

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

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



OCPA NEWS

No 383

26 August 2019

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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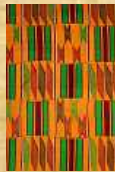
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A. OCPA Activities

Tribute to Stephen Chifunyise

The shake-up created by the unexpected departure of Stephen Chifunyise, Chair of the OCPA Technical Committee (Harare, August 5) is still deeply felt at the OCPA Secretariat and through the network of cultural institutions of the continent that the deceased had succeeded to mark an indelible imprint. On the occasion of an upcoming international meeting of the Observatory, a dignified and solemn homage will be paid to our famous colleague.

Activities of the Executive Director and the Staff of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Reflection on the system of African cultural capital cities

An invitation to reflect on the adoption and launch of the system of African capital cities has dominated the professional contacts between OCPA and the Preparatory Committee of the city of Marrakech, the first designated city, chaired by Khaled Tamer. These exchanges made it possible to achieve progress on the best conditions for launching this initiative by ensuring both meaningful participation by the whole African region and recognition of the the host country and the continent. The experience of European capital cities of culture is seen as one of a very positive contribution.

A.2 Talks with the EDF Bueau of the Community of the European Union in Kinshasa

A visit to the office in charge of the implementation and monitoring of the EDF projects of the Community of the European Union in Kinshasa made it possible to specify the usual framework for the execution of cultural projects financed by the European Union. This occasion allowed the Executive Director to highlight the support granted by the OCPA to the Biennial of Contemporary Art whose opening is planned in Kinshasa on October 20 in the presence of the great figures of the organizers and promoters of art in Africa and in the world (27 August).

A.3 Third Days of Initiation to Art for Children (Kinshasa, 29-30 August)

The Third Days of Initiation to Art for Children were organized at the Mont des Arts Cultural Center, partner of the OCPA) (Kinshasa, 29-30 August).

Eighty children had the opportunity to practice the lessons learned in previous days and to be gradually recognized, for some of them as able to receive a formal education of the arts and thus be prepared for professions in the field of plastic art, dance, theater and music among others.

A.4 Participation in the VI World Forum for Music

The Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, a member organization of the International Council of Music, has been aware of the month that ends to carry out various consultations in preparation for its participation in the VIth World Music Forum organized in Paris in September on the theme of musical rights and which will see the participation of national councils and specialized national organizations in Africa, Paris (27/09-01/10)

A.5 Participation in planned events

In addition to this major event, the OCPA is preparing to have an active participation in the issues of an agenda rich in significant events very close in September 2019:

- UNESCO Workshop (in Grand Bassam, 9th and 10th September) on the United Nations Agenda 2030 and the revision of cultural policies, in preparation for the World Forum of Ministers of Culture, programmed by UNESCO at its next General Conference in Paris;
- The first International Biennale on Culture of Peace in Africa (Luanda, 18-22 September) and presentation on this occasion of the positive contribution of AFRICALIA, Belgian NGO, active partner for FESPACO, MASA and OCPA;
- Meeting of the International Artistic Committee (in Abidjan, from 23 to 27 September) preparatory to MASA 2020 and participation in the selection of representative artistic groups.

A.6 Publications de l'OCPA

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 Angola: Luanda hosts the 1st edition of the Biennale on the culture of peace in Africa

The objective of the Biennale on the culture of peace in Africa is to grow the Pan-African Movement for a culture of peace and non-violence by setting up partnerships involving: governments; civil society; artistic and scientific community; private sector and international organizations.

This Biennale is part of the Plan of Action for a Culture of Peace in Africa, adopted at the Pan-African Forum "Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace" (UNESCO, African Union and Angola, March 2013) which has launched a continental sustainable Movement for the culture of peace in Africa.

The event will be organized around five axes: a Forum of Ideas and Youth Forum; a Women's Forum; a Festival of Cultures; an Alliance of Cultures and Sports; an Partners Alliance for Culture of Peace in Africa.

