

[Pour la version française cliquez ici.](#)

The African Union Year on „Arts, Culture and Heritage Levers to building the Africa We Want”

Read more at: <https://au.int/en/announcements/20200706/call-papers-au-echo-2021-edition>

and

International Year of the UN of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development

Read the resolution at <https://undocs.org/A/C.2/74/L.16/Rev.1>

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

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



OCPA NEWS

No 402

26 March 2021

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.

**Contact: OCPA Secretariat, Avenida Patrice Lumumba No. 850, Primeiro Andar,
Caixa Postal 1207, Maputo, Mozambique**

Tel.: + 258 21306138 / Fax: +258 21320304 / E-mail: secretariat@ocpanet.org

Executive Director: Lupwishi Mbuyamba, director@ocpanet.org

Editor of OCPA News: Máté Kovács, mate.kovacs@ocpanet.org

OCPA WEB SITE - www.ocpanet.org

OCPA FACEBOOK - www.facebook.com/pages/OCPA-Observatory-of-Cultural-Policies-in-Africa/100962769953248?v=info

*You can subscribe or unsubscribe to OCPA News via the online form at
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/newsletter/maillinglist/subscribe-en.html> or
<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/newsletter/maillinglist/unsubscribe-en.html>*

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

*

OCPA is an official partner of UNESCO (associate status)

**We express our thanks to our main partners who contributed to the creation of OCPA and
the development of its activities, namely our initial sponsors**



and other partners



ENCATC



CBAAC





In this issue

Editorial

Rethinking the concepts and mechanisms of operationalizing the cultural factors of human development

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Implementation of the Call of Segou for 2021, the Year of culture in Africa

A.2 Participation in the UNESCO webinar on the impact of COVID 19 on 8 African cities

A.3 Contribution to the organization of the 2021 Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace (Luanda)

A.4 AUC Webinar for the validation of the revised Cultural and Creative Industries Plan

A.5 Participation in technical negotiations of experts from the Region at the initiative of ECCAS

A.6 First CERAV Board of Directors (Bobo Dioulasso, March 30, 2021)

A.7 Workshop on the contribution of festivals to the development of the film industry

A.8 World Communities' Virtual Forum 2021: Global Communities Alliance

A.9 OCPA Publications

B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Tunisia: First Art Biennial - A grandiose exhibition under the theme of Pop Art for charitable actions

B.2 Algeria: Meeting in Algiers on Culture as a determining factor in the exercise of citizenship

B.3 Festival Rencontres Recreatrales

B.4 Morocco: Third UEM meeting on the cultural front to defend the territorial integrity of the Kingdom

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

C.1 DRC Congo: Culture - Why has the Prime Minister only received two artistic corporations?

C.2 Libya: Minister of Culture in new government

C.3 Ethiopia: The Problems of Book Publishing in Ethiopia - Different Perspectives

C.4 Manifesto for structurally deconfining Africa by the Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA

C.5 The geography of African artistic heritage in the world today

D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

D.1 Creative Economy Network: The new Austrian Creative Export Strategy 2020+

D.2 Creative Europe: 2.2 billion EUR support secured for artists

D.3 The Netherlands develop various modes of return of museum artefacts

D.4 Loot – Britain and the Benin bronzes

E. Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

- Nigeria: Afrima Advocates for Better Pay for Women in Culture Industry
- West Africa: Gambian Actress to Create Biggest Music Entertainment in West Africa
- Ethiopia: Coffee Ceremony - an Integral Part of Ethiopian Culture
- South Africa Gaming Industry in Exponential Growth

F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

- Efforts for combating the negative effects of the pandemic on Culture and arts
- Efforts pour lutter contre les effets négatifs de la pandémie sur la culture et les arts
- USA - Taking Note: The Social Determinants of Arts Engagement
- Culture Summit Abu Dhabi 2021: Launch of a 10-year strategy for Cultural and Creative Industries
- Development partners in Tanzania join forces for sustainable development through culture
- Cutting Edge - Bringing cultural tourism back in the game
- Culture's contributions to the EU economy

F.2 Africultures

- News in Africultures

F.3 Agenda 21 Culture

- Conference and network on Heritage and Sustainable Future: Research, Practice, Policy and Impact

F.4 Music World News - News of the International Music Council (IMC)

- Trends that will reshape the music industry
- Meet The Black Women Working To Make The Music Industry More Equitable For Artists
- The State of Artistic Freedom 2021

F.5 Cybekaris – the Monthly Newsletter of the Interarts Foundation

- “Culture in the agendas for sustainable human development: Culture, an instrument for a sustainable world“

F.6 Ettijahat

- Webinar on the launching of the digital toolkit: *Arts and Uncertainty*

- New publication on "Insights in Cultural Policies in Lebanon"

F.8 Cultural Funding Watch

- Fellowships for young researchers

XXX

Editorial

Rethinking the concepts and mechanisms of operationalizing the cultural factors of human development

The outbreak of the Coronavirus-19 pandemic in the world in the 1st quarter of the year 2020, will have had the effect, in the field of cultural policies, of forgetting or sidelining (provisional, as we can hope), of the conclusions of the World Forum of Ministers of Culture organized by UNESCO in Paris on November 19, 2019.

