



GLOBAL AFRICAN DIASPORA SUMMIT

Sandton, South Africa 23 - 25 May 2012

Press Release N°02 /2012

AUC Chairperson Ping: Africa Must Unite



Pretoria, South Africa 23 May 2012 – The Chairperson of the African Union commission, Mr. Jean Ping, made the call “Africa must unite” while addressing the third Ministerial Conference ahead of the Global Diaspora Summit, at the OR Tambo Conference Centre, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, Pretoria, South Africa.

Mr. Ping recalled that, the same clarion call for Africa to unite was made over fifty years ago by the late prophetic Kwame Nkrumah who said unequivocally among other things that “We must unite (...), so that our vast resources and capacity for development will bring prosperity for us and additional benefits for the rest of the world (...). The time to unite is now or never! Chairperson Ping underlined.

“The association of Ministers of the African Union and the African Diaspora have concrete reasons to be proud of their sense of stewardship in the service of mother Africa” the AUC Chairperson underscored, adding that at every turn and instance the Ministers have inspired, led and guided this process through decisions of the Executive Council, report and oversight of the outcomes, recommendations on what needs to be done to facilitate implementation and the development of appropriate roadmaps and follow-up and implementation mechanism.



Recounting the historical background that led to the Global African Diaspora Summit, Chairperson Ping said "the AU's Diaspora Initiative had its roots in the transformation of the continental organization from the Organization of African Unity (OAU) into the African Union (AU). The OAU was created as an agent for fostering political unity and ensuring political decolonization and independence for all African people within the continent. By the time of the transformation from OAU into AU in 2002, the OAU had done an excellent job and there was need to go beyond the articles of political independence to deliver on its promises of prosperity. The AU was created as a vehicle for accelerating the processes of integration and development to deliver on this promise." (See complete speech of the AUC Chairperson on the AU website: www.au.int)

The third Ministerial Conference of the Global African Diaspora Summit will conclude preparations ahead of the Summit scheduled to be held at the Sandton Convention Centre on 25 May 2012.

Journalists are invited to cover the the Global African Diaspora Summit on Friday.

For further information about the Summit please consult the following links:

African Union Website: <http://au.int/en/summit/diasporasummit2012>

South African Website: www.dirco.gov.za/diaspora

Interview requests should be addressed to **Mrs. Esther AzaaTankou**,AUC, Directorate of Information and Communication, Tel. (+27)(0)825050964, e-mail:esthertankou@yahoo.com / yamboue@africa-union.org

Attached is the complete program of event.

Directorate of Information and Communication. African Union Commission
Web: www.au.int Fax 251 11 5511299



GLOBAL AFRICAN DIASPORA SUMMIT

Sandton, South Africa 23 - 25 May 2012

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 22 May 2012

10:00-22:00 Arrival of Ministers and delegations

To be received by:

Republic of South Africa

Senior Desk Official

10:20-22:20 Ministers and delegations depart for respective hotels

10:35-22:35 Arrival and conducted to respective rooms

Wednesday, 23 May 2012

Private Breakfast

09:30 Ministers depart for the Department of International Relations and
Cooperation by luxury coaches

**Address: OR Tambo Building
460 Soutspansberg Road**

Rietondale, Pretoria

- 10:30-11:00 Arrival and conducted to the Plenary
- 11:00-12:10 African Diaspora Ministerial Meeting: Opening Ceremony

Session 1: Chaired by Mr Nassiru BAKO ARIFARI, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Francophone and Beninese Diasporas, Republic of Benin and Chairperson of the Executive Council of the African Union

Order of Proceedings:

- Minister Nassiru BAKO ARIFARI announces the commencement of the meeting
- Welcome Remarks by Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa (10 mins)
- Statement by Dr Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission (10 mins)
- Statement by Ms Valerie Leslyn Odle: Representative of the Executive Secretary of the CARICOM (5 mins)
- Message by the Representative of the Pan-African Parliament (5 mins)
- Message by the USA National African Council of Mayors (5 mins)
- Message from the Representative of the Global African Diaspora Pre-Summit Process (10 mins)
- Opening statement by Minister Nassiru BAKO ARIFARI (10 mins)

In Attendance: (1+4)

- 12:10-12:40 Coffee/Tea Break
- 12:40-14:40 African Diaspora Ministerial Meeting continues: Closed Session

Session 2: Chaired by Minister Nassiru BAKO ARIFARI

Order of Proceedings:

- Presentation of the Draft Declaration of the Global African Diaspora Summit including the Programme of Action, Implementation Plan and Legacy Projects by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
- Discussion
- Adoption of the Global African Diaspora Summit Agenda
- Closing Remarks by (Tbc)

In Attendance: (1+4)

14:40-15:00 Media Briefing by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, Minister Nassiru BAKO ARIFARI, Dr Jean Ping and Ms Valerie Leslyn Odle

14:55 Ministers are conducted to the Lunch Venue

15:00- 16:30 Lunch

16:30 - 17:50 Bilateral Consultations

17:50 Ministers are conducted to the Reception Area

18:00-18:30 Arrival of other invited guests

18:30-20:30 Global African Diaspora Welcome Cocktail hosted by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane in honour of the Ministers and Guests

20:35 Ministers depart for Sandton by Luxury Coaches

21:35 Arrival at respective hotels

Thursday, 24 May 2012

Private Breakfast

05:00-05:30 Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, Invited Ministers and Guests arrive at Sandton Convention Centre

