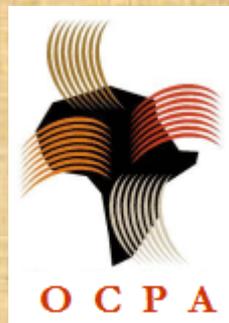


# Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

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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# In this issue

## Editorial

The Crisis: And Tomorrow!

## Highlight

H.1 Virtual Forum of the AU Ministers for Arts, Culture and Heritage on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Culture Sector (27 May 2020) - Summary

H.2 ISESCO Culture Ministers will strengthen the place of culture in the face of crises (17 June 2020)

## Other news

### A. News from OCPA/Les nouvelles de l'OCPA

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

A.1 Impact of the Health Crisis on the Culture Sector

A.2 The IMC survey on the situation of its member organizations in the context of the COVID-19 crisis

A.3 Participation in the Virtual Forum of Ministers of Culture of Africa

A.4 Support to the Conception and Realization of Initiatives Launched with a view to Respond to the Crisis

A.5 Research Project on the Transversality of Cultural Policies

A.6 Enlarging OCPA's Partnership: Cooperation between OCPA and INFORELAIS

A.7 Co-operation with the U-Institut of Berlin

A.8 Participation in the UCLG-Mexico City International Prize Jury

A.9 OCPA Publications

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

B.1 Africa: The Call for Candidates for the Solidarity Fund of the African Culture Fund

B.2 Ouaga Film Lab 2020 postponed to November within the Covid-19 Context

B.3 Tunisia: Book "Artists of Tunisia and elsewhere" on contemporary art

B.4 Survey results on the economic impact of COVID-19 on culture in DR of Congo

B.5 UCLG Africa / Culture survey on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the cultural sector

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

C.1 Mozambique: The Minister of Culture and Tourism Wants Human Resources Training at ARPAC

C.2 Congo-Brazzaville: Call to the African leaders to enhance the cultural heritage

C.3 Burkina Faso: Culture and Development - When is the Cultural Revolution?

C.4 Angola: The Minister of Culture, Tourism and the Environment Calls for a Team Work

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

D.1 Festival Ciné Regards Africains (Ile de France, 19 – 20 novembre 2020)

D.2 Declaration of the Campaign Objective Culture 2030 on Culture in the Response to COVID-19

D.3 The State of Artistic Freedom 2020

D.4 UNESCO COVID-19 Response: ResiliArt and You - Join our ResiliArt movement!

D.5 Saudi Arabia: The first Cultural Report on the Kingdom's achievements in the cultural sectors

### E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

- Nigeria: Govt to Amend National Endowment for Arts Act
- Namibia: National Art Gallery Reopens Reflecting on 30 Years
- Cultural Economic Zones Can Boost Central Africa's Creative Industry, Says Eca's Pedro

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

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

- Reponse to the Impact of the COVID-19 crises on Culture
- Museums around the world in the face of COVID-19

### **F.2 Africultures**

- African artists struggling with the consequences of the COVID-19 Crisis
  - Algeria: Impact of preventive measures on the film industry
  - Senegal: The situation is really alarming and it will soon be critical
  - Condemned to wait again for the support of our international partners

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

- The Cultural Ecosystem Endangered - International Arts Management & COVID19
- Museum Co-operation between Africa and Europe. A New Field for Museum Studies

### **F.4 Agenda Culture 21**

- Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic Report - Part 1: Measures and Challenges Ahead

### **F.5 Music in Africa**

- The MIAF Report on the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the music sector

### **F.6 IMC Music World News**

- **IMC COVID-19 Resource Centre**
- This is how COVID-19 is Affecting the Music Industry

### **F.7 Mawred – Culture resource Newsletter**

- Open call for the 2nd cycle of the MA in Cultural Policy & Cultural Management

### **F.8 ICCROM News**

- ICCROM in Africa

**XXX**

## **Editorial**

### **The Crisis: And Tomorrow!**

One of the characteristics of the still current health crisis of this first half of the 21st century is the awareness of all humanity of the global nature of the event, a phenomenon further facilitated by globalization, no doubt, ultimately happy. This has resulted in a deep sense of global solidarity in prevention efforts, in management attempts, and in trials and research for ongoing treatments.

But here it is an aspect of globalization that goes beyond economic spheres and the development of leisure spaces.

The leaders of the globe saw indeed, in the world after the COVIDIS-19 pandemic, the need for economic recovery and the urgency to rethink and adopt plans to reform the systems to curb the recession and regulate the growth disruption. Too bad, they still think, if this should lead to the revision of the salary scales and even to the massive reduction of staff. They know, however, that these drastic measures open a direct path to rising unemployment and worsening poverty, a spearhead of a general blast and a harbinger of a revolution, perhaps global!

However, social facts whose magnitude surprised have decided otherwise. At the moment, a global health pandemic is responding to a global mobilization, all categories and communities combined, against racism and colonization, in their roots and in their history, in a movement of global solidarity that no one had imagined! Isn't it time to question the system not only in its economic choices, but in its fundamental principles of life in society, the orientation of the world and human development?

Perhaps cultural indicators could serve as signaling posts in the search for a comprehensive strategy. A methodical and in-depth examination will therefore be necessary.

