

**REGIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE ON THE THEME
“THREE DECADES OF DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN AFRICA:
WHAT ARE THE DIVIDENDS FOR THE CITIZENS?”**

Cotonou, Benin, 10-12 November 2017

Programme

10 November 2017:

9:00-10:15 Opening Ceremony

Chair: H.E. Hon. Éric Houndété, 1st Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Benin

Goodwill Message (6 mn)

- H.E Barrister Robert Dossou, Former Minister, Former President of the Constitutional Court of Benin.

Welcome Remarks (7 mn each)

- Prof. Frédéric Joël Aïvo, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Abomey Calavi, President of ABDC, Benin
- Amb. Dr. Boubacar Issa Abdourahmane, Representative of OIF to the AU and ECA
- Dr. Aderemi Ajibewa, Director of Political Affairs, ECOWAS Commission
- Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director of Political Affairs, African Union Commission
- Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, Regional Director, AWA/IDEA
- H.E. Emmanuel Tiando, President of the CENA, Benin
- H.E. Prof. Theodore Holo, President of the Constitutional Court, Benin

Introductory Remarks (12 mn)

- H.E. Ambassador Kwesi Quartey, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Official Opening Statement (15 mn)

- **H.E. Hon. Éric Houndété , 1st Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Benin**

10:15-10:30 Group Photo and Coffee/Tea Break

10:30-12:00 Panel 1: How to Reconciliate Procedural/Formal and Substantive/Real Democracy?

Moderator: H.E. Hon. Ms. Thoko Didiza, Chairperson of Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, Africa Region.

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Barrister Akere Muna, Chairperson of the ICCAC

Discussants (7 mn each):

- Hon. Aissata Daffé, MP, National Assembly of Guinea Conakry
- H.E. Mrs Fatima Karadja, Member of the APRM Panel of Eminent Persons
- Prof. Frédéric Joël Aïvo, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Abomey Calavi, President of ABDC, Benin
- Amb. Dr. Boubacar Issa Abdourahmane, Representative of OIF to the AU

Discussions

12:00-13:30 Panel 2: The Issue of Socio-Economic and Cultural Rights in African Democratization Process since Three Decades

Moderator: H.E. Dr. Jose Brito, President of the West Africa Institute

Keynote Speaker (12mn):

- H.E. Dr Oby Ezekwesili, Former Minister, Nigeria, IDEA Democracy Ambassador

Discussants (7 mn each):

- Hon. Lydienne Eyoum Epoube, President of the Francophone Network of Women Parliamentarians
- Prof. Claudine Tshimanga Mbuyi Kaseka, Coordinator of the Economic Policy and Human Development Observatory, DRC
- Prof. Christine Desouches, University of Abomey Calavi, Benin
- Prof. Jean Louis Esambo Kangashe, Judge at the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Democratic republic of Congo
- Mr. Tamsir Sall, Resource Person

Discussions

13:30-14:30 Lunch Break

14:30-16:00 Panel 3: Access to Public Service and Public Service Delivery in African Countries since Three Decades

Moderator: H.E. Minister Barnabe Dassigli, Minister of Decentralization and Local Governance of the Republic of Benin, Chair of the STC n08 on Public Service of the African Union Commission

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Prof. Anastase Shyaka, CEO, Rwanda Governance Board

Discussants (7 mn each):

- H.E. Dr. Cristina Fontes Lima, Former Deputy Prime Minister, Cape Verde
- Prof. Abdoulaye Soma, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Transition, Burkina Faso
- Mr. Jean Pierre Elong Mbassi, Secretary General UCGLA
- Dr. Mamadou Dia, Former Head of Division, Democracy, Governance and Human Rights, Department of Political Affairs, African Union Commission

Discussions

16:00-16:15 Coffee/Tea Break

16:15-17:15 Panel 4: Inclusion, Management of Diversity and Equity in African Countries since Three Decades

Moderator: Prof. Daniele Darlan, University of Bangui, President of the Constitutional Court, CAR

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Prof. Abdoulaye Bathily, Former UNSG Special Representative

Discussants (7 mn each):

- H.E. Prof. Joseph Djogbenou, Minister of Justice, Benin
- H.E. Mrs Euphrasie Kouassi Yao, Former Minister, Special Advisor to the Head of State, Cote d'Ivoire
- Prof. Komla Dodzi Kokoroko, President of the University of Lome, Togo
- Mrs. Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu, Senior Programme Manager, GP/DAA, IDEA
- Prof. Ibrahim Jibrin, CDD, Nigeria

Discussions

19:30-21:30: Conference Dinner upon Invitation

11 November 2017:

9:00-10:30 Panel 5: State Capacities, Public Policies and Democratic Dividends in African Countries since Three Decades

Modérateur: H.E. Dr. Abdoulaye Bio Tchane, Minister of State, Minister in Charge of Planning and Development, Benin

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Prof. Olu Ajakaye, Executive Chairman of African Centre for Shared Development Capacity Building (ACSDCB)

Discussants (7 mn each):

- H.E. Mrs Hadiza Alfari, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister, Niger
- Hon. Eric Houndete, 1st Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Benin
- H.E. Hon. Anicet George Dologuele, Former Prime Minister, MP, Central Africa Republic
- Dr. Hesphina Rukato, Executive Director of the Center for African Development Solutions (CADS)
- Dr. Coffi Remy Noumon, Special Advisor to the Executive Secretary, African Capacity Foundation (ACBF)

