



AFRICAN UNION
International Centre for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa
UNION AFRICAINE
Centre International pour l'Education des Filles et des Femmes en Afrique



PRESS RELEASE

AFRICA DAY CELEBRATION

BY AU/CIEFFA UNDER THE THEME: FIGHTING AGAINST CORRUPTION IN AFRICA.

25 MAY 2018 – Burkina Faso



From right to left : Miss Ouedraogo Leila Doriane, Miss Bonkougou Honorine ; Miss AKOGBETO Audrey F. Nadège, Dr. Rita Bissoonauth, AU/CIEFFA Coordinnator; Miss Rabesiaka Mamy Hassine Ny Avo and M. Bazongo Martial Yiouan

The African Union International Center girls' and women's education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA) as a specialized Institution of the African Union, headquartered in Ouagadougou, has convened Ministries, Embassies, School authorities, students and journalists to celebrate an historic day marking the celebration of Africa Day each May 25. This year, the celebration focussed on a poetry competition with High school students, girls and boys. It was an extraordinary and rewarding experience!

Dr. Rita Bissoonauth, Coordinator of the AU/CIEFFA thanked the institutions present to honor the event and gave the history of the creation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), which has become now the African Union. She also recalled that the year 2018 was declared "Year of fight against corruption in Africa" and that it was appropriate to extend this theme to our young people' reflection to know what they think about the fight against corruption and especially in learning and teaching environments.

H.E Farhat Bouazza, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Morocco to Burkina Faso, in his capacity as Dean of African Diplomatic Missions, thanked AU/CIEFFA for the commemoration of Africa Day in the context of the fight against corruption. He praised the fact that young people were given the floor to speak about corruption, to "fight disease with words". He also paid a heartfelt tribute to the founding fathers of the African Union who laid the foundation for cooperation between our peoples and the decisive role of the African woman, who was resolutely committed to carry the torch of the struggle for freedom, the promotion of the gender and the of women' empowerment.

The best poems selected by a jury of professionals have been declaimed and the authors have received recognition for their literary talent, the quality of the text and the interpretation or representation of the theme "the fight against corruption in Africa".

The winners of the competition are:

1. Miss OUEDRAOGO Leila Doriane from Lycee Yiguia,
2. Miss RABESIAKA Mamy Hassine Ny Avo from Collège de la Salle,
3. Ms. BONKOUNGOU Honorine from Lycee Departmental de Tanghin Dassouri,
4. Miss AKOGBETO Audrey F. Nadège from Collège de la Salle,
5. Mr. BAZONGO Martial Yiouan from Collège Privé Rinvougre.

Congratulations to everyone! They are talented and deserving; and also congratulations to the teachers who trained and accompanied them!

Indeed, what these young people have given to see in this unprecedented experience confirms the idea formulated by Pierre Corneille in "Le Cid": "To well-born souls, the value does not wait for the number of years" and the succession seems thus assured. The strength of their ideas and the proposals have been sent to the decision-makers of today, whereas these young people already took the posture of decision makers ... precocious, or budding.

In concluding remarks, the AU/CIEFFA coordinator expressed her gratitude to all the officials present, the prize-winners of the competition and all the other participants (heads of the Burkina Faso education system, the families of the laureates), who gave their time to celebrate together and in symbiosis Africa Day, imagined, conceived and organized in a very innovative way by AU/CIEFFA.

It was a first attempt, it became a master stroke! It was a first experience that deserves to be re edited!

AU/CIEFFA