The Biennale is inspired by the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance, which advocates that culture is the surest way for peace and development in Africa. Read the article at <http://lepotentielonline.net/2019/08/14/luanda-abrid-the-labour-edition-of-the-biennale-on-the-culture-of-peace-in-africa>

B.2 Congo-Brazzaville: National Day - The Congo Basin Gallery Museum houses an exhibition called "Lipanda"

The Congo Basin Gallery Museum opened, on August 13, in the premises of the newspaper "Les Dépêches de Brazzaville", an exhibition of painting and sculpture called "Lipanda" marking the 59th anniversary of the Congo Independence Day.

The exhibition is open to all. It will extend until October 12th. "Lipanda 59", are constructions, protected areas, crafts, paintings, lifestyles, styles, arts and traditions, fauna and flora, rich mines, sculptures, trades ... represented harmoniously and preserved preciously to trace and valorize the history of the Congo Basin, before and after independence.

In other words, the Congo Basin is represented in all its diversity and splendor by a culture and art that unfolds both inside and outside it.

Web site: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201908140221.html>

B.3 Africa: Tales of an Evening - The new OIF project launched from Abidjan

The International Organization of la Francophonie is launching this project, the first edition of which will take place in Abidjan on November 8, 2019. An initiative in the framework of OIF's 2019-2020 programming and, more specifically, the "Cultural Governance and linguistic, the dialogue of cultures ". "Tales of a Night" offers a space to amateur and professional storytellers.

According to Ms. Youma Fall, Director of the French Language, Culture and Diversity at the OIF, the project responds to a strategy of Francophonie to develop cultures and also to the resolutions of a summit that recommend working linguistic diversity, the imaginary , the knowledge of the other, the otherness.

Ms. Fall said "We work with 12 territories (Belgium, Ivory Coast, France, Gabon, Quebec, Haiti, Togo, Tunisia, etc.), but we decided that every year, a chosen country will host the event.

Storytellers will act in communal taxis, bus stops, buses, bus-boats and markets to tell stories. At the official party which will take place at the Palais de la culture in Treichville with the participation of about 40 international storytellers.

Website: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201908130638.html>

B.4 Seychelles: UNESCO helps Seychelles protect its cultural property from trafficking

The Department of Culture of Seychelles has asked UNESCO to contribute to the protection of its cultural property against illicit trafficking.

The island nation has begun to work on a policy to be used as a working tool to combat illicit transport, export and import, but also joins the international community to prevent cross-border trafficking. Endemic sea cucumber and all objects of historical importance are examples of islands' cultural property that may be victims of trafficking.

The process began with a sensitization workshop to raise awareness and knowledge of the 1970 Convention on the Prohibition and Prevention of Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Property. Seychelles has 45 monuments protected by law. These monuments are quite large and can not be moved, but many cultural properties of the island have left the country, including musical instruments and furniture.

Web site: <https://www.allafrica.com/stories/201908020241.html>

B.5 Libya: International Forum on the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Libya

On 15th and 16th July, UNESCO conducted a workshop on the protection of cultural heritage as part of a meeting by the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) which took place on the island of Djerba in Tunisia. The aim of the workshop was to develop a practical plan to implement the Hague Conventions of 1954 and the UNESCO Convention of 1970 in Libya. The organisers emphasised that the development of such a plan would be a essential step towards building a national strategy for the preservation of cultural heritage and its employment in social reconciliation and development.

In recent years, Libya has been subject to unrest and insecurity, resulting in damage to cultural property and historical cities – indeed, archaeological sites have suffered in particular. Most of these sites have been subjected to systematic demolition, looting and illegal artefact trafficking. As of 2016, UNESCO has marked all five Libyan archaeological sites included in its World Heritage List as being “in danger”.



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

C.1 Mauritania: Minister of Culture of Handicrafts of the new government

Following the recent presidential elections, Mohamed Ould Ghazouani, the new Mauritanian president, has appointed his government. Some of Mohamed Ould Abdelaziz's highly influential ministers were re-elected, including Sidi Mohamed Ould Maham, Minister of Culture, Handicrafts, Relations with Parliament and Spokesperson of the Government.

Sidi Mohamed Ould Maham is a Mauritanian lawyer and politician born in 1962. He was one of the the main founders of the Islamist movement in Mauritania at the end of 1977. Was secretary of the Council of the National Order of Lawyers of Mauritania 2002-2005. elected in 2006 deputy of Atar, in 2007, he became president of the commission of justice, interior and defense at the National Assembly of Mauritania and first President of the High Court of Justice in 2008.

