



*Vredefort Dome World Heritage Site in
South Africa ©AWHF*

QUARTERLY REVIEW 2020

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African World Heritage Fund

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Elders at Mbanza Kongo World Heritage Site in Angola ©AWHF

COVID – 19 OUTBREAK

MESSAGE BY MR. VUSUMUZI MKHIZE, CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND ON THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) OUTBREAK



Mr. Vusumuzi Mkhize, Chairperson of the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) ©AWHF

In recent months, the world has witnessed the emergence of Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). The virus has already infected and killed thousands of people across the world. African States have not been spared by this pandemic.

Increased number of infection cases have been witnessed in recent weeks despite efforts by African States to contain the virus. The situation has also led to the closure or reduced access to our natural and cultural heritage places and postponement of AWHF activities.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt condolences to all heritage actors who have lost their beloved family members and wish a speedy recovery of those already infected by the virus.

The AWHF is fully committed to supporting Member States in their effort to curb this pandemic. In this difficult period, we need to find innovative ways to champion African World Heritage protection and promotion.

I call upon all heritage actors and stakeholders in Africa to comply with the directives issued by their respective Health authorities and observe basic hygienic instructions. Together and in solidarity, we shall defeat COVID-19.

Thank you.

1. SUSTAINABILITY

1.1 AWHF HOSTS AN ADVOCACY LUNCHEON EVENT DURING THE 33RD AFRICAN UNION ASSEMBLY, CHAMPIONED BY H.E. IBRAHIM BOUBACAR KEITA



Left to Right: Mr. Vusumuzi Mkhize, AWHF Chairperson, H.E. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President of the Republic of Mali and AU Champion for Arts, Culture & Heritage, H. E. Mrs. Amira Elfadil Mohammed, African Union Commissioner for Social Affairs ©AWHF

On 9th February 2020 during the 33rd African Union Heads of State Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, AWHF in partnership with the **Government of Mali** and the **African Union Commission (AUC)** hosted an Advocacy Luncheon Event at the renowned African Union Multipurpose Hall. The platform was provided by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), **His Excellency, Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat**. This auspicious event was championed by **His Excellency, Hon. Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita**, President of the Republic of Mali and African Union Champion for Arts, Culture and Heritage, with the aim to profile the Fund at a Presidential level and to support the AWHF resource mobilisation programme to pursue its work of identifying, protecting and promoting Africa's rich and outstanding heritage. The event gathered dignitaries from various Member States namely: Heads of State from **Mali, DRC, Ghana, Guinea, Niger, Senegal** and **Zimbabwe**, Prime Ministers from **Gabon, Morocco** and **Mozambique**, Former Heads of State, First Ladies, Ministers, Ambassadors, the **United Nations** Secretary General, **UNESCO** representatives and many government officials.



Proceedings of the AWHF Advocacy Luncheon Event during the 33rd African Union Assembly ©AWHF

1.2 AWHF CHAIRPERSON, MR. VUSUMUZI MKHIZE HOSTS A STAKEHOLDERS EVENT DURING THE 33RD AFRICAN UNION ASSEMBLY



Group photo: Hon. Dr. N'Diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo, Minister of Culture – Mali, Hon. Mr. Nathi Mthethwa, Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture - South Africa, Mr. Vusumuzi Mkhize, Chairperson of AWHF and various Private Sector Representatives from the African continent. ©AWHF

Preceding the Advocacy Event, Mr. Vusumuzi Mkhize, Chairperson of AWHF, hosted a Stakeholders Roundtable Event on 8th February which featured **Hon. Dr. N'Diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo**, Minister of Culture of Mali and **Hon. Mr. Nathi Mthethwa**, Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture, South Africa and gathered more than fifteen (15) Private Sector representatives from various parts of the African continent. The two Ministers shared the importance of having private sector and business participation on this platform and ultimately having them viewing heritage and the work AWHF as an opportunity for partnership and for sustainable business. The aim of the event was to enlighten Stakeholders on the pivotal role they can play in supporting the sustainable development and conservation of Africa's rich heritage. AWHF also hoped to strengthen relationships with private sector and business through joint projects to be conducted at World Heritage Sites in Africa. The same private sector participants were also given an opportunity to be part of the main AWHF Advocacy Event on 9th February.

