



African Union  Youth Envoy

2019/2020 Action Plan

For The Office of The Youth Envoy (OYE)

Let's Shake Things up!

AU Youth Envoy

Welcome from AU Youth Envoy

As a Pan-African activist, I believe it is inevitable today for our generation to own our voices, occupy leadership positions and lead our continent to where she deserves to be. My vision for African youth is to achieve their rights to peace, equality and dignity in fulfilling Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030.

On 1st November 2018, H.E Moussa Faki Mahamat, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, appointed me as his first Envoy on Youth. I take this opportunity to thank the Chairperson for entrusting me on this important assignment to be responsible for engaging the youngest population in the world, 70% under 30. I am also grateful for the tremendous support of the Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology, H.E. Prof Sarah Anyang Agbor.

The office of the AU Youth Envoy (OYE) is a Pan-African collaborative movement with committed young leaders and volunteer network supporting the office mandate and spearheading regional engagement. During our two-year term mission, we engage partners and youth in Africa and the Diaspora to seize the opportunity this office presents to draw African youth together behind positive social change, dialogue and concrete action.

Follow us on our social channels, read our Action Plan, sign-up for an online or in-person symposium, join our projects, advocacy efforts and campaigns.

Let's shake things up!

A yellow circular profile picture of Ms. Aya Chebbi, followed by her name in bold black text.

Ms. Aya Chebbi

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In the spirit of canvassing ideas from young people to inform the workplan, OYE published an online feedback form to collect concrete recommendations and concerns. Over 300+ feedback submissions were received.

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Facilitate a continental wide platform to unite youth voices that can serve as a digital and physical convening space for exchange, peer learning, collaboration, engagement and advocacy.

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The flagship projects of Agenda 2063 refers to key programmes and initiatives which have been identified as key to accelerating Africa's economic growth and development as well as promoting our common identity by celebrating our history and our vibrant culture.

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We serve as Conveners, Amplifiers, Action Catalyzers and Bridge Builders,

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We Champion

The Youth Envoy mission is to lead advocacy and champion youth agency in the prioritization of youth issues within continental, and other decision-making and governance spaces

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1 Million By 2021 Initiative

This initiative seeks to concretely provide opportunities in the key areas Employment, Entrepreneurship, Education and Engagement (4E's) for millions of African Youth by the year 2021

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Appendix

Find our extra Resources, Model Timelines and References.

Meet The AU Youth Envoy

AU Youth Envoy

The Chairperson of the AUC appointed on November 1st, 2018, the Special Envoy on Youth, with a mandate to serve as a representative of and advocate for the voices and interests of African youth to the relevant AU decision-making bodies; advocating for the implementation of the African Youth Charter, the Demographic Dividend Roadmap and Agenda 2063.

The AU Youth Envoy embodies the space for African youth to engage with and influence the work of the AUC and its affiliate organs.



Bio of
Ms. Aya Chebbi

[Link to Bio](#)

AU Youth Advisory Council

[Bios Link Here](#)

The Chairperson of the AUC appointed the Youth Advisory Council to support the work of the AU Youth Envoy and advice on youth issues.



Aminetou Bilal

North Africa (Sahel - Sahara)



Serigne Ndiaye

West Africa Diaspora



Pamela Akplogan

West Africa



Simon Marot Touloung

East Africa



Petrider Paul

East Africa



Dario Abdula Camal

Southern Africa



Naïr Abakar

Central Africa



Dr. Shakira Choonara

Southern Africa



**Vanessa Mesmine
Metou-Mouini**

Central Africa

OYE Volunteer Network

[Apply Here](#)

The OYE Volunteer Network is a collection of talented young volunteers from across the African continent with specialized skills to support the OYE.

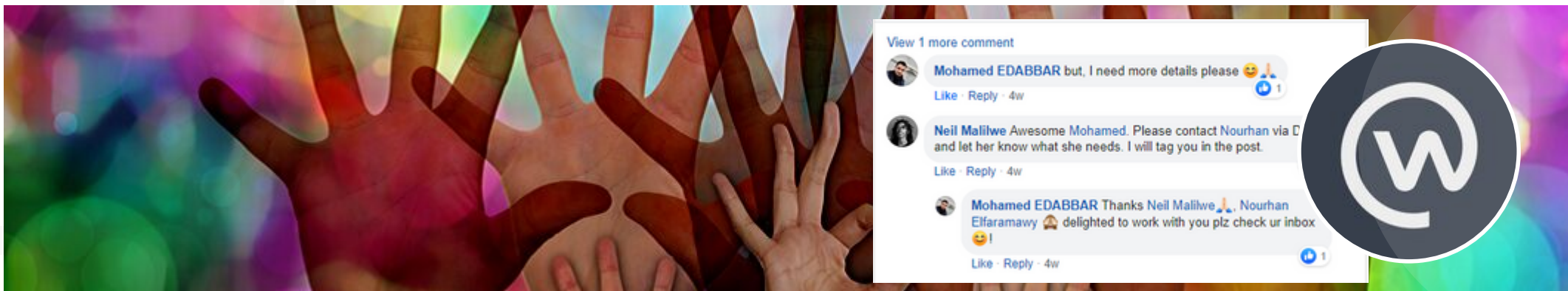
They volunteer various skills ranging from document translation, diplomatic content writing, mentoring and evaluation, social media curation and many others.