However, this meeting - which was not common - had raised major questions, among which one could note a claim concerning the durability of the international cultural conventions voted by the General Conference of the Organization, by proposing that, even when they were ratified by the competent bodies of the various Member States, they can be revised when new issues arise in cultural life.

The venerable participants in the world meeting - around 130 Ministers in charge of culture - certainly did not suspect, at the end of 2019, that the devastation caused by a virus to the entire planet would soon place them in front of these realities which make 'today it is the means and modalities of the resilience of the entire cultural sector that constitute the key issue, de facto relegating to the background the recommendations in favor of “rapprochement” and “dialogue of cultures”, And placing in priority the absolute respect of the universal rules of fight against the pandemic which are the observance of “barriers”, the wearing of the “mask” and th “distancing”...

Rethinking the concepts and mechanisms of operationalizing the cultural factors of human development will undoubtedly be the subject of a new debate in perspective!

Maputo, March 23, 2021

Lupwishi Mbuyamba

A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director and members of the OCPA Secretariat

A.1 Implementation of the Call of Segou for 2021, the Year of culture in Africa

On this subject, during the month of March, can be noted

- The official presentation of the concept and project of Industradition by CERDOTOLA on March 5 in Yaoundé
- The organization of a Webinar by the Cultural Observatory of South Africa on IKS (Indigenous Knowledge Systems) as content of the Cultural and Creative Industries Action Plan for South Africa

A.2 Participation in the UNESCO webinar on the impact of COVID 19 on 8 African cities

The Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for the Social and Human Sciences Sector, Ms. Gabriela Ramos, invited OCPA to an online meeting dedicated to the review of the study made in October 2020, in cooperation with Metropolis Canada, on the impact of COVID-19 on 8 African cities. Salma Ait Taleb represented OCPA at the meeting held on March 19 and wrote a report for Ocpa News and the OCPA website. It reads as follows

OCPA attended a virtual session discussing a report released by UNESCO and Metropolis Canada investigating the social impacts of Covid-19 in nine sub-Saharan African cities. The study focused on the following themes: knowledge and fear, safety, financial and health impacts, access to services and trust in institutions during the first and second wave of Covid-19 respectively, through an analysis of a survey that targeted the inhabitants of Dakar, Abidjan, Harare, Maputo, Johannesburg, Freetown, Sierra Leone, Libreville, and Nairobi.

The comparative study relied on locality, age, gender and financial income as main indicators to discern the effects of the pandemic on the nationals of the six African cities and thus to put forward key policy recommendations to counter the social consequences of Covid-19. The study recommends the establishment of additional safety measures to reduce levels of fear relating to COVID-19, the provision of more direct support to youth during the pandemic, the improvement of the public's trust in various levels of government and the police, the improvement of access to COVID-19 testing, the development of courses of action to reduce experiences of discrimination and lastly additional research and continuous surveying.

A.3 Contribution to the organization of the 2021 Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace (Luanda, Angola)

The Assistant Director General of UNESCO for Priority Africa and UNESCO's External Relations, Mr. Edouard Matoko expressed to OCPA his wish to see him contribute to the technical organization of the second edition of the Pan-African Forum for culture of peace planned for Luanda in Angola during the year 2021.

A.4 AUC online workshop for the validation of the revised Cultural and Creative Industries Plan (March 31 and April 1, 2021)

The African Union Commission has convened an Online Workshop for March 31 and April 1 to validate the revised Cultural and Creative Industries Plan. OCPA was invited to this meeting and is involved in its preparation.

The same is true of CELHTO, the Center for Historical Studies and Oral Traditions of the African Union, which invited OCPA to participate in an online validation workshop for its Statutes scheduled for April 9 in Niamey. The OCPA Executive Director will take part.

A.5 Participation in technical negotiations of experts from the Region at the initiative of ECCAS

Throughout the week of March 22-26, OCPA participated in technical negotiations initiated with various experts from the Region at the initiative of ECCAS (Economic Commission of Central African States). These discussions focused on the cultural strategy of the Commission, the Conference of Ministers of Culture of Central Africa, the priority programs among which the preparation of the Second Biennial of Culture in Luanda and the technical tools for Participation in technical negotiations of experts from the Region at the initiative of ECCAS throughout the week of March 22-26,

OCPA participated in technical negotiations initiated with various experts from the Region at the initiative of ECCAS (Economic Commission of Central African States). These discussions focused on the cultural strategy of the Commission, the Conference of Ministers of Culture of Central Africa, priority programs including the preparation of the Second Biennial of Culture in Luanda and technical support to the African Union for the special year 2021.

A.6 First CERAV Board of Directors (Bobo Dioulasso, March 30, 2021)

Finally, the Regional Center for Performing Arts in Africa, CERAV-Africa, convened its first Board of Directors for the year 2021 on March 30 in Bobo-Dioulasso. OCPA, which is a member, will be represented by its Executive Director.

