



EXPO
2020
DUBAI
UAE

African
Union 

OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT – AFRICAN UNION

Africa Honour Day

27 February 2022



Agenda
2063 The Africa
We Want 



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February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



ASPIRATION 7
Africa as a Strong, United, Resilient and Influential Global Player and Partner.



Goal 19: Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful co-existence

Background

In November 2013, the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.) won the bid to host Expo 2020 during a Bureau International Exhibition (BIE) general assembly held in Paris, France. This would be the first time it will be organized in the Middle East-Africa region (MEASA). The event, which is slated to be hosted in the city of Dubai will be organized under the theme **‘Connecting Minds, Creating the Future’**. Essentially, it presents an opportunity for the region not only to share knowledge and innovation, but also to create partnerships between governments, industry and civil society to work towards ameliorating socio-economic challenges on the continent, and advancing the quality of life of its citizens.

The African Union (AU) has a significant role to play to ensure Africa’s active participation in Expo 2020 Dubai. Indeed, the AU has reiterated its commitment to advance sustainable trade and industrial development on the continent through its Agenda 2063. This is highlighted in the organization’s efforts to transform and industrialize Africa’s economies, which include strategies on commodity value chain development; commodity exchanges for strategic African products, establishment of regional manufacturing hubs through public-private engagements, and scaling up of intra-regional trade among others.

Expo 2020 Dubai offers an opportunity to entrench the relationship between Africa and the UAE by leveraging the longstanding economic partnerships in the two regions. Moreover, the African Union’s interest to participate in Expo 2020 Dubai is justified by the opportunity the Expo presents for the organization’s quest to develop relevant partnerships to support the implementation of its Agenda 2063. The AU will aim to

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capitalize on the strong concordance between the Expo 2020's themes **of opportunity, mobility and sustainability** and the Agenda's flagship initiatives and priority programs.

During the Thirty-Fourth (34th) Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in February 2021, while highlighting the theme of the year 2021, the former AU Chairperson H.E. President Felix Tshisekedi said, Arts, Culture and Heritage constitute the foundation of the African renaissance and offers the opportunity for Africans to return to our roots. "Culture is indeed, as Léopold Sédar Senghor said, at the beginning and at the end of everything, because it embraces all areas of life". It is against this background that African Unity Day, commonly known as **Africa Day**, presents a golden opportunity to celebrate and promote African History, Arts, Culture and Heritage and officially open and launch AU's participation at the Expo.

Africa Honour Day

On 25 May 1963, Africa made history with the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which brought the Continent together. Since then, 25 May has been celebrated widely across the world particularly in Africa to signify Africa's identity and unity.

In 2002, the OAU established its own successor, the African Union, to create a future with healthy, well educated people living in robust and developed economies. Indeed, this is a progressive march towards the "Africa we want" as envisioned in Agenda 2063. The African Union (AU)

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OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT – AFRICAN UNION



Africa Honour Day

February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



is now fully operational in driving Agenda 2063 to realize its continental aspirations.

This year, the continental organization will celebrate 59 years of determined efforts for unity among the African people, and socioeconomic freedom from foreign dominion and exploitation. Given that Expo 2020 Dubai will take place from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, the African Union Commission is calling on all AU Member States and officials, Regional Economic Communities, United Nations Agencies, European Union, International Organisations, Africans all over the world and in the Diaspora to join this celebration to commemorate and celebrate Africa Day at the Expo 2020 Dubai site on 27 February 2022 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Objectives

More specifically, the celebration of Africa Day at Expo 2020 Dubai will aim to:

1. Mark the official participation of African Union at Expo 2020 Dubai;
2. Introduce African Arts, Culture and Heritage to the World;
3. Promote AU Aspiration 5 “An Africa with a Strong Cultural Identity, Values and Ethics”;
4. Strengthen African cultural identity, values and ethics as well as a sense of a common destiny and African identity and Pan-African consciousness as a critical factor for Africa’s emergence on the global stage;
5. Recognize the role of African youth, women, traditional and religious leaders, including the youth as drivers of change;

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OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT – AFRICAN UNION



Africa Honour Day

February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



6. Reaffirm the AU recognition of the role arts, culture and heritage can play as catalysts for the socio-economic development and integration of the African continent.

Africa Honour Day Celebrity Programme

The event will start in the Al Wasl Plaza where the official ceremony will commence with flag raising followed by the singing of the AU Anthem in all official languages and speeches by UAE and AU officials. Following the opening, five artists from the five regions of Africa will perform before the officials and other guests will be taken from Al Wasl on a guided tour in the AU and UAE pavilions respectively. After a photo opportunity and some gift exchanges, the officials will be taken to the leadership pavilion for camaraderie and continue to enjoy a full programme of cultural performances of African music and dialogues by African Talents, Youth and Women from all the five regions of the Continent and its Diaspora at Jubilee Park.

