



Archeological Site of Carthage (Tunisia) ©AWHF

QUARTERLY REVIEW

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African World Heritage Fund

1258 Lever Road, Headway Hill

Midrand 1685, South Africa

www.awhf.net



**African World
Heritage Fund**

Investing in heritage

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The Hospital Block at Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site, Mauritius ©Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund

1. SUSTAINABILITY

1.1 AWHF AT THE 43RD WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN 2019



From left to right: Ms. Njeri Mbure, Mr. Ernesto Renato Ottone Ramirez, Ms. Benis Nchang, Professor Christina Cameron, and Mr. Joseph King ©AWHF ©AWHF

During the 43rd World Heritage Committee Meeting held in Azerbaijan, Baku, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) collaborated with the International Centre for the study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and organized a Side Event themed “Youth, Innovation and Sustainability in Africa”. The Side Event aimed at sharing the many opportunities that the Africa Programme on changing the face of heritage conservation in Africa will provide for the Youth. The event gathered more than 30 guests and delegates. AWHF identified two Youth Participants, **Ms. Njeri Mbure** from Nairobi, Kenya and **Ms. Benis Nchang** from Cameroon who championed the event. They shared their previous experiences of the regional African youth forums previously organized by AWHF in conjunction with UNESCO World heritage Centre as well as the upcoming Africa Programme. The main panel speakers included UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, **Mr. Ernesto Renato Ottone Ramirez**, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation, **Hon. Professor Alkassoum Maiga**, Director of Sites Unit for ICCROM, **Mr. Joseph King** and **Prof Christina Cameron** (AWHF Patron).



Side Event on Youth, Innovation and Sustainability in Africa with Hon. Professor Alkassoum Maiga – Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation in Burkina Faso ©AWHF

BUKINA FASO REPRESENTS AFRICA WITH ONE SITE INSCRIBED ON THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST - THE ANCIENT FERROUS METTALLURGY SITES



Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation – Burkina Faso, Hon. Professor Alkassoum Maiga celebrates the announcement of the inscription of Burkina Faso's Ancient Ferrous Metallurgy Sites on the Unesco World Heritage List ©AWHF

The inscription is achieved through efforts by many Stakeholders working closely with AWHF including the World Heritage Committee members (Angola, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zimbabwe), the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies. As well as the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) and the School of African Heritage (EPA).



SIDE EVENT ON THE “3RD CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE IN THE AFRICA REGION”



Dr. Albino Jopela from AWHF directing the Programme ©AWHF



Furthermore, AWHF together with the Africa Unit at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC) organised a Side Event on the 3rd Cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise for the Africa Region, with the aim to present and discuss the background and implementation framework of the 3rd Periodic Reporting Exercise in the Africa region. Since the launch of the First and Second Cycles of World Heritage Periodic Reporting (PR) in the Africa Region respectively in 2002 and 2011, the implementation of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage has shown improvement over the years.

SUSTAINABILITY

1.2 WORKSHOP ON WORLD HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA: IMPLEMENTING THE 2015 POLICY



Group photo: Participants attending the workshop comprised of: AWHF, RIM, University of Kent, University of Cape Town, University of Bergen, DEFF, South Africa, IUCN, UNESCO, NHCC, ICCROM and Reps from Botswana, Victoria Falls, Lake Malawi ©AWHF



AWHF in partnership with the University of Kent, University of Cape Town and Robben Island Museum hosted a Workshop on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa from 19th to 23rd August on Robben Island in Cape Town, South Africa. The aim of the workshop was to discuss ways to operationalise declarations and recommendations relating to the implementation of the 2015 World Heritage Policy on Sustainable Development in the context of AU Agenda 2063, National and Local Development Plans, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at and around World Heritage sites in Africa. Additionally, the workshop also aimed at finding ways to implement the 2015 UNESCO Policy, which requires applied testing towards assisting States Parties to embark on sustainable and adaptive reuses at and around World Heritage sites. The workshop gathered about forty (40) participants comprised of representatives from the three (3) partners as well as Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), South Africa, UNESCO, NHCC, Advisory Bodies (IUCN, ICCROM) and representatives from Botswana, Victoria Falls and Lake Malawi.