A.7 Regional workshop on the contribution of festivals to the development of the film industry and the resilience of the culture sector in Africa in the context of Covid-19

CERAV also announced the organization in Ouagadougou, from April 20 to 23, of a regional workshop on the contribution of festivals to the development of the film industry and the resilience of the culture sector in Africa in the context of Covid-19. Mr. Lupwishi Mbuyamba who will take part to deliver the orientation speech of the meeting.

A.8 World Communities' Virtual Forum 2021: Global Communities Alliance

As part of partner organization collaboration, OCPA took part in the Virtual 2021 World Communities Forum organized by the Kenyan SHOFSCO "Sharing Hope for Communities" movement. With the contributions of numerous worldwide community-based practitioners, organizations and partners, the WCF succeeded to delve into the mission of strengthening communities during the current pandemic, and to form the global alliance of communities for the goal of bridging the gap between the leaders and the people as well as their involvement in the problem-solving process and thus to bring a community-based perspective to the global development agenda.

The two days program raised questions about a variety of issues of interest to community activism: Minorities suffering during the pandemic and cooperating support solutions, the digital: a divide and a chance for community-based initiatives, and the financial downfall, program funding and economic recovery.

The WCF called for action through a policy recommendation to be published eventually to envision a more equitable future for better and equal access to health and wealth. To develop community engagement for the goal of putting equity at the heart of policy relying on advocacy and the deployment of proximate leaders and to maintain resilience and strength in the form of community cooperation and community-led initiatives.

A.9 OCPA Publications

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

For previous news and OCPA activities click on

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



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Tunisia: First Art Biennial - A grandiose exhibition under the theme of Pop Art for charitable actions

The Art Biennale is an exhibition under the theme of “Pop Art”, an artistic movement that touches on various artistic expressions (arts, music, fashion, etc.). The organizers want to make this exhibition a fixed event to be held every two years, in the form of an Art Biennale. The theme chosen for this first edition is the artistic current “Pop Art” appeared in the West at the beginning of the 1950s.

This targeted choice is intended as a means of adding color to the works of artists, after a year marked by difficult economic and sanitary conditions.

The curator of the exhibition, Nadia Zouari, painter, presented the artists who will take part in this event. "More than 120 works by some fifty artists took part in this exhibition, such as Shoof or El Seed, whose work is exhibited in the largest museums in the world".

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202103040790.html>

B.2 Algeria: Meeting in Algiers on Culture as a determining factor in the exercise of citizenship

The Ministry of Culture and Arts launched, in Algiers, the "Forum of the Palace of Culture" (March 2, 2021), a series of interactive debates on the importance of cultural dialogue at all levels of society, by a first meeting on Culture as a determining factor in the exercise of citizenship. Organized at the Palais de la Culture, this first meeting brought together executives from the culture sector and university teachers.

The director of the Higher Institute of Performing Arts and Audiovisual Trades, Mohamed Boukerras, pointed to technological progress, particularly social networks, which revealed differences of views that could lead to feelings of intolerance and rejection between individuals of the same homeland, advocating to remedy it. "Brahim Nouel then addressed the issue of "cultural mobility" and the "efficiency of cultural spaces", stressing the need to "maintain the functionality of these spaces" beyond administrative hours and to "arouse interest" and allow "cultural contacts" through a greater number of visits.

Web site: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202103040032.html>

B.3 Festival Rencontres Recreatrales

Initiated in 2002, the Récréâtrales process is a pan-African space for theatrical writing, creation, research and dissemination.

It brings together more than 150 artists, authors, directors, scenographers and actors, around artistic residencies organized in Gounghin, within the family courts of Bougsemtenga, a popular district of historical importance. Its objectives are to multiply, consolidate, professionalize and diversify the creative approaches of the contemporary African theater scene while promoting the economic and social development of the neighborhood where the project is located.

In addition, the Récréâtrales offer opportunities for artists, with artistic residencies allowing professionalization in all theater disciplines. The festival is an important networking opportunity for artists, programmers, as well as administrators, and is a much anticipated showcase for new African talent.

Since 2002, more than 1000 African, European and Caribbean artists have taken part in the festival, around sixty shows have been created and around forty of them have been extended following the festival in various tours, in Africa and elsewhere. The next edition of the Festival is scheduled for 2022.

Web page: http://recreatrales.org/?page_id=2096

B.4 Morocco: Third UEM meetings for the creation of a cultural front to defend the territorial integrity of the Kingdom

The Moroccan Writers' Union (UEM) will organize the third series of its interactive meetings to address the issue of creating a cultural front to defend the territorial integrity of the Kingdom. Scheduled by videoconference, this meeting, which will be held in partnership with the electronic site "hashtags", is part of the implementation of the proposal of the UEM executive office to set up "a cultural front. defense of the issue of our territorial integrity," said the Union in a press release.

The conclusions of this meeting will be presented to the components of the national cultural and artistic community for examination and enrichment before its adoption as a basis for the creation of this front, the statement added. This third meeting will bring together writers, researchers and

cultural actors representing different religious currents of Morocco and elsewhere, continues the same source. This meeting will be broadcast live on Facebook.