Re-elected deputy in Atar in January 2014, he was appointed Minister of Communication and Relations with the Parliament in February 2014, then Minister of Culture and Handicrafts.

C.2 Morocco: Strategic Directions for Cultural Heritage Management by 2020

This document was prepared under the direction of Mohamed Amine SBIHI, Minister of Culture, by Alaoui Abdellah, Director of Cultural Heritage and his collaborators,

It is a project that retraces and anticipates the different actions to be implemented for the protection and enhancement of our cultural heritage. It is structured in three parts. 1) A presentation of the rich diversity of our tangible and intangible cultural heritage; 2) A review of the patrimonialization process and 3) a prosal for the main strategic directions.

The main objectives of these guidelines are to highlight the cultural heritage and ensure that this enhancement contributes to the improvement of the living conditions of the citizens. Particular emphasis was placed on the need to adopt the revised draft law on the conservation, protection and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage of Morocco, the Charter for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage and complement this law and the Living Human Treasures Bill.

Read this reference document in this matter of the Ministry of Culture at

https://www.academia.edu/36774418/Royaume_du_Maroc_Minist%C3%A8re_Culture_Direction_du_Heritage_Culturel_Orientations_strat%C6%A9giques_for_the_Management_and_the_Development_of_Heritage_Culturel_Marocaine?auto=download

C.3 Burkina Faso: Sector Policy "Culture, Tourism, Sports and Recreation" (2018 - 2027)

This document was adopted on May 9, 2018: According to the foreword of Abdul Karim SANGO, Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism, the adoption of the Sector Policy "Culture, Tourism, Sports and Leisure" marks a milestone in the definition and implementation of our cultural, tourism, sports and leisure development objectives by expressing in a structured and coordinated way the orientations common to several components. It aims to use in a coordinated way the limited resources available to realize the potential of the sector represented in the National Economic and Social Development Plan. This policy responds to this challenge in a timely manner by setting up a general framework as well as specific objectives and guidelines, which can add value to the many actions carried out so far.

The main achievements in the implementation of these objectives are: the enhancement of the visibility of cultural and tourist heritage and sports events; setting up a technical and financial support mechanism for cultural, tourist, sports and leisure activities; talent training

To achieve this, there is an urgent need to address the shortcomings identified in this sector, the weak collaboration between the various institutional actors; the lack of financial resources and the low qualification of the actors. To address this, it is urgent to (i) improve the governance of the sector; (ii) develop the human capital in the sector; (iii) support for sector initiatives; (iv) increase the investments in the sector, (v) strengthen, the Burkinabe cultural identity.

The overall objective pursued through sectoral policy is "to develop cultural, tourist, sports and recreation industries, creating jobs and added value through the improving the governance, the protection of cultural heritage, the strengthening the operational capacities of the sector.

Read the full text of the policy document at https://www.culture.gov.bf/resources/fundamental-texts?tx_news_pi1%5BoverwriteDemand%5D%5Bcategories%5D=19&cHash=08db1a6b2ca7f3c0096455cd46bb6840

C.4 Action Plan for 2018-2020 of the National Strategy for Culture and Tourism (PA / SNCT) of June 2018

According to UNESCO, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) or UNWTO, the creative economy is one of the fastest growing sectors of the global economy in terms of goods production. and services and job creation. In fact, the cultural industries contribute 7% of the world's Gross National Product (GNP) and 3% of GNP to developing countries¹, tourism contributes 10% of global GDP (direct, indirect and induced).

The international socio-political context marked in recent decades by security crises and social tensions is a blow to the harmonious development of the sector of culture and tourism. At the regional level, taking into account cultural and tourist potential is a necessity to strengthen the integration of peoples and the development of a viable economy in the UEMOA and ECOWAS area. In this sense, UEMOA and ECOWAS have adopted acts relating to the cultural and tourist industries, the free movement of people and goods and the financing of cultural and tourist initiatives. In this regard, UEMOA has continued the process by adopting a tourism policy and a common cultural development policy accompanied by operationalization programs. At the national level, the fields of culture and tourism are seen as an emerging sector. They are taken into account in the National Plan for Economic and Social Development (PNDES) through its axis 3 which is entitled "boosting growth sectors for the economy and jobs".