AWHF Executive Director, Mr. Souayibou Varissou; Professor Sophia Labadi from University of Kent & Chief of Africa Unit – UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Mr. Edmond Moukala delivering their presentations @AWHF

SUSTAINABILITY

1.2 WORLD HERITAGE VOLUNTEERS YOUTH CAMP IN BWINDI IMPENETRABLE FOREST, UGANDA



African Youth Participants attending the World Heritage Volunteers Youth Camp held at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest World Heritage Site in Uganda ©AWHF

AWHF with Faraja Africa Foundation and the Africa Youth Exchange Programme (AYEP), in partnership with the Ugandan National Commission for UNESCO, organized a World Heritage Volunteers Youth Camp under the theme, 'Obuwangwa Bwafe Munfuna' (Our Heritage as a Source of Income). The World Heritage Volunteers Youth Camp was held at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in Uganda from 27th July to 5th August 2019. It was a platform for young people to raise awareness of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest World Heritage Site and to engage fellow youth in Africa to assist with its promotion and with the sustainable development around the World Heritage site.



Gorilla at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest World Heritage Site – Uganda ©Greatkigezisafaris

BACKGROUND

The World Heritage Volunteer youth camp is a UNESCO initiative to raise awareness among young people on the importance of World Heritage conservation, management and promotion, and to give them concrete skills by working on a project through an action camp at a World Heritage site. Each year, some fifty (50) action camps around the world are carried out, which promote specific thematic topics such as biodiversity, sustainable development, conservation, promotion etc.

2. CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

2.1 VALIDATION MEETING OF THE STUDY REPORT ON CULTURAL POLICIES IN AFRICA



Group photo: Participants attending the ICCROM, Africa Programme in South Africa ©AWHF

AWHF featured at the Regional Workshop for the presentation and validation of the study report carried out on African Cultural policies which took place from 9th to 10th September in Grand Bassam, Cote d' Ivoire. The study on cultural policies in Africa was carried out within the framework of the United Nations Agenda 2030. This gathering coincided with the launch of AWHF's 3rd Cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise for the Africa Region.



Proceedings of the World Heritage Annual Expert Meeting underway ©AWHF



Historic Town of Grand Bassam World Heritage Site in Cote d' Ivoire @worldatlas.com

CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES

2.2 3RD CYCLE OF PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE FOR THE AFRICA REGION



Group photo: Opening Ceremony of the 3rd Cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise for the Africa Region ©AWHF

Periodic Reporting is a statutory exercise aiming to review the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and to develop an action plan for the next six (6) years. The 3rd cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise in Africa was launched in Grand- Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire on 11th to 14th September 2019. The workshop gathered more than seventy (70) participants including forty three (43) World Heritage Focal Points from the region. AWHF worked in collaboration with UNESCO, to prepare and implement the technical meeting. Participants were briefed on the Periodic Reporting rationale and processes, they also started completing online Questionnaires.

Outcome:

The Focal Point will have to continue the work at home and engage with site managers to do the same exercise at site level. The AWHF appointed a coordination and mentorship team to guide the work and provide technical assistance. Preparation is ongoing for the next workshops that will gather site managers in Nairobi (Kenya) and Yaounde (Cameroon) in February and March 2020



3rd Cycle of Periodic Reporting Exercise Sessions and Training in progress - Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire ©AWHF

3. PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS

3.1 25TH AWHF BOARD OF TRUSTEES GATHERING IN NELSPRUIT, MOBEMBELA – SOUTH AFRICA



Group photo: AWHF Board of Trustees representing five (5) Africa Regions: North, South, East, West and Central Africa ©AWHF

The 25th AWHF Board of Trustees gathering was held in Mbombela, Mpumalanga, South Africa from 22nd – 27th July 2019. The two day gathering was attended by Board Members representing the five regions of Africa (East, West, North, South & Central); Observers and representatives from, (UNESCO, African Union (AU), Advisory Bodies (ICOMOS), the South African Departments of Sport, Arts and Culture (DAC), Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry & Fisheries (DEFF) and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

Incoming Ambassador of South Africa to UNESCO, Paris, His Excellency Mr. Tebogo Seokolo and His Excellency Mr. Rapulane Molekane, Ambassador of South Africa to Austria also attended. The main purpose of this gathering was to express sincere gratitude to all Board Members and participants but in particular the outgoing Members who had served for four (4) years and more. They had worked tirelessly in profiling the work of the Fund and ensuring that a shared cultural and natural heritage is conserved.



