



QUARTERLY REVIEW

2017

APRIL - JUNE

African World Heritage Fund
1258 Lever Road, Headway Hill
Midrand, 1685, South Africa
www.awhf.net



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1. HIGHLIGHTS

1.1 CATEGORY II AGREEMENT

The African World Heritage Fund renewed its Category II status with UNESCO following the signing of the new agreement between the Government of South Africa and UNESCO. The signing ceremony was held in the presence of Director General of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova and the Ambassador of South Africa to France and UNESCO, H. E. Mr. Rapulane Molekane at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France on 18 April 2017.



Signing of the Category II agreement in Paris by Ms. Irina Bokova and H. E. Mr. Rapulane Molekane ©AWHF



1.2 AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS – 5TH MAY

The 2017 activities of the regional celebration of the African World Heritage Day culminated on 5th May in Gaoua, Burkina Faso. Participation from several other countries in the continent ensured the success of the 2017 African World Heritage Day through activations witnessed in **Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania and Zambia.**

The Government of Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund and UNESCO organized a series of flagship events to mark the second edition of the 2017 African World Heritage Day which included a Francophone youth forum and a seminar involving youth participants from 23 African Member States, devoted to the theme of training heritage practitioners in Africa. The Regional Youth Forum was aimed at “Increasing youth involvement in the promotion and protection of African World Heritage” for French speaking countries and gathered 29 male and female youth representatives between the ages 20 to 28 years with thirty (30) observers from different regions in Burkina Faso. The gathering provided an opportunity for the youth to learn more about the Management and Sustainable Development of World Heritage Properties in Africa, in particular regarding the heritage typology, management issues and challenges on mitigation measures.



Furthermore, the Youth were equipped with information about the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, about AWHF programmes and were advised on opportunities available in the National Commission for UNESCO in Burkina Faso. Present for the formalities was Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism of Burkina Faso, Mr. Tahirou Barry who asserted that recommendations from the Youth Forum and the Seminar will be implemented. He also reaffirmed the renewed support of the Government of Burkina Faso to the work of AWHF and promised the signing of a new partnership agreement. The participants visited the Ruins of Loropéni World Heritage property; discussing and proposing actions for the improvement of the site's promotion and its state of conservation as part of their tour experience. A Declaration on African World Heritage was developed which was presented during the celebration of the African World Heritage Day. The participants surprised the audience with a collective donation contribution to the children of Obiré village in Loropéni to support future initiatives. Upon conclusion of the ceremony, the Youth participants were awarded certificates for their attendance and participation.

Key recommendations of the Youth Declaration

- *Recommend to States Parties to insert and reinforce education to heritage in training and teaching programmes*
- *Recommend the integration of new technologies in heritage properties' conservation when encouraging youth to implement their knowledge for the benefit of management, research and innovation*
- *Support the initiatives of Non-States actors in heritage management, conservation and promotion by adopting or strengthening the legal and institutional framework.*
- *Recommend to promote viable and innovative partnership models e.g. Public Private Partnership and initiatives empowering youth organisations and local communities*
- *Recommend States Parties to promote free circulation of people on the continent and to develop accurate infrastructures to facilitate access to heritage sites.*



Participants arriving at the Regional Youth Forum in Burkina Faso ©AWHF



Participants at the end of the Regional Youth Forum in Burkina Faso ©AWHF



Participants at the Seminar during the Regional Youth Forum in Burkina Faso ©AWHF

Key components of the Seminar

- *Problematic areas of African World Heritage protection: stakes, challenges and perspectives (M. Lassina Simpore, Université de Ouagadougou).*
- *Gender, transmission and development of heritage (Ms Amélie Essesse, Architect).*
- *Contribution of formal and non-formal education to sustainable conservation and management of World Heritage: curricula, methods and practices (M. Amade Badini).*
- *Presentation of a promotional platform on telephone networks “African View, World Heritage Sites in Senegal” (Ms Maryam Kadia Sow, UNESCO Office in Dakar)*
- *Academic training offer on World Heritage in Africa: lessons from the AWHF’s 10th Anniversary seminar in May 2016 (M. Souayibou Varissou, AWHF)*

The Seminar was based on “Protection of African World Heritage: Stakes, Challenges and Perspectives”. It witnessed participation from 200 youth, academics, decision makers, regional and local authorities and representatives of media. The Seminar was opened by Mr. Alkassoum Maiga, Minister of High Education, Scientific Research and Innovation of Burkina Faso. In his address, the Minister advocated for the world cultural and natural heritage to be included in the curriculum of the University of Gaoua which will officially be functional next year. The various presentations and discussions delivered assessed the achievements and challenges that exist when implementing the World Heritage Convention in Burkina Faso and Africa.



