



“WHADN NEWS”

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Connecting Back — Moving Forward

“Africa has a Bright Future” - Konare at AME Banquet



Combined Federal Campaign CFC# 9956

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Alpha Oumar Konare, right, and Andrew S. Natsios, left.

Fundraiser Event in Arlington, VA September 17, 2005

Alpha Oumar Konare, chairperson of the African Union Commission, delivered a rousing speech at the first annual African Methodist Episcopal Church — Service And Development Agency (AME-SADA) Founders’ Awards Banquet. In this speech, he acknowledged the present challenges faced by Africans, including poverty, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and conflict, but he said that, due to concerted efforts by African leaders and the African Union to improve the standard of

living in Africa, and to improvements in the policies of African governments and the work of the African Union, Africa will soon be able to use its land and human resources more efficiently for its development.

Mr. Konare was later presented with a Special Humanitarian Award by Bishop McKinley Young, the chairman of the AME-SADA board. Konare was president of Mali until stepping down in 2002. Since becoming chair of the African Union Commission in 2003, he

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AU Calls for Two African Seats on the UN Security Council

African leaders have endorsed the Ezulwini Consensus, which proposes two permanent and five non-permanent seats for Africa in a reformed United Nations Security Council.

At the close of the African Union (AU) heads of state summit in Libya in July, about 40 African leaders adopted the Sirte Declaration, which reaffirms their "common position" to get Africa two permanent UN Security Council seats with all attendant privileges, including full veto rights.

The declaration also calls for a "comprehensive reform of the United Nations system."

The declaration proposes enlarging the UN Security Council from 15 to 26 member countries, with the 11 additional seats distributed to different continents - including two seats for Africa, two for Asia, one for Latin American and Caribbean states, and one for Western European and other states.

African leaders also called for five non-permanent seats in the enlarged UN Security Council - two from Africa and one each from Asia, Eastern European states, and Latin American and Caribbean states.

Besides the allocation of seats, the Ezulwini Consensus proposes strengthening the UN

General Assembly to "enable it to fully play its role as the most representative and democratic organ of the United Nations system and world parliament."

African leaders said they would like to concentrate their energies on getting the seats first, before consulting on who gets those seats.

"Africa will select the candidates for the United Nations Security Council when the time comes," said AU peace and security council commissioner Said Djinnit. "The priority now is on the need to secure the seats."

South African Foreign Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma said the issue of Africa getting seats with privileges was a matter of principle, as all permanent members on the UN Security Council had veto powers.

"If it exists for others, then it should also exist for us," Dlamini-Zuma said.

The Ezulwini Consensus setting out Africa's position on UN reform was drafted by a committee of 10 plus three foreign ministers.

At the Sirte summit, African leaders mandated the core group of 10 plus three foreign ministers to be expanded with five new members selected by

Africa's regional blocs to negotiate with other world regions and stakeholders on Africa's UN aspirations.

View this article at http://www.southafrica.info/what_happening/news/african_union/au0707.htm. Written by Richard Mantu.

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has worked to increase the influence of the African Union on its member states.

Mr. Andrew Natsios, the administrator for US Agency for International Development (USAID) also gave a speech extolling US development policy towards Africa. US foreign aid for Africa, especially in the areas of trade, malaria, Tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS, has increased substantially in recent years.



Bishop McKinley Young with his wife, Dorothy Jackson

The 5th African Union Summit and the Definition of the African Diaspora

June 28-July 5 2005 conference in Sirte, Libya

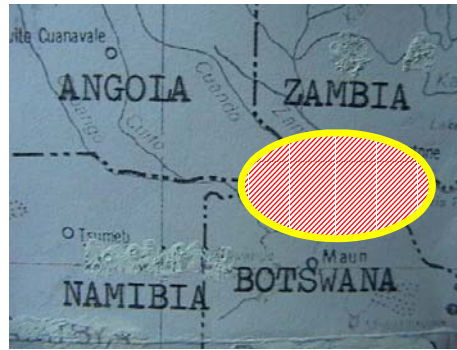
One of the key objectives of the African Union's work on the diaspora since the 2002 African Union Western Hemisphere Diaspora Forum which created WHADN has been to define the African Diaspora.

The final definition the 5th summit came up with is: "The African diaspora consists of people of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union."