*His Excellency, Mr. Rapulane Molekane & Mrs. Relebohile Malahleha from South Africa being awarded with Awards of Excellence ©AWHF
NB: Dr. Lalla Aicha Ben Barka from Mali and Mr. Abdallah Allaoui from Morocco were in absentia.*

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENTS:

AWHF honoured Four (4) outgoing Board Members with Awards of Excellence on 24th July 2019:

- ❖ **His Excellency, Mr. Rapulane Molekane** from South Africa
- ❖ **Mrs. Relebohile Malahleha** from South Africa
- ❖ **Dr. Lalla Aicha Ben Barka**, from Mali
- ❖ **Mr. Abdallah Allaoui** from Morocco

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS: PRESENTATIONS

3.2 SIGNATURE OF NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN AWHF AND THE SCHOOL OF AFRICAN HERITAGE (EPA)

AWHF signed a new agreement with the **School of African Heritage (EPA)**, where AWHF will provide support of 258,000 USD to undertake World Heritage studies and capacity building activities in 2019 and 2020. The studies include the Periodic Reporting Exercise as well as Nomination Programmes.

The new Agreement was signed on 12th September 2019 in Grand Bassam, Cote d' Ivoire.



Executive Director of AWHF, Mr. Varissou & EPA shake hands on signed Agreement ©AWHF

3.3 AWHF DELIVERS A PRESENTATION AT A HERITAGE SEMINAR THEMED: “MY CULTURE, MY LANGUAGE, MY HERITAGE”



Ms. Luyanda Sithole delivered the presentation on behalf of AWHF ©AWHF

AWHF joined the **South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA)**, the South African National Departments of Tourism (NDT) and Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC), South Africa and the **National Heritage Council of South Africa (NHC)**, to deliver a presentation on opportunities available within the Heritage Sector, under the them: My Culture, My Language, My Heritage”.

The Seminar was held on 13th September at the University of Pretoria (UPTuks), South Africa for the benefit of Under-graduates and Post-graduate students with a vast interest in heritage.

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS: MEETINGS

3.4 AWHF MEETS WITH UNITED NATIONS (UN) RESIDENT COORDINATOR

AWHF engaged in an insightful meeting with the United Nations Resident Coordinator, **Her Excellency, Mrs. Nardos Beleke Thomas** on 16 August 2019, on building an effective partnership approach for AWHF. She gave valuable suggestions to AWHF that require a dynamic approach in order to assist in achieving our objectives.



AWHF with H.E. Mrs. Nardos Beleke Thomas @AWHF

3.6 AWHF MEETS WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER OF GHANA TO SOUTH AFRICA

AWHF met with the High Commissioner of Ghana to South Africa, His Excellency, **Mr. George Ayisi-Boateng** on 16 August 2019. He welcomed the drive to support the mandate of the Fund by connecting AWHF to relevant authorities in Ghana. He further invited AWHF to exhibit at the Annual Ghana Festival held in



AWHF H. E. Mr. George Ayisi-Boateng @AWHF

3.5 AWHF MEETS WITH ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT OF BENIN

AWHF met with the Advisor of the President of the Republic of Benin, **Mr. Ousmane Aledji** on 06 September 2019, to introduce the work of the Fund and discuss the involvement of Benin in the AWHF Advocacy and Fundraising Event to be held in February 2020 at the African Union Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



AWHF with Mr. Ousmane Aledji @AWHF

3.7 AWHF HOLDS A CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH MINISTRY OF CULTURE, KENYA

AWHF and the African Union (AU), held a consultative meeting with the Ministry of Culture, Kenya on the Ratification of Charter for African Cultural Renaissance. AWHF utilized the opportunity to report on its activities and areas of cooperation with Kenya. Furthermore, the delegation also met with the Minister Ambassador, **H.E. Ms. Amina Mohamed**.



