



*Lion in W Arly Pendjari Transboundary Park
©Kessington*

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1. HIGHLIGHTS

1.1 TWO AFRICAN SITES INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST - KENYA & SOUTH AFRICA

1). THIMLICH OHINGA WORLD HERITAGE SITE - KENYA

The **Thimlich Ohinga** (Kenya), is the largest and best preserved dry-stone wall settlement, typical of Kenya's Lake Victoria region. The settlement, situated north-west of Migori town, is thought to have been built in the 16th Century and appears to have served as a fort for communities and livestock.

UNESCO called it "an exceptional example of the tradition of the first pastoral communities in the Lake Victoria Basin".

2). BARBERTON MAKHONJWA MOUNTAINS – SOUTH AFRICA

The **Makhonjwa Mountains** (South Africa), also known as the **Barberton Mountain Land**, is a range of small mountains and hills that covers an area of 120 by 60 kilometers (75 by 37 mi), about 80% in Mpumalanga, a province of South Africa, and the remainder in neighboring Swaziland. Along with its exceptional geology, the area is rich in wild plants, animals and beautiful scenery. **The Site is truly unique, containing the oldest and best preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on earth.**



Thimlich Ohinga, Kenya ©AIA

*Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains, South Africa
©AIA*

1.2. AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE DAY – 5TH MAY 2018

This year, the 5th of May was dedicated to the Celebration of African World Heritage Day which included a 'heritage walk' through the Island of Mozambique attended by more than 200 people including Government officials, government cooperation partners, local youth including students from local schools, local cultural groups, and diverse social groups from civil society. The main celebrations took place at the Slave Memorial Garden in Maputo, Mozambique where the ceremony was presided by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Mr Domingos Artur, on behalf of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism. There was an award of prizes from the drawing, painting and poetry contest related to the theme of the celebrations of the World Heritage Day ("***Cherishing the Heritage of the Island of Mozambique***"). The celebrations included the presentation of the results of the Youth Forum including the Youth Declaration, a performance by local cultural groups (including performance on slavery on the Island of Mozambique) and many other cultural activities. This day was also an opportunity to raise awareness, particularly among young people, the wealth, value and need to preserve African heritage. Several festivities took place in and around the African continent.



A 'heritage walk' through the Island of Mozambique attended by more than 200 people @AWHF

INSTAGRAM COMPETITION WINNERS:

AWHF together with UNESCO ran an Instagram photo competition in the framework of African World Heritage Day (5 May) on **#MyAfricanHeritage** where the winners won amazing prizes. The first (**1st**) prize winner of a trip to the United Republic of Tanzania (Ngorongoro Conseration Area and Serengeti National Park) went to Mr. Mrinal Mohit for his intriguing image of the Namib Sand Sea in Nambia while the second (**2nd**) prize winner of a trip to South Africa (Robben Island) went to Mr. Ashriki Mussa for his exquisite capture of the Town of Zanzibar in Tanzania and the third (**3rd**) prize winner of a visit to Cabo Verde (World Heritage Site of Cicade Velha Historic Centre of Ribeira Grand) Ribeira went to Mr. Roger Estimu for his image of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park of Uganda.

1.3. AWHF HOSTS THE LUSOPHONE REGIONAL YOUTH FORUM IN MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE



Group photo: Officials and Participants of the Regional Youth Forum in Maputo, Mozambique ©AWHF

The African World Heritage Regional Youth Forum on "Mainstreaming youth perspective and involvement in conservation and sustainable development of African World Heritage" for the Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa gathered 18 young participants from Mozambique, Angola São Tomé e Príncipe, Guiné-Bissau and Namibia. The Forum was jointly organized by AWHF and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Mozambique, with the support from UNESCO (World Heritage Centre and Maputo Office), the Portuguese Cooperation in Mozambique, the African Union, the City Council of the Island of Mozambique, Government of the District of the Island of Mozambique and Conservation Cabinet of the Island of Mozambique. The Forum took place in the Island of Mozambique World Heritage Site, between 29th April and 3rd May and aimed at raising awareness and deepening the understanding of the youth regarding issues and threats facing African World Heritage while offering a platform for the youth to harness their creativity, working together and building networks.

