

# 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

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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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## **Editorial**

### **The power of culture**

At the beginning of the year 2020 we observe a particular attention paid to the cultural dimension of events and problems in Africa and a change in the approach to their solutions or at least their questioning.

We know that the intellectuals and writers of the great historical meetings which had preceded the demands for political independence not only privileged, but based their argument on cultural specificity. But the course taken by the leaders and the regimes of the liberated countries had deviated from what could constitute the basis of their policies.

Among the last representatives of these pioneers was Marcellino dos Santos, who passed away on February 11 in Maputo, Mozambique. Considering the extent of the homage paid to him in his country as in many friendly countries, as well as the celebrations that accompanied the departure of this national hero and all the events organized in his memory, one can imagine that it is recognized with unanimity that "Kalungano", as he was called by the people, was the symbol of a visionary, an enlightened guide convinced that the artist, the poet, the philosopher foreshadows the ideal society and that the application of the principles of their reflections and their imagination constitute the model of a society built for the happiness of the people.

Now recent history suddenly echoes this vision!

It has been noted very recently, in fact, that the war raging in the Sahel region and which affects the most innocent populations has ended up mobilizing all energies, including those of the Ministers in charge of culture in the countries directly concerned. who had decided to meet in Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso from 15 to 17 January to examine the influence of taking into account the sharing of values common to the belligerents would be able to bring in negotiations for the cessation of armed conflicts.

Catching the ball, the President of Mali made an unexpected announcement by declaring to the international and local media that he had opted to negotiate with the jihadist leaders while the conflicts on the ground continued.

Chosen in 2019 by his peers to serve as Culture Champion and, as such, to propose strategies for the development of the sector and, through advocacy campaigns, to help accelerate integration, the tangible basis of the Union, Ibrahim Baba Keita managed to mobilize and to constitute around him, on February 10, a presidential council of 12 Heads of State volunteers for the cause of culture, with this precision, starting each with his own country.

Favoring the culture of peace is the royal way to silence arms, the slogan precisely inscribed on the Summit frontispiece for the coming year. It is the recognition of trust, of the preference shown by communities for dialogue on wars. A preference that gives power to culture!

Maputo, 24 February 2020

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

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## **H. Highlight**

### **H.1 African Union: Arts Twelve Heads of State commit themselves to play the role of leadership, advocacy and facilitation for, Culture and Heritage**

February 10, 2020 - On the sidelines of the 33rd Assembly of the African Union held in Addis Ababa, twelve Heads of State solemnly accepted the invitation of His Excellency Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, President of the Republic of Mali, African Union leader for Arts, Culture and Heritage to act as co-champions.

Upon his designation as African Union Leader for Arts, Culture and Heritage, His Excellency the President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, found it appropriate to establish a presidential level structure to carry out his mission. Thus, he invited twelve Heads of State to join him in a Council of the Peers, consisting of the the presidents of the twelve from the five regions of the continent: Cape Verde, Ghana, Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Congo, DRC Congo, Morocco, Egypt, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa and Namibia.

The mandate of the Council is to formulate strategic orientations and to ensure that these orientations are taken into account in the activities of the African Union (AU). The members of this Council are also expected to play the role of leadership, advocacy and facilitation at the sub-regional level.

At its inaugural meeting the Council of Heads of State committed themselves to give a pride of place to culture, arts and heritage. I also proposed to declare 2021 the year of culture. In addition, it proposed to

- advocate for the ratification of the Charter for the African Cultural Renaissance;
- gather support of the member States for the African World Heritage Fund;
- promote culture as a tool for peace building;
- develop creative industries generating economic development and outreach;
- preserve African languages as a vehicle of communication, knowledge and culture; and
- speed up the return of cultural assets.

On all these subjects, the countries will work together with the relevant organs of the African Union and according to a principle of subsidiarity.

