



# Panafricanism and African Renaissance



African Union  
17, 18 & 19 May 2013

## Being Pan-African

An official side event to the AU Special Summit celebrating the 50 years of the OAU

*Our 50th Commemoration activities must enable us to develop and grow our own narrative: the stories of pre-colonial history of great civilizations, our struggles against slavery and colonialism, our struggles for self-determination and self-reliance and our process of nation-formation, social transformation and state building over the last fifty years.*

*It must help us to demystify, appropriate and popularize our history, our shared values, our narrative about the state of Africa today, in honor of the generations that went before us and to inspire current and future generations.*

Statement by H. E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma  
Chairperson of the African Union Commission  
8 April 2013



## Outline

Often defined as the most ambitious and inclusive “ideology” that Africa has produced for itself since the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, Pan-Africanism postulates the unity of action and destiny of African people in the continent and in the Diaspora. Furthermore, Pan-Africanism seeks the total liberation of Africa and of African people from slavery, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, and the political, economic and social unity of the African continent. First elaborated by activists and intellectuals in the African Diaspora, Pan-Africanism was reappropriated by intellectuals and political leaders within Africa since the 1850s. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) founded in 1963 in Addis Ababa came to embody Pan-African political ambitions, reformulated with the establishment of the African Union (AU) in 2002. Beyond the political realm, Pan-Africanism benefits from socio-cultural interpretations and development paradigms in Africa and the Diaspora, as well as from a common space of research and teaching, laying grounds for building knowledge society. All this contributes to the exceptional complexity of Pan-Africanism. A global reflection on the roots, the evolution, the achievements and the challenges produced and faced by Pan-Africanism is long overdue. There is no better place than Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to raise such a debate. A Pan-African lively symbol since the early 1800s and a Pan-African capital since the foundation of the OAU, Addis Ababa remains a hub for Pan-African ideas and issues.

By focusing on the dynamics of “Being Pan-African,” this symposium aims at discussing both the life processes inherent to becoming someone and the nature of a Pan-African identity. The trajectories of the founding fathers and mothers of Pan-Africanism conceal treasures for anyone interested in the formation of Pan-African identity and institutions. In particular, lessons can be drawn from understanding their early intellectual exposure, their mobility and the conditions which propelled them as leading voices. Pan-African intellectuals frequently learned at first about Pan-Africanism outside of mainstream institutions, and strived to shed light on the political, social and cultural stakes of the Pan-Africa ideas in hostile contexts. Often committed beyond their academic tasks, their role questions the organic link between scholarship and commitment. It seems necessary to step beyond the radicalism associated with Pan-Africanism and, without losing the militancy inherent to the Pan-African project, imagine ways in which Pan-Africanism could be transmitted, diffused, and reappropriated by Africans and African societies at multiple levels and at a wide scale. Taking into consideration the political and state-orientated Pan-African discourse as well as the various historical and contemporary actors of Pan-Africanism such as intellectual, cultural and artistic actors, entrepreneurs and grass-root activists, this symposium ambitions to bridge with a meaningful vision what is often perceived as a divide within Pan-Africanism.

This symposium is the fruit of a collective effort and represents a unique opportunity to foment dialogue between scholars, institutional actors and the wider public on the topic of Pan-Africanism. This initiative brings together leading intellectuals from Africa and the African Diaspora, as well as key actors of Pan-African institutions of research and education. They will contribute to the articulation of research and knowledge with the need of progressive perspectives. The symposium will be held in the African Union on May 17 and 18, and a workshop closed to the public will be held on May 19. This initiative will lay the foundation for further international cooperation between the scholars and the institutions involved.

# Organization & Stakeholders

## Venue

African Union, Old Plenary Hall, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## Coordinator

African Union Commission (AUC, HRST)

## Institutional Partners

European Union (EU)

Government of Ethiopia (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)

Addis Ababa University (AAU), Department of History and Center for African Studies

Pan-African University (PAU)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)

Open Society Foundation (OSF)

Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)

Institut français (Fonds d'Alembert)

Centre français des études éthiopiennes (CFEE)

Unité de recherche Migrations et Société (U. Paris 7 / U. Nice SA / IRD, URMIS)

## Scientific Committee

Dr. Hakim Adi (University of Chichester, UK)

Dr. Giulia Bonacci (IRD/ CFEE)

Dr. Belete Bezuneh (Department of History, Addis Ababa University)

Dr. Khamati-Njenga (AUC)

Prof. Joseph Vincent Ntuda Ebode (Pan-African University)

Prof. Amina Mama (University of California, Davis)

Prof. Elikia M'Bokolo (EHESP, France/Université de Kinshasa, DRC)

Dr. Ebrima Sall (CODESRIA)

Prof. Helmi Sharawy (African and Arab Research Centre, Cairo, Egypt)

Dr. Tesfaye Tafesse (Center for African Studies, Addis Ababa University)

## Contacts

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## Secretariat

Dr. Emeline Charpentier (Université Lumière Lyon II, CREA) <[being.panafrican@gmail.com](mailto:being.panafrican@gmail.com)>

AFRICAN UNION

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**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

