



**3rd SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE MEETING ON YOUTH,
CULTURE AND SPORTS (STC-YCS-3)
21st – 25th OCTOBER 2018
ALGIERS – ALGERIA**

STC/YCS-3/EXP/ CONCEPT NOTE [EN]

***“Role of African Youth in Building a Strong Culture towards Fighting
Corruption”***

CONCEPT NOTE

I. INTRODUCTION

The 3rd Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS3) is scheduled to take place in **Algiers, Algeria** from the 21st to 25th October 2018. The Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport is one of the organs of the African Union in accordance with Article 5 (1) (g) of the AU Constitutive Act which also states that the STC on Youth, Culture and Sports shall meet once every two (2) years. This year, the theme of the STC-YCS 3 is ***“Role of African Youth in Building a Strong Culture towards Fighting against Corruption.”*** This theme is in line with the overall theme of the African Union for 2018 which is: ***“Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation.”***

II. RATIONALE

Youth development as well as the promotion of cultural and sports initiatives is crucial if Africa is to achieve its mission of an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena. Young people are Africa's main asset for the future. The African Union and its Member States need to invest in and build on the richness and potential that young people represent for the continent in terms of skills, creativity and diversity. A holistic approach encompassing investments in Youth, Cultural industries and in Sports can contribute in a major way to the achievement of the National development goals and the broader African Union development agenda. It is not lost that Sports and Cultural engagements are also very powerful tools for youth empowerment as they incorporate the passion, energy and competitiveness of youth and definitely great inspiration to all.

The incorporation of culture in development is an essential choice Africa must make in transcending its citizens to prosperity and regaining Africa’s rightful place in the world. Advocacy and political awareness should be raised amongst the policy makers at all levels on the need to make youth, culture and sports development central to Africa’s economic progress and in enhancing the Pan African spirit and shared values.

In line with the theme of the year 2018 on ***“Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation,”*** the STC YCS III shall accords Member States

an opportunity to engage on this subject under the theme ***“Role of African Youth in Building a Strong Culture towards Fighting against Corruption.”***

Many young people have the desire and capacity to transform Africa and they have a potential to positively affect current and future anti-corruption efforts. As the principal actors in sports and cultural initiatives, emerging leaders, entrepreneurs and civil society actors, young people have an important role to play in bringing a new culture of integrity to all levels of the society. Being the most vulnerable, it is highly significant that appropriate empowerment strategies are devised to raise their awareness and understanding about corruption which undermines culture and sports and by extension democratic societies, and at the same time build their capacity to stand up against corruption.

III. POLICY JUSTIFICATION

a) On Youth

Over the years, several key instruments have been developed to guide youth development in Africa. Key among them, is the African Youth Charter (AYC), adopted in July 2006. To ensure the implementation of this charter, and respond to the need for strengthened national capacities to deliver more effectively on youth empowerment and development, a Youth Decade Plan of Action (DPoA) 2009 – 2018, was developed. Furthermore a Rapid Assessment was undertaken in 2015 to review implementation of the DPoA and it recommended several actions that would realign next phase of implementation to existing continental and global youth development priorities and serve as a baselines towards the design of an Africa Plan of Action for Youth Empowerment (APAYE 2019 – 2023). This is also in line with the first ten-year implementation plan of AU Agenda 2063.

Additionally, with a view to transform the potential of Africa’s large youth population, often referred to as the youth bulge, into a demographic dividend, the AU Assembly Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.601 (XXVI) of January 2016, dedicated the year 2017 as the year of youth under the theme ***“Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through investment in Youth.”*** Consequently, a roadmap for the implementation of the theme was developed with key deliverables, milestones and concrete actions on employment and entrepreneurship, education and skills development, health and wellbeing, as well as rights, governance and

youth empowerment. Building on this momentum the Heads of States and Governments in July 2017 decided vide Assembly/AU/Dec.661 (XXIX) on the establishment of The African Youth Fund and committed a capitalization of 1% of the programme budget of the commission to the fund. The Assembly also declared through decision Assembly/AU/Dec.652 (XXIX), the 2018-2027 period, as the African Decade for Technical, Professional and Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment. These decisions underscore a high level commitment to concretization of youth development interventions in Africa.

b) On Culture

The Charter for African Cultural Renaissance adopted by the 6th Assembly of the African Union held in Khartoum, the Sudan in January 2006 is the guiding policy tool for the promotion of the cultural and heritage sector in the continent. However the Charter has only been ratified by twelve (12) AU Member States even though thirty one (31) have signed it. The entry into force of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance will enable that the sector takes its rightful place and contribute significantly to the development of the continent through heritage and its cultural and creative industries sector.

Other Policy instruments of the culture and heritage sector include: the African Union Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative industries (2008) and the Draft African Union Model on the Protection of Heritage to be presented at the STC-YCS3 for adoption and subsequent popularization and dissemination in Member States.