It was at the end of a series of successive workshops between 2003 and 2006 that the OCPA managed to define an approach strategy for its own approach in its quest for methods and identification of areas of research. In order to respond to the concern about identifying the cultural factors underlying human development in Africa, it therefore had to establish interactions between the promotion of public health that met expectations of good governance and the safeguarding of peace. and an assiduous fight against poverty.

A more global and widely shared reflection and a concerted and controlled action to this end, should make it possible, in the aftermath of a global crisis which will leave perhaps indelible traces, to avoid humanity the temptation of a leap into the unknown!

Maputo, June 21, 2020

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

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## **Highlight**

### **H.1 Summary on the Virtual Forum of the AU Ministers for Arts, Culture and Heritage on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Culture Sector (27 May 2020)**

The forum was convened with a view to discuss the repercussions of the pandemic on the cultural sector in line with the AU strategy and coming up with urgent actions and recommendations to alleviate its impact.

Chaired by his Excellency Lai Mohamed, the minister of Culture and Information of Nigeria, this meeting recorded the participation of the majority of AU member states, regional economic communities, as well as partner organizations, and officials from the respective AU departments.

According to the agenda the Forum was convened with a view to:

- Discuss the current challenges of the pandemic for the cultural and creative industries;
- Reflect on the responses initiated within the respective policies in AU Member States;
- Share best practices to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on arts, culture and heritage;
- Draft recommendations to support arts, culture and heritage sector in Africa;
- Propose social security schemes to curb the impact of COVID-19 for cultural workers;
- Produce documentation and share the best practices to be replicated by Member States.

In her opening speech the AU commissioner of the social affairs, Amina El Fadil emphasized the acuteness of the global health crisis and its repercussions on the cultural sector and encouraged cooperation among AU member states following the continental strategy in response to the COVID-19.

The Chair of the meeting presented the draft programme of the meeting followed by a statement of the situation of the cultural scene in Nigeria. Mr. Lai Mohamed insisted on the cooperation among AU Member States to share expertise and meet challenges together during the pandemic.

Pr. Benedict O. Oramah, President, AFREXIM Bank, emphasized the need to mobilize resources to limit the impact of the health crisis on the cultural and creative industries.

In the session on the best practices the Gambia minister of Tourism and Culture. Mr. Hamat Ngai Kumba Bah asserted the risk facing the cultural sector since it grants job opportunities for self-employed youth that now lost their professions temporarily because of the measures to call off performances, cancel festivals, and freeze artistic mobility programs. Gambian state favored dialogue with art and culture professionals to come up with project proposal for arts and culture and the setting of a rescue plan for small businesses in the form of loans and grants. Similarly the Mozambican Minister of Culture and Tourism Ms Eldevina Materula stressed the importance of discussing with artists and professionals for an inclusive dimension of their needs, while drawing attention to the role of culture, arts and creativity that thrive even in crisis time.

The economic financial downfall of the global health crisis was predominant all over the intervention as a huge concern since as culture, arts and heritage are at the heart of sustainable development agenda of the African Union as a form of creative industry and an aspect embedded in the fabric of every African. Financial help strategy and actions are pervasive among the agendas of all ministers of Culture; exemption of tax fees, release of disaster funds and access to bank loans are measures adopted by Guinea, Egypt, South Africa, Chad and Uganda. While Tunisia and Algeria resolved to welfare system and social security development for arts sector workers. In the same line, Kenya adopted a stimulus plan of one million dollars to support creative industry. Mali allocated a fund to support the cultural creative sector while Zimbabwe set up funds for artists, for youth businesses and for small and medium enterprises.

An alternative plan to maintain activity in the cultural sector is the art digitalization. By way of illustration, advisor to the minister of culture and antiquities of Egypt Mrs. Eman Zidan indicated the reliance on virtual visits to historical monuments and online ticketing. Rwanda, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, and Kenya proposed the digitalization of commercialization, content creation, and artistic platforms to sustain cultural production.

Mr. Pierre Ismael Bidoung Mkpatt, the Cameroon minister of Arts and Culture shared equal concerns and proactive decisions to raise awareness of the pandemic by involving the cultural and artistic centers and favoring local therapeutic knowledge, fashion and design in the local manufacturing of masks as well as intensive awareness actions carried out in local languages.

Advisor of the Tunisian minister of Culture Ms Sanaa Laabidi expressed the willingness to join forces with other Member States in the continent in order to be proactive in the advocacy for arts and culture, and to give the creative sector and art professionals the needed tools, notably through the development of strong cultural policies. The Republic of Congo and Mali appealed for more exchange of expertise, regular evaluation and partnerships among African States to emerge thanks to the virtual forum in line with the continental AU strategy in response to pandemic. In the same spirit, South African minister of Sports, Arts, and Culture Mr. Mthethwa made a call for collaboration among African States which was reaffirmed and welcomed by AU member states present in the forum. The closing of the virtual forum of African ministers of Culture on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Culture, Arts and Heritage sector was marked by a commitment to further collaboration and partnership during the health crisis.

