artists are at the center of the creative industry and that it needs the support of every stakeholder to make it an economic pillar.

"With all the support and facilities the department has, I expected to see more publications," said the Minister of Arts and Culture. And to conclude: "to remedy the situation, we work with the Center for Reading and Cultural Animation and the National Library to encourage reading and writing among young people. If we have books, we must also have readers."

Source: <https://www.defimedia.info/pradeep-roopun-making-the-industry-creative-a-economic-pilanthropy>

C.6 Namibia Creative Industry Guide 2018

The Creative Industry Guide is a first for Namibia, contextualising creative economy through featured industry insights from local experts, including a comprehensive listing of creative companies, organizations and professionals ranging from architecture to visual arts. The guide is an invaluable resource, showcasing the contribution and direction that creative vision is taking in Namibia from across all disciplines.

Access the guide at <http://turipamwedesign.com/creative-industry-guide/>



D. News, institutions, resources and events in other regions

D.1 Global Youth Culture Forum - Jeju 2018

The Global Youth Culture Forum is a process and an event that relates culture to the sustainable development of Jeju. It is supported by the Jeju Special Self-Governing Province government and the Culture Committee of the world organisation of United Cities and Local Governments, together with Jeju International Training Center, Jeju Foundation for Arts and Culture and Jeju Urban Regeneration Center.

The Forum will be held in Jeju from 29 October to 4 November 2018. It in 2018 aims to implement, in a very practical and illustrative way, the UCLG toolkit "Culture 21 Actions" on "culture in sustainable cities", especially its commitment related to "Public Spaces, Urban Planning and Culture". It will also contribute to localize SDGs, especially Goals 8, 9 and 11

- promote young artists in the making of sustainable cities;
- involve local communities in the process;
- develop Jeju as a creative culture platform as a place where meaning is developed;
- establish a forum in which exchange young artists share their experiences.

International experts, local and international artists will be working together taking as cases of study two different neighborhoods of Jeju City: Namsung Old Town and Jeju Old Downtown.

Web site: <http://www.agenda21culture.net/news/global-youth-culture-forum>

D.2 Edinburgh International Cultural Summit, 22-24 August 2018 - Connecting Peoples and Places through Culture

During the 2018 International Culture Summit, many prominent thinkers and arts leaders shared their ideas, expertise and practices with Culture Ministers in the Scottish Parliament.

Divided into three main plenary sessions organized by theme, respectively "Culture in a Networked World", "Culture and Wellbeing" and "Culture and Investment", the international platform has been a unique instrument for delegates and speakers from more than 40 countries. The debates and workshops highlight the relevance of culture in the everyday life, in civilization and as a tool to overcome differences and tensions in society.

The Summit programme was defined with a view to extend culture's reach beyond the conversations artists have with each other, and to highlight the opportunities of culture and its benefits to communities." and to the young people.

During the opening ceremony of the Summit, participants were addressed by Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and the UK Prime Minister Theresa May who stressed that culture is an international language. She also stated that as world leader in the cultural sector, the UK is highly committed to better promote cultural and creative industries.

Find out more at the Summit's official web site <https://www.culturesummit.com>

D.3 Atelier for Young Festival Managers - Gothenburg

On 29 August The Festival Academy (an initiative of the European Festivals Association, [EFA](#)) officially closed the 14th edition of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers, co-organised with Kultur I Väst in collaboration with EFA Member, Sweden Festivals.

29 festival managers coming from 23 different countries and regions in the world and all continents gathered in Gothenburg, Sweden, for an extraordinary 7 days spent together with outstanding festival and cultural leaders and activists from across the globe.

Read more at <https://www.thefestivalacademy.eu/en/news/1823-closing-news-atelier-gothenburg-2018/>

D.4 Atelier for Young Festival Managers (Malta, 23-29 March 2019): Extended deadline

The Festival Academy (an initiative of the European Festivals Association - EFA), calls for applications for the 15th edition of the **Atelier for Young Festival Managers** organised in partnership with Festivals Malta.

Up to 35 selected participants from across the globe will have the chance to broaden their programming skills, widen their horizons and develop new project ideas under the professional guidance of renowned festival managers from all over the world who share their experience throughout the 7 days.

The new deadline for applications is 15 October 2018.

The Atelier aims for diversity on all levels, in its participants, its mentors and its programme. Participants will have the chance to compare their views with colleagues from various backgrounds and analyse them in view of the local context of Valletta and Malta.

More at www.TheFestivalAcademy.eu

Contact: info@TheFestivalAcademy.eu

D.5 Ministers of Culture of the 5 + 5 Dialogue Countries in Lisbon on 21 September 2018

This ministerial meeting is dedicated to cooperation in the cultural field between countries on the western shores of the Mediterranean Sea, to the possibilities of strengthening trade and the preservation and safeguarding of the common cultural heritage, adds the same source.