This definition is identical to the definition agreed upon at the April Experts Summit in Addis Ababa. That summit was in response to a June 2004 Trinidad and Tobago conference in which the Foundation for Democracy in Africa, the WHADN secretariat, called for such a definition. There was some debate about whether the definition should mention specific immigrant populations, but the conceptual definition was unanimously adopted in the end.

PATTEC Regional Planning Workshop for Tsetse Eradication in the Countries of the Kwando/Zambezi River Region

Workshop in Luanda, Angola August 9-12, 2005



Map of the Kwando/Zambezi River Region. Source: <http://www.africa-union.org/PATTEC/PATTEC%20REPORT-ANGOLA%20WORKSHOPvffinal.doc>

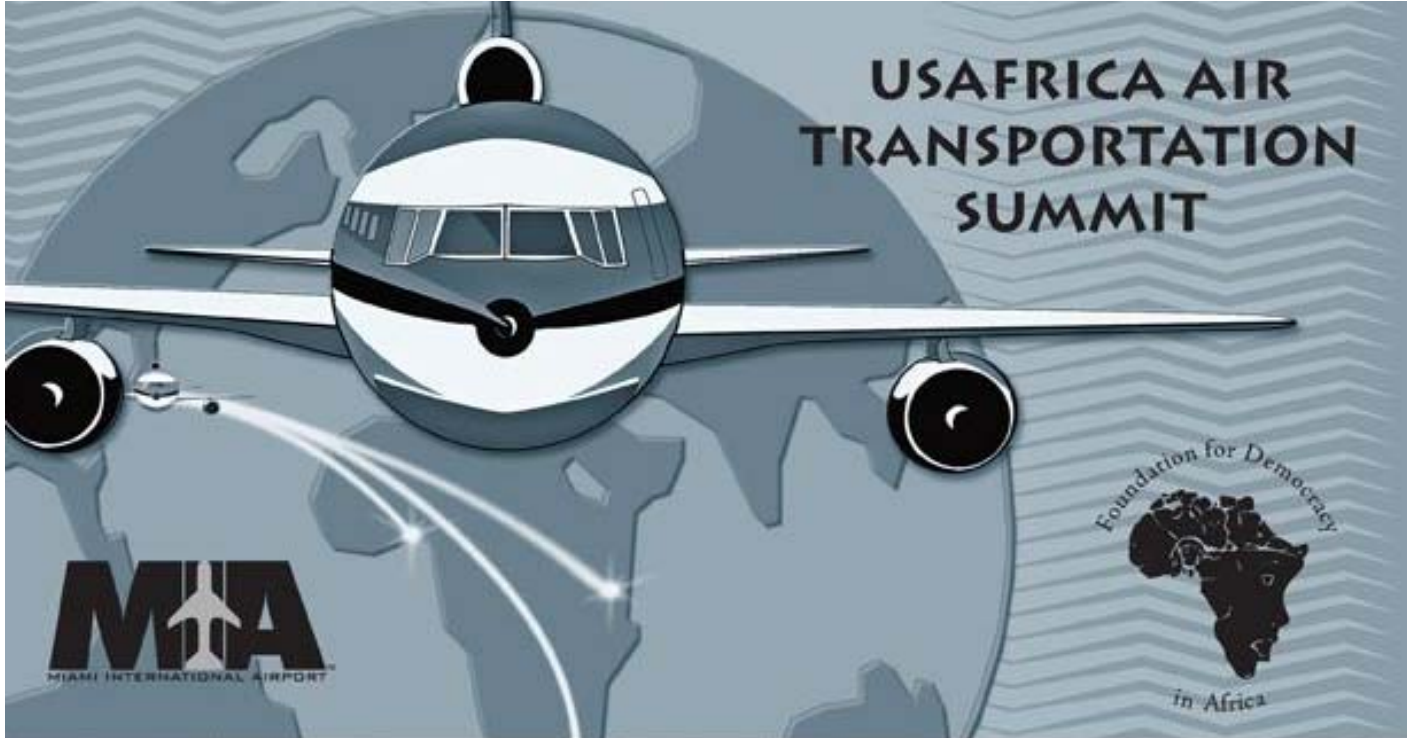
Botswana, Zambia, Namibia, and Angola met under the auspices of the African Union's Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (AU-PATTEC) in Luanda this August to discuss transnational approaches to tsetse eradication. The program emphasized transnational approaches and lowering legal and diplomatic barriers. As the AU-PATTEC coordinator, Dr. John P. Kabayo, noted, "unlike people, tsetse flies do not need a visa to cross from one country to another."

