

Association of African
Universities



**GOLDEN
JUBILEE**

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H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo
President of the Republic of Ghana



Prof. Olusola
OYEWOLE
AAU President



Prof. Etienne
EHOUAN EHILE
Secretary General

Welcome to Ghana



The AAU

WHO WE ARE

- The apex higher education organisation on the continent
- Three working languages (English; Arabic and French)
- Membership comprises about 400 higher education institutions drawn from 46 African countries
- Membership comprises public; private (faith-based; for-profit; not-for-profit) higher education institutions and other regulatory bodies in Africa
- Avenue opened for non-African institutions as Associate Members
- The Representative Voice of the African Higher Education Community
- The Lead Implementing Body of the Plan of Action for the Higher Education component of the African Union's Second Decade of Education for Africa (2006 – 2015); Currently spearheading the AU's higher education component under Agenda 2063

The AAU Logo



The Constituent Elements of the AAU Logo

- A traditional lamp
- A flame with a continuous and steady contour
- Africa graphically represented
- A circle symbolizing continuity
- Two interlocking rings symbolizing inter-university co-operation and the strengthening of African Unity
- Stylized horns signifying the durability of co-operation and unity
- Association of African Universities written in English, French and Arabic within the circle

The Significance of the AAU Logo

Universities, by the “light of knowledge”, guide man on the road to progress and human dignity. The shadow of ignorance is removed by this permanent light, sustained by durable co-operation and unity.

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Prof. Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang, PhD, FGA

(Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Cape Coast; Former Member of the Governing Board, AAU; Former Minister for Education, Ghana)



AAU Congratulations! May the next 50 years see AAU even more visibly at the forefront of continental thought and development!

Here comes a time to highly commend the visionary Founders of the Association of Africa Universities (AAU) who saw the need to extend a Pan-Africanist impulse to academia. This call is still relevant, if not more urgent in our time, for two reasons woven of related strands. The first

strand is the imperative of enhanced continent and global responsiveness to the dynamism of social transformation. The second, coming out of the first, is the visible geo-political developments that point constantly at urgencies of linkages, unification, collaboration, cooperation at all levels- national, regional, continental and indeed global.

AAU's achievements clearly go beyond significant feasts, not least the impressive increase in its membership, creating an effective context for deliberating and crafting ideas for African Higher Education development and growth in all its complexity, and, of course, its important implementing role in the Africa Union.

My wish for AAU, apart from 50 more years of significant advancement and importance, is to continue the journey of maintaining its identity, deepening its relevance in an ever rapidly changing and arguably global space. AAU must perforce be mindful of its critical position and role in a continent that desperately requires the right calibre of human capital developed to the highest levels, as determined by the needs of our beloved continent in the first instance. AAU must constantly keep in focus the Africa We Want 2063 in the long term, and the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 in the medium term. AAU will achieve even more significant progress should the Association focus more on creating, innovating, engaging.

Let AAU eventually bring to the doorsteps of daily living of the farmer, the fisherman, the intellectual, the modern-day professional, the decision maker, the indispensable role it plays on our continent. Specifically let AAU champion the quality of thinking of our youth, because they own the future, to imagine, believe, strategize and work hard to achieve the difference they wish to experience in their own lives and in those of others, by understanding, as the venerable writer Ayi Kwei Armah so clearly expresses it in *Two Thousand Seasons*, that "... we are not a people of yesterday..."

While remaining alive to the globalizing trends of current social dynamism, the AAU might gain even better traction by courting that most important, relevant applause that emanates from the palpable positive, transformative changes the Association has effected on the lives and paths of ordinary Africans not so privileged.

Congratulations!

Professor Olusola Oyewole

Current AAU President (2013 to Date)



It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 14th General Conference of the Association of African Universities. Our Association is also marking its Golden Jubilee at this conference under the theme “AAU @ 50: Achievements, Challenges and Prospects for sustainable development in Africa “. This is a unique time in the history of AAU for us to appreciate our past achievements and forge ahead for a greater future.

The idea to establish an umbrella higher education association that would provide the platform for deliberations, exchange of information and collaboration among Africa's universities was conceived in the 1960s by the highest level of the continent's political leadership and throughout the years, the AAU has, continued to provide the much needed platform for the attainment of excellence in higher education delivery and relevant research through its services and programs to African higher education stakeholders.

As a former staff of AAU, I had the privilege to contribute to the implementation of some of AAU activities and projects for the benefit of Africa's higher education community. These activities, included policy relevant research support; quality assurance; leadership and management development workshop series; promotion of scholarly work through the database of African theses & dissertations; to mention a few, have continued to date with funding from our benevolent development partners, some of whom are present at this 14th General Conference/Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Association. Indeed, AAU has continued to develop and strengthen links with international development partners.

Like any other non-governmental and higher education organization, AAU has encountered numerous challenges but has continued to grow and implement new programmes that have made significant contributions in addressing our developmental challenges.

I will therefore like to join in celebrating this Golden Jubilee and to thank all individuals, institutions and organizations, that have in one way or another contributed to making AAU what it is today. Let me specially appreciate the government and people of Ghana who have been our good host in over the past 50 years and have graciously provided AAU with an ultra-modern office building of its own. It is my fervent hope that the next 50 years will see AAU grow by leaps and bounds. Long live AAU!

Prof. George **Magoha**

President in 2011-2013

I have been a member of the AAU Governing Board from early 2005 to date having been elected at the Cape Town meeting. During these twelve and half years, I also served the AAU as the first Vice President in 2009-2010, and as President in 2011-2013. The AAU has made tremendous transformative progress with prolonged stability during this period. I congratulate the president, Secretary General, the entire AAU Executive Board and the entire AAU fraternity on the occasion of the AAU's 50th Anniversary.



I also singularly congratulate the government of the Republic of Ghana for its continued commitment and support to the AAU and particularly for financing the ultra-modern AAU Headquarters and taking care of the residence of the Secretary General over the years. The AAU has succeeded and superseded all in all its strategic objectives over the years.

I wish AAU well in future and congratulations on the 50th anniversary

Prof. Njabulo S. **Ndebele**

President: 2006-2009

An African proverb says you cannot build a house from the roof. True, but you can imagine the roof and the house before you build them. And so, it is that imagining, thinking, and doing, and beginning again to imagine, think, and do, together make up the history of human imagination, thought and social practice.

African universities, in their different characters, have played that role in that history from ancient times to contemporary times. When they assembled to establish the Association of African Universities fifty years ago in 1967, they sought to consolidate that role in an emerging continent.

It was an immense privilege to have served as President and Chair of the Governing Board of the Association of African Universities from 2006 to 2009. Being a part of so many other Vice-Chancellors who have served the Association in that capacity speaks to the Association's fifty years of resilience. Since then the higher education community of scholarship in Africa has grown considerably in the range of its teaching, research, and capacity to change society. The achievements of the AAU in a continent that has made significant progress over the last fifty years are worthy of congratulations and celebration. They give Africans across the continent greater confidence to carry on imagining, thinking, and doing into another future.



Prof. Lazarus Hangula

(Former Board Member, AAU)

On behalf of the Council, Staff, Students and the alumni of the University of Namibia (UNAM) and indeed on my own behalf as a long term serving former AAU Governing Board member, I have the distinct honour to present our heartfelt congratulations to this very important and unique Pan-African academic body, the Association of African Universities (AAU), on the occasion of your Golden Jubilee celebration.



As the first Namibian academic institution that joined and became an active AAU member, UNAM has all the reasons to rejoice with and thank the AAU for both what it stands for and for its contribution to the empowerment and integration of the people of our continent through higher education. As the first higher education institution in an independent Namibia, UNAM has profited immensely from the AAU's programmes that stress peer review mechanisms, encourage the dissemination of knowledge, as well as best practices through institutional collaboration. We have also benefited from programmes which promote visibility through staff and student mobility as well as quality and employability of graduates of member universities.