These volunteers are carefully selected through a rolling application on the OYE website here:

The Network is hosted on a virtual platform called Workplace. The platform has features that allow for a community to thrive and facilitate seamless collaboration through sharing, post commenting, group and private chats and providing API(s) to integrate productivity tools such as Google Docs, Trello and Salesforce

HOW THEY BENEFIT FROM THE NETWORK

- Doing potential change-making work through the OYE
- Improving their current skills and growth professionally by helping to find solutions to specific areas they involved in
- They become part of and connect with an amazing network of like-minded young people from across Africa from various backgrounds with various skill sets
- Upon the successful completion of their full commitment, OYE may support them with a recommendation for their professional, self-development or educational use



Goals of the Office of the AU Youth Envoy

The Youth Envoy mission is to lead advocacy and champion youth agency in the prioritization of youth issues within continental, and other decision-making and governance spaces.

1. CONVENER

- Facilitate inclusive, accessible and empowering digital and physical spaces for youth (including marginalized youth and young women) to meaningfully engage with the AUC through supporting and promoting structured mechanisms of engagement and feedback
- Support AUC youth mainstreaming work and reinforce a youth perspective in relevant frameworks across the work of the commission

We Serve As

2. ACTION CATALYZER

- Advocate for the implementation of progressive policies and impactful actions that promote youth participation and engagement at national, regional and global levels.
- Accelerate the implementation and reporting on the African Youth Charter in AU Member States

3. AMPLIFIER

- Amplify experiences and discourse about youth that articulate a story of hope and peaceful, positive change, and ensure the voices of the most marginalized and underrepresented youth are mainstreamed into decision-making platforms.
- Amplify youth-led accountability, agency and participation across the continent and beyond
- Amplify the flagship projects of Agenda 2063

Goals of the Office of the AU Youth Envoy

The Youth Envoy mission is to lead advocacy and champion youth agency in the prioritization of youth issues within continental, and other decision-making and governance spaces.

4. BRIDGE BUILDER

- Bring youth closer to the AUC by engaging member states, regional, continental and global organizations, and opportunities that address issues pertinent to African youth.
- Close the information gap related to the AUC's work on youth
- Ensure youth participation at national, regional and global levels through Intergenerational Dialogues and co-leadership

We Serve As

5. PAN-AFRICAN MOBILIZER

- Mobilize and unite youth for Pan-Africanism and the intersection of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 towards a prosperous and peaceful Africa
- Strengthen exchange, collaboration and cross-border engagement among youth organizations in order to develop youth solidarity, political consciousness, democratic participation, and civic engagement

From Workplan to Action Plan

DECEMBER 2018

In the spirit of canvassing ideas from young people to inform the workplan, OYE published an **Online Feedback Form** form to collect concrete recommendations and concerns. Over 300+ feedback submissions were received.

OVER 300+
Feedback Submissions
Were Received.

13 MARCH 2019

The Workplan draft was published at the OYE website in **English**. A **French Version** was later published on the website on 8 April, 2019. Over 1700+ downloads and over 140+ feedback submissions

OVER 1700+ & 140+
Feedback Submissions

The Federation of Liberian Youth organized a one-day dialogue in Monrovia between AU Youth Envoy and youth leaders including representations from the Liberia National Student Union, the Mano River Union Youth Parliament, and the Mayor of the Monrovia City Government, Jefferson Kojjese. The Youth Envoy addressed a youth town hall of 89 young liberians where she unveiled the workplan draft followed by engagement session.

3 APRIL 2019



From Workplan to Action Plan

10 APRIL 2019

The Youth Envoy facilitated a workshop with Programmes and Civil Society Division at UN Women in New York, where she presented the work plan draft followed by Q&A session with diverse group of 20 representatives from UN agencies and civil society.