Website: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202103220894.html>



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

C.1 DRC Congo: Culture - Why has the Prime Minister only received two artistic corporations?

March 5 - Instead of consulting the Collectif des Artistes et des Culturels, which is an Association bringing together Congolese artists from all disciplines, Prime Minister Sama Lukonde preferred to receive, on March 1, 2021, two artistic corporations: those of actors and musicians.

The drama is that the musicians presented only the demands of their own sector. Fortunately, the comedians gave the Prime Minister with the concerns of all artists and cultural operators. In this document, the Collective has detailed the profile of the new minister of culture. On behalf of all artists working in the country or abroad, the Collective demands that this highly strategic position be entrusted to a cultural professional, mastering the workings of the Congolese cultural sector in order to promote better national cohesion in its diversity, and promote the influence of the DRC at the international level.

Considering culture as a sector as important as mining, the CAC wishes a significant improvement in the budget allocated to the Ministry of Culture and the Arts. Based on the recommendations of the 2nd "Cultural Forum" held in October 2020 and the previous meetings on culture, the ACC recommends the urgent establishment by parliament of a cultural policy.

Source: <https://fr.allafrica.com/stories/202103050414.html>

C.2 Libya: Minister of Culture in new government

The new Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dabaiba presented to Parliament his proposal for the composition of his government.

Among the ministers chosen - ten names have changed from the initial list proposed to the House of Representatives following discussions in Parliament. Among them figure five women, three of whom will occupy key ministries for the first time, who will be part of the government including Mabrouka Tuffi Othman Aoki, Minister of Culture.

Source: <https://www.jeuneafrique.com/1136083/politique/libye-qui-sont-les-cinq-femmes-du-nouveau-gouvernement/>

C.3 Ethiopia: The Problems of Book Publishing in Ethiopia - Different Perspectives

6 March 2021 - A study published in the International Information and Library Review, the author of the article Metikou Ourgay writes about the history of publishing in Ethiopia between 1500-1900 saying that, "During this period numerous ecclesiastical and a few original works by Ethiopians and foreigners had appeared in Ge'ez and in other dialects.

According to historical records, modern publishing started in the 19th century, during the time of Emperor Menelik while it gathered speed under the rule of Emperor Haile Sellassie who

established the first modern printing house, otherwise known as Berhanena Selam printing press in 1914, thereby opening a new era.

The study points out that in 2017 there were more than 125 companies that printed and published books in Ethiopia. This is not obviously too many in a country of more than 110 million people, with a literacy rate of more than 40% and a history of book printing that goes back 600 years.

The Ethiopian publishing industry is still caught in a vicious circle as it was many decades back.

The country is still unable to produce most of the inputs of the industry, such as paper pulp, inks and this often pushes the cost of printing higher beyond the reach of the average reader.

The book production-distribution-consumption chain is still controlled by a handful of quasi monopolistic enterprises who often fix the price of books, apparently constrain the growth of the industry.

Web site: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103080583.html>

C.4 Manifesto for structurally deconfining Africa by the Executive Secretary of CERDOTOLA

The world division of labour and its pyramidal architecture imposed upon the conscience of the beings that dwell on the planet Earth are inexorably fading away.

Six hundred years of history are thus toppled: away with “civilisations”...! The time to pass the baton from an ending year to another that is about to begin, and then boom! From the depths of the East surreptitiously arose..., a tiny, microscopic, invisible and unpredictable enemy: a crowned virus that invades the air, pollutes and kills. There is no cure!

It is time to launch a call for mobilisation to act which invites, among others, to

- Think Africa! Eat Africa! Heal yourself Africa!
- Help Africa solve her problems.
- Regain confidence in the neglected capabilities of the daughters and sons of Africa.
- Free African peoples from the appalling situation that require the international community to help.”
- Africa needs to extricate herself from the obscene and cynical confinements of the World Colonial Order dominating the earth for six centuries.
- Decree the official exit from Confinement, long live the Deconfinement of African genius!
- Make room for the African Solution at the service of Africa and humanity without exception!

Web site: [https://www.cerdotola.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/cerdotola-covide-english-3.pdf?ct=t\(INDUSTRADITION_AFRIQUE_CAMPAIGN_3_4_2021\)&mc_cid=d6ac614ae3&mc_eid=20d0d09714](https://www.cerdotola.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/cerdotola-covide-english-3.pdf?ct=t(INDUSTRADITION_AFRIQUE_CAMPAIGN_3_4_2021)&mc_cid=d6ac614ae3&mc_eid=20d0d09714)

Contact: charles.binam@gmail.com

C.5 The geography of African artistic heritage in the world today

Bénédicte Savoy, February 12, 2021 - In 2018, together with the writer and economist Felwine Sarr, the art historian Bénédicte Savoy submitted to the President of the Republic a report on the possible restitution of African cultural heritage looted during the period colonial.

As it stands today, the world geography of the tangible heritage of ancient Africa is inextricably linked to that of the occupation of the continent by European states in the 19th and 20th centuries. The British Museum's inventories count 69,000 objects from Africa south of the Sahara. The Weltmuseum in Vienna 37,000. The Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium 180,000.