Participants at the Seminar during Regional Youth Forum in Burkina Faso ©AWHF

1.3 21ST AWHF BOARD MEETING GOLDEN GATE

The AWHF 21st Board Session was held at Golden Gate Highlands National Park, South Africa on 22nd June 2017. The meeting was attended by Board Members representing the five regions, Observers and representatives from UNESCO, the Departments of Arts and Culture (DAC) and Environmental Affairs (DEA) of South Africa and Kenya High Commission in South Africa.,

Prior to the board meeting, the Board paid a courtesy call to the Minister of Arts and Culture of South Africa, Mr. Nathi Mthethwa on 20th June 2017 in Pretoria. The delegation was led by the Chairperson of the Fund, Mr. Vusi Ndima. The Minister was briefed on the activities of the Fund and the upcoming board meeting. The Board thanked the South African Government for hosting the Fund for the past 10 years. The Minister reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of South Africa to support the operations of the Fund.



Participants of the board meeting visit Golden Gate National Park and Basotho Cultural Village ©AWHF

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1 EVALUATION MEETING ON WORLD HERITAGE UPSTREAM SUPPORT PROGRAMME IN AFRICA



Participants during the Evaluation Meeting in Midrand ©AWHF

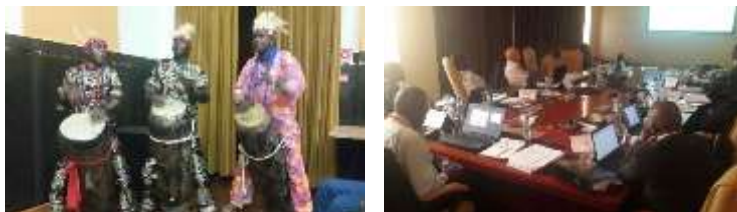
The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) launched the nomination training programme in 2008. The programme is in line with the objectives of the AWHF of contributing to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa, and in particular, increasing the number of inscribed African properties as part of addressing the imbalance and inequalities identified by the Global Strategy. AWHF developed a new Four Year (September 2016 - February 2020) Upstream Support Programme for Africa. The aim of this programme is to strengthen the capacities of African heritage practitioners in order to develop credible and quality nomination files. The Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) coordinates the activities in English speaking countries, while the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) coordinates the activities for French and Portuguese speaking countries. The programme is run with the partnership of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), World Heritage Centre (WHC), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and African States Parties.

The Evaluation meeting took place in Midrand Johannesburg, South Africa from 7th to 9th June and was officially opened by the Director of AWHF (Dr. Webber Ndoro) followed by messages of support from Advisory Bodies (Ms. Laura Robinson), Implementing Agencies (EPA and CHDA) represented by Mr. Peter Okwaro and UNESCO (Africa Unit)- Mr. Edmond Moukala.

2.2 AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE EXPERTS MEETING IN ANGOLA

Various officials gathered for the opening ceremony of the consultative meeting of the African World Heritage Experts in Angola which was attended by more than sixty (60) participants, with the objective to address issues on the 41st World Heritage Committee Agenda, particularly those affecting the implementation of the World Heritage Convention on the African continent. The ceremony was conducted on 12th June and was led by the Minister of Culture in Angola, Hon. Caroline Cerqueira and included attendance by the Minister of Tourism and Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Angola. The Deputy Minister of Social Affairs and Deputy Governor of Mbanza Kongo Heritage Site in Angola were also present.

The participants analysed the discussion documents to develop common statements for the Region. The results of the meeting showed the interest in Africa for this consultation among World Heritage Experts towards an improved implementation of the Convention. Among other issues discussed were the submission of the proposal by Angola for the inscription on Mbanza Kongo Heritage Site which will be highlighted at the 41st World Heritage Committee Meeting in Krakow, Poland. Natural and cultural experts from other African countries including Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, South Africa as well as representation from AWHF shared their input in the discussions.



Pictures of the African World Heritage Meeting in Angola ©AWHF

2.3 TECHNICAL VISIT TO MALI

The Department of Arts and Culture together with AWHF embarked on an expedition to Mali where the South African government met with the government of Mali to revive the cooperation on safeguarding of Timbuktu, a World Heritage Site in Mali.



Mr. Vusithemba Ndima at the Timbuktu world Heritage Site ©AWHF

3. MEETINGS

3.1 MEETING WITH THE EMBASSY OF POLAND

As a build up to the 41st World Heritage Committee meeting (WHC) in Krakow, Poland, AWHF engaged with the Ambassador of Poland in South Africa, H.E. Mr. Andrzej Kanthaka for the facilitation of the AWHF Side Event. Regularly, during the WHC meeting, the Africa Unit at the World Heritage Centre (WHC) and the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) have partnered to organize a side event aiming at raising awareness on specific topics related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa. A similar initiative was envisioned for the 41st World Heritage Committee meeting in Krakow, Poland.



Meeting with H.E. Mr. Andrzej Kanthaka ©AWHF



Mr Phuthuma Nhleko @Africatelecomit

3.2 MEETING WITH MR. PHUTHUMA NHLEKO

AWHF Executive Director, Dr. Webber Ndoro and Ambassador of South Africa to France, H. E. Mr. Rapulane Molekane held a fruitful meeting with AWHF Patron, Mr. Phuthuma Nhleko on 22nd June in Johannesburg, South Africa. During the meeting different ways in which the Patron can assist the Fund were explored. This resulted in the commitment by the Patron to support the growth of interest of private sector networks towards the work of the Fund through various channels. He suggested identifying a list of targeted key blue chip companies which he would approach and possibly influence.