11 APRIL 2019

The Youth Envoy ran a seminar with the students of Peace Research and Education Program, Center for Global Affairs at New York University



From Workplan to Action Plan

24 APRIL 2019

The Youth Envoy facilitated an inclusive, nonhierarchical workshop with 500 youth on the Workplan draft during the 2nd Pan-African Youth Forum. Youth participants gave feedback on the OYE Workplan draft and strategized on ways to develop and begin work on the focus areas and action areas.



Following the collection of over 1000 feedback submissions from young people online and during consultations with youth groups, youth experts and AUC departments, the workplan draft was reviewed and shaped into an Action Plan of four Models of Action and Five thematic areas to respond to the needs and expectations of African youth within the OYE two years mandate.



FOUR MODELS OF ACTION | Let's Shake Things Up!



Aspiration 2

An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance"



1. Innovation Model

Bring the African Union closer to African youth

The African Union encapsulates all 55 AU Member States, and we will meet youth where they are and facilitate spaces for their engagement.

Advocate for multi-stakeholder partnership among member states, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), academic institutions, the private sector, civil society and youth to establish AU Centers for Innovation and Excellence to be empowering and uniting spaces of learning, creativity and co-creation that engage the youth in the role of the African Union.

The Office of the Youth Envoy will advocate for the proposed center to;

- **Close the information gap**
by enhancing access and dissemination of information to youth in their language, related to AUC's work, policies and programmes on youth.
- **Empower youth**
with the advocacy, accountability and research tools and knowledge on African Union frameworks, organs, and resolutions as well as equip the youth with the history of the AU and Pan-Africanism and the significant role youth played and continue to play for African unity.
- **Foster intergenerational dialogues and co-leadership**
with regular engagement activities between youth and their country and AU leadership.
- **Enhance access to digital infrastructure**
and networks, including the internet, and tech devices for youth to ensure they are able to meaningfully engage with and access AUC information housed on or disseminated via digital platforms.
- **Create a futuristic space for the Africa We Want**
where youth co-create solutions, recommendations and projects on the future of work, cities, policies, reforms etc.

FOUR MODELS OF ACTION

Let's Shake Things Up!

2. Advocacy Model

Facilitate a continental-wide platform to unite youth voices that can serve as a digital and physical convening space for exchange, peer learning, collaboration, engagement and advocacy.

Objectives

Understand our diversity and complex identities
Build the Africa We Want towards Agenda2063
Unite our youth power around collaboration, collective action and success stories
Nurture a new Pan-Africanism and African leadership
Thrive with our political voice
Unleash the potential of our generation in co-creating innovative solutions

Aspiration 5 An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics

5 ACTIONS



1. Coordinate action and campaigns with youth at national, Pan-African and global levels through the establishment of Youth Taskforces

Each Taskforce includes but are not limited to National Youth Councils (NYCs), movements, student unions, youth parliaments, women groups, AU Youth Clubs, and AU youth volunteers.

2. Advocate for African Youth Charter (AYC) & (APAYE)

Through mobilizing Youth Charter Hustlers and supporting a continental monitoring and reporting framework on the implementation of the AYC as well as the African Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (APAYE)

3. Support the AUC youth convenings such as the Pan-African Youth Forum, Africa Youth Day, Model AU and advocate for Pan-African Festivals and an AU Youth Summit

4. Facilitate networks to mobilize for the flagship projects of Agenda2063 and 1 Million by 2021 Initiative

Including young entrepreneurs network, youth in public service network, refugee voices networks, bloggers and artists networks etc.

5. Strengthen the African youth agenda within global agendas

AU - UN Youth Platform; Strengthening the youth agenda within the **AU-UN Framework** on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda

AU - EU Youth Platform ; Strengthening the youth agenda within the **Joint Africa-EU Strategy**

FOUR MODELS OF ACTION | Let's Shake Things Up!