The Nationaal Museum van Wereldculturen in the Netherlands 66,000, the ethnological museum of Berlin 75,000 and that of the quai Branly-Jacques Chirac in Paris almost 70,000. Alone, the large museums of Paris, Berlin, London, Brussels, Vienna, Amsterdam and Leyden concentrate half a million African pieces.

Read the article at <http://africultures.com/la-geographie-du-patrimoine-artistique-africain-dans-le-monde-aujourd'hui/>



D. News, Institutions, Resources and Events in Other Regions

D.1 Creative Economy Network: The new Austrian Creative Export Strategy 2020+

This study is part of a very special research framework. The task of the elaboration of this paper on Exporting creative products and services during the pandemic was entrusted by Advantage Austria Creative Industries – the Austrian public agency for export - last summer with the objective to elaborate the new Austrian Creative Export Strategy 2020+.

Crisis times are ideal for innovation and forward-looking endeavours and to learn a lot about shortcomings and opportunities of own models. Based on a participative setting with stakeholders from the whole globe and Austria, we reflected on new networking patterns, (digital) market access tools and how to further strengthen innovation and cross-sectoral cooperation in export settings. The presentation of the strategy to Austrian actors took place on 09.03.2021.

Contact: majja.lummepuro@minedu.fi

D.2 Creative Europe: 2.2 billion EUR support secured for artists

In December 2020, the European Parliament and Council agreed on the next 'Creative Europe' programme (2021 – 2025), making the biggest ever commitment to support EU cultural and creative sectors.

'The new programme is excellent news for the European cultural and creative sectors. We were able to secure more funds for the cultural and creative sectors and can now provide 2.2 billion EUR in support, more than ever before. This is not only a symbolic recognition of the importance of culture, but will allow us to finance more projects and help the sector recover from the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic', said the Chair of Parliament's Culture and Education Committee, Sabine Verheyen (EPP,DE).

During the negotiations, MEPs insisted that that more will be done to support the music sector, particularly areas of contemporary and live music. These will be covered by the funds for 'Culture', which support, inter alia, platforms that promote emerging artists and networks that assisting with transnational distribution.

Though many authors, professionals, teachers and artists are female, they are much less likely to occupy decision-making positions in cultural, artistic and creative institutions. MEPs therefore inserted an obligation for the programme to promote female talent and support women’s artistic and professional careers.

The commitment to foster gender equality is now one of the main values to be pursued by ‘Creative Europe’ projects. Furthermore, when selecting experts to evaluate project proposals, due consideration will need to be paid to gender balance. One of the key objectives of the new programme will be to promote access for and the participation of disabled people and socially marginalized groups in the creative and cultural sectors, both as creators and audience members.

Contact: cult-press@europarl.europa.eu

D.3 The Netherlands develop various modes of return of museum artefacts

The Dutch government has become the first in Europe to approve a central mechanism for repatriating colonial loot. It pledged to return unconditionally any objects in the national collections found to have been stolen from former Dutch colonies. Moreover, a research consortium of nine museums and Amsterdam’s Vrije Universiteit is preparing a practical guidance for museums on colonial collections. “We will examine the diverse routes that objects took to enter museums?”, says Wayne Modest of the National Museum of World Cultures. With Susan Legêne, dean of the faculty of humanities at the Vrije Universiteit, he is the leader of the project. “We will also look at how to jointly decide on the future of an object and whether there are various modes of return that are possible. And, finally, this is about reconciliation - how do modes of return or restitution help us to reconcile with the past?”.

Source: https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/netherlands-paves-the-way-for-return-of-colonial-loot?utm_source=The+Art+Newspaper+Newsletters&utm_campaign=204ea535da-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_03_08_03_04_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c459f924d0-204ea535da-62146362

D.4 Loot – Britain and the Benin bronzes

This is the story of the ‘Benin Bronzes’, their creation, removal, and what should happen to them now. When first exhibited in London they caused a sensation and helped reshape European attitudes towards Africa, challenging the prevailing view of the continent as ‘backward’ and without culture. But seeing them in the British Museum today is, in the words of one Benin City artist, like ‘visiting relatives behind bars’. In a time of fevered debate about the legacies of empire, loot, museums and history, what does the future hold for the Bronzes themselves? Barnaby Phillips spent over twenty-five years as a journalist, reporting for the BBC from Mozambique, Angola, Nigeria and South Africa before joining Al Jazeera English.