The special theme of this session is cultural heritage and the role of the new generations as the engine of dialogue between peoples and cultures.

(The 1st meeting of the Culture Ministers of the 5 + 5 Dialogue Countries was held in 2016 in Tunis.)

At the end of the Lisbon meeting, chaired by Portugal, the ministers adopted a declaration containing practical recommendations to promote and enhance the common cultural heritage of the 5 + 5 countries and to involve young people in the cultural action as a generation of the future on which we can count to revitalize culture and give it the place it deserves. as a factor of rapprochement between peoples.

Source <http://article19.ma/accueil/archives/99817>

D.6 New Strategy of Action of Like

In the dual context of the necessary evolutions of our network and the regular questioning of the raison d'être of the European Union, "LIKE", formerly "Les Rencontres", engaged in 2017 in a year of [R] evolution through dialogue and consultation, so that, in the end, the role, strategy and trajectory of our network in the European landscape may be redefined.

We continued this dynamic in 2018 by completing our move towards a new strategy, that was submitted to the vote at our General Assembly on June 20th and 21st, in Paris.

"LIKE" is now reinforced in its priorities and methods. Platform for cooperation, debates and actions in the field of cultural policies of regions, cities, departments and provinces, with 110 members in 23 European countries, we develop innovative fields of expertise, disseminate good practices and develop major projects with decision-makers, elected officials and technicians, to move forward the construction of a Europe through Culture, for all and by all.

Thus, we end this year 2018 strengthened by a new strategy to implement, which is divided into five priority axes: **Cooperate, Act, Share, Debate and Move forward.**

By the end of the year, this mailing will be followed by five others, which will detail, axes after axes, the objectives and orientations of our network.

Each member will also receive a paper copy of the "2019 - 2021 project, three years of actions in the service of cultural stakeholders", which will also be posted at www.likeculture.eu



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<http://fr.allafrica.com/arts/bydate/?n=1>

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

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

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

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

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

Liberia: Reorganization of the National Cultural Troupe and the National Arts and Cultural Center

The government of President Sirleaf had selected the site hosting the National Cultural Center, home of Liberia's National Cultural Troupe, but, the National Cultural Center was destroyed to make way for the Bob Johnson hotel and with it, the death of the National Cultural Troupe, an institution that had made Liberia proud, winning a medal at the 1966 All African Arts and Cultural Festival in Algiers, Algeria as well as the 1978 Festival of African Arts and Culture (FESTAC) held in Lagos, Nigeria. The onus is now on President Weah to correct this anomalous situation. The restoration of the National Cultural Center or the erection of a National Center for Arts and Culture should be considered an exigency. The reconstruction of a National Arts and Cultural Center together with the the National Cultural Dance Troupe should be considered a national priority. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201809040434.html>

Africa: Should African Schools Teach More Local Languages?

Africa is home to around 2,000 different languages. They're spoken at home, on the street and perhaps on the local radio and TV stations, but very few have made it into the classroom. In some African countries primary schools integrate local languages into the lessons and some are even teaching exclusively in the local language. According to UNESCO's "Global Education Monitoring Report 2016," teaching in the mother tongue is vital, especially at a primary school level. It recommends that children should be taught in their mother tongue for at least six years, to avoid knowledge gaps and increase the speed at which children learn and understand the taught material. In Nigeria, there are over 500 local languages, but teaching mainly takes place in English. A pilot project is currently introducing the most widely spoken languages Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo into the curriculum in primary schools. In Senegal French is the module of instruction - a language in which only one-third of the population speaks fluently. Schools have started bilingual classes in French and a local language. Read more at

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201809120121.html>

Liberia: Cultural Affairs and Tourism Minister Outlines Strategic Vision

Liberia's Deputy Minister for Cultural Affairs and Tourism Lance Gbagonyon has revealed a plan that will make the tourism sector in the country become a million-dollar industry in the next six years. The strategic tourism development plan set a target of 15 million international visitors to the country by 2023, with a projected direct economic impact of between US\$20 to US\$40 million. Min. Gbagonyon said that Liberia is one of the few countries in Africa that has a wide variety of tourist attractions, especially given its position in Africa as the first black independent country, putting Liberia in a favorable position to attract more visitors if the right

marketing techniques are put in place. The strategic plan will rely heavily on public-private partnership, a priority number one, in order to boost tourism growth, although there are certain earmarked projects that the government needs to fund as well. "Priority number two will be undertaken through a public-private partnership contract. This is the best way to develop a tourism industry," <https://allafrica.com/stories/201808300484.html>