The Youth Forum was covered by two national broadcasts (Televisão de Moçambique and SOICO TV) which covered the opening of the Youth Forum and the celebrations of the African World Heritage Day. A short documentary on the Island of Mozambique including the activities of the Youth Forum were further broadcasted nationwide. On social media, the hashtag #AWHFPALOP was established. #MyAfricanHeritage was used in an attempt to link to the network of social media users participating in the photo competition.

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1 AWHF HOSTS A SIDE EVENT ON WORLD HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA, AT THE 42ND WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING IN MANAMA, BAHRAIN

At this year's 42nd World heritage Committee Session gathering of global scope, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) together with the Africa Unit at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC) partnered with ICOMOS to organize a Side Event themed "World heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa", aiming at raising awareness on specific issues related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa.

The event gathered more than 100 guests and delegates. The main speakers included UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, **Mr. Ernesto Renato Ottone Ramirez, Minister of Arts and Culture, South Africa, Honourable Nathi Mthethwa, Director General for ICCROM, Dr. Webber Ndoro, IUCN Representative, Mr. Youssouph DIEDHIOU** and Prof Christina Cameron (Patron of AWHF). Other Ministers present were: Prof Narcisse Mouelle Kombi, Minister of Arts and Culture, Cameroon and Honourable Dr. Jules Doret Ndong, Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, Cameroon.



Side Event on "World Heritage and Sustainable Development" in progress ©AWHF

2.2. MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE MEETING ON “WORLD HERITAGE ISSUES IN AFRICA”

A ministerial roundtable meeting on “World heritage issues in Africa” was convened on **28th June** by Honourable Nathi Mthethwa, Minister of Arts and Culture, South Africa and gathered Prof Narcisse Mouelle Kombi, Minister of Arts and Culture, Cameroon and Honourable Dr. Jules Doret Ndongo, Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, Cameroon, Mr. Thato Raphaka, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Conservation, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism, Botswana and various other African delegation leaders, Ambassadors and partners. The meeting was aimed at providing a platform for discussion on few heritage-related issues on the African continent. As Minister hosting AWHF, Honourable Nathi Mthethwa thought that it was right to also use the World Heritage Meeting platform to further engage with African leaders in a constructive way.



The meeting focused on a number of topics including:

- a) The Heritage Sites associated with memories of recent conflicts (independence and liberation heritages, genocide sites, iconic places during the 2nd World War, slavery routes etc.) to be nominated as World Heritage.
- b) Issues about World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa.
- c) The support to the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF).



UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, Mr. Ernesto Renato Ottone Ramirez & Minister of Arts and Culture, South Africa, Mr. Nathi

2.3 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP ON WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The risk preparedness workshop for the South African government was held in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) at Vredefort Dome, Parys from the 29 July - 04 August 2018. The workshop was comprised of South African site managers and delegates that manage all World Heritage Properties within South Africa.

The workshop served to prepare for the capacity building training on disaster risk management. It also addressed issues that World Heritage Properties in South Africa are being challenged with, including the degradation of the sites, environmental change, social and economic conditions, co-existing of communities within World Heritage properties, fire, and land use changes, natural resource extraction and sustainable development.

AWHF's role was to assist with the development of a Disaster Risk Management Plan framework for South Africa, which aligns with the Fund's strategic objective of increasing and strengthening human resource capability and capacity for training institutions on the protection, conservation and management of cultural and natural heritage.



Group discussion during the workshop @AWHF



Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa represented by, Ms. Thumeka Ntloko at the Opening Ceremony @AWHF



Field work done during the process of the workshop @AWHF

2.4 WORKSHOP ON THE PREPARATION OF TRANS – NATIONAL SERIAL NOMINATION OF GEOMETRIC ROCK ART IN LAKE VICTORIA REGION - KAMPLALA, UGANDA



Group Photo: Participants attending the workshop in Kampala, Uganda ©AWHF

The workshop which took place in Kampala, Uganda from 23rd to 30th August was officially opened by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, Mrs. Doreen Katusiime. In her opening speech, she thanked AWHF for the continuous support of World Heritage Sites in Uganda. She reiterated the commitment of the Government of Uganda to find a feasible way forward for the inscription of Nyero and other rock art sites around Lake Victorian region on the World Heritage List. The workshop was aimed at:

- a)** Sharing knowledge and practices on scoping and developing credible serial nominations as per the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention;
- b)** Bringing experts from Lake Victoria region (Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya) to present on the potential of their Geometric Rock Art Sites as part of the proposed transnational serial nomination;
- c)** Discussing with State Parties a possible roadmap for a successful serial transnational nomination dossier for the Lake Victoria region;
- d)** Seeking guidance from ICOMOS on the procedure to be followed by the State Party of Uganda in relation to the World Heritage Committee Decision 39 COM 8B.9 on 'Nyero and Other Hunter-Gatherer Rock Art sites in Eastern Uganda'.