The expected effect is the improvement of the sector's contribution to the development of the national economy and the creation of jobs for the benefit of young people, women and vulnerable people. At the political and institutional level, the deepening of the democratic process and the empowerment of the people through decentralization are favorable conditions for the freedom of expression, enterprise and movement of people and goods needed for the cultural and tourist sector for its development.

Read the Action Plan (in French) at https://www.culture.gov.bf/ressources/textes-fondamentaux?tx_news_pi1%5BoverwriteDemand%5D%5Bcategories%5D=19&cHash=08db1a6b2ca7f3c0096455cd46bb6840

C.5 Burkina Faso: National Strategy for Culture and Tourism (SNCT) 2018-2027

Burkina Faso, a state party to several conventions, has been committed for several years now to taking culture and tourism into account in public policies. These fundamentals explain the contribution of cultural and tourism goods and services in the form of political commitments. A quick observation allows us to see the effects and measure the impact of these reference documents on decision-making.

Our new benchmark, the National Strategy for Culture and Tourism (SNCT), is very ambitious and this is the importance of this updated document on cultural and tourism policies. It gathers, analyzes and plans the information and activities that come into play in achieving the main objectives we have set for ourselves. It is a timely document to frame the many actions of our department and support, guarantee and maximize the impact of the implementation of the projects and programs of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism (MCAT) . The SNCT contains an in-depth diagnosis of Burkina Faso's culture and tourism and is based on international and sub-regional foundations such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the WAEMU guidelines. It also contains objectives, strategic orientations and strong actions to create a dynamic of cultural and tourism development with relevant proposals for a financial mechanism.



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

D.1 World Conference on Social Sciences Budapest, Hungary, 18-20 October 2019)

The WORLDCSS is an opportunity to learn from the international community of academics and address the latest developments in the field in an engaging, dynamic environment.

It offers also publishing opportunities with premier indexed journals, countless learning and networking sessions, and a warm, welcoming environment for all attendees.

The conference is seeking submissions related to the following conference topics: Society and Sociology, Communication, Politics, Law, Humanities and Culture Studies and Education . Other related topics will also be considered.

Cultural issues foreseen fir discussion in the provisional programme include among others counter-cultures,cults, cultural appropriation, cultural assimilation, ethnicity, gender issues,

spirituality, religion, sub-cultures and youth culture. You can propose papers, poster presentation at <https://www.worldcss.org/call-for-papers/> before 30 September 2019,

More at https://www.worldcss.org/Humanities/?gclid=EAiaIQobChMIjPW3gYL24wIVg-iaCh2WqgNBEAAYASAAEgJh9_D_BwE.

D.2 Istanbul Declaration on Tourism and Culture: For the Benefit of All finalized version

This Declaration was adopted by the World Conference organized by the UN World Tourism Organization and by UNESCO in Istanbul on Tourism and Culture: For the Benefit of All (3 to 5 December 2018). N.B. The next edition of the conference takes place in Kyoto, Japan in 2019.

In this document the participants reaffirmed their commitment to:

1. Strengthen the synergies between tourism, culture and local communities to better contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development
2. Shape cultural tourism for sustainable and creative cities
3. Enhance responsible tourism for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage
4. Advance cultural tourism for all through digital transformation.

Under each of these four strategic objectives the participants proposed a series of actions likely to contribute to the implementation of these goals.

Read the text at <https://www.e-unwto.org/doi/abs/10.18111/unwtodeclarations.2018.27.02>

D.3 Vlassis, A. (2019). "Impact and opportunities of the digital revolution"

This background paper prepared for the EU Colloquium on "Culture for the Future", Brussels, stresses that digital revolution has profound impacts on all aspects of cultural value chain and represents an unprecedented change in creation, production, distribution, broadcasting and consumption of cultural goods and services as well as in the remuneration of creators. In this view, digital technologies have positive and negative aspects in cultural sectors, according to how they are applied in national and regional contexts. In remote areas the question of the adjustment of local industries to the new technological opportunities becomes a key challenge to continue serving local and regional...