1.3 TWELVE (12) AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE COMMIT THEMSELVES TO SECOND MALI IN THE ROLE OF LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND FACILITATION FOR ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE



Mali

Twelve (12) Heads of State solemnly accepted the invitation by **H. E. Hon. Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita**, President of the Republic of Mali and African Union Champion for Arts, Culture and Heritage to act as his co-champions and to assist him in carrying out his mission.



Cabo Verde

Congo

DRC

Egypt

Equatoria Gunea

Ethiopia



Ghana

Kenya

Morocco

Namibia

Nigeria

South Africa

2. UPSTREAM ACTIVITIES

2.1 THIRD CYCLE OF THE PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE IN AFRICA – NAIROBI, KENYA



Group photo: Workshop for African World Heritage Site Managers, Nairobi, Kenya ©AWHF

Following the launch of the Third Cycle of Periodic Reporting in the African Region by the World Heritage Committee in July 2019, in Baku, a workshop for African World Heritage Site Managers was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 19th to 21st February 2020. The workshop was organised by the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa and the African World Heritage Fund in partnership with the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage (National Museums of Kenya) and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (Kenya Wildlife Service). Seventy-five (75) participants from 17 State Parties to the World Heritage Convention attended the workshop including Site Managers and representatives of African States Parties, Advisory Bodies (ICOMOS, ICCROM and IUCN), UNESCO representatives from regional and field offices, the Coordination team of the Periodic Reporting, and the authorities and heritage professionals from the host country. The official opening ceremony featured a welcome remark by **Ms. Ann Therese Ndong Jatta**, Director of UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa and keynote address by **Dr Amina Mohamed**, the Kenyan Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Sports Culture and Heritage. The participants renewed their commitment to achieving 100% of completion of Sections II of the Periodic Reporting Questionnaire due to be submitted by States Parties to UNESCO by 31 July 2020.



Mr. Edebe Joseph, Kenya Lake System in the Great Rift Valley, Kenya (left), Ms. Ann Therese Ndong Jatta (center) Dr Amina Mohamed (right) ©AWHF

3. CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

3.1 AWHF CONDUCTS A SITE VISIT AT THE TOMBS OF BUGANDA KINGS AT KASUBI WORLD HERITAGE SITE IN UGANDA



Reconstruction of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi World Heritage Site in Uganda ©AWHF



On 29th February 2020 during a visit to Uganda where AWHF held consultative meetings with various authorities on potential areas of collaboration to promote the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Uganda including AWHF support to review the Uganda National Tentative List, AWHF conducted a site visit at the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi World Heritage Site in Uganda, to witness the restoration progress of the site. The Kasubi Tombs were destroyed by fire on 16th March in 2010.

AWHF was instrumental in developing the Reconstruction Strategy for Kasubi Tombs.

Left: Reconstruction in progress of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi World Heritage Site in Uganda ©AWHF

4. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS

4.1 NINTH (9TH) GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF THE ARAB REGIONAL CENTRE FOR WORLD HERITAGE



Board meeting in progress (left) & Exhibition on “Heritage of Earthen Architecture in Arab States” ©AWHF

The African World Heritage Fund attended the 9th Governing Board Meeting Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), a Category 2 Centre under the auspicious of UNESCO. The meeting was held on 17th February in Manama, Bahrain, under the leadership of **H.E. Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa**, President of Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities and Chairperson of the Governing Board of ARC-WH. The meeting was important to coordinate strategies and collaboration between AWHF and some of its strategic partners including ARC-WH,

UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Convention (ICOMOS, ICCROM and IUCN). The participants also attended the official opening of the exhibition “Heritage of Earthen Architecture in the Arab States” which included several World Heritage Sites in North Africa such as Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis (Egypt), Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou (Morocco), M'Zab Valley (Algeria) and Ancient KSOUR of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt and Oualata (Mauritania).