- ***Tea/Coffee is served on arrival***

05:35 Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, Invited Ministers and Guests are conducted to designated seats

05:40-06:20 Morning Live/SA FM Breakfast

Programme Director: Mr Vuyo Mbuli

Theme: “Building Synergies – Facilitating Innovation and Entrepreneurship through Partnership between Africa and her Diaspora”

Order of Proceedings:

- Welcome and Introductory Remarks by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
- Opening Remarks by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
- Morning Live Transmission by Mr Vuyo Mbuli
- Remarks by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane
- Breakfast Served

10:00-18:00 Arrival of Heads of State/Government, Eminent Persons and delegations

To be received by:

Republic of South Africa

Cabinet Minister/ Deputy Minister

Deputy Director-General

10:15-18:15 Heads of State/Government and delegations depart for respective hotels

10:45-18:50 Arrival and conducted to respective suites

18:00-18:45 Members of the delegation arrive at the Sandton Convention Centre and are conducted to the Ballroom, Level 2

- *Entertainment by Traditional Performers*

- 18:30** **President Jacob Zuma arrives at the Sandton Convention Centre and is conducted to the Holding Room, Level 5**
- 18:30 Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons are conducted to the Holding Room, Level 5
- 18:35-19:20 Arrival and received by President Jacob Zuma
- Photo Opportunity***
- 19:25 Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons are conducted to the Ballroom, Level 2
- 19:30-21:30 **Gala Dinner hosted by President Jacob Zuma in honour of Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons attending the Global African Diaspora Summit**

Dress Code: Lounge Suit/ Ceremonial Uniform/Traditional

Order of Proceedings: (Tbc)

- Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of South Africa and Programme Director announces the arrival of Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons
- Welcome Remarks by Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma
- Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma invites Dr Boni Yayi, President of the Republic of Benin and Chairperson of the African Union to deliver remarks
- Remarks by President Boni Yayi
- Minister Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma invites President Jacob Zuma to deliver remarks
- Remarks by President Jacob Zuma (20 minutes)
- ***Media takes leave***
- Dinner served
- Vote of Thanks (Tbc)
- Entertainment
 - ***Musical Performance by Mr Hugh Masekela***
 - ***Musical Performance by Ms Yvonne Chakachaka***
- The Programme Director announces the departure of Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons

In Attendance: (1+2)

21:35 Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons are conducted to their respective suites

Friday, 25 May 2012

09:00-09:30 Members of the Delegation arrive at the Sandton Convention Centre and are conducted to the Plenary

09:30 President Jacob Zuma arrives at the Sandton Convention Centre and is conducted to the Holding Room, Level 5

09:30 Heads of State/Government, Eminent Persons and Special Guests are conducted to the Holding Room, Level 5

09:35-:09:45 Arrival and received by President Jacob Zuma

09:55 Heads of State/Government, Eminent Persons and Special Guests are conducted to the Plenary

10:00-11:00 Opening Ceremony of the Global African Diaspora Summit

Session 1: Chaired by Dr Boni Yayi, President of the Republic of Benin and Chairperson of the African Union

Theme: "Africa and Her Diaspora, A shared Past, Present and Future"

Order of Proceedings:

- President Boni Yayi announces the commencement of the Summit
- The Anthem of the African Union is played
- Welcome remarks by President Jacob Zuma
- Remarks by Dr Jean Ping
- Remarks by an Eminent Person of the African Diaspora (Tbc)
- Remarks by Prof W Roseval Ambassador of the Republic of Suriname to the Republic of South Africa: representing the Chairperson of the CARICOM

- Remarks by Mr Esteban Lazo, Vice President of the Republic of Cuba
- Remarks by H.E. Ms Portia Simpson-Miller, Prime Minister of Jamaica
- Remarks by President Boni Yayi

In Attendance: (1+4)

Media in attendance

11:00-11:30 Coffee/Tea break and photo opportunity

11:30-13:00 Global African Diaspora Summit continues: **(Closed Session)**

Session 2: Chaired by President Boni Yayi

Order of Proceedings:

- Presentation of the Ministerial Report and the draft Declaration by Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.
- Discussion

13:00 – 13:20 Adoption of the Summit Declaration

13:20 – 13:40 Closing Ceremony of the Global African Diaspora Summit

Order of Proceedings:

- Closing remarks by President Jacob Zuma
- Closing Remarks by President Boni Yayi

Media in attendance for closing remarks

13:40 -14:00 Media Briefing by President Jacob Zuma, President Boni Yayi; Representative of the
Chairperson of CARICOM and Dr Jean Ping

14:00 Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons are conducted to the Dining Hall

14:15-15:30 Lunch

In Attendance: (1+4)

15:35-16:00 **Bilateral Consultations**

16:30 Heads of State/Government and Eminent Persons are conducted to the Hall

16:45 Concluding Concert in Celebration of Africa Day

Saturday, 26 May 2012

Private breakfast

- Heads of State/Government and delegations depart for Airports
- Arrival and conducted to the Aircrafts through the Silent Guard of Honour/
State Protocol Lounge

To bid farewell:

Republic of South Africa

Cabinet Minister/Deputy Minister

Deputy Director-General

- Heads of State/Government and delegations depart the Republic of South Africa