

SHORT-TERM ACTIONS

To ensure the rapid realisation of our objectives we,

1. Request the AU Commission to further encourage AU Member States who have yet to ratify the Protocol on the Amendment to the Constitutive Act of the Union, which in Article 3 (q) invites the full participation of the Diaspora as an important component in the building of the African Union to take necessary measures to do so.
2. Request that the AU complete the regional consultative process to include the Middle-East, Australia and Asia, working in close coordination and cooperation with the AU Member states;
3. Encourage AU Member States to establish more formal relations with the Caribbean regions and vice versa; and where practicable, the opening of more Missions in the respective regions;
4. Support the acceleration of the AU's work with Diaspora organizations to develop an inclusive mechanism and a legal framework through which appropriate formal regional structures can be developed for effective engagement and partnership between Africa and its Diaspora;
5. Request the AU Commission and government of Senegal in collaboration with other AU Member States to convene a meeting of experts, as soon as possible, to examine the modalities of how best the Diaspora can participate in the work of the African Union and engage with its organs, and to reflect on the modalities for the participation of the Diaspora as a sixth region of the Union ;
6. Support the creation of a consolidated African skills database, inclusive of new and existing Africa and Diaspora skills databases;
7. Encourage the use of the International Organisation for Migration(IOM) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)for Migration for Development in Africa programme to work in concert with the AU Commission to mobilize the skills and resources of the Diaspora to enhance the institutional capacities of national and regional institutions;
8. Support initiatives taken by the African Diaspora to establish fund(s) and mobilise resources for Africa - Diaspora engagement, in particular the process of economic development in Africa in general;
9. Further agree that the AU and CARICOM will appoint Goodwill Ambassadors to promote relations and integration of Africa and its Diaspora;

10. Support, encourage and promote the celebration of global observance days as symbols of solidarity for the commemoration of the common heritage and vision of Africa and its Diaspora, in order to strengthen Pan-African unity and identity, in particular Africa Day, African Union Day, Black History Month and Emancipation Day;
11. Agree to continue to support existing efforts at communicating the vision, mission and activities of the AU and CARICOM, in order to facilitate the flow of information and knowledge sharing between Africa and the Diaspora;
12. Continue to support the role of the AU as the focal point and the coordination hub of all Diaspora initiatives in the Continent. To this end, Diaspora issues should be a standing item on the programmes and agenda of AU Summits, and the AU's Directorate tasked with Diaspora matters should be strengthened and capacitated in financial and human resource terms;
13. Agree, as a build-up to the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, and, as part of the process of redefining and rebranding Africa's image and ensuring ownership of the 2010 World Cup by the global African family, that Africa and its Diaspora should organise sporting tournaments, cultural exchanges and festivals [Align French translation].