Web site: <https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20200210/twelve-heads-state-commit-themselves-play-role-leadership-advocacy-and>

For more information contact: [yamboue@africa-union.org](mailto:yamboue@africa-union.org) and [DIC@african-union.org](mailto:DIC@african-union.org)

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## **A. News from OCPA**

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

### **A.1 Expert meeting on the culture barometer (Bamako, 5 - 6 February 2020)**

The OCPA Executive Director took part in a second meeting of high-level experts on the culture barometer organized on February 5 and 6 at the Palais des Congrès in Bamako by the Minister of Culture of Mali in cooperation with UNESCO and OIF. This session resulted in the final version of the proposal which will be submitted to the African Union Champion for Culture, the President of Mali, Ibrahim Baba Keita.

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### **A.2 The 16th edition of the Festival sur le Niger (Ségou, Mali, February 6-7, 2020)**

From Bamako, the Executive Director went to Ségou, the second city of the country, to take part in the 16th edition of the Festival sur le Niger, SEGOU'ART, during which he contributed to the animation of the International Colloquium devoted to theme of "Migrations and Identities", held on February 6 and 7.

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### **A.3 Visit to archaeological excavations in Markaduguba (Mali)**

On the sidelines of these cultural events, Lupwishi Mbuyamba went to the village Markaduguba, in the distant suburbs of the city of Ségou where, under the leadership of Cheik BK Sissoko, Head of the cultural mission of Ségou and the archaeologist Bourahima Ouedraogo, The University of Social Sciences and Management of Bamako, participated and exchanged with the students and their supervisors in the middle of an archaeological excavation campaign.

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### **A.4 Participation in the 2nd international seminar on the evaluation of the impact of culture on society (Maputo, Mozambique, 26 - 27 February 2020)**

In Maputo, Maria Manjate, in charge of OCPA programs, took part on February 26 and 27 in the 2nd international seminar organized by the Cultural Association MONO in cooperation with KiF-Kulturskolen I Fredrikstad from Norway who gave the tasks of knowing more about the functioning of cultural institutions, assessing the impact of culture on society and preparing a framework for artistic education for young people.

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### **A.5 Meeting with members of the regional network**

During the 1st month the Executive Director had important meetings namely with

- the Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA, present in Ségou for an overview of the preparations for the cultural and scientific events of 2020
- Achille Mbembe at the LE MONT DES ARTS cultural center in Kinshasa for a YANGO II workshop in preparation for the 2021 Biennale
- Dorcy Rugamba in Ségou, to discuss the ceremonies of the delayed launch of the first African Cultural Capital.

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### **A.6 Upcoming events involving OCPA's contribution (March - April 2020)**

- CERAV in Abidjan: the 2005 Contact Points and Civil Society Leaders Capacity Building Workshop: 4-7 March
- MASA in Abidjan: March 7-14
- the CBAAC International Conference on Sharing Creative Energy and Consolidating African Identity and Heritage: Benin City, Nigeria, March 30 - 31
- the session of the Board of Directors of the African Cultural Fund: Seychelles, March 21

- the First International Conference on African Arts: Kampala, March 24-28
- the OCPA Seminar in cooperation with CELHTO and the Niger Foundation on "New trends in cultural policy": Ségou, Mali, April 10-11, 2020
- the African Union Workshop on the Ratification and Implementation of the Charter and Statute of the African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission: Djibouti, April 13-15.

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## **A.7 Publications de l'OCPA/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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. More recently, in 2019, OCPA published with the support of UNESCO a book entitled Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue: An African Experience.

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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 Paolo, 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.

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**For previous news and OCPA activities click on**  
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>

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## **B. News, events and projects in Africa**

### **B.1 Burkina Faso: Buud-Bangré Samba Festival - Culture for Development**

Held between 30 January and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020, the 3rd edition of the festival took place under the theme: "Culture at the service of endogenous development" with a series of cultural and traditional activities including performances by traditional troops from, a parade of masks and exhibitions highlighting the various potentials of the locality. This cultural and annual event has the objective of promoting culture and tradition, that is to say the habits and customs, the economic development of Samba, and preserving the knowledge of the populations of this part of the province of Passoré. For the promoter of the event, the festival occupies a central place

in the socioeconomic and cultural development of Samba, and the improvement of the living conditions of the populations, in particular through the sale of local products.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202002040634.html>

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## **B.2 Senegal: The Festival of ethnic minorities revives the traditional cultures**

In the Kédougou region, on February 1 and 2, a hundred of acrobats from five different ethnic groups competed for the title of the best performer. Like hunters ready to climb coconut palms at full speed or to melt on their prey, men and women of all ages provided high-quality services in front of the local authorities of the region as a sign of welcome.