2.5 AWHF ATTENDS THE 5TH PAN AFRICAN CULTURAL CONGRESS (PACC5) IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA



Group Photo: Officials and Participants attending the 5th Pan African Cultural Congress (PACC5) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia @AWHF

The Pan African Cultural Congress was held in Addis Ababa Ethiopia from the 5th to 7th September 2018. The theme was “Advancing the Africa Union Agenda 2063 through Culture and the African Creative Economy”. The congress was attended by the State Minister of Culture and Tourism of Ethiopia Honorable Mrs. Bezunesh Meseret.

AWHF presented on the outcome of the youth forums held in South Africa (Anglophone - 2016), Burkina Faso (Francophone - 2017) and Mozambique (Lusophone - 2018). The Presentation focused on youth involvement in the heritage sector in Africa and capacity building. The Fund was requested to assist in the implementation of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063. The AU Agenda 2063 is a strategic framework for the socio economic transformation of the continent over the next fifty years. Aspiration five (5) speaks to the objective of PACC5, which is to have an Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics.



State Minister of Culture and Tourism of Ethiopia, Honorable Mrs. Bezunesh Meseret @AWHF

2. ACTIVITIES

2.6 WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION TRAINING COURSE IN KIGALI, RWANDA



Group photo: Participants from ten (10) French and Portuguese speaking African countries ©AWHF

The AWHF World Heritage Nomination Training Course took place from 09 – 12 September in Kigali, Rwanda. It gathered sixteen (16) participants (including eight (8) observers from Rwanda) from ten (10) French and Portuguese speaking African countries namely: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Niger and Rwanda. The participants gathered were working on nine (9) nomination projects. The course was aimed at strengthening the skills of African heritage practitioners to develop successful World Heritage nomination dossiers.



The Opening Ceremony was chaired by Hon. Evode Uwizeyimana, State Minister/Deputy Attorney General, Constitutional and Legal Affairs of Rwanda. In his opening speech, he highlighted the readiness of the Rwandan Government to support the course especially the nomination projects being championed by Rwanda. He also confirmed the availability of Rwanda to champion African heritage issues. Other speakers included:

- a) Dr Jean Damascene Bizimana, Executive Secretary of the Rwandan National Commission for the Fight against Genocide (CNLG);
- b) Mr Samuel Kidiba, Director of the School of African Heritage (EPA)
- c) Mr Souayibou Varissou, Acting Director of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF).

*Hon. Evode Uwizeyimana, State Minister/Deputy Attorney General, Constitutional and Legal Affairs of Rwanda
©AWHF*

2.7 SEVENTH (7TH) SPECIAL SESSION OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCES ON THE ENVIRONMENT (AMCEN)



Group photo: Participants from ten (10) French and Portuguese speaking African countries ©AWHF

The 7th Special Session of AMCEN (17-19 September) was organised on the theme ***"Turning Environmental Policies into Action through Innovative Solutions"*** jointly with the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordination Agency. The first meeting of the Africa Environment Partnership Platform (20-21 September) was aimed at promoting sustainable environmental management in Africa through enhanced partnership, coordination and harmonization of activities. As per the Decision of the Board of Trustees (at its 23rd Session) and in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA, South Africa) who provided the required facilitation, AWHF attended the AMCEN for the first time with as objective to:

- Present the Position Paper on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in the process of endorsement by the African Union Summit;
- Explore possibility to tap into the environmental network about World Heritage in Africa.
- AWHF was represented at the 7th Session of AMCEN by Acting Executive Director of the Fund



Various African Ministers of Environment attending the 7th Special Session of AMCEN ©AWHF

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 AWHF CREATES HERITAGE DAY AWARENESS AT THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (DBSA)

On Friday 21st September, AWHF celebrated the South African annual Heritage Day at the premises of the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), who are AWHFs host partners. The aim was to create awareness on the importance of protecting and conserving heritage.

The awareness activation was comprised with handing out awareness communication material to all employees of DBSA. The material provided comprehensive information about the work of AWHF.