Read the paper at [https://www.academia.edu/t/a-NfJZHMU-mU4Nj/resource/work/39904252/Vlassis A. 2019 . Impact and opportunities of the digital revolution Background paper for the International Colloquium Culture for the Future . Brussels European Commission](https://www.academia.edu/t/a-NfJZHMU-mU4Nj/resource/work/39904252/Vlassis_A._2019_.Impact_and_opportunities_of_the_digital_revolution_Background_paper_for_the_International_Colloquium_Culture_for_the_Future_.Brussels_European_Commission)

D.4 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Africa gathering celebrating the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IYIL2019)

By resolution 49/214 (link is external) of 23 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly decided that the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples shall be observed on 9 August every year. The date marks the day of the first meeting, in 1982, of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. Each year, UNESCO marks the celebration of the Day by sharing information on projects and activities that are relevant to the annual theme.

Indigenous peoples live in all regions of the world and own, occupy or use some 22% of global land area. Numbering at least 370-500 million, indigenous peoples represent the greater part of the world's cultural diversity, and have created and speak the major share of the world's almost 7000 languages. Many indigenous peoples continue to be confronted with marginalization, extreme poverty and other human rights violations. Through partnerships with indigenous peoples, UNESCO seeks to support them in addressing the multiple challenges they face, while acknowledging their significant role in sustaining the diversity of the world's cultural and biological landscape.

In her message, pronounced on the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO declared that "The disappearance of indigenous languages is a major threat to indigenous communities and their unique heritage, as well as to our global diversity and our very potential for creativity and innovation. (Download the complete message at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000369700.locale=en>)

The African Meeting for IYIL2019, organized by UNESCO in cooperation with the African Union Commission and African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), was organized on 30 and 31 July 2019 at the African Union Commission Headquarters in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia. The regional meeting received generous financial support by the Japanese Funds in Trust (JFIT).

D.5 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

In the context of this International Day (23 August), UNESCO celebrated the 25th anniversary of the "Slave Route Project: Resistance, Liberty, Heritage". This was an opportunity for UNESCO and its partners to present the achievements, analyze obstacles encountered and define new prospects in the current international context. To mark this anniversary a series of events was organized in Benin in August 2019, the country where the project was launched in 1994.

UNESCO, has become a reference and a major actor on an international scale. It has succeeded in inscribing the question of the slave trade and slavery on the international agenda and has played a decisive role in their recognition as crimes against humanity.

By emphasizing the ethical requirement and promoting a scientific unbiased approach, the project was able to reconcile historical research with the duty to remember. It has developed a holistic vision of the question by simultaneously addressing its different dimensions: historical, memorial, creative, educational and heritage.

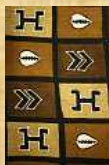
Today the project is at a new crossroads. It must meet the expectations raised by the proclamation of the International Decade of People of African Descent (2015-2024) on the one hand, and the return of racial prejudice and rising discrimination on the other.

D.6 UNESCO, Africa and China agree on projects to safeguard World Heritage in Africa

The UNESCO-Africa-China Forum on World Heritage Capacity Building and Cooperation, held at UNESCO Headquarters from 3 – 4 June 2019, concluded with Recommendations and an Action Plan for joint projects supporting long-term capacity building for the safeguarding of African World Heritage properties. It was attended by ministers, decision-makers, World

Heritage site managers, academics and experts from Africa and China as well as the Vice-President in charge of Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery at African Development Bank, among others.