The University of Namibia which will be celebrating 25 years of its existence in year 2017, is particularly indebted to the Association of African Universities for encouraging it to submit itself and its programmes to quality assurance scrutiny by a team of experts from African and European universities under AAU aegis, thus entrenching the culture of independent quality audit in Namibia.

I wish the Association of African Universities fifty more years of successful work of integrating education on the continent, as well as enlightenment of the people of our promising continent. For we believe, it is only through such mechanisms that Africans will be able to fully harness the resources of their continent. Long live AAU!

Prof Edward Oben Ako

(University of Maroua, Cameroon) AAU Board Member

AAU at 50! Five decades of service to Higher Education in Africa. What an achievement. What challenges. What obstacles overcome. What borders: geographical, linguistic, and educational crossed!

In the next five decades. I look forward to seeing the AAU along with the African Union and various development partners working together to place the African University where it is and where it should always be; that is at the centre of the development of the African continent through Centres of Excellence and the training of scientists in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology.
Bon anniversaire.





Prof. Paul Henri **AMVAM ZOLLO**

Rector (Vice Chancellor) The University of Ngaoundere, President of The Conference of Rectors of Cameroonian Universities, former Board Member of the Association of African Universities.

The AAU at 50 has come a long way, a baby expected to be still born or to die at birth but that did not happen. It has emerged as a major actor/facilitator in the higher education landscape in Africa and has slowly but success-fully helped in bringing together University and Research Institutions spanning the linguistic and cultural divides largely derived from the colonial legacy. More recently it has been very instrumental in bringing to fruition the project of the Pan African University. In addition, the AAU has done a lot in the sensitization and promotion of, action on major issues impacting African Universities such as, academic quality control, student massification and senior management capacity building. This has been done through studies, organisation of workshops, and broad discussions during its General Conferences and COREVIPs. The significant contribution of the AAU on the foregoing issues cannot be overemphasized, as universities and public decision makers in Africa are making considerable efforts to tackle them in the drive to make Africa count in the World University Rankings. So, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the AAU, we are happy to congratulate AAU for its achievements and to wish it an even brighter future on the seas of higher education.

However, there is still a lot to be done. Let us state only one in the form of a question. How can the AAU help move the bulk of African universities from implicit and passive actors to explicit active movers in the sustainable development of Africa? We believe in the capacity of the AAU to do something about this. Good luck and speed, AAU.

Prof. Kwasi **Kwafo Adarkwa**, Ph.D. (Professor of Planning, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana)

As a former Member of the Governing Board and someone who is familiar with the workings of the AAU, it is impressive to see how far the organization has come from its modest beginnings in Rabat, Morocco, in 1967. It is my wish that AAU will continue to provide a platform for research, reflection, consultation, debates, cooperation and collaboration. Over the years, I have been impressed by how AAU has facilitated academic mobility of students and faculty across the continent even with meagre resources. Indeed, you have served all universities in Africa in various forms and have been our mouthpiece on countless occasions at various fora. In addition, you have created a platform for various universities in Africa to exchange information and research.



My expectation is that your relevance on the tertiary education landscape in Africa will become even more important in the future. All existing and future universities on the continent will indeed benefit from the AAU and its activities. In these days when collaborations and partnerships have become the order of the day in tertiary educational institutions, AAU's future role in Africa will be critical for the growth and development of the sector. Since the AAU's establishment, it has done so well and, hence, on the occasion of your Golden Jubilee Anniversary I wish to congratulate the AAU and all its stakeholders.

Congratulations for a job well done.
Long live AAU, long live Africa.

Prof. Narciso Matos

(former AAU Secretary General [1995-2000],
Pro-Rector of Universidade Politécnica,
Maputo, Mozambique.



AAU@50 is undoubtedly a great occasion, one to be celebrated with joy and dignity. Much has been accomplished on the continent and in each of our nations. The first and foremost appreciation goes to the leadership and devotion of academics and scientists working on our campuses, the vice chancellors, deans and leaders at various levels, technical and administrative staff and most importantly, students. Through the AAU's members, the executive board and devoted staff of the Secretariat, the Association has

significantly contributed to what we are today. It has established itself as a leading forum for cooperation, and learning among academics and higher education institutions world-wide.

It is for this reason that I take this opportunity to congratulate the AAU of today, its founders and the various generations that preceded us and paved the way we so proudly tread.

Congratulations!!!, May the next 50 years take the AAU to greater heights!



Prof. Akilagpa Sawyerr

(Secretary-General, Association of African Universities [2003-08])

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Association of African Universities, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the debt I owe personally to the Association, my 'home' for 15 years, as well as the Association's inestimable contribution to the

sustenance and strengthening of the African university as a major player in the development of the continent and its people.

My relationship with the AAU goes back over 30 years, to a time when, as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, I encouraged the University to take on the role of "host institution" to the Association. This involved close collaboration with and support for the late Donald Ekong, the dynamic Secretary-General of the AAU, at the time leading a revival of the Association after a period of relative stagnation. Professor Ekong involved me actively in many aspects of the work of the AAU, till 1993, when I was appointed the first Director of Research of the Association.

This coincided with a drive by African universities, under the leadership of the AAU, to counter policies by some donor countries, led by the Bretton Woods institutions, which, under the Structural Adjustment Programmes then in vogue, sought to play down the priority of higher education for African development. As part of our response, we initiated the Study Programme on Higher Education Research, which, with support from the Department for Research Cooperation (SAREC) of the Swedish International Development Cooperation (SIDA), provided funding, training and networking for higher education research by scholars from all parts of Africa. We also took full control of the Senior University

Management Workshop (SUMA), later refined into two programmes – Leadership Development Workshop (LEDEV) and Management Development Workshop (MADEV) – for the enhancement of the leadership and management of African universities.

Together with later programmes such as that on Quality Assurance, these initiatives provided a vital foundation for the continent-wide campaign to insist on due priority to university education and research in Africa.

The campaign became more proactive during my tenure as Secretary-General from 2003, operating on two fronts. The first aspect aimed at getting the leading donor countries and institutions, which had for decades been fixated on basic education as the key need of Africa, to acknowledge the need for the revitalization of African universities and, going further, actually to support the work of the AAU. Formal recognition of the correctness of our position came in the report of The Blair Commission, “Our Common Interest: Report of The Commission for Africa” (2005), which acknowledged “as unfortunate ... the neglect of secondary and tertiary education (in Africa) ...” and advocated for a “longterm programme of investment ... to revitalise African universities ...” (p33). This was followed two years later by new donor support, including funding by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) – for the first time - of an AAU programme, the Mobilising Regional Capacity Initiative (MRCI). Also relevant in this connection was support from the World Bank-sponsored African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for AAU work.

A second, vital front of the campaign sought to establish close relations with the African Union and, through it, African Ministers of Education in a drive to increase funding for African higher education institutions and build up their capacities as a key element in national and continental development. This culminated in the establishment in 2007 of a “Framework for Cooperation and Collaboration between the African Union Commission and the Association of African Universities”, which facilitated close AU-AAU collaboration in higher education matters in the final years of my time at the AAU.

From the side lines, I have observed with great interest the continued contribution of the AAU to African development through capacity enhancement and networking of Africa's universities. May this continue in the coming years. Long live AAU!



Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai (Former Secretary- General, AAU)

Half a century is an important milestone in the history of any organisation. It is an opportune moment to look back at its past achievements, to reflect on its current situation and to plan its future trajectory.

