

## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

### MEDIA ADVISORY

#### THE CONTINENTAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE RESTITUTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY AND HERITAGE

#### INVITATION TO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

**WHAT:** THE CONTINENTAL EXPERTS' WORKSHOP ON THE  
RESTITUTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY AND HERITAGE

**DATE:** 30TH NOVEMBER – 2ND DECEMBER 2021

**VENUE:** DAKAR, SENEGAL

**MEETING LINK:** Join the conversation using [#RestitutionJourney](#)

**WHO:** The African Union Health, Humanitarian Affairs & Social Development (HHS) Department and The Open Society Initiative for West Africa in collaboration with the Government of Senegal.

#### OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of the Experts Workshop on the Restitution of Cultural Property and Heritage are to:

- I. Develop a position paper on the Restitution of Cultural Property
- II. Produce a Framework for Action on the Negotiations for the return illicitly trafficked Cultural Property from the Continent;
- III. Support restitution policies for cultural property in Africa.
- IV. Establish networks of African cultural experts, policy makers, dealers, auctioneers, museum curators and individual buyers among others, working in the area of combating illicit trafficking in cultural property

and heritage.

## **BACKGROUND**

Cultural property in Africa have been plundered and acquired illegally through trafficking and mostly during wars and armed conflicts. Lack of mechanisms and systemic structures on how to protect them has been a fundamental challenge. In order to holistically protect and preserve cultural property in Africa, there should be mechanisms in which cultural property protection becomes the responsibility of citizens, communities, societies and states. One of the proposed mechanisms is to have a framework for action on the negotiations for the return of illicitly trafficked cultural property from the continent. The process of developing such a framework should be supported by a position paper which articulates the importance of restitution of cultural property.

## ***JOURNALISTS ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT...***

### **For further information, please contact:**

African Union Commission (AUC) – Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social (HHS)

**Angela Martins**, Head of Culture Division, E-mail: [MartinsA@Africa-Union.org](mailto:MartinsA@Africa-Union.org)

cc:

[ShuleV@African-Union.Org](mailto:ShuleV@African-Union.Org)

[MinaS@African-Union.Org](mailto:MinaS@African-Union.Org)

[MakkyA@Africa-Union.Org](mailto:MakkyA@Africa-Union.Org);

[KomouR@africa-union.org](mailto:KomouR@africa-union.org);

[MekbibA@Africa-Union.org](mailto:MekbibA@Africa-Union.org)

### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Nadege Bedoum, Information and Communication Directorate (DIC), Tel: +251967244956, E-mail: [BedoumN@africa-union.org](mailto:BedoumN@africa-union.org)

**Esther Azaa Tankou**, Head of Information, (DIC), Tel. +251911361185, E-mail: [yamboue@africa-union.org](mailto:yamboue@africa-union.org)

**Information and Communication Directorate**, African Union Commission | **E-mail:** [DIC@africa-union.org](mailto:DIC@africa-union.org) | **Web:** au.int | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | **Follow Us:** [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)