Source: <https://oneworld-publications.com/loot-hb.html>

E-mail: jos.vanbeurden@inter.nl.net



E. Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

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

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

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

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

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica

Nigeria: Afrima Advocates for Better Pay for Women in Culture Industry

In solidarity with the United Nations International Women's Day 2021 (IWD 2021) themed: "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 World" and the offshoot #ChooseToChallenge campaign, the All African Music Awards, AFRIMA, is joining the rest of the world to honour the strength of women, and celebrate their diverse social, economic, cultural and political achievements. AFRIMA has called for accelerated gender parity in general and better remuneration for women in the culture industry in Africa. According to a statement issued by AFRIMA, the IWD 2021 turns the spotlight on the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in creating and sustaining the fight against COVID-19, their roles in shaping an equal future in the recovery from the pandemic, while highlighting the underlying structural gender gaps that still exist. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103080636.html>

West Africa: Gambian Actress to Create Biggest Music Entertainment in West Africa

5 March 2021 - Ms. Rohey Camara, the Managing Director of Afri-Music Entertainment, is a Gambian actress, singer, filmmaker, and humanitarian. The recipient of numerous accolades, including the Best Supporting Female Actress of 2016 Award and the Best Actress of 2018. She has been named Nollywood's most-cited Gambian actress multiple times, as a distinguished Gambian actress known for her debut movie as the supporting character in "The Mirror Boy (film)". In May 2020, she was listed as Nollywood's most searched Gambian celebrity. Prior to her acting career, she has worked at Unique Fm as the Host of The Attaya Show. Rohey, also known as Rohey The Actress, is the founder of Linguere with her cousin, Yamou Mbye -who is also an award-winning actress and a producer. The aim of Linguere is to promote excellence in the movie industry. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103080250.html>

Ethiopia: Coffee Ceremony - an Integral Part of Ethiopian Culture

27 February 2021 - Ethiopian coffee is regarded to be one of the best coffees in the world due to its strong, rich taste and aroma. Ethiopia is also regarded as the natural home of coffee as it was first discovered here in the 16th century. Ethiopia's most favorite beverage is by far the Ethiopian coffee. Ethiopia is believed to be the birthplace of coffee and because of this; Ethiopians make their coffee somewhat differently. The Ethiopian coffee ceremony is much more than just sipping a good cup of home-brewed coffee. The coffee ceremony is an important cultural ritual that has been passed from generation to generation in the country believed to be the birthplace of coffee. This preparation is known as the Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony, which is an elaborate process that also forms an integral part of Ethiopian's social and cultural life. <https://allafrica.com/stories/202103010259.html>

South Africa Gaming Industry in Exponential Growth

Johannesburg — The past year, characterised by the outbreak of the coronavirus and the subsequent lockdown, has brought unprecedented growth in the South African gaming industry. According to an industry executive, the lockdown imposed since the end of March has led to gamers embracing their passion even more. According to Verizon, global video game internet traffic has gone up by approximately 75 percent, compared to meagre increases of 12 percent in digital video traffic and 20 percent in web traffic. A recent report published by Statista states that the entire PC gaming market in South Africa is estimated to be worth R749 million

(US\$51,45 million) in 2023, a 12 percent increase in value from R670 million in 2018.
<https://allafrica.com/stories/202102260717.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

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

Efforts for combating the negative effects of the pandemic on Culture and arts

The March 2020 issue of ACORNS was our first to address global responses to COVID-19 in the arts and culture sector. One year later, the headlines reflect the ongoing efforts of national governments and international actors worldwide to support and revive the arts and culture sector in the context of the pandemic, and to gauge and communicate its effects. In recent weeks, several countries (Canada, Chile, Guyana, Ireland, Singapore, Sweden, USA, England, Scotland) have announced significant national investment in arts and culture. Recent headlines also highlight the need to gauge and communicate the effects of the pandemic on the sector; and to implement clear, informed and collaborative paths out of crisis. In South Africa, the Minister of Sport, Arts and Culture, Nathi Mthethwa has set up a **Ministerial Advisory Team for the creative and cultural sector** which will advise on COVID-19 responses, focussing on five workstreams that reflect related portfolios including: banking and landlords; wellness; school fees; retail and transport; and the private and corporate sector. At an international level, **UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights**, Karima Bennouna presented a special report to the 46th session of the Human Rights Council – **COVID-19, Cultures and Cultural Rights** – which surveys the effect of the pandemic on culture and cultural rights, outlines their positive potential and makes recommendations for action, including to increase funding in the culture sector; and the **European Parliament** has published **Cultural and creative sectors in post COVID-19 Europe**, which looks at the effects of the crisis on the sector.

Efforts pour lutter contre les effets négatifs de la pandémie sur la culture et les arts

Le numéro de mars 2020 d'ACORNS a été notre premier à aborder les réponses mondiales au COVID-19 dans le secteur des arts et de la culture. Un an plus tard, les gros titres reflètent les efforts continus des gouvernements nationaux et des acteurs internationaux du monde entier pour soutenir et relancer le secteur des arts et de la culture dans le contexte de la pandémie, et pour mesurer et communiquer ses effets. Ces dernières semaines, plusieurs pays (Canada, Chili, Guyane, Irlande, Singapour, Suède, États-Unis, Angleterre, Écosse) ont annoncé d'importants investissements nationaux dans les arts et la culture. Les manchettes récentes soulignent également la nécessité d'évaluer et de communiquer les effets de la pandémie sur le secteur; et mettre en œuvre des voies claires, informées et collaboratives pour sortir de la crise. En **Afrique du Sud**, le ministre des Sports, des Arts et de la Culture, Nathi Mthethwa a mis en place une équipe consultative ministérielle pour le secteur créatif et culturel qui donnera des conseils sur les réponses au COVID-19, en se concentrant sur cinq axes de travail qui reflètent les portefeuilles connexes, notamment: les banques et les propriétaires; le bien-être; frais de scolarité; vente au détail et transport; et le secteur privé et des entreprises. Au niveau international, la **Rapporteuse spéciale des Nations Unies dans le domaine des droits culturels**, Karima Bennouna a présenté un rapport spécial à la 46e session du Conseil des droits