Source: <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa>



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/Informations provenant de AllAfrica

Liberia: Chief Kollie Appointed as Regional Culture Inspector

Bong — Former Bong County Inspector William Kollie has been appointed as Regional Culture Inspector for Bong, Lofa and Nimba Counties. Mr. Kollie's appointment was made by Chief ZanzanKarwor, the Head of the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia in consultation with Internal Affairs Minister Varney Sirleaf and other relevant authorities. Chief Karwor's decision to appoint Mr. Kollie is as a result of continued efforts and willingness exhibited by the appointee over the years in promoting, protecting and fostering positive cultural and traditional practices in the County and the Country at large. He gains special recognition in the area of peace building and the promotion of reconciliation among his people. The appointment letter mandates Mr. Kollie to monitor all traditional operations and to promote peace and positive cultural and traditional practices.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201908120256.html>

Rwanda: Conglomerate Vivendi Inks Deal with Rwanda to Develop Cultural Village

The Kigali Cultural Village will be located on Rebero Hill, and the aim is to diversify Rwanda's tourism sector by opening up new cultural entertainment avenues. The Rwanda Development Board (RDB) has entered into an agreement with the French Vivendi Group, a global leader in cultural content and media for the development and occupancy of the Kigali Cultural Village (KCV), the Board said in a statement. The agreement is a 20-year lease agreement. The Kigali Cultural Village will have facilities intended to showcase Rwanda's arts, nature, biodiversity, traditional lifestyle and history. The project is estimated to cost over \$40 million. The first phase is expected to be completed in six months, RDB said. KCV will include a 300-seat modern cinema hall, a 15,000-people open concert area, a food court and a children's gaming area. The facility will run on sustainable energy. The facilities will host 19

movie sessions a week, live concerts, cultural and artistic festivals, seminars and conferences. With these new infrastructures, Rwanda will become a regional entertainment and cultural hub, and be in position to develop and export entertainment and cultural industry talent in the future. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201908070096.html>

Kenya: Time Is Ripe to Fight for Return of African Artefacts

A few years ago, retired American actor and novelist Eugene Hackman and a Hollywood film producer, Art Linson, donated some 30 totems to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Colorado. The problem was that these hardwood grave markers had been stolen from Kenya and sold by art dealers in the US for up to \$10,000 (Sh1 million). In essence, they were the preserve of the rich and famous; the celebrities in Hollywood. Luckily, some of these ended up with two collectors - who then donated them to a museum in Colorado. These sacred items, known as vigango among the Miji Kenda, were returned to Kenya this week in a ceremony that marked the beginning of a tortuous negotiation to have the artefacts returned to the country. <https://allafrica.com/stories/201908040034.html>

Zimbabwe: Lack of Statistics on Artistes Hampers Growth

There is an urgent need to address the lack of critical statistics on the value of actors in the film and television sector that is affecting its growth, film director Leonard Chibamu, has said. Chibamu, who is the executive producer for local drama series Village Secrets, said through the help of the Government there was need to emulate other countries' film and television modules. "Zimbabwe is full of rich talented actors, producers and writers, but we tend to ignore the other facets that can help develop the sector," he said. "In other countries, every actor is worth something, which then calls for the evaluation of projects. "We need to have a system where we do not only respect actors and producers, but also measure and weigh their success, hence, the need to know how much they are worth." <https://allafrica.com/stories/201907310125.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

Seychelles Biennale 2020 is Confirmed

The CEO of the National Arts Council and Byenal Sesel Commissioner Jimmy Savy has confirmed that the 2020 edition of the contemporary art exhibition will take place in April of that year and will, for the first time, see art works created by both Seychelles and international artists exhibited on all three principal islands of the Seychelles.

<http://www.nacseychelles.sc/seychelles-biennale-2020-is-confirmed/>

The Renovation of the National Library and National Archives of Namibia

The Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture hereby announces the commencement of the upgrading and the renovation of the National Library and the National Archives of Namibia building, starting from July 2019 with an expected completion in March 2020.

<https://ifacca.org/en/news/2019/07/16/upgrading-and-renovation-national-library-and-nati/>

Gambia: Stakeholders discuss UNESCO 2005 Convention The Point, 11 July 2019

A four-day stakeholder discussion on The Gambia quadrennial periodic reporting of the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the promotion of the diversity of cultural expression is currently underway at The Gambia Tourism and Hospitality Institute (GTHI) in Kanifing.

