



North-South Centre of the  
Council of Europe



# AFRICA-EUROPE Youth Summit

*Lisbon, 4-7 December 2007*

*(To coincide with the 2<sup>nd</sup> EU-AFRICA Heads of States Summit)*

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS**



This Project is funded  
by the European Union

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### **Aims of the Youth Summit**

The Youth Summit aims to increase young people's participation in the Euro-African Cooperation and to reinforce youth work in Africa and Europe influencing the youth policy in Euro-African Cooperation. An immediate expected result of the Youth Summit is the submission of a final declaration by a youth delegation to the EU-AFRICA Heads of State Summit.

### **Background**

The relationship between Europe and Africa is changing. The *constitution* of the African Union (AU) and the emergence of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) have created numerous opportunities for inter-regional cooperation. Through the NEPAD, Africa has sought to take ownership of its own development whilst recognising the need for partnership with the countries and institutions of Europe. The recent **EU Strategy for Africa** sets out guidelines for a new Europe-Africa partnership and a **Joint EU-AU Strategy** is expected to be adopted at the **2<sup>nd</sup> EU-AFRICA Summit**, which the Portuguese Government will host in Lisbon in December 2007, under the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union. The Joint Strategy will act as a reference framework for Euro-African relations over the next decade.

Hence the EU-Africa Summit constitutes a crucial opportunity to convene an **Africa-Europe Youth Summit**. Representatives from African and European youth NGOs will express to the Heads of State and Government their main concerns, recommendations and state their priorities as regards to youth and youth related policies, as well as to address key issues related to youth cooperation between Africa and Europe.

Preparations for the Youth Summit, which is foreseen to gather over 250 youth representatives from Africa and Europe, are underway in a partnership involving a variety of youth organisations and youth related agencies from Africa and Europe, which come together in a **Steering Group** facilitated by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.

### **Working Areas**

The Youth Summit also aims at gathering expertise in different thematic working areas. The summit is planned to last for three (3) days using a combination of plenary and thematic working panels in a youthful environment and based on participatory methodologies.

The Steering Group has identified the following 8 **Working Areas** for the Africa Europe Youth Summit:

1. **Millennium Development Goals**
2. **Good Governance and Democracy**
3. **Peace and Conflict**
4. **Globalisation, Trade and Socio-Economic Development**
5. **Climate Change and Sustainable Development**
6. **Migration, Mobility, Intercultural Dialogue and Co-development**
7. **Employment and Decent Work Agenda**
8. **Strategy and Instruments for Euro-African Youth Participation and Cooperation**

The Working Areas above aim to reflect important thematic areas of concern for young people in Europe and Africa. Enhancements in those areas were considered crucial to contribute to **Poverty Eradication**, the priority issue for Euro-African Cooperation. Also, the issue of **Gender Equality** deserves particular consideration as girls and young women are the most vulnerable members in current European and African societies.

## Composition of the Steering Group

<p><b><u>Africa</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- African Youth Network (AYN)</li> <li>- Pan African Youth Union (PYU)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Europe</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- European Youth Forum (YFJ)</li> <li>- Advisory Council on Youth Issues of the Council of Europe</li> <li>- Portuguese National Youth Council (CNJ)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>International Organisations (INGYOs)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Red Cross Youth</li> <li>- World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM)</li> <li>- International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY)</li> <li>- Global Young Greens (FYEG)</li> <li>- Pax Romana (IMCS/MIEC)</li> <li>- World Organisation of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides (WAGGGS)</li> <li>- International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY)</li> <li>- World Alliance of YMCAs</li> <li>- World Alliance of YWCAs</li> <li>- Youth Action for Peace (YAP)</li> <li>- International Young Democrat Union (IYDU)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>(Inter)-Governmental organisations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- European Commission - DG EAC, DG DEV, DG AIDCO</li> <li>- African Union</li> <li>- Institut Nationale de la Jeunesse et Éducation Populaire (INJEP - France)</li> <li>- Directorate of Youth and Sports of the Council of Europe</li> <li>- Portuguese Youth Institute (IPJ)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Other partners and local organisers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Africa Youth Corps</li> <li>- African Institute of South Africa and National Youth Commission (South Africa)</li> <li>- Secrétariat Exécutif Permanent de la Jeunesse Africaine</li> <li>- Comité Régional Afrique de l'Ouest</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Facilitated by</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- North- South Centre of the Council of Europe</li> </ul>

## Pre-Summit Consultation Meetings

In order to prepare for the Youth Summit and to make this a participatory and inclusive process, five African sub-regional consultative/preparatory meetings and a consultative/preparatory meeting for the European and African Youth Diaspora living in Europe are taking place prior to the Youth Summit.