The Association of African Universities (AAU), as is well-known, was established in November 1967 in Rabat, Morocco, at a time when most African countries had recently achieved or were in the process of achieving independence. Although spearheaded

by the Organisation of African Unity, which was promoting the ideals of Pan-Africanism, the initiative to create the AAU was really taken by a group of African academics who realised the importance of higher education to the development of emerging Africa and of the need for collaboration among the nascent African universities.

The objectives of AAU, as they appeared in its first Constitution in 1969, were essentially to promote cooperation among African universities, especially in curriculum development and equivalence of degrees; to distribute information on higher education and research, particularly in Africa; to facilitate linkages between African institutions and the international academic community; to promote the wider use of African languages; and to organise conferences to enable African universities to share their experiences and challenges. These objectives are equally valid today. However, the higher education landscape in which the AAU began its operations has dramatically changed over the past fifty years. It started with a membership of 38 institutions, out of 46 that were eligible to join then; it now has nearly 380 members and it is estimated that there are more than 1,500 African higher education institutions. In the 1970s, almost all the universities were public, now the majority are private. The student population, which was perhaps barely half a million in the late 1960s, is now of the order of 15-20 million.

Looking back, it is unquestionable that the AAU has played a crucial role in assisting its members in a number of vital areas. Noteworthy among these are: promoting gender equity in higher education, empowering higher education institutions in combatting HIV/AIDS, providing leadership and management training, and creating an electronic Database of African theses and dissertations. Above all, the AAU became the rallying voice of higher education in defending the sector in the 1980s and 1990s at a time when the importance of higher education for Africa's development was being questioned. Having achieved so much in spite of many challenges, in particular a perpetual shortage of human capacity and financial resources, is truly remarkable. One must also acknowledge the generous financial support provided to the AAU by a myriad of donors and development agencies.

With the highly diverse and continuously expanding higher education sector in Africa, the future challenge for AAU will be how to be more inclusive, how to become financially sustainable and how to ensure that higher education in Africa, is locally relevant in overcoming the continent's development challenges, and play an equally meaningful role on the international front. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the AAU on this momentous occasion of its 50th anniversary. This anniversary coincides with the joyous occasion of the AAU Secretariat moving to its new and spacious premises in the vicinity of University of Ghana, Legon. I send my best wishes to one and all at the AAU. May the AAU continue to thrive and be the beacon for higher education in Africa in the years ahead.

Prof. Olugbemi Jegede

Former Secretary-General (AAU)



It gives me great pleasure and with tremendous excitement to send this goodwill message on this auspicious double-header occasion of the 14th General Conference and the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Association. Let me begin by congratulating the African Union, The Governing Board, your good self, the management, staff and the general membership of the AAU, as well as all the international development partners who continue to contribute to making AAU the giant it has become today.

The Conference and Anniversary theme of 'AAU @ 50: Achievements, Challenges and prospects for sustainable Development in Africa' could not have been more apt at this point in time when there is an avalanche of issues of historical significance, unparalleled achievements in spite of all odds, nostalgic reflections and positive expectations of better things to come now and in the future for the future for African higher education.

Founded in Rabat, Morocco on November 12, 1967, following recommendations made at a conference organised by the United Nations Educational Scientists and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Antananarivo, Madagascar in September 1962, the AAU has become the apex organisation and forum for consultation amongst institutions of higher education in Africa. AAU has become the African Union's voice and implementing agency for higher education in Africa charged with the singular responsibility for coordinating regional and international bodies and to support networking by institutions of higher education in teaching, research, information exchange and dissemination.

As we look ahead to another 50 years of quality service to the Continent, the AAU' as the representative voice of the African higher education community both within and outside Africa', should reinvigorate its capacity and capability to serve a broader and fuller clientele within the dictates of the 21st century digitally-enhanced educational ecosystem. The immediate challenges to be addressed, aside its ever depleting sources of funding, include the expansion of membership from over 380 to all the 1500 institutions of higher learning in Africa. No institution must be left behind; and certain Incentives need to be provided to make the desire to be a member most compelling.

As the immediate past Secretary General of the AAU under whose short but quite eventful stewardship facilitated the approval and release of funds by the Government for the building of its headquarters and official residence of the Secretary General 48 years after the inception of headquarters building has been completed and now fully occupied. This has ensured that the host government would no more pay rents. I must thank former President of Ghana Mahama, former Education Minister of Ghana, Naana Opoku- Agyemang and the Registrar of the Ghana GETFund for the significant roles they all played in actualising this memorable feat for which the AAU would forever be grateful.

Let me conclude by wishing the entire leadership, membership and staff of the AAU a fruitful 14th General Conference and a happy and historic celebration of the 50th year of her existence as we look forward to many more celebrations.

Long live AAU!

HISTORY

The foundation of higher education in African was laid by the Christian missions, which raised the ambitions of the countries where they were located. The church had been the education of Africa, with exception to University of Sankore, which flourished at Timbuctoo in the sixteenth century. Education being the priority, the Church Missionary Society established Fourah Bay College, a training school for ministers in Sierra Leone, West Africa, in 1827 and became an affiliate of the University of Durham, England by 1876. The association with Durham allowed Fourah Bay to train candidates for degrees granted by Durham. This association established a tradition which came to have an important place in African higher education. There were no institutions of higher learning in Portuguese or Spanish Africa, but in British, French, and Belgian territories, the quality of degrees was guaranteed by metropolitan universities. Except at Fourah Bay, British Commonwealth Colleges had their degrees guaranteed by the University of London. London supervised staff and recruitment, controlled degree structure and syllabi, and evaluated the standard of examination.



Prof. Alex Adum Kwapong
Pioneer Executive Board member

Prior to the political independence of African countries, the Europeans established schools in Africa to train the personnel needed to support European administrative and economic projects. Although no clearly defined pattern was followed by the British government, they established University Colleges in Basutoland, Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda by 1950. France established the University of Dakar in Senegal in 1950, and Belgium sponsored Lovanium University in the Congo in 1954.

The Second World War (1939-1945) accelerated the demand for higher education. Africans who served in the Armed Forces during the wars learned new skills, and raised their horizons for a higher standard of living. However, the 1960s was not only a turning point but also a vital historical landmark in Africa's struggle and search for a modern identity. It was the period that most colonial territories achieved, or were about to achieve, political independence, and also the beginning of the so-called development decade when African countries immediately found themselves drawn into the vortex of international conferences of varying motivation, rationality and utility, ostensibly designed not only to analyse but also to prescribe solutions to their problems.

Education naturally received high priority not only as a means by which centuries of ignorance was to be wiped out but also the means to train and develop the skills and high-level manpower to replace the erstwhile colonial official as well as staff the new and expanded political, administrative, social and economic institutions. Despite the high priority on education, literacy was enjoyed by a small portion of the total African population at the time of independence. Most black African countries had literacy rates under 20% and one half of their children under 17 were not in schools.

In December 1960, the Economic Commission for Africa organized a conference in Khartoum, Sudan in which, among other things, inter-African cooperation in the development of higher education was discussed. The Ministers of Education in newly independent African countries met under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa in May 1961 to discuss the importance of education to economic development. During the meeting, a committee of six African states was asked to prepare “a synthesis of the educational goals, targets and qualitative attainments during the next twenty five years decided by the African states”. This became known as the 20-Year Addis Ababa Plan. This was followed in September 1962 by a meeting of a more specialized conference on the Development of Higher Education in Africa, organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Tananarive, Madagascar.