According to the first deputy mayor of Bandafassi testifies: "culture is the first vector that can promote the influence of the commune. The 5th edition of this festival is a way to commemorate the ancestral cultural practices that have always contributed to the influence of the town".

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202002030763.html>

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## **B.3 Tunisia: The 1st Exhibition of Cultural and Creative Industries "Creative Youth Market"**

The first Exhibition of cultural and creative industries, organized by the Tunis International Center for the cultural and digital economy under the aegis, in particular, of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs took place from January 29 to 31, 2020 at the Cité de la culture in Tunis.

This is a first that fulfills the dream of many young skills, invested in the world of digital culture and creativity, thus giving them the opportunity to highlight their companies, their innovative ideas, their backgrounds, their products and their shared passion for the world of cultural economy. The Fair was also an opportunity for SMEs and start-ups to create networks capable of boosting their activities.

The first day was an opportunity for high-level panelists to discuss the "ecosystem of cultural and creative industries in Tunisia", "cultural investment"

The second day devoted to the theme "Culture and digital: risks and opportunities" included workshops on the different aspects of the ICC.

The third day discussed the theme of new cultural professions and led to the formulation and adoption of the various recommendations drawn from the work of this event.

Web site: <https://lapresse.tn/46776/1er-salon-des-industries-culturelles-et-creatives-creative-youth-market-zoom-sur-le-culturel-digital/>

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## **B.4 African culture - Events in February**

During this month of February were held flagship meetings of African culture among others

- in Out Dance Festival (Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, February 1-9, 2020;
- the 11th Rendez-Vous Chez Nous Festival entitled "Culture and social ties - together, it's better" (Ouagadougou, February 1 to 16) which includes shows, training and meetings;



- the 16th edition of Ségou'Art, the Festival sur le Niger (Ségou, February 4 - 9) on "Reconciliation & Social Cohesion" with a cultural caravan for peace, giant concerts and a trade fair contemporary art;
- the 8th edition of the Investec Cape Town Art Fair (Cape Town, SA, 13-16 February);
- the exhibition "Morocco, a modern identity" on the relations between the traditions and contemporary art (Institute of the Arab world in Tourcoing, February 15 - June 14);
- the 10th Audiovisual Meetings of Douala (RADO, February 21 - 28) under the theme "Dynamics of festivals and new media in Africa".

More information at <http://www.rfi.fr/fr/culture/20200202-culture-africaine-rendez-vous-f%C3%A9vrier>

Contact: [rfipageculture@yahoo.fr](mailto:rfipageculture@yahoo.fr)

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## **B.5 African cultural heritage - The Challenges of Restitution at the Focus of a Conference in Abidjan**

At the initiative of the Academy of Sciences, Arts, Cultures of Africa and the African Diasporas (Ascad) is held in Abidjan a symposium on the theme: "The challenges of restitution of African cultural heritage".

At the opening, on January 30, 2020, two panels sanctioned the first day of this symposium: an inaugural conference entitled "Restoring African heritage, the issues" and "the inventory of works to be returned".

This conference brought together African experts who wonder why and how to restore to African countries the works of art collected or looted during the colonial conquests and kept in French museums.

These experts while appreciating the restitution of African heritage are of the opinion that the museum forces the power of the eye. The objects to come have been seen.

Western museums have shown these objects. The value with which these objects are invested comes from the procedures that have been put in place for these objects to be seen.

If we adopt this model, we must give ourselves the means to ensure that these objects are seen.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202001310291.html>

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

### **C.1 The Durban Manifesto The Future of Culture - Cultural Policies to Play a Key Role, Locally and Globally**

N.B.: This Manifesto was adopted in the framework of the UCLG Congress - World Forum of Local and Regional Leaders held in Durban, South Africa from 13 to 15 November 2019. Read more about the Congress at <https://www.durban2019.uclg.org/en/press-room>

Culture has a vital role in our lives. Today, connections between culture and sustainable development are increasingly included in discourses and policies that will have to lead humanity during the next decades.

