



Outcome Document

**AFRICAN ARTISTS PEACE INITIATIVE (AAPI) STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON
PROMOTING CULTURE OF PEACE THROUGH THE ARTS**

24 TO 25 JANUARY 2015, ADDIS ABABA-ETHIOPIA



Theme: "Inspire a Culture of Peace"

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Introduction

The African Artists Peace Initiative during its consultative meetings on the 24th and 25th of January 2015 met numerous stakeholders on the issues surrounding Peace and Security in artistry. Various stakeholders from the African Union Commission, UNESCO, Oxfam International, Amnesty International, Institute for Security Studies, UN Women, Femme Africa Solidarite, African Youth Panel, Africa 2.0 amongst a litany of artists and art enthusiasts met on “*Promoting the Culture of Peace through The Arts*”. The meeting brought together a range of learning points from the perspective of the various speakers and an exchange of ideas and knowledge on the way forward for AAPI.

The African Artists Peace Initiative (AAPI) has resolved to play a definitive role in the popularization and ownership of the AU Agenda 2063 and the realization of the African Union ‘Silence the Guns’ by 2020 campaign.

OUTCOMES AND KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AAPI CONSULTATIVE MEETING

AAPI stakeholder representatives spoke on the above underlined topic for the consultative meeting and various points were emphasized throughout the sessions. These include;

1. Deliberate call on states to move towards effective domestication of the recently adopted Africa Agenda 2063 and ensure local ownership by her citizenry.
2. The leveraging on the general appreciation of The Arts to promote culture of peace in Africa.
3. Amplify the role and capacity of the African Union Commission to assist member states to report on progress made on the implementation of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance.
4. AU member states need to utilize African arts and cultural industry in reducing youth unemployment.
5. The transition from MDGs to Sustainable Development Goals should recognize arts and culture as an important opportunity for achieving sustainable development.

6. Inclusion and recognition of African artists as key players in African Union's Peace and Security programmes and interventions.
7. Active participation of artists in election monitoring, as elections have proven to be a major source of conflict in the continent.
8. Creation of an "**Africa Peace Day**" to amplify the AU Make Peace Happen Campaign at the national and regional level.
9. Use African languages as an innovative tool for popularization of Agenda 2063 and culture of peace.

Commitment by the African Artists Peace Initiative and Partners

African Artists Peace Initiative commits to;

1. Provide a platform for coordinated actions and mass mobilization of movement of artists involved in social justice and peace building across Africa
2. Contribution to peace advocacy and education through the creative arts. More importantly, AAPI will demonstrate how the arts can be applied to achieve important social objectives in the African society.
3. Organize "Peace City Africa" in 2016 as a creative initiative in promoting "Culture of Peace" concept and the realization of African Union 'Silence the Guns' by 2020 campaign. *Peace City Africa activities includes;*
 - ***Pan-African Forum on Arts for Peace***
 - ***Peace Concert and Arts Exhibition***
 - ***African Artists Peace Awards (APA)***
 - ***Cinema for Peace Festival***
4. Set up an "*African Artists Action Factory for Peace*" as a continental response team for conflict prevention and peace-building across Africa.
5. Support the African Union Year of Women's Empowerment 2015, and unite African artists against violence on women and girls, Ebola and climate change.
6. Promote and strengthen artistic leadership skills for good governance and democracy, enhance the participation of artists in decision making skills and electoral processes, promote human rights and related concepts and encourage them to participate in democratic processes