Discussions

10:30-10:45 Coffee/Tea Break

10:45-12:30 Panel 6: Democratic Dividends in Fragile and Vulnerable Environments

Moderator: Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director of Political Affairs, African Union Commission

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Prof. Agosthino Zacarias, Head of Studies, Accord

Discussants (7 mn each):

- Ambassador Mariam Aladji Boni Diallo, Former Minister, Benin
- Ambassador Alfred Dube, Director of the Office of Addis Abba, Institute for Securities Studies
- Mrs. Kalliopi Ango Ela, Director of the Foundation For Geopolitics in Central Africa
- Dr. Moumouni Soumano, Executive Director, Malian Center for Interparty Dialogue and Democracy
- Mr. Moussa Dabal, Head of Zonal Office, ECOWAS Commission

Discussions

12:30-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:30 Side Event: Conversation with AU Organs on Ten years of IDEA/AU Partnership and the Quest for Democratic Dividends for African Citizens

Facilitator: Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, Regional Director, AWA/IDEA

Speakers (7 mn each):

- Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director of Political Affairs
- Hon. Sekou Fantamadi Traore, Representative of the President of the PAP
- Mrs. Khady Fall Tall, Deputy Presiding Officer of ECOSOCC
- Dr. Koffi Adorgloh, Regional Coordinator, APRM Secretariat
- Dr. Horace Adjolohoun, Principal Officer and Special Assistant to the President of the ACHPR

Discussions

15:30-15:45 Coffee/Tea Break

15:45-17:15 Panel 7: The Role of Private Sector in the Creation of a Democracy That Delivers for African Citizens since Three Decade

Moderator: H.E. Mrs. Reckya Madougou, Former Minister, Expert on Inclusive Finance, Benin

Keynote Speaker (12 mn):

- Mr. Mohamed H'Midouche, President of IACG, Morocco; Deputy Executive President of the African Diplomatic Academy, Former Board Member of AGI

Discussants (7 mn each):

- Dr. Francois Ekoko, UN Representative for South-South Cooperation
- Mr. Brian Dzansi, Imani Ghana
- Prof. Ahoure Alban Alphonse, Associate Professor, University Felix Houphouet Boigny, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- Mr. Dionisio Pereira, President of REPAOC

Discussions

12 November 2017:

11:00-14:00: IDEathon¹ Launch of the International IDEA Global State of Democracy Publication

11:00-11:45 Opening remarks and presentation of the new GSoD Publication

Opening Remarks: Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, Regional Director AWA/IDEA

- Presentation of the new GSoD Publication: Mrs. Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu, Senior Programme Manager, GP/DAA, IDEA

11:45-12:00 Film screening and IDEathon information

12:00-14:00 IDEathon labs

- Presentation of the Methodology: Mr Armend Bekaj, Senior Programme Officer, IDEA

- Themes of lab 1 “The changing nature of Political Parties and Representation”

Moderator: Mrs Celestine Zanou, Former Candidate to the Presidential Election, Benin

Speakers:

- Ms Raheemat Momodu, Head of Liaison Office of ECOWAS to the AU
- Barrister Guy Herve Kam, Spokeperson of ‘Le Balai Citoyen’, Burkina Faso
- Dr. Mathias Hounkpe, Governance Manager, OSIWA

- Themes of lab 2 “Can democracy counter inequality?”

- Moderator: Prof. Topanou Victor, Former Minister, Benin

Speakers:

- Mrs Souad Aden-Osman, Acting Executive Director, Coalition for Dialogue on Africa
- Mr. Cyrille Zogo Ondo, Program Specialist, OIF
- Mr. Shamsudeen Yusuf, Programme Officer, CDD Nigeria

Lunch Break 14:00-15:30

15:30-16:30 IDEathon – final presentations and voting for the best proposals

Moderator: Mr. Armend Bekaj, Senior Programme Officer, International IDEA

¹ During an IDEathon, participants from different backgrounds engage in **problem-solving labs** and harness their collective knowledge to brainstorm innovative solutions to existing challenges. A potential structure of such an IDEathon would see the **introduction** of the Global State of Democracy publication, followed by one or several **labs** actively trying to find **innovative solution to a question or challenge linked to democracy**. The **lab participants**, preferably representing a **diverse mix of stakeholders** (policy makers, civil society, academia, experts etc.) would contribute with their expertise and brainstorm innovative solutions on how to overcome or address a particular challenge or question, thus identifying project opportunities and initiating new collaborations. Finally, these ideas would be presented, discussed and voted on by the participants before then can be compiled and shared – at the event, online, in an article, or through other means. Based on these topics, we will be able to provide you with a series of more specific “lab-questions” which could guide the participants during their brainstorming sessions. A lab template, similar to a project proposal, will also be provided for the lab-participants to fill in.

16:30-17:30 Closing Ceremony

Chair: H.E. Prof. Theodore Holo, President of the Constitutional Court

Concluding Remarks (8 mn each)

- Prof. Frédéric Joël Aïvo, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Abomey Calavi, President of ABDC, Benin
- Dr. Aderemi Ajobewa, Director of Political Affairs, ECOWAS Commission
- Dr. Khabele Matlosa, Director of Political Affairs, African Union Commission
- Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, Regional Director, AWA/IDEA
- H.E. Emmanuel Tiando, President of the CENA

Official Closing Statement (20 mn)

- **H.E. Prof. Theodore Holo, President of the Constitutional Court**