A good example can be found in the Statement of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments on the occasion of the recent Sustainable Development Goals Summit (New York, 24-25 September 2019). Today, in Durban, we would like to develop this statement further.

The crises we all suffer as one humanity are severe and difficult to overcome. We are aware that a hegemonic, global and commodified culture threatens cultural diversity, and that a relativism that violates fundamental human rights to maintain cultural characteristics by imposing intolerance, monolithic thinking, political or religious totalitarianism also exists.

We must meet, share, dialogue and create together the future we want. We are convinced that culture is an unequivocal part of the solution to humanity's present day challenges.

We must move, and we must move together. In order to move, we need policies, yes, we need cultural policies to provide our societies with the tools for dialogue, coexistence and freedoms for the implementation of the main international development strategies like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the New Urban Agenda.

At the same time, we call global leaders to embrace a real global conversation on culture in sustainable development, which should unfold with truly ambitious programmes of international cultural cooperation.

We are convinced that cultural development and the full exercise of cultural rights by peoples, communities, and individuals are the most critical elements for peace and human progress.

Read the full text at [https://www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/fr\\_manifesto\\_culture.pdf](https://www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/fr_manifesto_culture.pdf)

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

Contact: [info@agenda21culture.net](mailto:info@agenda21culture.net)

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## **C.2 ROCK - Regeneration and Optimization of Cultural Heritage in Creative and Knowledge Cities**

23/01/2020 - The ROCK regulatory framework has been envisaged as an assemblage of key policy recommendations empowering Cultural Heritage as a driver for sustainable and smart growth, with a special reference to public procurement. Its development is an attempt to shape better implementation frameworks, targeting decision and policy makers from all administrative levels. The ROCK deliverable "Regulatory Framework, ROCK Procurement And Policy Recommendations", coordinated by the expert Sylvia Amann is now published.

The document can be accessed at <https://rockproject.eu/news-details/210>. Source of the information: <http://www.agenda21culture.net/fr/nouvelles/cultural-heritage-valorisation-policy-recommendations>

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## **C.3 Togo: The Transformation of the Lomé Palace into a Centre for Arts and Culture**

The opening of the Renovated Palace is considered a sign of innovation and promotion of Togolese cultures. Reinventing heritage to enhance African creative talents is at the heart of this project to transform the former Palace of Governors into a center of art and culture.

For the first time in their history, these places, once forbidden and from where power was exercised, are returned to Lomé and its population. This unprecedented event announces the

opening to the Togolese public of part of its historical, cultural and natural heritage, which had long remained closed to it.

The Palais de Lomé must make Togo a unique cultural and artistic hub on the continent.

Source: <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/893361/culture/sonia-lawson-la-renovation-du-palais-de-lome-replace-le-togo-sur-la-scene-panafricaine/>

Source: <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/692764/culture/togo-le-palais-de-lome-converti-en-complexe-culturel-ouvrira-en-avril-2019/>

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#### **C.4 Mauritius: The New Head of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage**

The Ministry is mandated to foster a balanced and harmonious Mauritian Society through consolidation of existing pluralism, promotion of creativity and the celebration of cultural values

Its objectives are to

- preserve and foster cultural values both at individual and collective levels;
- promote cultural interaction among different cultural components within the country and abroad for mutual understanding and enrichment;
- upgrade, strengthen and extend the existing cultural infrastructure and to construct new structures;
- provide support to associations of artists and to individuals involved in artistic and cultural activities;
- organise cultural activities for the public at large;
- encourage the development of a dynamic arts and culture sector.

Since November 2019, the Ministry is headed by the Hon Avinash Teeluck who took office as Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage whose priority will be the empowerment of artists.