At the end Ms Angela Martins, Head of the Culture Division of the African Union Commission presented a summary of recommendations. In line with the charter of African Cultural Renaissance, the AU law on the Protection of Cultural Property and Heritage, the AU 2063

agenda and the UN Agenda, the AU member states are committed to advocate for sensitizing artists to use creative means to continue producing culture on different virtual platforms, to endorse heritage experts to promote information on African heritage through digital means and to maintain the sharing of the best practices to sustain culture during crisis. The Forum was closed by Mr. Lai Mohamed, chairperson of the forum and second vice chairperson of the Third Specialized Technical Committee of Youth Culture and Sports.

See the forum documents at <https://au.int/en/newsevents/20200527/virtual-forum-au-ministers-responses-arts-covid-19-pandemic> or contact Ms **Cisse Mariama Mohamed**, Director for Social Affairs: [CISSEM@africa-union.org](mailto:CISSEM@africa-union.org), [MartinsA@africa-union.org](mailto:MartinsA@africa-union.org) or [MekbibA@africa-union.org](mailto:MekbibA@africa-union.org)

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E-mail: AUC Directorate of Information [DIC@africa-union.org](mailto:DIC@africa-union.org)

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## **H.2 ISESCO Culture Ministers commit to strengthening the place of culture in the face of crises (17 June 2020)**

The participants in the Extraordinary Virtual Conference of Ministers of Culture of the Member States of the Islamic World Organization for Education, Science and Culture (ISESCO) pledged to promote the place of culture in the societies of tomorrow to face future challenges.

In a Final Declaration which sanctioned this conference, organized with the participation of 50 States and 22 international organizations under the theme "Sustainability of cultural action in the face of COVID-19, the Ministers of Culture, as well as the representatives of international and regional organizations also pledged "to support and develop digital culture, by raising awareness of the importance of cultural heritage and encouraging the culture of solidarity.

Morocco was represented at this conference by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Mr. Othman El Firdaouss, who presented, on the occasion, a number of cultural initiatives taken by the Kingdom to mitigate the repercussions of the pandemic on the cultural sector, in particular the launch of a support program for producers of cultural content worth 100 million dirhams, and the establishment of partnerships with national cultural institutions.

During this conference, the various speakers undertook to set up cultural projects and programs intended to bring culture closer to citizens in urban and rural areas, and to improve the current situation of cultural action and intellectuals through a new, more creative vision, developed and adapted to the major orientations that are strongly imposed on the international scene, in particular the promotion of cultural diversity, the protection of tangible and intangible heritage and the use of artificial intelligence applications, reads in the final declaration published on the organization's website, based in Rabat. They also reiterated their support for the Organization's vision, based on the safeguarding, protection, support and restoration of the cultural and civilizational heritage of the Islamic world to preserve its cultural identity, as well as on the consecration of the human rights, in particular cultural rights, in times of crises and disasters.

The final declaration underlined the importance of developing cultural tourism and strengthening the complementarity between the cultural sector and the sports sector in the building of man, through the establishment of a system integrated programs for the benefit of different societal categories.

The participants also underlined the importance of the Digital Cultural Strategic Project carried out by the Islamic World Organization for Education, Science and Culture as a proactive initiative for the management of the cultural thing, welcoming the "ISESCO Digital Home" initiative, which constitutes a knowledge platform in the fields of education, science, innovation and humanities, and includes the program "Culture at a distance". In this regard, they pledged to support this program and enrich its digital content, in particular the Islamic World Heritage Portal and digital libraries, expressing their willingness to cooperate with the ISESCO Heritage Center and the Heritage Committee in the Islamic World, in order to highlight the richness of the cultural and civilizational heritage of the Member states and to speed up the inscription of as many tangible heritage sites as possible.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202006200025.html>

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## **Other news**

### **A. News from OCPA/Les nouvelles de l'OCPA**

#### **Activities of the Executive Director and the Team of the Secretariat of OCPA**

The end of this first semester of the last year of the Program of its third Medium-Term Plan (2016-2020), particularly marked by the restrictions imposed by the pandemic of the COVIDIS-19 crisis, constituted a particularly serious handicap for a structure whose work is mainly based on regional and international interprofessional relations. Nevertheless the secretariat continued, in new forms, the implementation of the activities started while associating with the actors of the sector to draw the conclusions of this major event and its impact on the profession and the trades of art, while continuing to prepare its program for the next term, which will have to integrate data from this new situation marked by a re-reading of the Observatory's mission, to extend the sphere of its partnerships.

The indications listed below are limited to listing the initiatives taken during the month of June.

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#### **A.1 Impact of the Health Crisis on the Culture Sector**

The investigation launched by the organization of the African Capitals of Culture from Rabat in Morocco on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has just ended; its conclusions will be made public in the next few days by ACC management. The OCPA which joined the process will give the desired response to these results.

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#### **A.2 Participation in the CIM survey on the situation of its member organizations in the context of the COVID-19 crisis**

The General Secretariat of the International Music Council (CIM) organized its headquarters from Paris, in its series of virtual lounges, a global meeting of international member organizations intended to collect information to share on the situation experienced by each member organization. OCPA participated in it as a member of CIM and its regional branch, CAM (African Music Council).