Ksar of Ait-Ben-Haddou World Heritage Site, Morocco © Haifaa Abdulhalim

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS

4.2 AWHF MEETS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

On 17th January 2020, AWHF engaged in a valuable introductory meeting with **Ms. Valeria Bertacco**, Vice Provost of Engaged Learning and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science through the African Business Group (ABG) whom AWHF has a three (3) year partnership contract with. Efforts for the meeting were geared towards possible collaborations on potential programmes to benefit the preservation of natural and cultural heritage in Africa.



4.3 H.E. MR. FAFRE CAMARA, AMBASSADOR OF MALI TO AU IN ADDIS ABABA PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO AWHF

His Excellency, Mr. Fafre Camara, Ambassador of Mali to the Africa Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia met with AWHF on 21 January 2020 during his visit to South Africa. At this meeting, the AWHF Advocacy Luncheon Event planning and preparations were discussed as the Government of Mali was the champion of the event through **His Excellency, Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita**, President of the Republic of Mali.



4.4 UGANDA REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO AWHF

At a meeting convened in Kampala, Uganda on 27th February 2020, **Mrs. Doreen Katusiime**, Permanent Secretary and Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities reaffirmed Uganda's commitment to AWHF. Furthermore, AWHF and Uganda defined areas of collaborative partnerships including skills development and nomination of sites.



4.5 PREPARATORY MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA AHEAD OF THE AWHF ADVOCAY LUNCHEON EVENT

As a build up to the AWHF Advocacy Luncheon Event held on 9th February 2020 during the 33rd African Union Assembly in Addis Ababa, AWHF engaged in several meetings with partners and stakeholders who were involved in assisting to put the event together to ensure its success. The meetings held included, several planning meetings with **Mrs. Angela Martins**, Head of Culture Division for Social Affairs at the African Union Commission (AUC) and her team, a courtesy visit to **Mrs. Cisse Mariama Mohammed**, Director of Social Affairs at AUC to thank her for her support, a meeting with **H. E. Mr. Fafre Camara**, Ambassador of Mali to AU in Addis Ababa, who gave further guidance towards the preparations of the event and a meeting was convened with **Hon. Mrs. Ramatoulaye Diallo**, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Mali and her delegation to assist in fine tuning important details pertaining to the protocol requirements of the event. Furthermore, on the sidelines of the Assembly, AWHF met with **H. E. Mr. Morten Aasland**, Norway's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to AU in Addis Ababa and extended appreciation for the Norwegian Governments long-standing relationship with AWHF through their Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



AWHF with Mrs. Angela Martins @AWHF



AWHF with Mrs. Cisse Mariama Mohammed



AWHF with H.E. Mrs. Ramatoulaye Diallo @AWHF



AWHF with H.E. Mr. Morten Aasland @AWHF



AWHF with H.E. Mr. Fafre Camara @AWHF



AWHF with Ms. Robyn De Villiers & Mr. Yasser Bagersh @AWHF

4.6 AWHF MEETS WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER OF NAMIBIA TO SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF met with **H. E. Mr. VK Nghiwete**, High Commissioner of Namibia to South Africa to update him on the progress of the Partnership Agreement between AWHF and Namibia. AWHF congratulated the Government of Namibia on being the AU co-Champions for Arts, Culture and Heritage in Africa.



AWHF with H.E. Mr. VK Nghiwete ©AWHF

4.7 AWHF CONDUCTS AN ANNUAL MONITORING MEETING WITH THE ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY IN PRETORIA

AWHF conducted a valuable annual monitoring meeting with the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa led by Counsellor **Mr. Friisø, Alf Yngve**, about the AWHF programme on World Heritage implementation in Africa. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continues to support the work and initiatives on AWHF.



AWHF with Mr. Friisø Alf Yngve and team ©AWHF

4.8 AWHF MEETS WITH AMBASSADOR OF SENEGAL TO SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF met with **H. E. Mrs. Safiatou Ndyiaye**, Ambassador of Senegal to South Africa to introduce the work of the Fund. She exuded tremendous passion for Culture and provided valuable guidance for AWHF's preparatory visit to Senegal. She also suggested the way forward, following the President of the Republic of Senegal's address at the AWHF Advocacy event in Addis Ababa.