A lawyer by profession, the 39-year-old minister declared that "Culture is lived. You have to be sensitive and understanding of the concerns of these artists. I am convinced, whether it is me or another person who would have inherited this ministry, that we must have an open mind, live the Mauritian culture, understand the reality of the country and respect its cultural plurality. He also attached great importance to the creation of the museum of slavery.

More at <http://culture.govmu.org/English/AboutUs/Pages/default.aspx> et <https://www.lemauricien.com/article/avinash-teeluck-ministre-des-arts-et-du-patrimoine-culturel-il-nest-pas-necessaire-detre-un-chanteur-pour-comprendre-lart/>

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#### **C.5 Tunisia: Elyes Fakhfakh announces a government with an already very uncertain fate**

Tunisian Prime Minister Elyes Fakhfakh announced on February 15 the composition of his future government proposed for approval by the Parliament.

In the new government, Elyès Fakhfakh proposed Chiraz Latiri as minister of cultural affairs. born March 24, 1972 in Hammam Sousse, who obtained his doctorate in computer science at the National School of Computer Science in 2004, which is a university and researcher in computer science at the University of Manouba.

She directed the Higher Institute of Multimedia Arts at the University of Manouba (2006 and 2011) and the National Center for Cinema and the Image from June 2017 until November 2019.

Chiraz Latiri is also a permanent member of the Laboratory of Computer Science in Algorithmic and Heuristic Programming of the Faculty of Sciences of Tunis since 1999.

Web site: <https://www.mosaiquefm.net/fr/actualite-politique-tunisie/688472/qui-est-chiraz-latiri-proposee-au-ministere-des-affaires-culturelles>

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

### **D.1 Video by D. Paul Schafer Entitled "Out of the Economic Age and into a Cultural Age"**

The Canadian thinker and researcher specialized in culture and development, D. Paul Schafer has recently released a new video titled Out of the Economic Age and into a Cultural Age. This video illustrates why it is necessary to pass out of the present economic age and into a future cultural age if the life-threatening problems posed by climate change, the environmental crisis, huge inequalities in income and wealth, and conflicts between people with vastly different worldviews, value systems, customs, and beliefs are to be dealt with effectively.

Watchers of the video will learn what's most important to achieve in a cultural age, why it is essential to capitalize on the rich legacy of insights, ideas, ideals, and works provided by generations of cultural scholars and practitioners, what would drive a cultural age, and how such an age can be realized in fact.

You access the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1o7TnC5FKqE>.

Click here to read Paul's posts at <https://wherewordsfailblog.com/2019/04/06/schafer-cultural-personality/> to read an excerpt from his book The Cultural Personality.

Web site: <https://wherewordsfailblog.com/2019/11/08/out-of-the-economic-age-cultural-age/>

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### **D.2 Guide to funding opportunities for the international mobility of artists and culture professionals: AFRICA - Third edition**

On the Move, 29 January 2020 - The main objective of this cultural mobility funding guide is to provide an overview of the funding bodies and programmes that support the international mobility of artists and cultural operators from Africa and travelling to Africa. It also aims to provide input for funders and policy makers on how to fill the existing gaps in funding for international cultural exchange.

The third edition of this guide, supported by the Institut français, (the first edition was supported by Korea Arts Management Service and the second by the British Council) is modelled on the Guides to funding opportunities for the international mobility of artists and culture professionals in Europe, Asia, the Arab Region, Latin and Central America and the USA. (Read about the methodology of these guides in the document "How to read the cultural

mobility funding guides included in the European and Asian guides, which were the first of the series).

In the Africa guide you will find funding opportunities relevant to most artistic and cultural disciplines, classified by types of funding organisations. The list includes only regular funding opportunities, whose terms and application procedures are accessible online, and that cover travel costs (partially or completely). In the African context this guide is particularly important as most African countries national regular funding schemes supporting artists' mobility.

Read the guide at <https://on-the-move.org/files/Guide%20Africa%20EN%20single%20page.pdf>

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### **D.3 Saudi Cabinet launches 11 new cultural development authorities for Kingdom**

Saudi Arabia is to set up 11 new cultural authorities to drive the development of sectors such as films, fashion, music, heritage and the arts. The aim is to promote culture as a lifestyle, contributing to economic growth and enhancing the Kingdom's position internationally, the Ministry of Culture said.