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#### **A.3 Participation in the Virtual Forum of Ministers of Culture of Africa**

OCPA also took an active part in the Virtual Forum of Ministers of Culture of Africa organized at the end of May by the Commission of the African Union. He was represented by its

Executive Director, Lupwishi Mbuyamba and the Project Manager, Mrs. Salma Ait Taleb, who produced a report on this meeting which will soon be available on its Ocpamet website.

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#### **A.4 Support to the Conception, Dissemination and Realization of Initiatives Launched with a view to Respond to the Crisis**

SOFACO is a solidarity fund set up by the African Culture Fund (ACF) to contribute to the practical response of the African artistic sector particularly struck by the effects and constraints of protection against Coronavirus-19.

An Appeal is to launched soon for all artists of the continent as well as cultural institutions whose results of the jury which will be set up to examine the requests received will be made public in the coming days.

\*\*\*

#### **A, 5 Research Project on the Transversality of Cultural Policies**

In the process of responding to the impact of the virus on the cultural sector, the OCPA made targeted contacts for the launch of studies on the directions of public policies and the re-reading of research priorities while connecting these studies on conclusions of the major meetings that punctuated the efforts of cultural leaders from around the world and from the continent, such as the UNESCO World Forum of Ministers of Culture at the end of 2019. It welcomes the favorable reception from governments, UNESCO National Commissions and Cultural Institutions of Excellence contacted.

Thus, the transversality of cultural policies in all public departments, the integration of the results of studies on endogenous knowledge and technologies as well as the supervision of significant manifestations of creativity will be taken into account in a systematic and particular way. and the inventiveness of young people by formulating mechanisms to respect the duties and rights of creators in a world dominated by the digital world.

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#### **A.6 Enlarging OCPA's Partnership: Cooperation between OCPA and INFORELAIS**

We note the signing during this month of a Framework Agreement between OCPA and INFORELAIS, a non-governmental organization based in Austria and known for the quality of its advisory services and which has an established reputation with the Commission of the European Union.

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#### **A.7 Co-operation with the U-Institut of Berlin**

Mention may also be made of the support declared to OCPA and its programs by U-Institut Berlin, a center of excellence for culture and the creative industries recognized by the German government.

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#### **A.8 Participation in the UCLG-Mexico City International Prize Jury**

Finally, the participation of the executive director of OCPA as a member of the select jury of the 4th International Prize of UCLG-Mexico City awarded to Dynamic Cities and Local Governments which sat from March to May 2020. This collaboration makes it possible to boost cooperation between the Observatory and the world secretariat of this great Organization based in Barcelona in Spain.

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## A.9 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 as well as the book prepared and published with the support of Africalia on ”Anticipating Cultural Policies in Africa by 2030”.

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.

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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 Africa: The Call for Candidates for the Solidarity Fund of the African Culture Fund

The African Culture Fund (ACF) launches the Solidarity Fund for artists and cultural organizations in Africa to support African artists and cultural actors whose activities have been negatively affected by the pandemic.

The first round of calls for projects primarily concerns artists. It will close on June 30, 2020. A second will be launched in July 2020 for cultural organizations. Applications can be submitted via the link: <https://www.africanculturefund.net/formulaire-de-candidature-appel-a-projets-acf/> in English or French.

To be eligible, candidates must meet the following conditions: Being an artist with at least five years of experience, working and residing in Africa, the candidate must have an artist card or an equivalent document; he must provide a document retracing his biography, artistic approach and an overview of his artistic works; the artist must demonstrate a situation of vulnerability arising from the health crisis; he must submit a draft request for subsistence assistance or a

creation assistance project and provide a letter of recommendation from at least one reference person.

Read more at <https://www.africanculturefund.net/en/eligibility-application-guidelines/>

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## **B.2 Ouaga Film Lab 2020 postponed to November within the Covid-19 Context**

The preparation of OUAGA FILM LAB's 5<sup>th</sup> edition is taking place in the context of the Coronavirus pandemic which has affected all continents and continues to claim lives in many countries. The measures taken in most countries have forced the cessation of economic activities, the closing of borders, the cancellation of international flights. The consequences in the cultural sector, which seems to be one of the most affected, have been the cancellation of festivals, the closure of theaters and cinemas, the suspension of shootings... The massive use of online services has imposed itself as a palliative solution.

The crisis seems to subside with the ending of national lockdowns and the opening of many frontiers. Obviously, OUAGA FILM LAB 2020, as many other cultural events, has to take this into account in its 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

So it was decided that this 5<sup>th</sup> edition will be maintained and held from 2 November to 7 2020.

More at: <http://www.ouagafilmclub.net/fr/ouaga-film-lab/>

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## **B.3 Tunisia: Book "Artists of Tunisia and elsewhere" on contemporary art**

Conferences, prefaces to catalogs, monographs, testimonies, press articles, this anthology of texts signed by Ali Louati and published between 1983 and 2016 have just been reissued at Contraste Editions. Writings that tell the adventure of art in Tunisia. Painter, poet, screenwriter, dialogist, art critic, exhibition curator, former advisor to the Minister of Culture in the 1990s, former director of the Center for Living Art at the Belvedere, Ali Louati combines hats, disciplines and intellectual fields. A career worth a thousand professional, artistic and intellectual journeys. The book he has just published again at Contraste Editions (first edition in December 2017) is a collection of articles on contemporary art.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202005130829.html>

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## **B.4 Survey results on the economic impact of COVID-19 on culture in DR of Congo**

Kinshasa- June 4, 2020: This study was published by Professor Ribio Nzeza Bunketi Buse.