AWHF with H.E. Mrs. Safiatou Ndyiaye ©AWHF

4.9 AWHF CONDUCTS A FRUITFUL MEETING WITH DIRCO, SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF convened a meeting with **Ms. Valeria Matlou**, Chief Director of Economic and Social Development of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), South Africa. She showed very keen interest in the work of the Fund as well as assisting AWHF with all diplomatic coordination. She also requested regular periodic meetings to be scheduled with her office.



AWHF with Ms. Valeria Matlou ©AWHF

5. COMMUNICATION

5.1. AWHF EXHIBITS AT THE ANNUAL FRANCOPHONIE FESTIVAL IN PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA



AWHF exhibition set-up at the Francophonie Festival at Crawford High School ©AWHF

The annual Francophonie Festival celebrated its Opening on 7th March 2020 at Crawford School in Pretoria, South Africa. The three week-long diversified event is a platform available to embassies, institutions, Francophones and Francophiles for the promotion of Francophone cultural and linguistic diversity. More than 25 countries were represented, and an array of exhibitions and experiences rooted in the Francophone culture were displayed.

AWHF was among the exhibitors who promoted the awareness, protection and conservation of cultural and natural heritage sites in Africa to the Francophonie community that attended, which included various African Ambassadors, the youth, school children and individuals.



5.2 PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY FOR THE FIFTH (5TH) EDITION OF THE REGIONAL YOUTH FORUM AT ROB BEN ISLAND, SOUTH AFRICA

UPDATE: Because of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, the AWHF 5th Edition of the Regional Youth Forum on African World Heritage has been postponed. AWHF sent out a call for application notice continent-wise with a deadline on 23rd February. We received an overwhelming response from all parts of the African continent which we appreciate. The selected candidates will be announced when programme operations settle again. AWHF thanks all the youth individuals who have shown interest and applied for this opportunity.



1st EDITION 2016: Robben Island, South Africa



2nd EDITION 2017: Burkina Faso



3rd EDITION 2018: Island of Mozambique



4th EDITION 2019: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

5.3 AWHF EMBARKS ON AN ANNUAL INTERNAL TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE



AWHF conducted a successful team building session at Robben Island World Heritage Site from 11th to 13th March 2020. The session was hosted by Robben Island Museum (RIM). AWHF is grateful for the continued support and partnership over the years.

5. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES (TO BE CONFIRMED BECAUSE OF ONGOING COVID 19 PANDEMIC)

N ^o	EVENT	PARTNER	DATE/VENUE
1.	Partnership Event on “Engaging on World Heritage in Africa”	Permanent Mission of Norway to the African Union	30 April 2020, Ethiopia
2.	World Heritage Capacity Building Workshop	Department of Environment, Forestry and Fishery of South Africa, IUCN, ICOMOS	May 2020, South Africa
3.	Partnership Event on “Engaging on World Heritage in Africa”	AUC, Government of Senegal	25 June 2020, Senegal
4.	5 th World Heritage Regional Youth Forum (English)	UNESCO, ICCROM, Robben Island Museum (RIM)	27 May – 05 June 2020, South Africa
5.	Conservation Field project (Portuguese)	UNESCO, WHITRAP, Ministry of Culture of Sao Tome	August 2020, Sao Tome e Principe
6.	Entrepreneurship Field Project at World Heritage Sites (French)	Government of Gabon, UNESCO, AUC	July 2020, Gabon
7.	7 th Nomination Training Course (French)	ICCROM, EPA, Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Arts of Benin	2 – 20 June 2020, Benin
8.	Regional Experts Meeting on Sites of Memory and World Heritage Convention	Department of Sports, Arts and Culture of South Africa, UNESCO, ICOMOS	August 2020, South Africa
9.	Francophone Workshop of the 3 rd Periodic Reporting Exercise for Africa	UNESCO, Ministry of Arts and Culture of Cameroon	June 2020, Cameroon



AWHF staff upon arrival at Robben Island World Heritage Site in Cape Town, South Africa ©AWHF