

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

MEDIA ADVISORY

AFRICA SPIRITUAL DAY CELEBRATION

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

What: The 5th Special Africa Spiritual Day Celebration

Theme: “Educating the African Person to be Spiritually Enlightened in the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive lifelong, quality and relevant learning in Africa”

When: Wednesday 22nd May 2024

Time: 11H00 am – 13H00.pm (EAT)

Where: AU Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Who: The Celebration is jointly convened by the African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate and the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development – Africa.

Objective:

- ❖ To serve as a platform whereby spiritual and religious leaders of diverse backgrounds within IAPD speak with one voice, thereby fostering unity among them.
- ❖ To unite believers in the understanding that humanity is one big Family Under One Creator, despite differences in faith traditions.
- ❖ To lift spirituality to its rightful place in human life and society in general and to promote universally shared values.
- ❖ To promote character building for the youth and true family values for married couples.

Expected Outcomes

- ❖ Spiritual and religious leaders speak with one voice, demonstrating unity among them.
- ❖ Believers of different faiths see and understand that we are one big Family Under One Creator despite our different faith traditions.
- ❖ Spirituality and universally shared values are promoted at the African Union

- ❖ The African Union takes credit for promoting such unity which addresses the problem of conflicts that result from religious differences.
- ❖ IAPD's support for the objectives and flagship projects of the African Union is seen and recognized as real.
- ❖ The event is well-covered on mainstream media networks and social media platforms.
- ❖ This event marks the beginning of IAPD's partnership with the African Union – CIDO.

Participants

The celebrations will bring together local spiritual and religious leaders and some representatives from different regions. There will be some political, youth and women representatives, regional Faith Based Communities of Traditional Leaders, Regional Economic Communities, Member States of the African Union and Civil Society representatives.

The Celebration is expected to be on Zoom and live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook in English, French, and Portuguese.

Background:

The African Union Commission under the Civil Society and Diaspora Directorate (AUC-CIDO) founded the African Union Interfaith Dialogue Forum to promote interreligious dialogue to build peace and enhance social cohesion in Africa.

The Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) is one of the primary associations of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) founded by the Rev Dr Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Media representatives are invited to attend and cover the Africa Spiritual day Celebration on Wednesday 22nd May 2024 starting from 11H00am (EAT) at the AU Commission.

For more information, please contact:

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