Based on an online survey conducted from March 25th to May 19th, during the second quarter of 2020, DR Congo's cultural and creative sector lost \$44,374,287 US due to measures related to COVID-19 control. This comprises over 29260 activities, or projects that have been postponed or canceled, in the areas of publishing, cinema, recorded music, performing arts, visual arts, events and advertising, design, cultural heritage, and Digital production.

The sector's recovery depends on interim measures and its development of postpandemic management planning. The 85-page study includes an overview of the relations between economy and culture, tables, figures, analysis, pictures, and testimonies of cultural operators.

The last section suggests pathways for a programmatic recovery framework (objectives, components, timeline, financing, and implementation modalities).

Web site: [www.nzezaribio.academia.edu](http://www.nzezaribio.academia.edu)

Contact: [professor@ribionzeza.com](mailto:professor@ribionzeza.com)

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## **B.5 UCLG Africa / Culture survey on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the cultural sector**

As part of its African Capitals of Culture program, UCLG Africa has conducted a survey to measure the impact of the current health crisis on the cultural sector. The investigation ended on May 31. 170 cultural operators and 46 local authorities from more than 34 countries on the continent participated. The processing of the results is underway, the African Capitals of Culture associate several experts from UEMOA, the African Union, the OIF, UNESCO and the OPCA. The publication of the investigation report is scheduled for the beginning of July 2020.

Through this survey, the African Capitals of Culture wish to activate a multi-actor dynamic to bring out the tools of a common project: An economically and culturally independent Africa, driving force at global level, for sustainable, inclusive cities and territories and united, for a strong, autonomous, resilient, structured cultural and creative sector.

Website: <https://africapitales.org>

Contact: [ktamer@uclga.org](mailto:ktamer@uclga.org)

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

### **C.1 Mozambique: The Minister of Culture and Tourism Wants Human Resources Training at ARPAC**

The Minister of Culture and Tourism, Eldevina Materula demanded the Directorate-General of ARPAC - Institute for Sociocultural Research to create concrete plans for training human resources. At the inauguration of the new ARPAC building she said that the pening of this new infrastructure was part of the realization plan for the first 100 days of governance of the present five-year period. Thus, with the new building, the province of Gaza now has another institute properly equipped for research and dissemination of its cultural heritage, thus contributing, among other things, to diversifying the offer of cultural and tourist products based on a deep knowledge of the sociocultural reality of the communities.

More at <http://opais.sapo.mz/eldevina-materula-quer-formacao-de-recursos-humanos-no-arpac->

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### **C.2 Congo-Brazzaville: Call to the African leaders to enhance the cultural heritage**

In an open letter, the president of the Rayer Scientific Studies Circle (CESR), Thierry Rayer, urges African leaders, decision-makers and media to highlight their heritage. This will put Africa back in the position it should always have legitimately occupied on the world stage.

This position vis-à-vis the rest of the world is the guarantee of economic prosperity and a return to the central place that Africa deserves.

For this reason, investments must therefore primarily focus on the stars, universities, (artistic) training centers, but also around the creation of institutions, museums, private or public foundations and the organization of events highlighting the African heritage.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202005041146.html>

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### **C.3 Burkina Faso: Culture and Development - When is the Cultural Revolution?**

Saïdou Alcény Barry declares that “It has become a truism to say that any development project which does not take into account the cultural dimension is doomed to failure.”

Also after the failure for half a century of all economic policies and structural adjustments, instead of agonizing colonization and its avatars, there is more and more question of proposing cultural adjustments to hope to develop the country, although often it is in culture that we look for elements that constitute obstacles to development.

Any development project should therefore take into account the symbols, the myths that structure the vision of the world of the beneficiaries by relying on favorable cultural aspects and trying to change the aspects that are regressive.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202006110621.html>

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### **C.4 Angola: The Minister of Culture, Tourism and the Environment, Adjany Costa calls his collaborators to a team spirit**

Appointed Minister of Culture, the Environment and Tourism, took office on April 8, 2020 as the youngest member of government, Adjany Costa is a biologist and environmentalist.

Before her appointment, she was director of the Okavango Wilderness project of National Geographic, which consists in exploring and surveying the Okavango river basin.

On June 25 at the inauguration ceremony of the national directors of her Ministry, Adjany Costa said that the ministry was now "equipped" to carry out the projects already under way, to define new ones. Strategies in line with the social and economic reality of the country.

The new national directors appointed are: the National Director of Culture and the Arts, Euclides da Lomba, the National Director of Communities and Traditional Power, Rosa Melo, the National Director for Environment and Climate Change, Giza Martins, the Director of the National Institute for Environmental Management, Nascimento Soares.