Heads of African institutions of higher studies taking part, decided to follow this Tananarive conference by organizing a private meeting outside the main framework to the Conference, which they did, and decided to meet in Khartoum to consider the practical means of developing inter-University cooperation in Africa and the measure necessary for setting up an organisation which would give effect to this cooperation.

The first meeting of Heads of African Universities held at the University of Khartoum on 16 – 19 September 1963 decided that the creation of an Association of African Universities was desirable. An interim committee was appointed and charged with

- 1. The drafting of a constitution for the proposed association and**
- 2. Convening a conference to bring the Association into being under the Constitution.**

The preparations involved three meetings of the Interim Committee; one meeting at Haile Sellassie I University on 23- 25 July 1964 and two meetings at the University of Khartoum on 3-4 April 1965 and on 22 -23 February 1967, in addition to the informal discussions which included frequent meetings between the Chairman of the Interim Committee Dr. M. El Fasi, the Executive Vice-Chairman Dr. E.N. Dafaala, and other members of the Committee namely Dr. Davidson Nichol, Vice Chairman, Dr. R. F. Baffour, Sir



King Hassan II of Morocco
He provided the facilities for hosting the Rabat Conference.

Bernard De Bunsen, Dr. C. Franck, Dr. S. A. Huzayyin, Dr. Kasa Wolde Mariam, Dr. M. Mursi Ahmed, Dr. E. Njoku, and Dr. R. Weeks. Great help was rendered by Mr. D. Aitken, Executive Secretary of the International Association of Universities (IAU).

Unforeseen circumstances twice delayed the holding of the Founding Conference which was first arranged on invitation by the Nigerian Universities, at Ahmadu Bello University on 20 – 22 January 1966. Disruption of communication with Nigeria prevented almost all the participants from reaching Zaria and the Conference was postponed. This setback was followed by a series of informal consultations and enquiries which paved the way for finally accepting an invitation by the Universities of the United Arab Republic to hold the Conference in Alexandria on 12 – 14 September 1967; but due to the aftermath of the Arab-Isreali war, the timing proved not suitable.



Mohammed V University
Host of 1967 AAU Conference

Finally, the Committee accepted an invitation by H.E. Dr. M. El Fasi to hold the Conference at Mohammed V University in Rabat, Morocco on 9 – 13 November, 1967 and by the excellent facilities extended by His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, the Founding Conference was held in Rabat, the draft constitution adopted and the Association of African Universities was born.

It was attended by representatives of 34 universities who adopted the Constitution of the Association whose preamble reads as follows:

We the Heads of Universities and University Institutions of Higher Education throughout the African Continent;

Aware that many of the problems encountered can be solved by developing a system under which there is effective co-operation and consultation among the institutions concerned;

Conscious of the role of African Universities to maintain an adherence and loyalty to world academic standards, and to evolve over the years a pattern of higher education in the service of Africa and its peoples, yet promoting a bond of kinship to the larger human society;

Have resolved to establish a corporate body to achieve our aims and objectives in harmony with the spirit of the Organisation of African Unity.

The first Executive Board Members were:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| H.E. Dr. M. El Fasi | President | University Mohammed V | Morocco |
| Dr. El Nazeer Dafaalla | Vice President | University of Khartoum | Sudan |
| Dr. T. Tshibangu | Vice President | University Lovanium | Zaire (Congo DR) |
| Dr. S. O. Biobaku | Member | University of Lagos | Nigeria |
| Dr. Alex Adum Kwapong | Member | University of Ghana | Ghana |
| Dr. Y. K. Lule | Member | Makerere University | Uganda |
| Dr. R. Paulian | Member | University of Abidjan | Ivory Coast |
| Dr. M. Mursi Ahmed | Member | University of Cairo | Egypt |
| Dr. R. Roblot | Member | University of Madagascar | Madagascar |
| Dr. S. Sy | Member | University of Dakar | Senegal |
| Dr. Rocheforet L. Weeks | Member | University of Liberia | Liberia |
| Substitutes | | | |
| Dr. Ahmed Abdesselem | | University of Tunis | Tunisia |
| Dr. S. Audu | | Ahmadu Bello University | Nigeria |
| Dr. W. K. Chagula | | University College, Dar es Salaam | Tanzania |
| Dr. G. H. Levesque | | University National du Rwanda | Rwanda |
| Dr. A. T. Porter | | University College, Nairobi | Kenya |

Ideology

On the level of ideology, the founding fathers of the AAU envisioned the Association as an organisation that would bring together African universities in the same way as the OAU had brought together newly independent African countries. The AAU was thus seen as part of the evolving Pan-African organisations under the general umbrella of the OAU, as captured in the Report of the Executive Vice-President of the Second Conference of the Association in Kinshasa in 1969. He saw the AAU and its scholarship programme as an attempt “to create the type of students, of future leaders, who through their assimilation in more than one African social scene, will develop an awareness of the realities and aspirations, of the traditions and ideals of their peoples in Africa and hence a sense of belonging not to one tribe or nation but to Africa as a whole, and this is the unity of Africa which we like to see and are out to achieve”.

The African University Day

There have been close links between the Organisation of African Unity (now African Union). The AAU enjoys an observer status at meetings of the OAU.

In 1994, and to coincide with the inaugural anniversary of the AAU, the Organisation of African Unity declared 12th November of every year as African Universities Day in pursuant to Resolution CM/Res.1534 passed by the OAU Council of Ministers in June of that year. The African University Day has been observed and celebrated by AAU member institutions since then.

In June 1995, the 62nd Ordinary Session of the Council of the OAU Council of Ministers adopted, without amendment, a draft resolution [CM/Res.1601 (LXII)] on the Role of African Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning in the Development of the Continent in which the AAU was actively involved. The Resolution took note of the conclusions and recommendations of the Colloquium on “Universities in Africa in the 1990s and beyond” jointly organised by the AAU and the donors to the Working Group on Higher Education in Africa in January 1995, and called upon the governments of the OAU Member States to support the Association of African Universities in its efforts to enhance the role of African universities in promoting the socio-economic development of the African continent.

VISION

To maintain the AAU as the representative voice of the African higher education community, both within and outside Africa.

MISSION

To raise the quality of higher education in Africa and strengthen its contribution to African development by:

1. Fostering collaboration among its member institutions.
2. Providing support to their core functions of teaching, learning and research, and community engagement.
3. Facilitating critical reflection on, and consensus building around, issues affecting higher education and the development of Africa.

CORE VALUES

- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Quality
- Social Justice
- Knowledge Sharing

Location

The decision on the permanent location of the Association's headquarters was taken at the sixth Meeting of the Executive Board at the University of Lagos, Nigeria in June 1970. The offer from Ghana was chosen upon presentation by the then Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Professor A. Kwabong, of a formal letter from the Government of Ghana indicating the facilities and the immunities that would be accorded the Association. This included according diplomatic privileges to the Staff of the Secretariat, exemption from taxation for the senior international staff and a Government of Ghana contribution to an Endowment Fund. Following the hosting agreement, a temporary headquarters for the Association was inaugurated in Accra in February 1971 before it was moved in 1972 to a more permanent facility within the State House, generously donated by the Ghana Government. The Secretariat was relocated to a single-storey building at Dzorwulu, also in Accra to make room for Ghana's hosting of the tenth ministerial conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in September 1991. After 25 years at Dzorwulu, the Government and people of Ghana are proud to have completed a magnificent ultra-modern building at East Legon to give the AAU a permanent Secretariat which is befitting of its status as the apex higher education organisation in Africa. This building was funded through the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFund) and was completed on time to usher in the Association's Golden Jubilee celebrations.

Membership

Membership of the AAU is open to universities and other institutions of higher education in Africa, as well as organisations and networks, African or others, whose members are universities or which engage in supporting universities. Currently, the AAU has about 400 members. During the 8th General Conference of the Association in Accra in January 1993, the bye-laws were changed to allow associate membership. The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kenya became the first Associate Member.