The establishment of the new authorities, each with their own financial and administrative independence, was approved by King Salman at a Cabinet meeting. The Minister of Culture, Prince Badr bin Abdullah bin Farhan, will preside over the boards of directors of authorities covering literature, publishing and translation, fashion, film, heritage, architecture and design, visual arts. Museums, theater and performing arts, libraries, music and culinary arts.

As well as organizing and developing the cultural sub-sectors, the new authorities will work to support and encourage individuals and organizations operating within them, while setting new quality standards to help meet ministry goals as part of the Saudi Vision 2030 reform plan.

More at <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1622901/saudi-arabia>

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### **D.4 The policy paper 'Towards a multi-level strategy for EU external cultural relations**

This EU strategy sets out to move beyond an understanding of cultural diplomacy as soft power and towards a more inclusive and reciprocal approach built around "a new spirit of dialogue, mutual listening and learning, joint capacity-building and global solidarity". To be fully effective, this strategy needs to involve all levels of governance, in particular cities.

The paper aims to demonstrate the potential of European cities for achieving the objectives of the EU strategy for international cultural relations by proposing a revised multilevel approach. European cities play a major role in the development of cultural ties across borders and they have increasingly established themselves as autonomous international cultural policy actors. Along with the rise of a multi-actor and multilevel diplomatic arena, cities and other sub-national governments have acquired an increasingly important role. The exponential rise in transnational city networks since the early 2000s demonstrates how cities have stepped up to form transnational alliances around an increasingly broader set of issues that were traditionally the domain of nation-states.

More at

[https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/65897/RSCAS\\_PB\\_2020\\_03.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/65897/RSCAS_PB_2020_03.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

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## **D.5 The Creative City by Charles Landry (Taylor and Francis, London, 350 p., rev.)**

This revised edition of the book, updated with a new, extensive overview, argues that today, when the world is turning to its darker face with tensions arising in so many arenas urban creativity needs a purpose, an aim and an ethical frame, and moral compass that should guide a city's imaginative energies and actions.

The Creative City idea has been endlessly discussed since it was launched in the late 1980s. It has had an impact across the globe - largely positive. Yet some worry that the notion is in danger of hollowing out by overuse of the word 'creative' as applied to people, activities, organizations, urban neighbourhoods or cities that may not be especially creative.

There have been critiques of the concept claiming it is only targeted at hipsters, property developers and those who gentrify areas or seek to glamorize them so destroying local distinctiveness. This has happened in places, but it is not inevitable.

Crucially the book advocates the need for a culture of creativity to be embedded into how the urban stakeholders operate. By encouraging and legitimising the use of imagination in all spheres the ideas bank of possibilities and potential solutions broadens.

Download an informative PDF: <https://charleslandry.cmail19.com/t/r-l-jhtljld-iltduulkiy-j/>

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## **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>

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### **E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica**

#### **Gambia: Tourism and Culture Minister on the Importance of Culture in National Dialogue**

Minister Hamat Bah has said Gambia like other countries emerging from many years of despotism needs culture to regenerate national dialogue and consensus. Minister Bah made these remarks at the opening ceremony of the 3rd Kankurang Festival held in Janjanbureh in the Central River Region of Gambia. Minister Bah added that the festival is based on the significance of Gambia's cultural heritage for national development as espoused in the National Development Plan (NDP) of Government; that through culture, jobs can be created in the creative heritage industries such as music, dance, community museums, tour guiding, film and photography; that youth can get jobs and secure their livelihoods through culture.