South Africa: Ramaphosa to Unveil Mandela Statue at UN HQ on Heritage Day

While South Africans celebrate Heritage Day on home soil on 24 September President Cyril Ramaphosa will extend the country's historic legacy by unveiling a statue of late president Nelson Mandela at the UN headquarters in New York. Ramaphosa jetted in to the Big Apple at the weekend, to join a number of world leaders as he leads a delegation on a working visit to the city for the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). According to the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Ramaphosa will unveil the statue together with the UN Secretary General António Guterres. Mandela's widow Graça Machel and two of his daughters will attend the unveiling. Back home, the Minister of Culture Nathi Mthethwa said "This is a great opportunity for us not only to teach our counterparts about our heritage, but to learn more and create a better understanding of each other's customs, cultural values & practices," he said. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201809240157.html>

Zimbabwe: Artists' Recommendations to the Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation Minister

Arts stakeholders try to meet newly-appointed Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation minister Kirsty Coventry to present recommendations from recent consultative meetings organised by Africa Innovation Trust in a bid to reinvigorate the slowly sinking sector. The efforts to meet Coventry come in the wake of allegations that her predecessor Kazembe Kazembe fast-tracked the launch of an arts and culture policy that the sector is not happy with. Artistes say formulation of the new policy, which was done during Kazembe's seven-month stint, did not have their input and lacks the depth required to enable it to address many issues besetting creatives. In an interview co-ordinator of the artists' meetings, Benjamin Nyandoro said the consultations were an inclusive process aimed at laying out a roadmap towards turning the sector into a full-scale industry. "I think the emphasis is not on the quantitative representation, but the qualitative nature of the consultations made, so we believe that everyone has participated through representation," he said. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201809240027.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services F. Nouvelles d'autres bulletins et services d'information

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies

South Africa: The National Arts Council Welcomes a New Dawn

The National Arts Council (NAC) launched its new strategic approach to funding. Central to its new strategic realignment is an imperative to be relevant in an everchanging environment. The NAC's new strategy is guided by new goals aimed at addressing the country's imperatives and

the funding needs of the arts sector. The new programmatic alignment will allow the NAC to move away from a discipline-based approach to funding and introduce a programmatic focus aimed at “funding for impact.” This approach will allocate support to beneficiaries located within specified programmes. This means calls for funding will focus on programmes that advance priorities such as Social Cohesion and Nation Building, Innovation, Design and Creation, Arts platforms and Capacity Building in the perspective of the National Development Plan’s vision 2030, aimed at creating a sustainable future for all South Africans. Read the article at <http://www.nac.org.za/media/news/the-national-arts-council-welcomes-a-new-dawn>

World Cities Culture Summit San Francisco (San Francisco, 14-16 November 2018)

San Francisco has been chosen to host next summit thanks to its position at the centre of the creative digital economy. Culture and art is at the core of the identity of San Francisco as a city, and an integral part of its urban policy. The summit is organised by the World Cities Culture Forum made up of 35 world cities that recognise the impact and importance of culture in the city. The 2017 summit, in Seoul, saw debate around a range of themes, particularly focusing on the impact technological, social and political changes. The 2017 Seoul Summit also saw the launch of the new Leadership Exchange Programme designed for cities to share ideas to solve common challenges across the globe. The meeting’s participants have shared ideas about how culture can improve life and how and participation is critical to the success of our cities.

<http://www.worldcitiescultureforum.com/events/world-cities-culture-summit-san-francisco-2018>

Web site <https://ifacca.org/en/>

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Portraits of producers from French-speaking sub-Saharan Africa

The film producers presented are of different ages and backgrounds, some are famous, others are in the shadows, with strong experience or novices. The challenge is to give them the floor to better know the conditions of practice, today, in sub-Saharan Africa Francophone, these lovers of the animated image in charge of gathering the human, financial and material means for that come a cinematographic or audiovisual work. <http://africultures.com/zoom/portraits-de-producteurs-dafrique-subsaharienne-francophone/>

Website: <http://africultures.com/>

Contact: <http://africultures.com/contact/>

F.3 Culture resource – Mawred (Beirut)

Culture Resource Launches WASL!

Wasl aspires to empower the cultural sector in the Arab region and to build bonds between cultural organizations across this region. Towards these ends, the program promotes networking between independent cultural organizations, strengthens the culture of collaboration and mutual learning between them by supporting collaborative projects, and organizes training workshops that engage the principles and methods of “peer learning.” A more general end is to help generate a critical and effective cultural force to press for the values of freedom of creativity and social justice. The program offers support for collaborative cultural projects; Training workshop; Working visit for each partner in the city in which the other partner's organization is located; Accompaniment of the collaboration projects; Support

the professional development and the management of the collaborations; Deadline: **22 October 2018**.