Full or Associate Membership are accorded based on the constitutional provisions of the Association and is open to both public and private universities, polytechnics, higher education colleges and other institutions recognised by their country authorities as higher education and research institutions.

Associate Membership may be extended to other institutions of higher education or regional bodies and networks whose members are accredited universities or whose objectives are to promote activities of universities, whether located in or outside Africa.

At the time of the AAU's inauguration, there were forty-six (46) institutions of higher learning that qualified for membership, 34 were present at the inauguration and membership rose to 38 in 1968. Five years after its formation, all the 46 institutions had become members of the AAU.

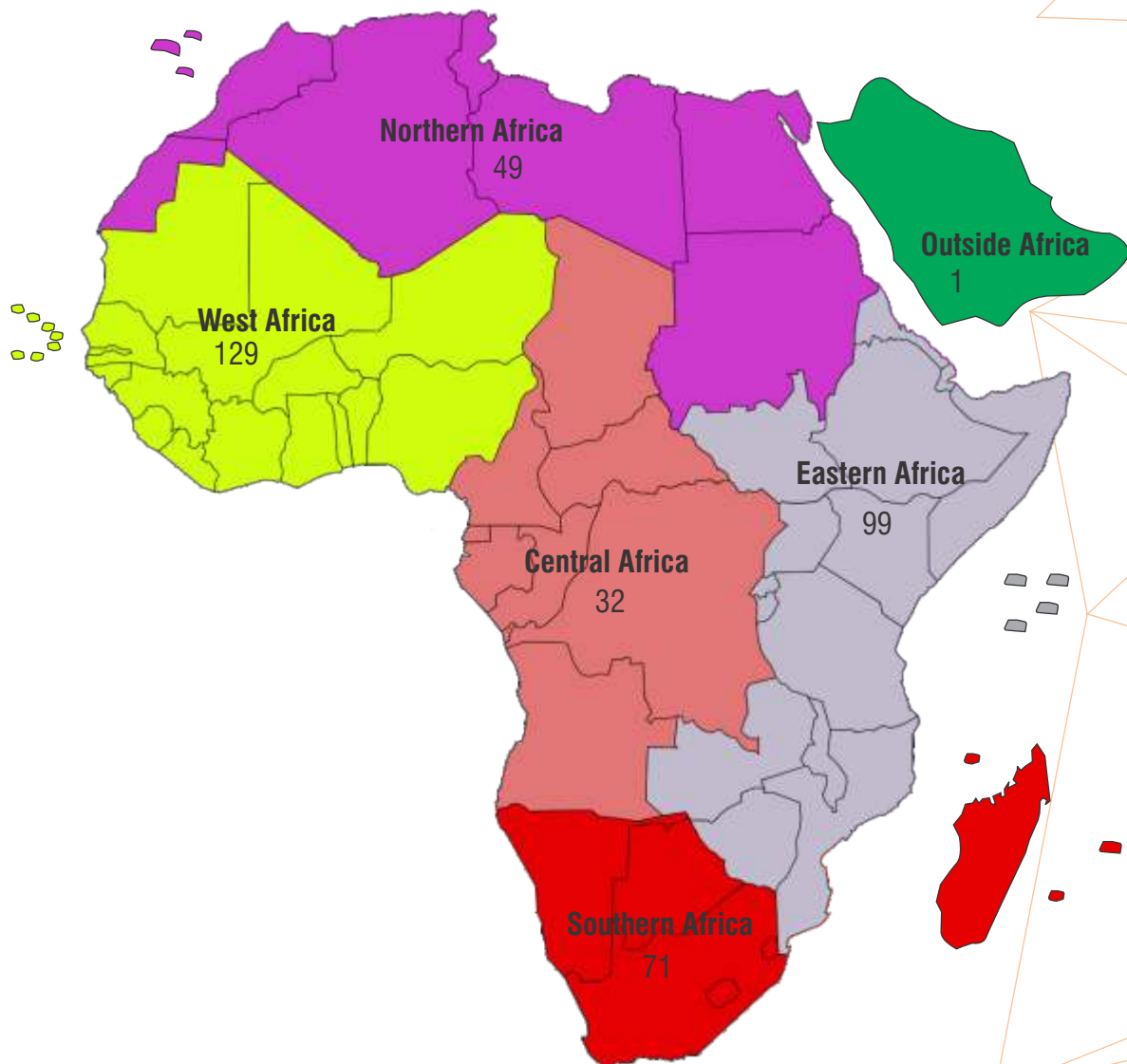
The Pioneering Members of the AAU

Membership of the AAU is open to universities and other institutions of higher education in Africa, as well as organisations and networks, African or others, whose members are universities or which engage in supporting universities. At the time of its inauguration, there were forty-six (46) institutions of higher learning that qualified for membership, 34 were present at the inauguration and membership rose to 38 in 1968. All the 46 institutions had become members of the AAU five years after its formation.

The 34 pioneer institutions at its inauguration were:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| University of Algiers | Algeria |
| Université Officielle de Bujumbura (Université du Burundi) | Burundi |
| Université Fédéral du Cameroun (Université de Yaoundé) | Cameroon |
| Université Nationale du Zaire (made up of Official University of Lubumbashi and Free University of Kisangani) | Congo DR |
| University of Lovanium, Kinshasa | Congo DR |
| Ain Shams University | Egypt |
| Al-Azhar University | Egypt |
| Alexandria University | Egypt |
| University of Cairo | Egypt |
| University College of Addis Ababa (Haile Selassie I University/Addis Ababa University) | Ethiopia |
| Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology | Ghana |
| University of Cape Coast | Ghana |
| University of Ghana | Ghana |
| University of Abidjan | Ivory Coast |
| University College, Nairobi | Kenya |
| Cuttington College (Cuttington University) | Liberia |
| University of Liberia | Liberia |
| University of Libya (later divided to University of Benghazi and University of Tripoli) | Libya |
| Universite de Madagascar (University of Antananarivo) | Madagascar |
| Mohammed V University (University of Rabat, Morocco) | Morocco |
| The University of al-Qarawiyyin | Morocco |
| Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria | Nigeria |
| University of Ibadan | Nigeria |
| University of Ife (Obafemi Awolowo University) | Nigeria |
| University of Lagos | Nigeria |
| University of Nigeria, Nsukka | Nigeria |
| University Nationale du Rwanda | Rwanda |
| Universite de Dakar (Université Cheikh Anta Diop) | Sénégal |
| Fourah Bay College (University of Sierra Leone) | Sierra Leone |
| Njala University | Sierra Leone |
| University of Khartoum | Sudan |
| University of Dar es Salaam | Tanzania |
| Universite de Tunis | Tunisia |
| Makerere University College | Uganda |

SIZE OF CURRENT MEMBERSHIP BY REGION



| Region ¹ | Number of institutions |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| West Africa | 129 |
| Southern Africa | 71 |
| Central Africa | 32 |
| Eastern Africa | 99 |
| Northern Africa | 49 |
| Outside Africa | 1 |
| TOTAL | 381 |

Organisational Structure

The Constitution of the Association strengthens its corporate governance and bestows rights and duties on its principal organs. The General Conference, comprising of representatives of the Association's members and observers admitted by the Association's Governing Board, is the highest decision-making body of the Association and meets once every four years to determine the general policies of the Association and approve of its programmes and budget.