Source: <https://lesafricaines.net/2020/04/09/angola-voici-adjany-costa-la-plus-jeune-ministre-avec-trois-portefeuilles-culture-environnement-et-tourisme/>

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

### **D.1 Festival Ciné Regards Africains (Antony, Arcueil, Frères, L’Haÿ-les Roses, Villejuif, and Cachan, France, 20 - 29 November 2020)**

The cinema was hit hard during the period of confinement we just went through.

It was however an additional motivation for the African team on Bièvre which continued to work by videoconference to prepare the 14th edition of the "Ciné Regards Africains" festival.

Detailed programming will be available on the website ([www.asurb.com](http://www.asurb.com)) and on the Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/CineRegardsAfricains/](http://www.facebook.com/CineRegardsAfricains/)) in early September.

You will discover 8 feature films and a dozen short films, reflecting the diversity of cinemas on the African continent. As in the past, Ciné Regards Africains is organizing a "Public Prize" endowed with €1,000 which will reward the best of short films.

Web site:

[http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21346&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=470](http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=21346&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=470)

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## **D.2 Declaration of the Campaign Objective Culture 2030: Culture at the Heart of the Global Response to COVID-19**

With the world faced with the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to rebuild our societies tomorrow, culture should be at the heart of the response. *Culture brings inspiration, comfort and hope into people's lives. To harness this potential, the the Declaration of the Culture 2030 Goal movement stresses that the Covid-19 pandemic is an unprecedented challenge requiring an unprecedented response. All actors can and should play their part.*

The cultural communities have responded. There have been countless initiatives to boost access and engagement and to create together new expressions, meanings and energies.

We have an opportunity to build back better, designing policies that allow culture to fulfil its role as the fourth pillar of sustainable development. Doing so will provide a more comprehensive frame to understand our world and make for stronger, more innovative, more tolerant and more resilient communities tomorrow.

The Culture 2030 Goal movement welcomes endorsements of this statement via the link below, and calls on the culture constituencies to come together to advocate collectively for the role of culture at the United Nations.

Web site: <http://www.imc-cim.org/music-world-news-magazine/policy-research-politics/6462-culture-at-the-heart-of-the-global-response-to-covid-19.html>

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## **D.3 The State of Artistic Freedom 2020**

Freemuse's new report [State of Artistic Freedom 2020](#) is an in-depth analysis of **711 acts of violations of artistic freedom** in 2019 in **93 countries**. It shows widespread attacks on freedom of artistic expression on a global scale as practices of censoring artists' voices continue.

As the world shifts into isolation and government's enact state of emergency, this marks a critical moment for the state of artistic freedom. The report and event will explore the critical climate for artistic freedom as global nationalist populism continues to restrict expression.

Freemuse research notes the damning effect of nationalist, populist politics as already leading to increased restrictions on artistic expressions, with a marked deterioration in countries where this right has traditionally been protected.

The report was launched during the World Art Day virtual seminar held on 15 April 2020.

Read *more at* <https://freemuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/State-of-Artistic-Freedom-2020-1.pdf>

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#### **D.4 UNESCO COVID-19 Response: ResiliArt and You - Join our ResiliArt movement!**

Now, more than ever, we need culture! - In the context of UNESCO's response to COVID-19 in the field of culture, we are pleased to share with you more information regarding the Resiliart movement and a [guide for organizing your own ResiliArt debate](#).

Culture makes us resilient and gives us hope. It reminds us that we are not alone. We need a concerted and global effort to support artists and ensure access to culture for all.

The health crisis brought on by the novel coronavirus has plunged the global economy into a recession, costing the global economy US \$1 trillion during 2020 (UNCTAD). While billions of people around the world turn to culture as a source of comfort and connection, the impact of COVID-19 has not spared the culture sector.

Those among you active in the field of culture and arts are encouraged to join the movement and [replicate the ResiliArt series](#) in their respective regions and thematic focus by following publicly available guidelines. Click on the link <https://en.unesco.org/news/resiliart-artists-and-creativity-beyond-crisis> for joining the movement

For any inquiries contact: [resiliart@unesco.org](mailto:resiliart@unesco.org)

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#### **D.5 The first Cultural Status Report of the Saudi Ministry of Culture on the Kingdom's achievements in the cultural and artistic sectors**

Titled “Cultural Status Report 2019: Features and Statistics”, the report will be released annually by the ministry to monitor prominent achievements and activities, as well as to record community participation related to all 16 cultural sectors.

In its report, the ministry drew on information provided by Saudi experts from various cultural sectors, along with references, data and reports provided by public and private bodies.

The comprehensive report aims to be an official source of the development of cultural sectors and activities in Saudi Arabia, and to identify the future threats to the Kingdom's cultural identity, as well as the attitude of the Saudi society towards culture.