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202001280200.html>

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## **Nigeria: House to Partner Nigeria's Film Industry**

Abuja — House of Representatives has said it would partner with the Nigerian film industry to make it perform optimally and boost government's revenue. House Speaker, Femi Gbajabiamila, said describing the Nigerian film industry, popularly known as Nollywood, as a very critical industry, Gbajabiamila said he has been fascinated and impressed by the output of the industry over the years. Gbajabiamila noted that one of the challenges bedevilling the Nigerian film industry is piracy, adding that in working with the industry, they would have to make legislation that would make them work better. The speaker assured the DGN delegation that he would talk to the chairman of the House Committee on Tourism to get in touch with relevant government agencies to allow movie producers to use their facilities whenever there was such need, as requested by the delegation. Earlier, the president of the guild, Fred Amata, said the delegates were in the speaker's office to solicit his support and presence during their forthcoming 20th anniversary, which would involve a novelty match with the speaker's team.  
<https://allafrica.com/stories/202002120499.html>

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## **Sudan Marks International Mother Language Day**

Khartoum — Minister of Culture and Information Faisal Mohamed Salih has said that recognition and respect of linguistic, cultural and heritage diversity is the most important duty of the transitional government and aims to enhance societal awareness on the importance of respecting multiculturalism and languages as well as consistent with the slogan of justice and equality that the glorious Sudanese revolution raised. He said that the Sudanese heritage and the various languages are a real wealth that must be preserved and find care and attention from the government, pointing out that the launch of the book on the language of Muntulissi, which is one of the Funj languages in the Nuba Mountains is a gesture of societal interest in languages and their preservation, reiterating the government's intention to avail wide space for rights so that all the Sudanese people find their cultures and languages in the Sudanese state and its media. Faisal praised the efforts of UNESCO and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) for their support to Sudan's unity programs. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202002210276.html>

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## **F. Info from newsletters and information services**

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

#### **Culture in the International Debate on Climate Change and Sustainable Development**

At the international level the World Economic Forum held its annual meeting under the theme *Stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World*, which seems to have heightened international focus on climate change. During the meeting, the WEF released a report *Shaping a Multiconceptual World 2020*, with a chapter on 'Culture, Identity and the Evolution of Geopolitics' - that highlights the need to both respect cultural diversity and build a collective identity. While in the last week, the United Nations held its **10th World Urban Forum in Abu**

**Dhabi**, which included discussion on the link between cultural and natural heritage, and the role the two can play in tackling climate change; and the **International Council on Monuments and Sites** launched its new portal, Heritage on the Edge, which tracks the impact of climate change on UNESCO World Heritage Sites. At the national level important cultural policy instruments were also produced and major policy decisions in several countries (Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Fiji, USA, Singapore, UK, Saudi Arabia.

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### **African Export-Import Bank to commit US\$ 500 million to creative industries**

The Afreximbank announced the decision at the opening of Creative Africa Exchange, a two-day event co-organized by Times Multimedia, the Afreximbank and the Rwandan government. "Creative industries can be potent vehicles for more equitable, sustainable and inclusive growth strategies for African economies," said Afreximbank's president Benedict Oramah. <https://www.newsghana.com.gh/african-export-import-bank-to-commit-us500-million-to-creative-industries/>

Web site: [www.ifacca.org](http://www.ifacca.org)

Contact: [info@ifacca.org](mailto:info@ifacca.org)

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## **F.2 Africultures**

### **Y'Africa, the audiovisual magazine that highlights the young talents of African culture**

Y'Africa is a series of 13 episodes which will be broadcast in 17 African countries from February 6 to April 30, 2020 and all over the world from summer 2020. It is a project whose ambition is to demonstrate on a continental scale the Group's commitment to African cultures. Each episode paints a portrait of 3 artists who today make African culture and who have in common to have a unique journey. Mixing countries and disciplines, the program stages artists in their creative environment. Each presents their journey, their works and serves as a guide through their city. The program will be broadcast subtitled in Arabic, Portuguese and English. [http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21163&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=461](http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21163&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=461)

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### **Five aid funds to access ACP-EU funding**

The full results of the call for projects "Support for ACP co-productions" launched in 2019 are now known. Three operators have been selected by the ACP Secretariat and the European Union within the framework of the ACP-EU Culture program:

- The Clap ACP project (OIF-Fonsic) with European funding of 2.45 million euros;
- The Deental project ("ensemble" in Fulani) of the CNC and Animated Image, France.
- The World Cinema Fund, of the Berlin Festival, for an amount of 1 million euros.