de l'homme - COVID-19, Cultures et droits culturels - qui examine les effets de la pandémie sur la culture et droits culturels, souligne leur potentiel positif et formule des recommandations d'action, notamment pour accroître le financement du secteur culturel; et le **Parlement européen** a publié Secteurs culturels et créatifs dans post COVID-19 Europe, qui examine les effets de la crise sur le secteur.

USA - Taking Note: The Social Determinants of Arts Engagement

Last week, researchers posted an article titled “Who engages in the arts in the United States?” The analysis is part of a long-term project by the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) Research Lab at the University of Florida’s Center for Arts in Medicine. The Lab is analyzing several U.S. longitudinal datasets that include variables about the arts and health, so researchers better can understand the relationships between arts participation and positive health outcomes. <https://www.arts.gov/stories/blog/2021/taking-note-social-determinants-arts-engagement>

*****Culture Summit Abu Dhabi 2021: Launch of a 10-year strategy for Cultural and Creative Industries**

United Arab Emirates News Agency, 9 March 2021: Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi, Cabinet Member and Minister of Culture and Youth, affirmed that the ministry is preparing a 10-year strategy for Cultural and Creative Industries (CCI) with the aim of increasing the cultural sector's contribution to the state's GDP.

<https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395302916805>

Development partners in Tanzania join forces for sustainable development through culture

8 March: The Development Partners Group for Culture (DPG-Culture) in the United Republic of Tanzania was successfully reactivated on 18 February 2021 through an online meeting co-chaired by the Head and Representative of UNESCO Dar es Salaam Office, Mr. Tirso Dos Santos and Ms. Catherine Sinclair-Jones, Country Director at the British Council -Tanzania.

<https://internationalfederationofartscouncilsandcultureagencies.cmail19.com/t/i-l-mdkjlil-judjyhwhih-ju/>

Cutting Edge - Bringing cultural tourism back in the game

The COVID-19 pandemic has stopped cultural tourism in its tracks. Throughout 2020 international arrivals plunged by 74% worldwide, dealing a massive blow to the sector, which faces ongoing precarity. Amidst international travel restrictions, border closures and physical distancing measures, countries have been forced to impose wide-spread closures of heritage sites, cultural venues, festivals and museums, some of which may never reopen. <https://www.ne-mo.org/news/article/nemo/cultures-contributions-to-the-eu-economy.html>

Culture’s contributions to the EU economy

NEMO - The Network of European Museum Organisations, 16 February 2021: The cultural and creative sectors account for 413 billion euro (5,5%) in terms of value added. The sector employs on average 6.2% of the workforce and 12.1% of companies are active within the sector. The publication Market Analysis of the Cultural and Creative Sectors in Europe also analyses recent trends and developments. <https://www.ne-mo.org/news/article/nemo/cultures-contributions-to-the-eu-economy.html>

Site web: <http://www.ifacca.org>

E-mail: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

News in Africultures

- On the cinema side, Ian Chambers immerses himself in the allegorical work of John Akomfrah who diverts Western aesthetics to better deconstruct the colonial imagination.
- As for Olivier Barlet, he looks back on 2 films: the very sociological "Night nursery" by Moumouni Sanou, the unclassifiable "Before the decline of the day" by Ali Essafi.
- And he also offers us the historical look of a miraculous book, "The Seventh Door" by Ahmed Bouanani.
- This brings us to the literature section, with Célia Sadai who chronicles a memorial exploration from the privacy of her attic.
- We also find Aminata Aidara, touched to the heart by "The Black Sea in the Great Lakes", Annie Lulu's last maternal novel.
- In addition, our comic strip section is still growing with the first of three episodes that Christophe Cassiau-Haurie will devote to Senegal.
- Finally, Africultures is on the ClubHouse application and offers you a Sunday meeting with researcher Mame-Fatou Niang, also director of the documentary "Mariannes Noire". With Samba Doucouré, she will discuss "Afrofrancité".

Web site: <http://africultures.com>

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

F.3 Agenda 21 Culture

Conference and network on Heritage and Sustainable Future: Research, Practice, Policy and Impact

This event held by the UK National Commission for UNESCO and Praxis at the University of Leeds with over 60 panellists, 1500+ registrations, and 13 days of awe-inspiring discussions, researchers, practitioners, and policy-innovators have come together from across sectors and timezones in order to connect and learn from one another. If you would like to join our global conference-attendee network then please fill in your details using the link below. Here, you will also get a chance to provide conference feedback, submit your own projects to the network and gain access to a number of presentations from our key speakers. More at <https://nomadit.co.uk/heritage-and-our-sustainable-future/index>

Site web: <http://www.agenda21culture.net>

Contact: info@agenda21culture.net

F.4 Music World News - News of the International Music Council (IMC)

Trends that will reshape the music industry

A third of musicians could leave the industry due to the financial losses brought on by the coronavirus pandemic, a report cited by NME says. The research was carried out by the Musicians' Union, who are calling on the UK government to provide greater assistance to those affected in the industry.