Source: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1690866/saudi-arabia>

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## **E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press**

### **E.1 Links to portals**

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

<https://allafrica.com/arts/?page=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**

#### **Nigeria: Govt to Amend National Endowment for Arts Act**

The Federal Government will amend the Act establishing the National Endowment for the Arts to enable it to play a pivotal role in responding to the demands of the sector, which has been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Minister of Information and Culture, Lai Mohammed, said this in Abuja yesterday at the virtual forum of the African Union Ministers responsible for Arts, Culture and Heritage. He said the Central Bank of Nigeria had set aside N50bn for small holder businesses and the creative industry to support the industry in the post Covid-19 era. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202005280658.html>

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#### **Namibia: National Art Gallery Reopens Reflecting on 30 Years**

After its official closure on 16 March in the wake of Covid-19, the National Art Gallery of Namibia (NAGN) has reopened its doors. The exhibition still on display shuttered after just 11 days of showing is 'Reflect: Namibia at 30 Years of Independence'. The showcase considers pre and post-independent Namibia, the future of Namibian art, the nation at large and the artist's role in society after accepting some Covid-19 housekeeping. Hand sanitiser is sprayed into open palms by a masked guard at the door. Each visitor's name, address and cellphone number is entered into a ledger in case they need to be traced, and signs on the floor demand social distancing. Inside the gallery, patrons are required to wear masks and Xs with one metre between them mark the spots from which visitors can view the art. As far as Covid-19 protocol is concerned all seems well, and if rules are strictly enforced, it seems patrons can visit the gallery relatively safely. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202005290783.html>

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#### **Cultural Economic Zones Can Boost Central Africa's Creative Industry, Says Eca's Pedro**

Yaounde — The creative industries constitute an important lever for economic diversification in Central Africa and can help countries of the sub-region build back better in a post-COVID-19 dispensation, said the Head of ECA's Office for Central Africa - Antonio Pedro - to a range of actors from across Francophone Africa who attended a virtual conference dubbed "ResiliArt". The event was convened by UNESCO's Regional Office for Central Africa, as a sequel to a 15 April 2020 global conference organized by UNESCO to have culture ministers and professionals unpack the challenges posed by global crises to artists and their cohorts as well as articulate strategies to build a stronger and more resilient art industry in Central Africa. Mr. Pedro told that Central African countries are yet to take advantage of the huge

opportunities for employment and economic transformation offered by the modern services of the cultural space. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202006220007.html>

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/arts/>

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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)**

#### **Reponse to the Impact of the COVID-19 crises on Culture**

In recent weeks, headlines have focussed on the music sector, including how governments are implementing measures to respond to its specific needs. From a global perspective, the World Economic Forum has explored the effects of the pandemic on the music industry, highlighting losses to performance revenue that accounts for half of a global industry historically worth more than US\$ 50 billion; and considering possible long term changes to the sector.

(<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/this-is-how-covid-19-is-affecting-the-music-industry/>). While regionally, in Europe Pearle has collated data from its members to launch a map that visualises the reopening of live performance. (<https://www.pearle.eu/news/pearle-composes-a-map-of-europe-presenting-the-phases-of-re-opening-of-venues-for-cultural-live-events>). In South Africa, a recent AllAfrica article has explored how musicians, promoters and venues are seeking new models to sustain the sector despite the COVID-19 restrictions (<https://allafrica.com/stories/202006120701.html>).

#### **Museums around the world in the face of COVID-19**

UNESCO, 27 May 2020, - In recent months, the COVID-19 crisis has profoundly affected societies around the world, plunging the global economy into a deep recession. With the majority of cultural institutions forced to close their doors, the cultural sector has been one of the most affected. Tourism has largely ceased, impacting surrounding communities both socially and economically, and plunging artists and cultural professionals into a state of extreme economic and social fragility. <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373530>

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

E-mail: [info@ifacca.org](mailto:info@ifacca.org)

### **\*\*\*F.2 Africultures**

#### **African artists struggling with the consequences of the COVID-19 Crisis**

The pandemic of the new coronavirus has triggered a global health crisis with dire consequences for the world of culture. Cancellation of festivals, closings of performance halls, and suspension of filming and rehearsals. Africultures has collected testimonies from Senegal, Algeria and Mali.

##### **(i) Algeria: Impact of preventive measures on the film industry**

Algeria was one of the first African countries to detect cases of covid-19 on its territory. He was also among the first to take steps to protect its people. As of mid-March, Meriem Medjkane was "partially confined" in the city of Oran. After starring in several notable films such as Les Terrasses by Merzak Allouache, or more recently Papicha by Mounia Meddour,

the actress had to put her activities on hold. "It was my first day of shooting a Damien Ounouri feature film when we learned that we could not continue. Since then, there have been no cultural initiatives on this occasion. Apart from a few sitcom and series shootings for the month of Ramadan which have been maintained despite the danger inherent in the promiscuity of the film sets.

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### **(ii) Senegal: The situation is really alarming and it will soon be critical**

In Senegal, curfew measures have been gradually reduced, but nightlife and artistic life are still complicated. René Gomis, manager of the Kaata Ka Nam House label, is worried about the economic situation of the artists and the structures that accompany them. He had to cancel three show dates. As a result, after more than two months of inactivity, the boxes are empty. "We have not received any support from the state and I have to resort to solidarity between friends in order to survive and meet my obligations," he explains. He adds that "at the moment the situation is really alarming and if it continues on this momentum it will soon be critical". This period of lean cows does not necessarily herald a bleak future for the Senegalese label.

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### **(iii) Condemned to wait again for the support of our international partners**

In Mali, Lamine Diarra, director of the Kuma Sô Théâtre company, regrets that the state has not developed its own strategy for containing the virus. "As always, we are content to apply the decisions of the former colonial power for our country without taking into account the specificities of the situation in Mali where the pandemic does not look the same," he said. He also believes that a "real adapted health policy" was not designed for the culture sector. The director wonders about the funding model for artistic life. All socio-cultural activities have stopped following the precautions taken by the government.