Participants

- African Union Chair and AU Champion on Arts, Culture and Heritage;
- Head of States and Government of AU Member States;
- Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission;
- Executives of AUDA-NEPAD, Regional Economic Communities and UNECA;
- African First Ladies;
- African Diplomatic Corps in United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.), UAE Officials and African Commissioners General;

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OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT – AFRICAN UNION



Africa Honour Day

February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE

- Executives of African Development Bank, Afreximbank, AfroChampions, Trade and Development Bank, Arab Bank of Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) officials;
- AU Staff and Officials;
- African business communities including Creative Industries;
- AU Friends and Partners: Non-African Countries and International Organizations;
- Civil Societies representing Youth, People with Special needs, Diaspora and Women Groups;
- African communities and university students living in UAE (Diaspora).

Media & Communication

Africa Day will be live streamed from Dubai, UAE and invite accredited media houses to cover the event. A press conference with AU and UAE officials will also be organized on the sideline of the event.

The hashtags for Africa Day to be used will be similar to the one of the AU theme of the year 2021 are: #AfricanHeritage #ArtsCultureHeritage #AUatExpo



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February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



Agenda

Phase I: Official Africa Honour Day Ceremony, Al Wasl	Time	Moderator
General delegation members arrive on site at AL DANA PARKING	09:00	
Guests ushered to Al Wasl Plaza & seated (AL WASL)	09:30	
Arrival of Head of Delegation (AU) and Welcome to the Leadership Pavilion (<i>Live Broadcast</i>)	10:00	
Principal Delegations are escorted to Al Wasl (<i>Stage of Nations</i>)	10:05	
Heads of Delegation walk from Leadership Pavilion to Al Wasl	10:10	
Official Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flag Raising and AU Anthem • Official Speech by UAE Representative • Official Speeches by AU Officials <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission 		Ms. Wynne Musabayana, <i>Head of Communications, ICD</i>
Colors of Africa Performances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poetry Act: from East to West • Kina Ki Moxi Cultural Group • Tuareg Song 	10:40	
Transfer to AU Pavilion (guided tour)	11:00	
Transfer/Guided Tour of the UAE Pavilion	11:45	
Transfer to the Leadership pavilion	12:10	
Delegation passes through the 50 Year Exhibition	12:15	
Bilateral meetings	12:20	
OFFICIAL LUNCHEON	12:55	
Signing of the Book of Honor + Gift Exchange	13:40	
Formal Conclusion of the Official Honor Day Agenda	13:45	

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Africa Honour Day

February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



Phase II: High Level Forum on Africa is Open for Business, Business Connect Center	Time	Moderator
Arrival and Networking Coffee	14:00	
Welcome Remarks Dr. Levi Uche MADUEKE , AU 2020 Dubai Expo Commissioner General Introductory Remarks H.E. Mr. Omar Khan , Director of International Offices, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry H.E. Dr. Nayef Falah M. AL-HAJRAF , Secretary General, GCC (TBC) Opening Remarks Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa , Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission	14:30	Ms. Wynne Musabayana , Head of Communications, ICD
KEY NOTE SPEECHES		
The African Continental Free Trade Area, the Game Changer H.E. Wamkele MENE , Secretary General, AfCFTA Secretariat	14:45	
Financing and Facilitating Trade in Africa Mrs. Kanayo Awani , Managing Director, Intra-African Trade Initiative, Afreximbank.	14:55	
Strengthening economic, financial and technical cooperation between the Arab and African regions Dr. Sidi Ould TAH , Director General BADEA, The President of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)	15:05	
Setting the Scene H.E. Amb. Albert Muchanga , Commissioner Economic Development, Trade, Industry and Mining	15:10	
Transfer of High Level AU Officials to Expo Media Center Press Briefing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Africa is ready and open for business AUC Expo Management Expo as a catalyst for Global change Expo 2020 Dubai Leadership Decade of African Women's Financial and Economic Inclusion H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson 		Ms. Wynne Musabayana , Head of Communications, ICD

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February 27th, 2022
Dubai, UAE



PANEL DISCUSSIONS: AFRICA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS		
The African organized Private Sector collaboration and Partnerships Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Amany ASFOUR, <i>President, AfBC</i> • Dr. Edem ADZOGENU, <i>Co-chair, AfroChampions Initiative's Executive Committee</i> • Izabella SZADKOWSKA, <i>Partner, Al Tamimi & Company</i> 	15:35	Mr. Chiza Charles Chiumya , <i>AU Deputy Commissioner General, Expo</i>
Unpacking Africa Open for Business Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stella Fubara-Obinwa, <i>Director, International Operations-Dubai economy and Tourism</i> • Sonny Zulu, <i>Managing Director, Consumer, private and Business Banking, Standard Chartered bank, UAE</i> • Dr. Ahmed Ogwel Ouma, <i>Deputy Director, Africa CDC</i> 	16:15	Mucha Hazel Nyandoro , <i>Manelith, UAE</i>
WRAP-UP AND CLOSURE	17:00	
Pavillion Tours	17:30	
Phase III: Africa Honour Day Concert	Time	
Music and dance with African Artists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mafikozolo • Fally Ipupa • Mayorkun • DJ Thuli 	19:30	
DEPARTURE OF VVIP DELEGATION AND PRINCIPALS	21:30	

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Prosperity, Integration,
Democracy, Peace,
Common Heritage, People
Driven & Global Influence
is what we **ASPIRE!**

Find out more at
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An Initiative of the

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