AWHF staff celebrating the South African Annual National Heritage Day ©AWHF



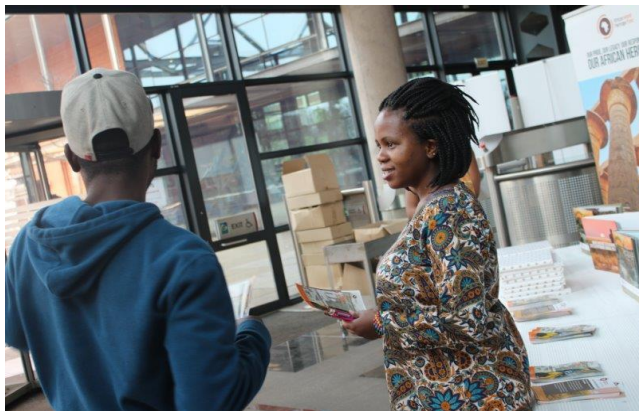
AWHF creating awareness on the importance of preserving and conserving our rich African Heritage ©AWHF

3.2 AWARENESS ACTIVATION IN COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA IN PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA



The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) in collaboration with the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), conducted a successful Heritage Awareness activation in Pretoria. An exhibition stand was set up where African World Heritage Site informative publications were distributed to students, the youth and visitors of the library. The aim was to encourage awareness on the protection and conservation of the rich African Heritage and to educate the public on the work of the Fund. Social media platforms (Facebook & Twitter) were also utilized to create more awareness and for a broader reach.

Several publications were given to the National Library of South Africa (NLSA) for display purposes.



AWHF giving away heritage communication material in collaboration with National Library of South Africa
©AWHF

4. PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS

4.1 MEETING WITH MINISTER OF SPORT AND CULTURE, RWANDA - MS. JULIENNE UWACU

As part of the extensive mission to Rwanda by the Acting Executive Director of the Fund, AWHF met with the Minister to:

- a) Express gratitude for her effective support having led to the appointment of Ms. Carole Karemera as a Board member of the AWHF's Board of Trustees;
- b) Presentation of AWHF's projects about (1) Position Paper on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa and (2) Call to Action for African heritage.
- c) Discussion about the need for Rwanda to develop a Tentative List involving cultural and natural heritage formed part of the key points tabled. The Minister promised to support both documents at the upcoming African Ministers of Culture Meeting to be held in Algiers, Algeria, on 22-26 October 2018.



AWHF with Hon Julienne Uwacu, Minister of Sport and Culture, Rwanda

4.2 MEETING WITH MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, RWANDA - DR VINCENT BIRUTA

AWHF met with Dr. Vincent Biruta, Minister of Environment of Rwanda and Mr Samuel Kidiba, Director of School of African Heritage (Ecole du Patrimoine Africain) in Rwanda. AWHF introduced the Fund & discussed issues of conservation and sustainable development including the future of World Heritage in Rwanda.

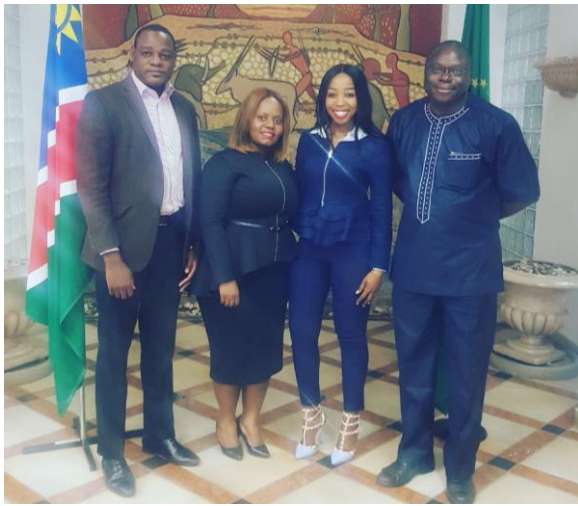


AWHF with Hon. Dr Vincent Biruta, Minister of Environment, Rwanda

PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS

4.3 AWHF MEETS WITH THE HIGH COMMISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA TO SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF met with the First Secretary of the High Commission of the Republic of Namibia to South Africa on a long standing partnership and to continue exploring further areas of cooperation.