The Governing Board is a 15-member body made up of executive heads of member institutions elected in accordance with the Association's constitution, which emphasizes on regional representation and the profile of the different members of the Association. The Board implements the decisions of the General Conference and meets once every year to review and approve the annual programme and budget of the AAU. The President, Vice Presidents and the Secretary-General as the Principal Officers of the Executive Board.

The Secretariat is the permanent executive organ of the Association and sees to the day-to-day coordination of activities for and on behalf of the Association. This involves drawing up and implementing a Programme of Activities and managing the affairs of the Association under the immediate authority of the Governing Board. The Secretariat, headed by Secretary-General of the Association who acts under the guidance of the Governing Board, employs highly competent international staff, with a strong Ghanaian professional core as support staff.

At the 12th General Conference in Abuja in May, 2009, the nomenclature 'Executive Board' was changed to Governing Board, and the Executive Committee comprising the President and the three Vice Presidents established, with the Secretary-General serving as the Secretary to both the Executive Committee and the Governing Board.

Constitutional Reviews

During the 8th General Conference of the Association in Accra in January 1993, the bye-laws were changed to allow associate membership. The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) in Kenya became the first Associate Member.

Full or Associate Membership are accorded applicants based on the constitutional provisions of the Association and is open to both public and private universities, polytechnics, higher education colleges and other institutions recognised by the country authorities as higher education and research institutions.

Associate Membership may be extended to other institutions of higher education or regional bodies and networks whose members are accredited universities or whose objectives are to promote activities of universities, whether located in or outside Africa.

KEY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- **Accra, Ghana (January 1993):** the AAU bye-laws were changed to allow associate membership during the 8th General Conference.
 - The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) became the first Associate Member.
- **Cape Town, South Africa (February, 2005):** The Constitution amended for the first during the 11th General Conference
 - Its governance reforms facilitated devolution of the AAU to enable sub-regional entities such as SARUA to be part of the Association.
- **Abuja, Nigeria (May, 2009):** The second revision of the Constitution and the Bye-laws during the 12th General Conference.
 - The key issues were changing the nomenclature of Executive Board to Governing Board in the Constitution and updating and transferring the countries in the various sub-regions from the Constitution to the Bye-Laws. The major amendments were in the Bye-Laws.
- **Libreville, Gabon (May, 2013):** The third revision of the Constitution during the 13th General Conference
 - The Legal Personality of the AAU was incorporated, and the outgoing AAU President made an ex-Officio member of the Governing Board

AAU PRESIDENTS

| NO. | NAME | PERIOD | NATIONALITY |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | Mgr. Tshibangu Tshishiku | 1968 - 1973 | Congolese |
| 2. | Prof. Gabriel Ampah Johnson | 1977 - 1980 | Togolese |
| 3. | Prof. Victor Anomah Ngu | 1980 - 1982 | Cameroonian |
| 4. | Prof. Rashid Haraoubia | 1984 - 1989 | Algerian |
| 5. | Prof. Mahmoud Naguib Hosni | 1989 - 1993 | Egyptian |
| 6. | Emeritus Prof. George Benneh | 1993 - 1997 | Ghanaian |
| 7. | Prof. Andrew Hlanganiso Siwela | 1997 - 2001 | Zambian |
| 8. | Prof. George Eshiwani | 2001 - 2003 | Kenyan |
| 9. | Prof. Lamine Ndiaye | 2003 - 2005 | Senegalese |
| 10. | Prof. Njabulo Ndebele | 2005 - 2009 | South African |
| 11. | Prof. Is-Haq Oloyede | 2009 - 2010 | Nigerian |
| 12. | Prof. George Albert Magoha | 2011 - 2013 | Kenyan |
| 13. | Prof. Olusola Oyewole | 2013 - Date | Nigerian |

AAU SECRETARIES-GENERAL

| NO. | NAME | PERIOD | NATIONALITY |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Mr. Kaiso N'quot (Acting Sec. Gen.) | 1970 - 1972 | Nigerian |
| 2. | Prof. Yusufu Kironde Lule | 1972 - 1976 | Ugandan |
| 3. | Prof. Levy Makani | 1977 - 1987 | Congolese |
| 4. | Prof. Donald Ekong | 1987 - 1995 | Nigerian |
| 5. | Prof. Narciso Matos | 1996 - 1999 | Mozambican |
| 6. | Prof. Francois Rajaoson | 2000 - 2003 | Madagascan |
| 7. | Prof. Akilagpa Sawyerr | 2003 - 2008 | Ghanaian |
| 8. | Prof. Goolam Mohammedbhai | 2008 - 2010 | Mauritian |
| 9. | Prof. Olugbemi Jegede | 2010 - 2012 | Nigerian |
| 10. | Prof. Etienne Ehile | 2012 - Date | Ivorian |

AAU Presidents



Prof. Ampah-Johnson
1977 - 1980



Prof. V. A. Ngu
1980 - 1982



Prof. George Benneh
1993 - 1997



Prof. Andrew Siwela
1997 - 2001



George Eshiwani
2001 - 2003



Prof. Lamine Ndiaye
2003 - 2005

AAU Presidents



Njabulo S. Ndebele
(2005 – 2009)



Prof. Is-Haq Oloyede
2009 - 2010



Prof. George Albert Magoha
2011 - 2013



Prof. Olusola Oyewole
2013 - Date

AAU SECRETARY-GENERALS



Prof. Y. K. Lule
1972 - 1976



Prof. Levy Makani
1977 - 1987



Prof. Donald Ekong
1987 - 1996



Prof. Narciso Matos
1996 - 1999



Prof. Francois Rajaoson
2000 - 2003



Prof. Akilagpa Sawyerr
2003 - 2008

AAU SECRETARY-GENERALS



Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai
2008 – 2010)