The main objectives of the regional consultative/preparatory meetings are to provide regional platforms to discuss and prepare for the actual Youth Summit, reflecting the regional and sub-regional specificities.

### Calendar of the Consultation Meetings

22- 25 July 07	European and African Youth Diaspora Living in Europe Consultation Meeting
22-24 August 07	Southern Africa Regional Consultation Meeting
1-3 October 07	West Africa Regional Consultation Meeting
10-12 October 07	Central Africa Regional Consultation Meeting
15-17 October 07	East Africa Regional Consultation Meeting
29-31 October 07	North-Africa Regional Consultation Meeting
<b>4 -7 December 07</b>	<b>Africa Europe Youth Summit</b>

## **Profile of Participants for the Youth Summit**

- be aged between 18 and 35;
- be in a position to represent the views and policies of the nominating organisation
- be actively involved in the work of their organisations;
- be able to demonstrate the value of her/his participation as regards Euro-African youth cooperation;
- have a multiplying effect (able to spread the outcome of the Youth Summit inside his/her own organisation and country);
- be willing to actively contribute to the debates and committed to take part in the whole duration of the Youth Summit
- be able to work in French, English or Portuguese

## **Selection Criteria and Procedure**

The participants must be **nominated by an independent youth organisation** (National Youth Platform or International Youth NGO) which complies with the following eligibility criteria:

- be membership-based (assuring a link between the local, national, regional or global levels);
- promote and encourage the participation of the constituency and young people in decision-making processes;
- respect the cultural, religious and ideological diversity of human kind, including Human Rights;
- be accountable and transparent in their actions and decisions;
- be legitimate and credible;
- pursue constructive, positive common goals;
- have programmes with effective and efficient impacts;
- be based in an African country or in a European country (member states of the Council of Europe).

**Country representatives** will be nominated by National Youth Councils (NYCs). Each NYC will nominate a young woman and a young man (2 participants/country). In those countries where an independent national youth platform or coordination body do not exist, the International Non-Governmental Youth Organisations (INGYOs) and the Regional Youth Platforms - European Youth Forum (YFJ), the Pan African Youth Union (PYU-UPJ) and the African Youth Network (AYN- RAJ) - should nominate participants from their local branches and constituency. This will make a total of 94 participants from European countries and of 108 participants from African countries.

**Representatives of INGYOs** with a global scope of action will be nominated up to a total of 50 participants from Africa and Europe, on an equal basis.

**Representatives from the African Diaspora living in Europe:** 20 participants will be nominated from active organisations of the African Diaspora Living in Europe.

The Steering Group of the Africa Europe Youth Summit process has nominated a **selection panel** composed by the European Youth Forum (YFJ), African Youth Union (PYU-UPJ), African Youth Network (AYN- RAJ), the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY) and Pax Romana (IMCS-MIEC) to select applicants to the Summit on the bases of these criteria. The final selection of participants should assure that the overall participation in the Africa-Europe Youth Summit reflect gender and geographic balance (Europe/Africa and rural/urban youth), as well as the diversity of the youth movement in both continents.

All applicants must fill the attached application form, to be sent to the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe: ([nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int](mailto:nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int)) before the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 2007.

## **Practical Information**

The organisers will support the travel costs, accommodation and subsistence (meals and local transportation) of selected and confirmed participants for the duration of the Youth Summit.

The working languages will be French, English and Portuguese. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the three languages for the plenary sessions and working groups.

Detailed technical information on travel, accommodation and logistics will be provided to the selected participants, upon conclusion of the selection process.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marcos Andrade and Ana Felgueiras at the North South Centre of the Council of Europe in [nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int](mailto:nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int)  
You can also consult the website [www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/Youth\\_Summit\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/Youth_Summit_en.asp)  
**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2007**