Consultative meeting in Kenya @AWHF

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS: MEETINGS

3.8 AWHF DELIVERS A KEY PRESENTATION TO THE AFRICA GROUP AT UNESCO, PARIS

The President of the Africa Group, **Her Excellency, Ms. Rachel Ogoula ep. Obiang Meyo**, convened a meeting with the Africa Group (African Permanent Delegates to UNESCO) in the context of strengthening of cooperation between Africa Group of UNESCO and AWHF. The objective was to address and update the Africa Group at UNESCO about the work of the AWHF and follow up with UNESCO Officials and Permanent Delegates about partnerships on African World Heritage.

The platform provided AWHF with an opportunity to present to the Africa Group on the extensive work of the Fund to which AWHF made a call to all African Permanent Delegates to UNESCO to gather more resources to ensure the prestige element of Africa is restored. During the presentation, Executive Director of AWHF, **Mr. Souayibou Varissou** stressed the need for Africa to strive to have more sites inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List and cautioned on the underrepresentation of Africa with all its richness in heritage.



AWHF Executive Director, Mr. Souayibou Varissou presents to the Africa Group at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris ©AWHF

3.9 AWHF MEETS WITH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF UNESCO, PARIS, MR. FIRMIN MATOKO



AWHF with Mr. Firmin Matoko ©AWHF

During the visit to Paris, AWHF met with Assistant Director General of UNESCO, **Mr. Firmin Matoko** on 27th September 2019, to brief him of the upcoming AWHF Advocacy and Fundraising event happening at the AU Heads of State Summit in 2020. AWHF relayed expectations and role from UNESCO pertaining the event and raised collaboration efforts required to assist in the growth and development of the work of the Fund.

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS: MEETINGS

3.10 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO UNESCO, PARIS

AWHF paid a courtesy visit to the Permanent Delegate of South Africa to UNESCO, **His Excellency, Mr. Tebogo Seokolo** on 26th September 2019, to brief him about AWHF activities and to get guidance on the presentation to the Africa group. The Ambassador provided valuable input and assured continued support to the Fund as the host country.



H. E. Mr. Tebogo Seokolo ©AWHF

3.12 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF BENIN TO UNESCO, PARIS

Furthermore, AWHF met with Permanent Delegate of Benin to UNESCO, **His Excellency, Mr. Ireneé Bienvenu Zevounou** on 26th September 2019, to brief him on the upcoming AWHF Advocacy and Fundraising event at the AU Heads of State Summit in 2020. Discussions were shared on ways how Benin can get play a role in the event.



H. E Mr. Ireneé Bienvenu Zevounou ©AWHF

3.11 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF NAMIBIA TO UNESCO, PARIS

AWHF met with the Permanent Delegate of Namibia to UNESCO, **His Excellency, Mr. Albertus Aochamub** on 26th September 2019, to introduce the Fund and garner support for AWHF initiatives of the Fund. The Ambassador extended his appreciation for the visit and assured his support in spreading the good efforts of the Fund.



H. E. Mr. Albertus Aochamub ©AWHF

3.13 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF BOTSWANA TO UNESCO, PARIS

AWHF met with Permanent Delegate of Botswana to UNESCO, **His Excellency, Mr. Mustaq Moorad** on 27th September 2019, to garner support for continued collaborations on various programmes.



H. E. Mr. Mustaq Moorad ©AWHF

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS: MEETINGS

3.14 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF SPAIN TO UNESCO, PARIS

On 26th September 2019, AWHF concluded the series of meetings in Paris, with Permanent delegate of Spain to UNESCO, His Excellency, **Mr. Andres Perello Rodriquez**, to follow-up on previous engagements and discussions pertaining different programmes, collaboration possibilities and support required for the benefit of heritage.



H. E. Mr. Andres Perello Rodriquez ©AWHF

3.15 AWHF MEETS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATE OF BRAZIL TO UNESCO, PARIS

AWHF had a fruitful engagement with Permanent Delegate of Brazil to UNESCO, Her Excellency, **Mrs. Maria Edileuza Fontenele Reis**, who had valuable input on a number of synergies between AWHF and heritage focus areas for Brazil. She shared several enlightening suggestions, which will prove beneficial for the Fund.