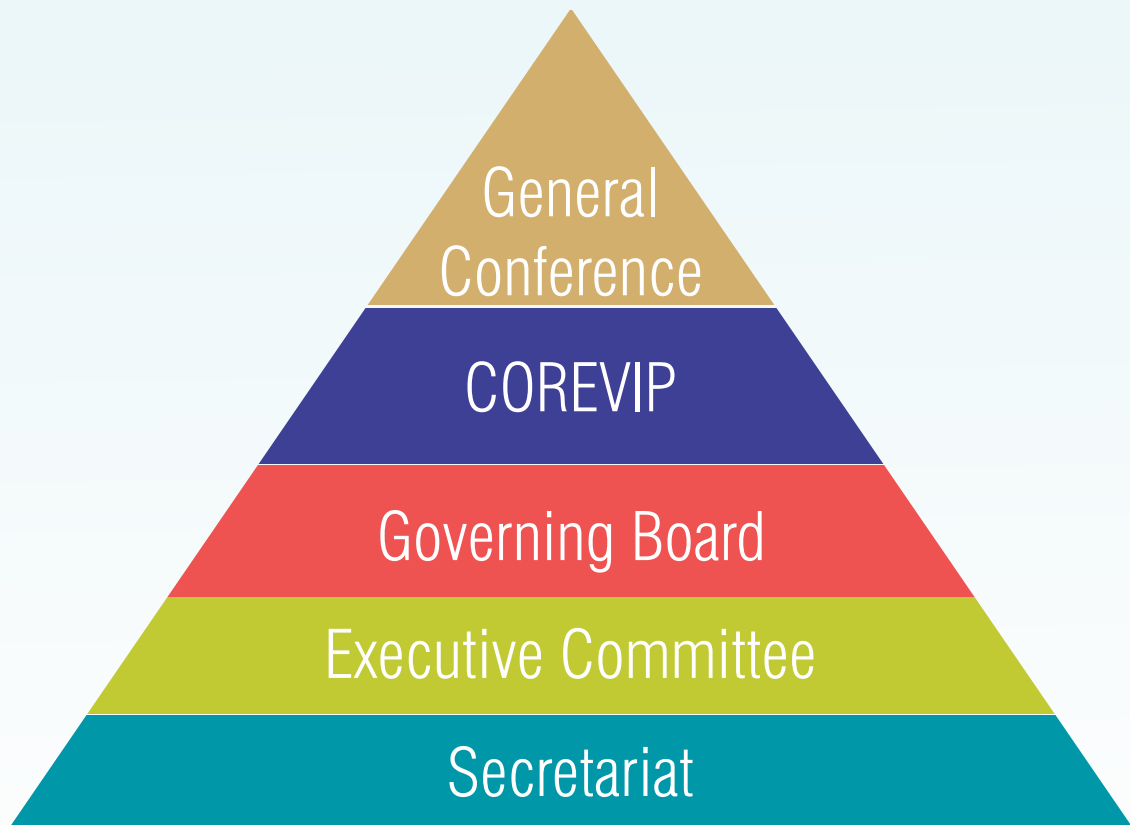
Prof. Olugbemi Jegede
2010 - 2012

ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL



Cheikh Tidiane Sy
1970 - 1972

AAU's ORGANOGRAM



AAU'S INTERVENTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN AFRICA

The AAU began by running a scholarship programme initiated earlier by Mr. Tom Mboya, a Kenyan Trade Unionist and political leader to actualise interuniversity cooperation. To regularise, broaden and institutionalise the programme, the USAID agreed to fund the African Scholarship Programme of American Universities (ASPAU) through the African-American Institute (AAI). Later, AAI started organising an INTERAFrican scholarship programme to channel qualified African students to different African universities outside their own countries because of the lack of either space or of the desired discipline in their own countries. The INTERAF focused attention on undergraduate studies leaving ASPAU, and later AFGRAD, for postgraduate and staff development.

The AAI and USAID welcome the formation of the AAU as the body best placed to take over the running of INTERAF and AFGRAD, and these two constituted the major programmes during the first two decades of the Association. Other projects fitted as financing became available. The intervention areas of the AAU have been classified as follows:

a. Capacity Building Programmes

University Staff Training Programmes

Academic Mobility

- Academic Staff Exchange (supports academics from AAU member institutions to undertake exchange programmes at other universities in Africa for the purposes of research, short-term teaching assignments, external examining and supervision of both post/ undergraduate theses)

University Advancement workshops (UNIVAD)

- The workshop series provide university leaders with the facilitated opportunity to familiarize themselves with cutting edge approaches and 'tools' that they can employ on the ongoing transformational journey in their institutions.

Senior University Management Workshops (SUMA)

- The SUMA workshops were part of a series aimed at “developing the leadership and management skills of senior academic and administrative heads of African university institutions”. It wrapped up in 2002 and metamorphosed into LEDEV and MADEV.

Leadership Development workshops (LEDEV)

- The LEDEV workshop series provides a forum for sensitising university leadership on the changing environment and attendant demands, and provides critical skills for leading a modern university.

Management Development workshops (MADEV)

- The MADEV series seeks to equip middle level university managers (Provosts, Deans, Directors, Finance Officers, Registrars and Heads of Department, etc.) with the most modern management skills and tools so they can provide critical support to the Vice Chancellor/Rector.

Students-focused Programmes

Graduate Internship

- The programme was established by AAU to respond to the concerns of its member institutions on the “job-unready” graduates coming out of African Universities. The internship grants go students running Masters and PhD programmes in member universities of the AAU.

Full Scholarships for Masters and PhD Students

- The aim is to provide opportunities for advanced study to exceptional individuals who will use this education to become leaders in their respective fields, further development in their own countries and greater economic and social justice worldwide.

Small Grants for Theses and Dissertations

- The grant is available to PhD and Masters' students of AAU member institutions to facilitate early completion of theses and dissertations.

b. Institutional Strengthening Programmes

Promoting Centres of Excellence, West and Central Africa

- The AAU facilitates the World Bank's African Centres of Excellence for West and Central Africa, and was instrumental in setting up the African Union's Pan African University.

Database of African Theses and Dissertations

- The programme projects African scholarly work by providing access to African theses and dissertations by creating capacity in African universities for the collection, management and dissemination of theses and dissertations electronically.

Promoting Sustainable Development in African Universities

- This AAU programme aims to promote the role of HEIs in entrenching values, behaviour and lifestyles required for a sustainable future.

Promoting University-Industry Linkages

- The main thrust of this programme is to equip universities with tools and skills for effective linkages with the productive sector.

African Universities Responding to HIV & AIDS

- This programme aims to contribute towards reduced incidence of HIV as well as the stigmatization and discrimination associated with HIV infection.

Research and Education Networks (RENs)

- The AAU established the Research and Education Networks Unit at its Secretariat to act as an ICT clearinghouse for African universities in particular, assisting them to better utilise ICT in their teaching, research and administrative activities.

Quality Assurance Support for Higher Education in Africa

- The programme lays a foundation for institutionalised quality assurance mechanisms within tertiary institutions, national quality assurance and accreditation agencies

Mainstreaming Gender in Higher Education

- The AAU commits to gender sensitivity by addressing issues that contribute to vulnerability and negative social norms on gender roles

Study Programme on Higher Education

- This programme was initiated to help build up a cadre of researchers capable of generating the knowledge and options for policy needed to guide the functioning and development of African higher education

University Research Governance in West and Central Africa

- This programme was initiated to address perceived deficiencies and challenges in governance of university research

Mobilising Regional Capacity Initiative (MRCI)

- The project was initiated to assist HEIs in Africa make significant contributions at national level to the achievement of the MDGs

Regional Cooperation in Refugee and Humanitarian Studies

- The AAU developed this project with the principal objective of building capacity for the management of crises on the continent through graduate programmes operated by African universities

Hopes on the Horizon project

- The project tells the African history as seen/told by Africans, and employs educational, radio, film, broadcast, and new media initiatives to disseminate the information.

c. Hosting of other Bodies by the AAU Secretariat

- ADEA's Working Group on Higher Education in Africa (ADEA-WGHE)
- Research and Education Network Unit (RENU)
- African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN)
- Ford Foundation's International Fellowship Programme (Ghana Alumni)

d. Honorary Services to Higher Education

- African Higher Education Excellence Awards
- Roster of African Professionals (ROAP)
- Publications
- Information dissemination through:
 - Conferences, Seminars and Workshops;
 - Newsletters;
 - Social Media

OUR CURRENT KEY FOCUS AREAS (2016 – 2020)



1



Strengthening HEIs
Delivery Capacity
in Africa

2



Knowledge
Generation,
Management and
Dissemination

3




Supporting HEIs
Respond to Local
and Regional Needs

4



Engaging with African and
International Partners in
Development for Improved
Collaboration

5



Promoting HEIs
Engagement in
Communities

6



Strengthening
Capacity for Service
Delivery at the AAU
Secretariat

7



Improving AAU
Membership Size,
Quality and
Commitment



PICTURE GALLERY











Professor George A.O. Magoha Professor of Surgery & Consultant Urologist at the **University of Nairobi College of Health Sciences (Kenyan)**

I am a beneficiary of the Inter-African Universities Program (INTERAF) which began in 1967 and was managed by the Association of African Universities. I received a scholarship that enabled me enroll with the College of Medicine at the University of Lagos Nigeria from 1973 to 1978. The impact of this investment has been unquestionable - I am a full professor of Urological and Transplant Surgery, was Vice Chancellor of the University of Nairobi for 10 years and took up several distinguished leadership positions including Governing Board of the AAU from 2005 to 2017.