<https://mawred.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=65802a88d3339bd7822d90f4d&id=c5bf2d0ce4&e=f0513daa04>

Morocco: A New Strategic Approach to the Development of the Moroccan Film Sector

The Moroccan Ministry of Culture and Communication has announced on its official website some aspects of its new strategy to organize and support the film sector. Among other initiatives, the ministry has planned a new approach to renew the legal framework of the Moroccan Film Centre (Centre Cinématographique Marocain). The plan comprises a draft law on the reorganisation of the Centre which reflects the decree to which public support will be expanded – the ministry hopes to extend greater support to include foreign film production, thereby attracting foreign investment in the Moroccan film industry and providing opportunities for jobs and experience to Moroccans operating in the sector. <http://www.mincom.gov.ma/>

The Ninth Report on Cultural Policies in the Arab Region

The Ninth Report on Cultural Policies in the Arab Region provides an overview of cultural policy developments in 12 Arab countries between 1st January and 31st December 2017. The report lists updates on all eastern Arab countries (Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq), several western Arab countries (Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania), and Egypt, Sudan, and Yemen. The report is part of the Cultural Policy in the Arab Region programme, launched by Al Mawred Al Thaqafy in collaboration with the European Cultural Foundation in 2009. The programme aims to build a database to facilitate planning and coordination across the Arab region and support lobbying groups pushing for the improvement of cultural policies in their respective countries. Ettijahat Independent Culture cooperates on the research and knowledge aspect of the programme and prepares the cultural policy reports. The report is divided into four sections which focus respectively on

- an overview of cultural and political developments,
- violations and counterproductive changes to cultural policy,
- developments pushing cultural policy improvement forward,
- foreseeable trends likely to impact on the future development of cultural policy

View the report, at <http://www.arabcp.org/page/1030>

Web site: <http://mawred.org/>

E-mail: mawred@mawred.org

F.4 News from Ettijahat

New Grants Awarded Under the Fifth Edition of Laboratory of Arts 2018

Ettijahat Independent-Culture is pleased to announce the projects which will receive support under the fifth edition of the Laboratory of Arts program in cooperation with the *Goethe-Institut*. In this edition, Ettijahat will support 17 projects under five artistic and literary categories. Four documentary films, four theater performances, three musical albums, and three visual projects ranging from sculpture, video and installation. Three literary books will also be published in collaboration with Mamdouh Adwan Publishing House. In terms of location of implementation, three projects will be implemented in Syria, four projects in neighboring

countries, and ten projects in European countries. The total amount of support is \$ 110,000 US dollars. For more information, contact ayham.abushaqra@ettijahat.org.

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

Contact: info@ettijahat.org

F.5 Agenda 21 Culture Circular

High-level Seminar on “Cultural Rights in the City” (Mexico City, 18-20 October 2018)

This Seminar will be organized in the framework of the ceremony of the 3rd International Award UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21. The Award aims to recognise cities and individuals that have distinguished themselves through their contribution to culture as a key dimension in sustainable cities. In this context, a Seminar on “Cultural Rights in the City” will be organized. It will present cities, networks and organisations which work with the concept of “cultural rights” and are implementing policies and programmes related to this concept. The seminar will also be the occasion for Mexico City to present and share the results of its work in the area with representatives of cities coming from all continents. These events will also be the opportunity to celebrate the 15th annual meeting of the Committee on Culture of UCLG. More at

<https://www.uclg.org/en/media/events/3rd-international-award-uclg-mexico-city-culture-21>

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

Contact: info@agenda21culture.net

F.6 Culturelink Newsletter

General Assembly of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends

The Department for Culture and Communication of the Institute for Development and International Relations (IRMO) serves as partner organization of the 1st General Assembly of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends, to be held in Rijeka, Croatia on 9 and 10 October 2018. The local organizer of the event is Rijeka European Capital of Culture 2020, while the event is supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia within the auspices of the Croatian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe. More information at https://www.culturalpolicies.net/web/files/322/en/Preliminary_programme.pdf.

Contact: office@culturalpolicies.net

EU Competences and National Cultural Policies: Critical Dialogues (CULPOL) Project Completion

31 August 2018 marks the end of the project CULPOL, coordinated by IRMO's Department for Culture and Communication, the focal point of the Culturelink Network. The aim of the project was to promote discussion and reflection on the impact of the EU agenda on the Croatian cultural policy. The project has contributed to enhancing the knowledge about the impact of the EU policies and processes on the national cultural sector. Among the main activities the project included an international conference on Perspectives of National Cultural Policies Development In The EU Context: Critical Dialogues (Zagreb, 17 - 19 May 2017), an international round table on the Digital Single Market and Its Impact on Culture and Media in Croatia (Zagreb, 19 - 20 April 2018) and the publication of a special issue of the scientific journal Croatian International Relations Review (CIRR), entitled European Union and Challenges of Cultural Policies: Critical Perspectives (Vol 24, No 82). An overview of

CULPOL activities and collaborations (2016-2018) is available at: culpol.irmo.hr/culpol-activities-and-collaborations-2016-2018/



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

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