3.3 FLANDERS DAY @ EMBASSY OF FLANDERS

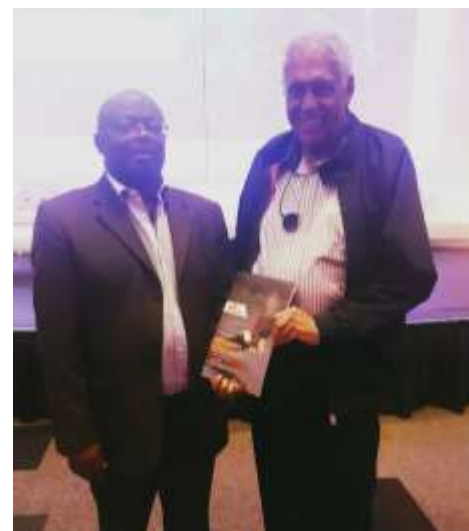
The African World Heritage Fund was invited to celebrate the annual Flanders Day at the embassy of Flanders in Pretoria on 28th June. The renewal and extension of the internship-contract between Flanders and AWHF was also discussed.



Ms. Beau Van Dooren and Mr. Yannick Van Winkel at the Flanders Day ©AWHF

3.4 AWHF FEATURES AT THE 7TH ANNUAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT SUMMIT AND WORLD CONGRESS IN SANDTON

AWHF took part in the 7th Annual Trade and Investment Summit and World Congress hosted from 4th to 7th April by the Global Business Roundtable Board in Johannesburg, South Africa. This year the theme was: “Harnessing Africa’s Resources for Industrialisation and Beneficiation” where AWHF provided a compelling and informative presentation highlighting heritage and the economy. The presentation shared heritage as an unexploited sector with great potential of contributing towards economy development. Furthermore, the presentation focused on opportunities to be explored in different areas such as: employment opportunities for the youth and women, skills development, private sector engagement, tourism and benefits of the heritage sector were highlighted. It is at this event that the work of the African World Heritage Fund was endorsed by South African former Minister in the Presidency, Mr. Essop Pahad. AWHF extends its gratitude to the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) for creating the opportunity for AWHF to be part of such an internationally recognized platform.



Mr. Essop Pahad endorsing AWHF ©AWHF



Australia ©AWHF



Benin ©AWHF

3.5 VISIT TO UNESCO - PARIS

AWHF convened with various permanent delegations to UNESCO representing the following countries in Paris: Australia, Benin, Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Poland and Zimbabwe. The visit took place from 10 to 14 April and was aimed at strengthening partnerships with the Fund.

4. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

EVENT	DATE/VENUE
ASAPA Conference 2017	5 July – 8 July/Pretoria, South Africa
Conservation Grant application	1 July – 31 September
ICAHN 2017 Conference	2 October 0 5 October/ Tanzania
Conservation Grant application	1 July – 31 September
Nomination initial workshop	16 October – 10 November/ Rwanda
Nomination initial workshop	2 October – 27 October/ Nigeria
10 African World Heritage Fund	
Category II Centre Meeting	February 2018/ Robben island, South Africa

5. AWHF NEWS

DECORATION CEREMONY IN HONOUR OF DR. WEBBER NDORO

His Majesty the King of Spain, Felipe VI, deemed it appropriate to grant Dr. Ndoro the Order of Civil merit with the rank of Commander. In awarding this auspicious honour, His Majesty the King recognized his distinguished career in preserving Africa's Heritage and his contribution in strengthening the relations between AWHF and Spain.

To mark this important occasion, an official ceremony was held at the Spanish Residence on 20th June where the decoration honour was bestowed upon Dr. Webber Ndoro. The ceremony was officiated by the outgoing Ambassador of Spain to South Africa, H E Mr. Juan Ignacio Sell Sanz. Present to witness and congratulate Dr. Ndoro on this achievement, were the Ambassadors of Norway, H E Ms. T Skymoene; France, H E Mr. Christophe Farnaud; Mali, H E Mr. M A Cissé; Mexico, H E Mr. M Escanero; Angola, Sita N'sadisi Jose Diekumpuna; the High Commissioner of Mauritius to South Africa, H E Mr. Vijaye Lutchmum; the Ambassador of South Africa to France, H E Mr. Rapulane S Molekane; the South African Departments of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and Arts and Culture (DAC) as well as the Board Members and staff of AWHF.



LTR: H E Mr. Rapulane S Molekane, Sita N'sadisi Jose Diekumpuna, H E Mr. M A Cisse, H E Mr. Christophe Farnaud, Dr. Webber Ndoro, H E Mr. J I Sell Sandz, H E Mr. M Escanero, H E Mr. Vijaye Lutchmum, H E H E Ms. T Skymoene © AWHF



LTR: H E Mr. Rapulane S Molekane, Dr. Webber Ndoro and Mr Edmond Moukala © AWHF



AWHF staff at the decoration ceremony in honour of Dr. Webber Ndoro © AWHF

African World Heritage Fund, 1258 Lever road, Headway Hill, Midrand 1685, South Africa- www.awhf.net