3. Intergenerational & Policy Model

Preventive approaches to address current and emerging crises and conflicts

1. Convene High-Level Intergenerational dialogues nationally, regionally and globally and Influence High-Level conferences and panels settings to promote meaningful intergenerational conversations on co-leadership

3. Support AUC Youth Mainstreaming work

- Work closely with AUC departments and organs, advocate for the development of their youth strategies and encourage commissioners to champion the youth agenda
- Support the development of an AUC Youth Professionals Alumni Network
- Engage the AU Youth Volunteers and employees at AUC through the existing AUC youth corners

4. Support the Africa Youth Development Index (YDI)

Support the AUC on finalizing, disseminating, popularizing and advocating for the use of the YDI

Aspiration 4

A peaceful and secure Africa

5 ACTIONS |

2. Convenings and workshops to support youth participation in Governance and Political Processes in Africa

- Solidarity visits, workshops and stakeholder roundtables on Meaningful Youth Engagement for Peaceful Political Transitions in Africa
- Send regular briefs (in consultation with the concerned youth) to the AUC chairperson on the position and views of youth regarding current or urgent issues in their countries, such as elections, crises, etc.
- Convenings for best practices and experience sharing



Aspiration 3

An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law

5. Advocate for and support the development of a policy framework on youth, peace and security as well as guidelines for Member States' engagement

FOUR MODELS OF ACTION | Let's Shake Things Up!

4. Communications Model

Engage young people through OYE's innovative online and digital methods



Aspiration 6

An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children



5 ACTIONS |

- 1. Establish** the infrastructure for OYE online engagement through OYE website, social media channels and newsletter to inform, engage and allow for regular submission of ideas and feedback
- 2. Develop** smart solution through smartphone application and Bulk SMS to provide information on all youth-related resolutions and/or declarations as well as events organized by the AUC and its affiliated organs.
- 3. Promote** existing youth-led initiatives, youth leaders stories, flagship projects of Agenda2063, African Youth Charter, 1 Million by 2021 and AUC departments' programs on youth through (digital) publications, (digital) exhibitions, animation, music, competitions and films
- 4. Rally** African youth around key AU campaigns, intergenerational dialogues, AU Summits, Africa Liberation Day and Africa Youth Day
- 5. Collaborate** with stakeholders on creating digital spaces for mentoring, peer learning, virtual conferencing and engagement

WE CHAMPION

Theme of the Year Youth Refugee Voices

Facilitate efforts to amplify refugee youth voices and call for strengthening responsibility sharing and protection of refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs)

Ending Violence Against Young Women

Advocate for gender equality, young women's rights and champion AU campaign to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Early Child Marriage (ECM)

Employment & Education Match

Facilitate efforts for matching education with the future of jobs, especially the transfer of skills and technologies and closing the digital divide. Support skills development in STEM

Youth Health & Wellbeing

Call for universal health coverage ensuring that adolescents particularly women and girls are not left behind and advocate to address Ebola, sexual and reproductive health rights, mental health and disability rights and the growing burden of HIV

Young Peacebuilders

Advocate for youth transformative and pan-African leadership and their participation as agents of peace in governance, political and social life.



YEAR OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement

Aspiration 6

An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children.

Aspiration 1

A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development

Aspiration 1

A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development

Aspiration 4

A peaceful and secure Africa

5 GENDER EQUALITY



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



WE CHAMPION | Continental Integration

Flagship Projects

The flagship projects of Agenda 2063 refers to key programmes and initiatives which have been identified as key to accelerating Africa's economic growth and development as well as promoting our common identity by celebrating our history and our vibrant culture.

THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)

Accelerate intra-African trade and boost Africa's trading position in the global market place.

SILENCING THE GUNS BY 2020

To achieve the goals of Agenda 2063, Africa needs to work towards ending all wars, civil conflicts, gender-based violence, violent conflicts and preventing genocide.

AN AFRICAN VIRTUAL AND E-UNIVERSITY

This project aims to use ICT based programmes to increase access to tertiary and continuing education in Africa by reaching large numbers of students and professionals in multiple sites simultaneously.

THE AFRICAN PASSPORT AND FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

Remove restrictions on Africans ability to travel, work and live within their own continent.

SINGLE AFRICAN AIR-TRANSPORT MARKET (SAATM)

The SAATM aims to ensure intra-regional connectivity between the capital cities of Africa and create a single unified air transport market in Africa, as an impetus to the continent's economic integration and growth agenda.



See the 14 Flagship Projects of Agenda 2063 here:



WE CHAMPION

4 E's & 12 Pathways

Ensuring young people are empowered, educated and have opportunities for their advancement towards the attainment of their full potentials.

1. Entrepreneurship

- Providing Growth Capital to SMEs
- Nurturing Startups

2. Employment

- Skills Transfer Hubs
- Job Centres
- Digital Skills
- Internships & Apprenticeships

3. Education

- Scholarships
- Alternative pathways
- Models for Teacher Development

4. Engagement

- Leadership Programmes
- Exchange and Volunteer Programmes
- Youth Engagement Platforms



Learn More About The Initiative

APPENDIX

References

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Resources

Get more information and resources on Action Plan

Learn More 



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