Trypanosomiasis is a potentially deadly disease that

infects thousands of people and many more livestock in southern Africa. The motivation for the conference was a highly successful tsetse fly eradication campaign in Botswana. After a Sequential Aerial Spraying (SAT) in 2001/2002, not a single tsetse fly has been caught or spotted in the Okavango Delta area, but officials are worried about the flies coming back in from less protected areas.

During the conference, which included representatives from Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, the African Development Bank (ADB), and the airline industry, in addition to the four countries bordering the river valley, the participants worked to coordinate their eradication strategies. In addition, it set up a committee to make sure that the ideas explored in the conference would continue to be implemented for some time afterwards.

**USAfrica Air Transportation Summit
October 31-November 2, 2005—Miami, Florida**



The Foundation for Democracy in Africa, in collaboration with the Miami International Airport (MIA), will host the USAfrica Air Transportation Summit at the InterContinental Hotel in Miami, Florida, from October 31-November 2, 2005. During the Summit, aviation experts from both the United States and Africa will examine the barriers to air service development between the two markets.

Currently, there are only 23 direct flights weekly between the U.S. and Africa—compared to 2,468 direct flights to the Caribbean, 2,105 flights to Mexico, 855 to Asia, 600 to Central America, and 548 flights to South America. "In the 21st

century, direct air service is the critical precursor to meaningful trade development between two points," said FDA president Mr. Fred Oladeinde. "The findings of this Summit and the planned follow-up actions to mitigate such barriers will serve as catalysts to substantially build air service and spark the rapid growth of trade between these two resource-filled markets."

Among the speakers at the conference will be African Air Transportation ministers from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, and South Africa; Mr. Khaya Ngqula, president and CEO of South African Airways; and top officials from the U.S. Depart-

ment of Transportation. The topics for discussion will include aviation safety and security; emerging challenges for U.S./Africa bilateral agreements; demand for air service; absence of U.S. carriers in the U.S./Africa market; airports' marketing of direct air service to airlines; and an analysis of Africa's aviation infrastructure projects to sustain growth in air service.

For more information, please click on the picture above, contact Fred Oladeinde, visit the Foundation for Democracy in Africa's website at www.democracy-africa.org, or call (202) 331-1333.

WHAT IS WHADN?

The Western Hemisphere African Diaspora Network (WHADN) was created to implement Article 3 (q) (amended) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU): [The Union shall] invite and encourage the full participation of the African Diaspora as an important part of our continent, in the building of the African Union." This initiative was launched during the historic First African Union Western Hemisphere Diaspora Forum held in Washington, D.C. from December 17—19, 2002, an event convened by the AU and coordinated by The Foundation for Democracy in Africa.

MISSION

To encourage and facilitate the utilization of the collective talents and resources of the African Diaspora in the Americas, the Caribbean and Latin America to support economic development and sustainable growth on the continent. To this end, WHADN was established to function as the coordinating network, linking the Diaspora and the AU for the purpose of achieving the common goals of social and economic development.

OBJECTIVES

- ★ To encourage and facilitate the enduring cultural, social and economic ties to Africa within the Western Hemisphere Diaspora communities
- ★ To develop and identify funding for capacity building projects by Diaspora civil society organizations in the Western Hemisphere Diaspora and the African Union
- ★ To work with the African Union to create mecha-

nisms to represent the views, concerns and interests of the African Diaspora within African regional organizations

PROGRAM & ACTIVITIES

- ★ Democracy, Governance and the Rule of Law
- ★ Health and Environment
- ★ Peace and Security
- ★ Education
- ★ Trade and Economic Development
- ★ Science, Research and Technology
- ★ Communications
- ★ Arts and Culture

GEOGRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION

- ★ Latin America (including Mexico and Central America)
- ★ The Caribbean
- ★ Brazil (given its language, size, and historical disconnect with the rest of Latin America)
- ★ The United States
- ★ Canada (not grouped with the United States given the often different interests of the Diaspora of the two countries, as reported by members of the Working



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