H. E. Mrs. Maria Edileuza Fontenele Reis ©AWHF



AWHF had fruitful deliberations with the Ministry of Information and Communications in Nairobi, Kenya on operationalization of the African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission and ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance. AWHF was created after the adoption the Charter in 2006 by the African Union (AU) ©AWHF

PARTNERSHIP ENGAGEMENTS

3.16 AWHF FEATURES AT THE BIENNALE OF LUANDA: PAN-AFRICAN FORUM FOR THE CULTURE OF PEACE - ANGOLA



AWHF with dignitaries attending the Biennale of Luanda: Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace in Angola ©AWHF

The 2019 Biennale of Luanda: Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace took place in Luanda, Angola, from 18th to 22nd September 2019. UNESCO in partnership with the African Union (AU) and Government of Angola organized the event. It was part of the implementation of the United Nations (UN) Agenda 2030, in particular, Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16) and the Aspirations of the African Union Agenda 2063 and its initiative (Agenda for peace and silencing the guns by 2020). Furthermore, it aimed to promote a culture of peace and non-violence in Africa, recognized by the UN General Assembly who designated UNESCO as the lead agency for a series of prominent global initiatives for promoting peace. AWHF attended the event with the objectives to meet with **His Excellency, Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita**, President of the Republic of Mali and African Union (AU) Champion for Culture, Arts and Heritage. The intention was to get his approval and update him on the AWHF Fundraising Side Event that he will host in favour of AWHF in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia at the AU Assembly in February 2020. AWHF also wished to engage and follow up with country representatives and key partners present at the event.



Opening Ceremony at the Biennale of Luanda: Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace in Angola ©AWHF

4. COMMUNICATION

AWHF AT THE LAUNCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL HERITAGE DAY WITH HONOURABLE NATHI MTHETHWA, MINISTER OF SPORTS, ARTS AND CULTURE



AWHF with Mr. Hon. Nathi Mthethwa, Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture, South Africa ©AWHF



AWHF interviewed by Azerbaijan Broadcast Station in Baku, Azerbaijan ©AWHF

During the 43rd World Heritage Committee Meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, the **Azerbaijan Broadcast Media Station** conducted an interview with Executive Director of AWHF, Mr. Souayibou Varissou and ensured that all AWHF events at the Committee Meeting generate media coverage. This in turn contributed favourably towards profiling and promoting the AWHF brand.

AWHF IS INTERVIEWED BY SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCAST RADIO STATION (SABC) - CHANNEL AFRICA



AWHF was part of a Radio panel discussion with CEO of Freedom Park, Ms. Jane Mofamadi on the importance of Heritage in Africa ©CNBC AFRICA

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS INTERVIEWED BY MPUMALANGA BROADCAST STATION DURING THE 25TH BOARD OF TRUSTEES GATHERING IN MOMBELA, NELSPRUIT



Various media platforms from the Mpumalanga Province, South Africa conducted several interviews with outgoing Board Members, H. E. Mr. Rapulane Molekane and Mrs. Relebohile Malahleha ©AWHF

5. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

N°	EVENT	PARTNER	DATE/VENUE
1.	Nomination workshop - Anglophone	Government of Nigeria, UNESCO, EPA, IUCN	21 st October – 1 st November 2019, Nigeria
2.	Entrepreneurship Field Project - Francophone	Government of Gabon, UNESCO, AUC	11 th – 23 rd November, Libreville
2.	Regional Expert Meeting on Sites of Memory and World Heritage Convention	South African Government	20 th – 22 nd November, Johannesburg, South Africa
3.	26 th AWHF Board of Trustees Meeting	Government of Mali	2 nd – 6 th December, Bamako, Mali
4.	AWHF Fundraising Event at African union Assembly	African Union Commission President of Mali	February 2020
5.	Conservation Field project	UNESCO, WHITRAP	3 rd – 14 th February 2020, Sao Tome Principe
5.	Workshop of the 3 rd Periodic Reporting Exercise for Africa - Anglophone	Government of Kenya, UNESCO	19 th – 21 st February, Nairobi, Kenya
7.	Regional Tentative Listing Workshop	Government of Rwanda, UNESCO	2 nd – 6 th March, Kigali, Rwanda