<https://ifacca.org/en/news/2019/07/11/stakeholders-discuss-unesco-2005-convention/>

Culture Sector Accounts for 6.1% of Global Economy

The Voice, 09 July 2019, The Gambia - With an estimated global worth of 4.3 trillion USD per year, The Minister of Tourism and Culture has affirmed that the culture sector now accounts for 6.1% of the global economy, this, “they generate annual revenues of US\$2,250 billion and nearly 30 million jobs worldwide, employing more people aged 15 to 29 than any other sector.”

<https://www.voicegambia.com/2019/07/09/culture-sector-accounts-for-6-1-of-global-economy/>

Rwanda Strengthens the capacities of 100 young professionals in the cultural industries

A Korean Funds-in-Trust to UNESCO project is supporting a series of “training of trainers” workshops in Kigali in the fields of Performing Arts (music, theatre, dance), Film Production and Visual Arts as well as Creative Entrepreneurship, which were identified as priority areas for training following a mapping of capacity gaps carried out in 2018 by Ishyo Arts Centre.

<https://en.unesco.org/creativity/news/rwanda-aims-strengthen-capacities-100-young>

Web site: www.ifacca.org

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

African Cinema Festival - 14th edition (Lausanne, Switzerland, 22 - 25 August 2019)

Declined on the theme "Regards", this festival, committed to cultural diversity, invited the public to take a closer look at the social, cultural and artistic realities by proposing some fifty films, made by filmmakers of the continent and of the African diaspora. At the heart of the program, the Panorama Section has been offering recent movies to discover movies not found elsewhere on the screens. The "Retrospective" section was dedicated to Med Hondo, a key figure in African cinema and anticolonialist born in Mauritania. His films question the relations between the peoples of Africa and their former colonizers around racism, emancipation and social injustice. Focus Chad concentrated on the creators of the new Chadian cinema.

http://africultures.com/evenements/?no=49354&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=449

Site web: <http://africultures.com/>

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

F.3 Agenda 21 Culture Circular

Australia: National Local Government Cultural Forum Final Report

The five year National Local Government Cultural Forum has been brought to a close with the release of the final report 2018. The forum brought together cultural policy and practice managers from across Australian jurisdictions and was the first time that policy and practice in this field had come together. The Forum acted as a clearing house for CDN's research and the

development of the planning and evaluation frameworks. This report summarises the activities of the Forum, key research and outputs of the initiative as well as evaluation of the Forum. More at <https://culturaldevelopment.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NLGCF-Final-Report-2013-2018-1.pdf>

F.4 News from Ettijahat - Independent Culture

17 New Grants Offered under the Sixth Edition of Laboratory of Arts Program 2019

Ettijahat will support 17 projects in five artistic and literary categories which will result in three theatrical performances, three musical albums, three documentaries, and three visual projects ranging from photography, visual shows, and art installations. In addition, Ettijahat supports the publishing of five literary projects, three of which are published in cooperation with the Mamdouh Adwan Publishing House. The jury committees were keen to select the most outstanding projects in terms of subject, matter and artistic presentation. The committees considered the artistic quality of the projects as a fundamental criterion for selection. The diversity of expertise among the artists was also taken into account so as to include those who are at the start of their careers and those who are more established. When selecting the projects, the committees also focused on the factors of novelty and innovation on the artistic level. Five art projects will be implemented in Syria, six projects in the neighboring countries to Syria, and six projects for artists residing in European countries, with a support amount exceeding \$ 120,000. For more information and inquiries, please contact us: applications@ettijahat.org

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

Contact: info@ettijahat.org

F.5 Culture Action Europe (CAE)

Culture Action Europe (CAE) letter to President Von der Leyen

July 19, 2019 - EU values, democracy and culture are intimately related, for each of them to thrive, they all must thrive. Thus, we were glad to hear in your opening Statement in the European Parliament that you are committed to build a united Europe of peace and a Europe of values underpinned by the rule of law. On behalf of the members of CAE Europe, we call upon the European Commission to propose a Commissioner for Culture ready to proactively promote and defend cultural diversity and EU values, support cultural and artistic cooperation across borders and thus, contribute to shaping the European cultural space, which is a basis of a strong Union. In the European Agenda for Culture, Culture is proven to be a valuable driver fostering change in a range of policy areas. Thus, we urge the Commission to:

- Appoint a Vice-President responsible for interaction of culture with other policy areas.
- Embed culture in the European Commission priorities for 2021-2027, recognising that:
 1. Investing in culture is essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
 2. Developing a fair, innovative and solid economic base for the future of the Union cannot happen without the contribution of the cultural workers and organizations.
 3. Cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue play an important role in the promotion of human rights, tolerance, and non-discrimination.
 4. Defending our fundamental rights and freedoms requires art and culture to be free.