Five aid funds: Image Fund of La Francophonie, FONSIIC (Côte d'Ivoire), Aid to world cinema, Young Francophone Creation Fund and World Cinema Fund can be accessed for ACP funding for 2020. NB. The Young Francophone Creation Fund has already launched call for projects.

[http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21171&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=461](http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21171&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=461)

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

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

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### **F.3 Arts Management Newsletter**

#### **The 11th Midterm Conference of the European Sociological Association Research Network ("ESA-Arts 2020", Helsinki, 8-11 September 2020)**

Organized on the main topic "The Social Effects of Art: Activism, Advocacy and Beyond". the conference focuses on the social function and effects of the arts, a defining problem for the discipline. Today many sociologists are busy tackling this issue, because governments and other art funders wish to know if their investments produce social returns. Many types of impact assessment schemes have been developed for measurement, monitoring and ranking purposes. The intrinsic value of art is losing significance even in the field of cultural policy. More information at <https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/ESA Arts 2020>. Contact: [esa-arts2020@uniarts.fi](mailto:esa-arts2020@uniarts.fi)

More at <http://newsletter.artsmanagement.net>

E-mail: [office@artsmanagement.net](mailto:office@artsmanagement.net)

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### **F.4 Cyberkaris - the monthly electronic newsletter of the Interarts Foundation**

#### **UNESCO: Culture and the status of the artist**

UNESCO has recently published this study, consolidated by the 2005 Convention Secretariat, is based on an analysis of submissions to the 2018 survey on the implementation of the 1980 Recommendation on the Status of the Artist by UNESCO Member States, non-governmental organizations and international governmental organizations. It presents an overview of the laws aiming at to improve the status of artists; the status of the artists in the digital age environment, copyright and fair remuneration; issues related to the transitional mobility of artists, for greater possibilities of funding and collaboration; and a summary of the human rights and fundamental freedoms that these conditions should provide, through the different social protection systems that exist so far. Read the ebook at <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000371790>

Web site: [www.interarts.net](http://www.interarts.net)

Contact: [info@interarts.net](mailto:info@interarts.net)

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### **F. 5 ICCROM News**

#### **ICCROM's 31st General Assembly evaluation report**

Based on feedback provided by delegates attending the General Assembly, from 30-31 October 2019, this evaluation is vital to assessing outcomes and identifying areas that need improvement. As ICCROM continues to improve its services, this evaluation will provide the opportunity to measure progress and ensure a high standard of quality at future General Assembly meetings. <https://www.iccrom.org/news/iccroms-31st-general-assembly-evaluation-report>

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#### **Now available: a new resource on the conservation of mosaics in Arabic**

Over the last ten years, the conservation of mosaic heritage has been the focus of the MOSAIKON initiative led by four international organizations: ICCROM, the Getty Foundation, the Getty Conservation Institute and the International Committee for the Conservation of Mosaics (ICCM). Focused on professional and technical training, research, conferences, publications and networking, MOSAIKON has resulted in a strengthening of capacities and professional networks of practitioners in the Southern and Eastern

Mediterranean. <https://www.iccrom.org/news/now-available-new-resource-conservation-mosaics-arabic>

Web site: <http://www.iccrom.org>

Contact: [iccrom@iccrom.org](mailto:iccrom@iccrom.org)

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## **F.6 Nhimbe Trust Fund - Newsletter**

### **Promoting Artistic Freedoms in Zimbabwe**

As a critical element of organisational advocacy strategy, Nhimbe Trust seeks to increase artists' knowledge and awareness of their rights, so that they are able to engage with the Bill of Rights and constitutional/legal processes. Within the confines of this awareness initiative, Nhimbe Trust has partnered Freemuse for the production and publishing of a policy paper that will define artistic freedom and identify fundamental rights that are integral to the enjoyment of artistic freedoms in Zimbabwe. The policy paper is due for publication in the first half of 2020.

Web site: <http://www.nhimbe.org/>

Contact: [joshnyap@nhimbe.org](mailto:joshnyap@nhimbe.org)

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

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**Thank you for your interest and co-operation**

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