Business Review https://business-review.eu/lifestyle/music/trends-that-will-reshape-the-music-industry-216932?utm_source=newsletter_335&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news

Black Women Working To Make The Music Industry More Equitable For Artists

It's no secret both industry insiders and music fans have taken issue with the way Black artists have been recognized by the Grammy Awards over time. Essence

<https://www.essence.com/entertainment/meet-the-black-women-working-to-make-the-music->

[industry-more-equitable-for-artists/?utm_source=newsletter_335&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news](https://www.interarts.net/news/culture-development-interarts-palau-macaya/)

The State of Artistic Freedom 2021

This year's report documents an analysis of 978 acts of violations of artistic freedom in 2020 in 89 countries and online spaces. 17 artists were killed, 82 were imprisoned and 133 detained.

Freemuse [https://freemuse.org/news/the-state-of-artistic-freedom-](https://freemuse.org/news/the-state-of-artistic-freedom-2021/?utm_source=newsletter_334&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news)

[2021/?utm_source=newsletter_334&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news](https://freemuse.org/news/the-state-of-artistic-freedom-2021/?utm_source=newsletter_334&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=music-world-news)

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

Contact: mwn@imc-cim.org

F.5 Cybekaris – the Monthly Newsletter of the Interarts Foundation

“Culture in the agendas for sustainable human development: Culture, an instrument for a sustainable world“

Interarts is pleased to announce the launch of the cycle “Culture in the agendas for sustainable human development: Culture, an instrument for a sustainable world“, organised in partnership with the Palau Macaya of the “la Caixa” Foundation. It will involve 6 activities to be carried out between February and June 2021, as a shared and participatory proposal by the cultural sector for a holistic strategy to promote culture and its fundamental role in human development. The cycle, as a space for reflection and intersectoral alliance in the Catalan context, aims to highlight the importance and need to fully integrate culture in the political agendas for sustainable human development at local, national and international level, by means of alliances, collaborations and synergies between the different stakeholders to document the value of culture for sustainable human development. Plus d'information à <https://www.interarts.net/news/culture-development-interarts-palau-macaya/>

Web site: <https://www.interarts.net/>

F.6 Ettijahat

Webinar on the launching of the digital toolkit: *Arts and Uncertainty* Ettijahat – Independent Culture and the British Council are pleased to invite you to attend a Webinar on the launching of the digital toolkit: *Arts and Uncertainty* which will be published in both Arabic and English languages. The toolkit comes to you in the context of the Create Syria programme and was prepared by researcher and cultural activist Rana Yazaji focusing on "Designing Creative Interventions in Times of Crisis". During the webinar, the toolkit will be presented. We will be opening the space for discussion on socially engaged artistic practices. We will also discuss how to empower their work in local contexts in light of the current challenges that the world is witnessing such as the continuing spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic marginalization of the arts. The discussion will be conducted with the participation of a number of experts of the contemporary cultural and artistic issues.

Contact: artlives@ettijahat.org

F.7 Culture resource Mawred - Newsletter

New publication on Insights in Cultural Policies in Lebanon

Culture Resource - Al Mawred is pleased to share with you a new publication entitled ' ' ' Insights in Cultural Policies in Lebanon, which was developed by cultural researchers and activists Hanane Hajj Ali and Nadia von Maltzahn, and funded by Culture Resource and the

"Institut Orient Beirut. The publication brings together three studies: the legal frameworks governing the Lebanese cultural sector, public funding of culture, heritage and the adoption of policies in the country. The importance of this new publication lies in its layouts. important updates on research on cultural legislation, its exploration of the essential details necessary to understand the operational arrangements and budgets of the Ministry of Culture, as well as the light it sheds on endangered heritage, particularly after the Explosion of Port of Beirut on August 4, 2020. The publication is available in two versions, Arabic and English / French (depending on the original language inale of the text). <https://bit.ly/3qZsbzN>

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

Contact: info@mawred.org

F.8 Cultural Funding Watch

Fellowships for young researchers

UNESCO launches a call for young women and men under the age of 35 to apply for the 2021 'Silk Roads Youth Research Grant'. The Grant aims to mobilize young researchers for further study of the Silk Roads' shared heritage. The Silk Roads Youth Research Grant is a new initiative that UNESCO has organized with the support of the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO, in the context of its Silk Roads and MOST Programmes which are part of UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Programme. It includes opportunities for studies in Language and Literature as wellas – Arts and Music. –Two research grants of USD 10,000 will be awarded. Read more at <https://culturefundingwatch.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Logo-CFW-e1550482363184.png>



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

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