Read the full letter at <https://cultureactioneurope.org/news/cae-letter-to-president-von-der-leyen/>

(Un)Easy Alliances - Creative Europe Days in France (Arcueil, 4 – 5 September 2019)

The results of the last election revealed a Europe in full recomposition. In the name of the nation and the sovereignty of the people, Europe has been overturned by progressive conquests from national populists, with programmes that are confused but seductive: anti-immigration, climate-sceptic, antifeminist, anti-abortion... and anti-European. At the same time, awareness of the ecological crisis is profoundly transforming our sense of responsibility towards the living earth and more broadly towards the future. This situation needs to open up new approaches to the transformation of European cultural policies, that are heavily reliant on an inventive civil society. On September 4 and 5 we will discuss artistic, cultural and social practices bringing a new political dimension that, in reacting against the growing control of the public and private spheres, are inventing new political strategies, and multiplying acts of openness and hospitality. See the programme at <https://relais-culture-europe.eu/fr/journees-pour-une-europe-creative-2019>

Finland taking the EU presidency

From 1 July until 31 December, Finland holds the Presidency of the Council of the EU.

The priorities for Finland's Presidency of the European Union are to strengthen common values and the rule of law, to make the EU more competitive and socially inclusive, to promote action on climate change and to protect the security of its citizens. The priorities for Finland's Presidency are to

- strengthen common values and the rule of law
- make the EU more competitive and socially inclusive
- strengthen the EU's position as a global leader in climate action
- protect the security of citizens comprehensively.

The focus relating to culture concerns building inclusive, cohesive, free and open societies to foster democracy as well as sustainability and education. In the field of Audio-Visual, the focus of the Finnish presidency is on promoting the competitiveness and innovation capacity of the European audiovisual and cultural industries.

More at <https://cultureactioneurope.org/news/finland-taking-the-presidency-of-the-eu-today/>

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

Contact: contact@cultureactioneurope.org

F.6 IMC Music World News

The Music Products Industry Supports the 6th IMC World Forum on Music: NAMM, the National Association of Music Merchants

The 6th IMC World Forum on Music benefits from a generous contribution offered by NAMM, the National Association of Music Merchants. **Established in 1901, NAMM is the not-for-profit association that strengthens the \$17 billion global music, sound and entertainment technology products industry.** Its activities and programs are designed to promote music making for people of all ages, creating a more musical world. The World Forum on Music is also supported by the CISAC (International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers) and by UNESCO. CISAC is supporting the session dedicated to the *right for all musical artists to obtain just recognition and fair remuneration for their work* (Right 5). Offered in the framework of the Participation Programme, the UNESCO support allows us to give a voice to music professionals from Africa at the Forum. Organised by the International Music Council (IMC) in cooperation with the European Music Council (EMC)

the WFM will take place from **28 September until 1 October** in Paris. Contact wfm6@imc-imc.org

Web site: <http://www.imc-cim.org/>

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

F.7 Music in Africa

Famo music in Lesotho - by Marafaele Mohloboli

The famo music emerged in the 1920s in the mines of South Africa, where many Basotho men worked as migrant labourers due to the lack of employment opportunities in their own country. The music gained popularity in the townships among the Basotho migrants, and it was played in shebeens (bars) where it was safe for them to relax after a day's work. Famo music progressively became recognised as an important Basotho cultural tradition, and is now regularly showcased at festivities like the Independence Day Celebrations. **The Famo music is widely recognized but it is suffering from** widespread piracy. Famo musicians consider that their music it should be protected by the Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Culture but in practice nothing has yet been done to effectively solve this problem.

https://www.musicinafrica.net/magazine/famo-music-lesotho?utm_source=newsletter_282&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news



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