AWHF with the High Commission of the Republic of Namibia to South Africa

4.4 AWHF MEETS WITH THE EMBASSY OF MALI TO SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF met with Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Mali to South Africa, H.E. Mohammed Ouzouna Maiga and Commercial and Cultural Attaché, Mrs. Mariama Ludovic de Lys on solidifying collaboration and partnership efforts between Mali and AWHF.



AWHF with H. E. Mrs. Mariama Ludovic, Ambassador of Mexico to South Africa

4.5. AWHF MEETS WITH THE AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SOUTHERN AFRICA

AWHF engaged with the Australian Business Chamber of Commerce Southern Africa (ABCCSA) on possible areas of cooperation and partnership.



AWHF with ABCCSA in Sandton, South Africa

PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS

4.6 AWHF MEETS WITH DR MECHTILD RÖSSLER

AWHF met with Dr. Mechtild Rössler, Director of UNESCO World Heritage Centre, at UNESCO in Paris on discussions around conservation, management & nomination processes as well as relations with the African Union.



AWHF with Dr. Mechtild Rössler, Director of UNESCO World Heritage Centre

4.8 AWHF MEETS WITH MR. FIRMAN MATOKO

AWHF met with Assistant Director General of UNESCO - Africa Department, Mr Firmin Matoko on issues relating to conservation, management, development and growth of African heritage aspects for the betterment of the African continent.



AWHF with Mr. Firmin Matoko, Assistant Director General of UNESCO – Africa Department

4.7 AWHF MEETS COUNCILLOR OF HERITAGE & TOURISM OF SAUDI ARABIA

AWHF meets with Councillor of Heritage & Tourism, Mr. Mohammed Alsemiran of the Permanent Delegation of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO. Engagements were on possible bilateral collaborations in areas of capacity building.



AWHF with Permanent Delegate of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO, Mr. Mohammed Alsemiran

4.9 AMBASSADOR – PERMANENT DELEGATE OF ANGOLA TO UNESCO

AWHF held follow up discussions with Ambassador - Permanent Delegate of Angola to UNESCO on heritage related issues and development of the African continent.



4.10 AWHF MEETS WITH AMBASSADOR – PERMANENT DELEGATE OF BENIN TO UNESCO

AWHF had engagements with Ambassador - Permanent Delegate of Benin to UNESCO on future collaboration prospects with the Fund.



AWHF with Ambassador – Permanent Delegate of Benin to UNESCO

4.12 AWHF MEETS WITH THE AFRICA GROUP

AWHF held a very progressive meeting with the Africa Group on pertinent documents geared to move the objectives of the Fund forward and improve the heritage standing of the African continent.



AWHF with the Africa Group

4.11 AMBASSADOR – PERMANENT DELEGATE OF MALI TO UNESCO

AWHF Acting Executive Director shared a comprehensive publication of African World Heritage Sites with Ambassador – Permanent Delegate of Mali to UNESCO.



AWHF with Ambassador – Permanent Delegate of Mali to UNESCO

4.13 PLANNING WITH UNESCO AFRICA UNIT TEAM

AWHF held a progressive planning meeting with the UNESCO Africa Unit team in Paris on prospects and programmes for 2019 and beyond.



AWHF with the dynamic UNESCO Africa Unit Team in Paris

5. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



AWHF, South African Government, UNESCO & IUCN at the 42nd World Heritage Committee Meeting in Manama, Bahrain @AWHF

N°	EVENT	PARTNER	DATE/VENUE
1	Position paper on World Heritage and Sustainable Development for the African Region	UNESCO Africa Group/AU	August - September
2	African Regional Course on Promoting People-Centred Approaches to Conservation of Nature and Culture – PNC18, Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls, Zambia	ICCROM	14-24 August (Zambia)
3	Francophone Nomination Training Course	EPA, WH Centre, IUCN, ICCROM	3-21 September (Rwanda)
4	AWHF's Strategic planning 2019-2022 (Final document)	AWHF	15 September – 15 October
5	Expert meeting on trans-frontier World Heritage Sites in Africa	WH Centre	22-24 October (Niger)
6	Ministers of Culture Gathering		22 – 26 th October (Algeria)
7	Call for application – Educational Grant	AWHF	October - November
8	24 th Board Meeting	AU	December (Tbc)
9	AWHF Fundraising Luncheon at 32 nd AU Summit	AU	10 th /11 th February 2019
10	Concept document on Third Periodic Reporting Exercise in Africa	UNESCO	March 2019