



Africa-Europe Youth Summit
Sommet Afrique-Europe de la Jeunesse
Cimeira de Juventude África-Europa

THE HOLDING OF THE AFRICA-EUROPE YOUTH SUMMIT: FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

The 2nd EU-Africa Summit represents a crucial opportunity to convene an **Africa-Europe Youth Summit** in Lisbon, from 5 to 7 December 2007.

This Youth Summit, held under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Portugal, will allow over 250 youth representatives from Africa and Europe to express their main concerns, to address recommendations and to state their priorities with regard to youth and youth related policies, to the Heads of State and Government during the Summit.

These recommendations will lead to the development of a sustainable Africa-Europe Youth plan of action to be implemented by the relevant actors. This plan will take into account the existing realities, partnerships and good practices, therefore enabling a positive transformation in the realities and relations between young people in Europe and in Africa.

EURO-AFRICAN COOPERATION: WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR YOUTH?

In December 2005, the Heads of State and Government of the European Union adopted a new Strategy for Africa, with the title "The EU and Africa: Towards a Strategic Partnership". The main goals of the Strategy are to support Africa's efforts to reach the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and make Europe's partnership with Africa more efficient.

As a result of this initiative, a joint EU-Africa Strategy, elaborated by the EU-Africa Expert Troika and welcomed by recent Africa-EU ministerial Troika meetings, is planned to be adopted at the 2nd EU-Africa Heads of State Summit taking place in Lisbon on 8-9 December 2007, under the Portuguese EU Presidency.

Anticipating a Joint Strategy that will act as a reference framework for Euro-African relations over the next decade, the youth movement seeks to institutionalise youth co-operation and the participation of youth in Euro-African relations. Hence claiming their role as actors of positive change and in both continents.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN YOUTH CONCERNS?

The following working areas have been identified as reflecting important thematic concerns for young people in Europe and Africa, in line with the priorities set out by the Heads of State Summit.

Poverty Eradication / Gender Equality / Millennium Development Goals / Good governance and democracy / Peace and conflict / Climate change and sustainable development / Trade and socio-economical development / Migration, mobility and co-development / Intercultural Dialogue / Employment and social cohesion / Strategy and instruments for Euro-African youth participation and co-operation.

TOWARDS THE SUMMIT: HOW WAS THE CONSULTATION PROCESS?

Preparations for the Youth Summit started in 2006 in a partnership involving various youth organisations and youth-related agencies from Africa and Europe, gathered in a Steering Group facilitated by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.

In 2007, a fundamental part of the process leading up to the Youth Summit was undertaken with the organisation of sub-regional African consultations (e.g: Johannesburg, South Africa/ Yaoundé, Cameroon/Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso/Addis Ababa, Ethiopia); European and African youth diaspora living in Europe consultations; and a series of national consultations (Portugal, Cameeroon, Gabon, Burkina Faso etc).

Over 600 youth leaders, representatives and multipliers were directly involved in the consultations prior to the Summit.

HOW WAS THE WHOLE PROCESS CONDUCTED?

The Africa-Europe Youth Summit is a joint initiative of a large number of youth organisations and partners:

Europe: European Youth Forum,

Africa: Pan African Youth Union, African Youth Network.

(Inter)-Governmental organisations: Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe, European Commission, African Union Commission, "Institut National de la Jeunesse et Education Populaire", "Instituto Português da Juventude".

International organisations: Red Cross Youth, World Organisation of the Scout Movement, International Union of Socialist Youth, Global Young Greens, Pax Romana, World Organisation of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts , International Federation of Liberal Youth, Youth Action for Peace.

Other partners and local organisers: Portuguese National Youth Council, Africa Youth Corps, African Institute of South Africa, Organising Committee for the Western African consultation, Permanent Secretariat of the Spokesperson of African Youth and Diaspora (Cameroon), Advisory Council on Youth Issues of the Council of Europe, Aga Khan Development Network.

WHERE AND WHEN ARE WE MEETING IN LISBON?

5 December (9h30-18h00)

Ismaeli Centre, Aga Khan Development Network, Avenida Lusíada, Lisbon

6 December (9h30-20h00)

Hotel Altis Park, Olaias, Lisbon

7 December (9h00-13h30)

Ismaeli Centre, Aga Khan Development Network, Avenida Lusíada, Lisbon

WHO TO CONTACT?

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MORE INFORMATION NEEDED?

www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/Youth_Summit_en.asp