<b>“Being Panafrican” Symposium - Academic side-event to the African Union Special Summit of the OAU-AU 50 years Anniversary</b>		
<b>African Union headquarters in the Old Plenary Hall 17 – 18 May 2013</b>		
<b>DRAFT PROGRAMME</b>		
<b>Friday May 17</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
<b>OPENING SESSION</b>		
8:30 – 9:00	Arrival and Registration	Organizing Committee
9:00 – 09:15	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Martial de Paul Ikounga, (HRST Commissioner)
09:15 – 10:00	Opening Statement	Dr. Ebrima Sall (CODESRIA) Michel Laurent (IRD) H. E. Ambassador Gary Quince (European Union) H. E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma (AUC Chairperson)
<b>PLENARY SESSION 1: Responsibilities</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Mrs Ijahnya Christian (St-Mary’s College, Ras Tafari Representative to CPAN)		
<i>What is the history of Pan-Africanism? What are the intellectual, political and social responsibilities owed to that history?</i>		
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Questions sur l’histoire du panafricanisme</i>	Prof. Elikia M’Bokolo (EHES, Université de Kinshasa)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Back to Africa: a structuring paradigm of historical Pan-Africanism and a contemporary practice and challenge</i>	Dr. Giulia Bonacci (IRD / CFEE)

11:00 - 11:30	<i>Discussions</i>	Mrs Ijahnya Christian (St-Mary's College, Ras Tafari Representative to CPAN)
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Placing Ethiopia in the Continental Pan-African Movement: the Successful Bid to Establish and Maintain the OAU, 1963-1991</i>	Dr. Belete Belachew (Jimma University, Ethiopia)
12:30 - 1:00	<i>Between two revolutions: Egypt's role in the Pan-African movement (1952-2012)</i>	Dr. Rawya M. Tawfik Amer (Université du Caire, Egypte)
1:00 – 1:30	<i>Discussions</i>	Mrs Ijahnya Christian (St-Mary's College, Ras Tafari Representative to CPAN)
<b>1:30 – 2:30</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
<b>PLENARY SESSION 2: Knowledge</b>		
<b>Chair:</b> Prof. Abiyi Ford (Addis Ababa University)		
<i>How is knowledge about Pan-Africanism constituted and disseminated?</i>		
2:30 – 3:00	<i>Anténor Firmin et Bénito Sylvain : initiateurs du mouvement panafricain, artisans de la première expression de la "contre-écriture"</i>	Dr. Jhon Picard Byron (Université d'Etat, Haïti)
3:00 – 3:30	<i>A Story of Collaboration in the Dissemination of Pan-African Values: Queen Sarraounia Against Colonial Empire</i>	Prof. Antoinette Tidjani Alou (Université Abdou Moumouni, Niger)
3:30 – 4:00	<i>Discussions</i>	Prof. Abiyi Ford (Addis Ababa University)
<b>4:00 – 4:30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
4:30 – 5:00	<i>Autochtonous African Nationalism, South African Revolution and Global Pan-African thought: A Personal Journey</i>	CRD Halisi (California State University)
5:00 – 5:30	<i>Defining the Histories of Pan-Africanism(s)</i>	Dr. Hakim Adi (University of Chichester, UK)
5:30 – 6:00	<i>Discussions</i>	Prof. Abiyi Ford (Addis Ababa University)

<b>Saturday May 18</b>		
9:00 – 9:30	Arrival and Registration	Organizing Committee
<p><b>PLENARY SESSION 3: Challenges</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Dr. Jean Albergel (IRD)</p> <p><i>What tools has Pan-Africanism created to achieve and develop a knowledge society?</i></p>		
9:30 – 10:00	<i>À la lecture de Fanon, quel avenir pour le panafricanisme du 21<sup>ème</sup> siècle?</i>	Mireille Fanon Mendès France (Fondation Frantz Fanon)
10:00 - 10:30	<i>Reconstruction, Transformation and African Unity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century</i>	Horace Campbell (Syracuse University, USA)
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Discussions</i>	Dr. Jean Albergel (IRD)
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
11:30 – 12:00	<i>« Le mouvement panafricaniste au vingtième siècle » et l'historiographie du panafricanisme en langue française</i>	Dr. Lazare Ki-Zerbo (OIF)
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Sur les défis de l'utilisation pédagogique de l'Histoire Générale de l'Afrique</i>	Dr. Ali Moussa-Iye (UNESCO)
12:30 – 1:00	<i>Discussion</i>	Dr. Jean Albergel (IRD)
<b>1:00 – 2:30</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
<p><b>Plenary session 4: Future(s)</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Prof. Joseph Vincent Ntuda Ebode (Pan African University)</p> <p><i>What vision do we want to promote? What are our goals ahead?</i></p>		
2:30 – 3:00	<i>Becoming pan-African or self-panafricanizing?</i>	Amzat Boukari-Yabara (University of Negev, Israel)
3:00 – 3:30	<i>Literary visions of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Africa</i>	Prof. Kofi Anyidoho (University of Legon, Ghana)
3:30 – 4:00	<i>Discussions</i>	Prof. Joseph Vincent Ntuda Ebode (Pan African University)
<b>4:00 – 4:30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>	
4:30 – 5:00	<i>Reparations and Pan-Africanism: 'Dissing' the Diaspora at the UN Conference on Race in Durban</i>	Sir Hilary Beckles (University of the West Indies, Cavehill, Barbados)

5:00 – 5:30	<i>The Atlantic Slave Trade and the Black Star. Pan-Africanism in the 21st Century and beyond</i>	H. E. Kwesi Quartey (Government of Ghana)
5:30 – 6:00	Discussions	Prof. Joseph Vincent Ntuda Ebode (Pan African University)
<b>Conclusion</b>		
6:00 – 6:30		<p>H. E. Edem Kodjo (Pax Africana Foundation, Togo) <i>to be confirmed</i></p> <p>Prof. Dzodzi Tsikata (University of Ghana, Legon, Vice-President of CODESRIA)</p> <p>Prof. Mahamet Timera (Director, URMIS, Université Paris Diderot / IRD / Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis)</p> <p>H. E. Isabel Cristina De Azevedo Heyvaert (Embassy of Brazil)</p> <p>Dr. Martial de Paul Ikounga, (HRST Commissionner)</p>
<b>6:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Reception and concert</b>	