The African Union Agenda 2063 being a framework for Africa's development for the next fifty (50) years presents itself as a crucial source to guide and inform initiatives by Member States to provide their contribution to the development of the continent. Aspiration five (05) of the AU Agenda 2063 addresses cultural issues and it aspires for: *“An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics; inculcating the spirit of Pan-Africanism; tapping Africa's rich heritage and culture to ensure that the creative arts are major contributors to Africa's growth and transformation.”*

The 3rd Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS3) will also provide an opportunity for the review and adoption of various cultural and heritage reports and instruments produced in the past two years including the following: Report of the 1st African Union Pan-African Writers' Conference; Report of the V Pan African Cultural Congress (PACC5); The Draft Implementation Guide of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance.

It is crucial that the continental cultural policies stated above are ratified, popularized and are implemented to enhance sustainable economic growth and the provision of productive employment, decent work for the youth and women of the continent. The development of the youth creativity through up scaling of arts education is a prerequisite for this achievement.

c) On Sport

The value of Sport in our ever changing world, continues to be a dominant factor in the lives of the people. It goes far beyond only being an entertainment and a physical pursuit to an avenue for one to express highly developed capacity to win exiting human physical feats.

Sport has played and continued to play a significant role in the daily lives of the citizens of Africa. While there are challenges to develop infrastructure and enough resources to rival other continents, and capacity building initiatives to sustain an ever growing demand for sporting aspiration, the innate enthusiasm and raw energy serves to satisfy the majority of the youth on the continent.

With an increasingly young generation, the African continent faces enormous challenges in its pursuit for democracy, more transparency and the rule of law, and sport, as a social entity, is not immune from those challenges.

Significant strides have been made in regards to the harmonizing the development of sport in a more concerted manner. The Architecture of Sport in Africa enacted in 2012 and the Sport Policy for sustainable development of Sports in Africa(2008 – 2018), the latter, which will come to term this year, have contributed to bringing more synergy around sport development and sport for development initiatives.

As we face ever drastically shifting world dynamics, issues about doping, match fixing, political, religious, economic and gender continue to deride the basic principles of sport towards a spiral of unethical practices in the pursuit of power, success in the sport arenas and in sports organizations.

The STC-YCS 3 theme; ***“Role of African Youth in building a strong culture towards fighting against corruption”*** as derived from the AU theme of 2018 *“Winning the fight against corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation,”* is suitably fitting to the Sport World to tackle unethical sporting practices at its core. The 3rd Session of the STC YSC 2018 should therefore send a strong message to Sport Community of Africa to do away with all unethical practices and fight unscrupulous purposes. The role of youth is thus critical in addressing ethical challenges that continually arise in sports.

In addition, the STC-YCS 3 shall also endorse the Member State that will host the 2019 African Games, and the 2023 African Games respectively.

IV. AIM OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE STC-YCS 3

The purpose of the 3rd Session of the STC-YCS3 is to provide an opportunity for AU Member States to discuss issues pertaining to the development of the Youth, Culture and Sport sectors at National, Regional and continental level as well as establish synergies among the three sectors.

V. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the third session of the STC on Youth Culture and Sports are to:

- a. Update the ministers on the status of on-going programmes, and on the performance of RECs and Member States in Youth, Culture and Sports sectors.
- b. Discuss operationalization and implementation of AU Summit Decisions relevant to Youth Culture and Sports sectors on the continent.

VI. FORMAT

There will be sessions where Youth, Culture and Sports sectors are discussed in plenary to enhance common understanding of the three sectors by all participants; and there will also be parallel sessions to enable more in-depth discussions for Youth, Culture and Sports separately.

The STC-YCS 3 will be carried out in parts as below:

- a) **Senior Official’s Meeting (23th – 24th October 2018)**
- b) **Ministerial Meeting (25th October 2018)**

VII. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Adoption of the Plan of Action for the African Decade for Technical, Professional and Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment
2. Adoption of the report of the Study on the Organization of Youth in Africa
3. Adoption of the Draft African Union Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Property and Heritage;
4. Adoption of the Report and Framework for Action of the 1st AU Pan-African Writers' Conference;
5. Adoption of the Draft Implementation Guide of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance;
6. Adoption of the Report and Framework for Action of the V Pan-African Cultural Congress;
7. Adoption on decisions related to the Programme on Audio-Visual and Cinema;
8. Consider and adopt the Report of the 2nd Anti - Doping Forum in Africa
9. Consider and adopt the candidature for the host of 2019 and 2023 African Games
10. Consider and adopt the Report and Recommendations of the UNESCO Ministers of Sport meeting
11. Update Member States on the status of payment of contribution arrears to AUSC
12. Status on the reorganization and restructuring of AUSD Regions
13. Actions for decision during the next AU Summit of Heads of State and Government in July 2018

VIII. EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS

- Member States – through their respective Ministries of Youth Sports and Culture (which will include Ministers and Senior Officials);
- Youth Organizations: Regional Youth Organizations, National Youth Councils, Civil society, Diaspora Youth;
- Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
- African Union Sport Development Regions
- Pan African Cultural Organizations
- Sport Organizations
- UN Organizations
- Thematic experts;
- Media

- The AU Policy Organs

IX. VENUE AND DATE

The 3rd Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS2) will be held in Algiers, Algeria from 21st to 25th October 2018.

X. LANGUAGES

The languages of the 3rd Specialized Technical Committee Meeting on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS 3) will be the four (4) working languages of the African Union: English, French, Arabic and Portuguese.

XI. CONTACT PERSONS

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