Source: [http://africultures.com/covid-19-paroles-dartistes-africains-en-galere/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=470](http://africultures.com/covid-19-paroles-dartistes-africains-en-galere/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=470)

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

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

### **A New Relevance in Society -The Role of the Arts in Turbulent Times**

In times of crisis, the role of art and culture often becomes particularly clear, as they reveal new perspectives and create welcome distraction and positivity.

### **The Cultural Ecosystem Endangered - International Arts Management & COVID19**

In early April, the English foundation NESTA published a comprehensive analysis of the likely impacts of COVID-19 on the cultural ecosystem.

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### **Museum Cooperation between Africa and Europe. A New Field for Museum Studies**

Book review-The restitution of African objects in European museums has been widely debated after French President Macron's important call in November 2017.

## **F.4 Agenda Culture 21**

### **Culture, Cities and the COVID-19 Pandemic Report - Part 1: Documenting the Initial Measures and Challenges Ahead**

UCLG - United Cities and Local Governments, 8 June 2020 - The report is an attempt to document the initial initiatives actions and measures initiated and implemented by cities and local governments in order to address the impact of the crisis in the cultural life of cities. The document also drafts some of the main challenges that are being considered to ensure culture is

at the heart of the response to the Covid-19 crisis. This document was uploaded on 18 May 2020. The document was open for comments until 1 June 2020. The final version was published on 8 June.

[http://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/en/report\\_8\\_-\\_culture\\_cities\\_covid19\\_-\\_eng\\_0.pdf](http://www.agenda21culture.net/sites/default/files/files/documents/en/report_8_-_culture_cities_covid19_-_eng_0.pdf)

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## **F.5 Music in Africa**

### **The MIAF Report on the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the music sector**

The Music In Africa Foundation released a report on the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the African music sector over March and April. The report predominantly captures the financial impact of the pandemic on music professionals since the outbreak of the virus and introduction of restrictions on the broader African continent from about 1 March 2020. It also provides an overview of the immediate needs of affected practitioners, while anticipating further impact and offering useful tips and recommendations from industry operators. Access the report at

<http://ngo.everlytic.net/servlet/link/65750/1060304/223346084/5447370>

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## **F.6 IMC Music World News**

### **IMC COVID-19 Resource Centre**

The IMC COVID – 19 resource centre contains a list updated regularly on measures from governments and other policy-makers and initiatives from the sector. IMC is collecting data from the global music ecosystem with [this survey](#). Feel free to participate and share it with colleagues. Access the resource centre at [http://www.imc-cim.org/news-imc/imc-news/6393-covid-19-initiatives.html?utm\\_source=newsletter\\_310&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=music-world-news](http://www.imc-cim.org/news-imc/imc-news/6393-covid-19-initiatives.html?utm_source=newsletter_310&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news)

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### **This is how COVID-19 is Affecting the Music Industry**

The global music industry is worth over \$50 billion, with two major income streams. The first, live music, makes up over 50% of total revenues and is derived mainly from sales of tickets to live performances. See more at the website of the at World Economic Forum

[https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/this-is-how-covid-19-is-affecting-the-music-industry/?utm\\_source=newsletter\\_310&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=music-world-news](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/this-is-how-covid-19-is-affecting-the-music-industry/?utm_source=newsletter_310&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news)

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

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## **F.7 Mawred – Culture resource Newsletter**

### **Open call for the 2nd cycle of the MA in Cultural Policy & Cultural Management**

Culture Resource and the Hassan II University in Casablanca are pleased to announce the open call for the second cycle of the MA in Cultural Policy & Cultural at the Hassan II University in Casablanca, Morocco. The program offers partial scholarships and a small grant to support the graduation project. The program also provides support and facilitates visa and residence

permits procedures for non-Moroccans. Applicants should hold a Bachelor degree from in a field related to the program; have a minimum of 3 years experience in the field of culture, a good level of Arabic and English, and originate from an Arab country. The deadline for application is 10 July, 2020 at 4:00 PM (Beirut time).

More information on the program and the application guidelines at <http://www.mawred.org>  
Contact: [info@mawred.org](mailto:info@mawred.org)

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## **F.8 ICCROM News**

### **ICCROM in Africa**

Youth. Heritage. Africa. is a new ICCROM regional initiative. The goal is to create economic value, invest in social and human capital, and foster innovation and creativity within the heritage sector in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and the aspirations of the African Union's Agenda 2063. Africa is home to the world's youngest and fastest-growing population; those between the ages of 14 and 35 years constitute over 40%. They are also the most affected by unemployment and poverty. At the same time, the context is evolving fast: there is a growing network of African universities, of active civil society, and of vibrant tech ecosystems around the continent. Africa's youth combined with its rich heritage hold a great potential for social and economic development.

Web site: <https://www.iccrom.org/regions/africa>

Contact: [https://www.iccrom.org/contact/contact\\_us\\_original](https://www.iccrom.org/contact/contact_us_original)

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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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