Mrs. Adjabeng Kodjofio Agnes Akuvi, Deputy Librarian, **Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Theology, Mission and Culture (Ghanaian)**

I benefited from the Inter-African Universities Program (INTERAF) scholarship from AAU that enabled me do my first degree in Librarianship between the years 1975-1978. Because of this support I have assisted hundreds of information seekers using my Library Science and information studies skills. I have also effectively managed the Environmental Library in Ghana. I am very grateful to the AAU.



Dr Etela Ibisime, Associate Professor, **University of Port Harcourt (Nigerian)**

In October 2015 I benefited from AAU support towards a 10-day Senior Executive Attachment Programme on technology uptake to CURAD (Consortium for enhancing University Responsiveness to Agribusiness Development Limited) in Kampala, Uganda. The experience enriched my understanding of agrotechnology uptake. I have since integrated agri-entrepreneurship in my undergraduate and postgraduate courses to enable students see farming as a profitable business.



Dr Violet Munodawafa (nee Makuku), Higher Education Quality Assurance Specialist & HAQAA Initiative Project Officer, **Association of African Universities Secretariat (Zimbabwean)**

I was awarded a small grant by AAU to complete my thesis in 2005. Because of this support I graduated with an MSc in Curriculum Studies. AAU further supported me to commence my PhD studies with the University of South Africa (UNISA). I later participated in a Leadership Development Workshop where I learnt a great deal concerning university management I published a paper from my Masters Dissertation which is titled "Secondary School Teachers' conceptions of Indigenous Knowledge: A basis for its inclusion into the curriculum".



Mr. Henok Gebremariam, System Administrator, **St. Mary's University (Ethiopian)**

I participated in the AAU organized workshop for the Database of African Theses and Dissertations (DATAD) in Entebbe Uganda in 2015. This workshop was an eye opener - I gained technical skills for implementing Institutional Repository using the DSpace platform. In 2016 I successfully configured and launched an Institutional Repository for St. Mary's University. This repository has more than 2000 thesis, journals, newsletters and conference proceedings uploaded. The repository is making our research outputs visible globally.



Mr. Stein Mkandawire, Chief Technical Officer, **Zambia Research & Education Network, (Zambian)**

I was awarded a small grant by the AAU in 2008 to help me complete my thesis research and writing. My Thesis was published into a book selling at www.amazon.com The book is called "Managing Spam Through Mapping Anti-Spam Software to E-Mail Policy". My education has helped me advance in my career and I am indebted to the AAU.



Mr. Lucky Moahi, Deputy Pro Vice Chancellor, **Botho University, (Botswana)**

In 2015 I was one of the participants of the Leadership Development (LEDEV) organized by the AAU. This workshop targets senior academic and administrative staff of African Universities. I benefited in a great way – I am now aware of the emerging trends in management of higher education systems. I had the rare opportunity to network with colleagues and to establish useful contacts with colleagues from other institutions and countries.



Prof. Philip Cotton, Vice Chancellor, **University of Rwanda (UK)**

The University Rwanda co-hosted the Conference of Rectors, Vice Chancellors and Presidents of African Universities in collaboration with the AAU in 2015. In 2015 my university also helped co-organize the University Industry Linkages workshop in Kigali with the AAU Secretariat. These activities were helpful in terms of networking and creating visibility for the University of Rwanda.



Mr. Jose Lopes, Lecturer, **Cabo Verde- ISCEE, Cape Verde**

I am a beneficiary of AAU capacity building efforts. I participated in the University Industry Workshop held in Kigali, Rwanda in 2015. The most important outcome is that I organized a similar workshop on the same topic at the university where I work. This training has built the capacities of our staff to develop mechanisms for engaging the private sector towards improving curricula and improving graduates' employability. We have developed a business oriented teaching program with a great impact on students' success after graduating.



Dr. Milly Kwagala, Dean Faculty of Business Administration & Management, **Ndejje University, (Ugandan)**

In 2017, I participated in the recently developed HAQAA (Harmonization of the African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation) Initiative. I am glad that my university is part of the AQRM (African Quality Assurance Rating Mechanism) because quality assurance of Higher Education Institutions is a core area towards revitalizing Higher Education and Research in Africa.



Mr. Joseph Sagbohan, Head of Library, **University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin (Benenese)**







I have benefited as an individual when I participated in the Database of African Theses and Dissertations capacity building workshop in 2015. As an institution, we have benefited from a server that has been used for the installation of DSpace to manage our Institutional Repository. We are extremely grateful for the capacity building initiatives of the AAU








Dr. Carlene Kyeremeh, Vice President - Academic Affairs, **All Nations University College, Ghana (Canadian)**

I have benefited immensely from the capacity building efforts of the AAU from 2013 to 2016. I have learned how to do effective strategic planning, the importance of networking, integrating technology to enhance teaching and learning and the importance of quality assurance for African Universities. The greatest value from the AAU platform has been the opportunity to “learn from the experience of other participants from various African countries”.


OUR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS OVER TIME

| | |
|--|---|
| Africa America Institute |  |
| African Capacity Building Foundation |  <p>THE AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING FOUNDATION</p> |
| Association For The Development Of Education In Africa |  <p>Association for the Development of Education in Africa</p> |
| African Union |  |
| Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) |  |
| Carnegie Corporation of New York |  |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Ford Foundation</p> |  |
| <p>Government of Ghana</p> |  |
| <p>International Development Research Centre (IDRC)</p> |  |
| <p>International Network For The Availability Of Scientific Publications (INASP)</p> |  |
| <p>Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Neda)</p> |  <p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>United Nations Office For Project Services (UNOPS)</p> |  |
| <p>United States Agency For International Development (USAID)</p> |  |
| <p>Danish International Development Agency (Danida)</p> |  |
| <p>Canadian International Development Agency (Cida)</p> |  |
| <p>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)</p> |  |
| <p>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</p> |  |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>International Association of Universities</p> |  |
| <p>Norwegian Agency for Development and Cooperation (NORAD)</p> |  |
| <p>OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)</p> |  |
| <p>Rockefeller Foundation</p> |  |
| <p>Swedish International Development Agency</p> |  |
| <p>Societe Generale Group</p> |  |
| <p>United Nations Educational, Scientific And Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</p> |  |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department for International Development Cooperation / FINNIDA</p> |  |
| <p>Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)</p> | <p>The Association of Commonwealth Universities</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| The World Bank |  |
| The OPEC Fund |  |
| International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) |  |
| Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic) |  |
| British Council |  |
| Department For International Development (DfID) |  |

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



Stichting Akada Educational Network



Nestle Foundation (Lausanne, Switzerland)



African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)



Global Affairs Canada Formerly CIDA



Carnegie Corporation of New York



Ford Foundation



Government of the Netherlands



European Union



The World Bank



United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)



International Baccalaureate



International Development Research Centre



Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)



African Union Commission (AUC)

STRATEGIC PARTNERS



African Books Collective (ABC)



African Network of Scientific and Technological Institutions (ANSTI)



African Network Information Centre (AfrINIC)



African Network Operators Group (AfnOG)



African Union Commission (AUC)



African American Institute (AAI)



Universities Canada (UC)



International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE)



International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)



Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'enseignement Supérieur (CAMES)



Association of Arab Universities (AArU)



Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)



Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)



Commonwealth of Learning (COL)



African Council for Distance Education (ACDE)



Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)



International Association of Universities (IAU)



Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)



OMNI Consulting Ltd.



New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD)

OER Africa
OER Africa

CURRENT AAU GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS



President,
Professor Olusola Oyewole,
Federal University of Agriculture,
Abeokuta, Nigeria



Vice President,
Professor Marc-Louis Ropivia,
Université Omar Bongo,
Libreville, Gabon



Vice President,
Professor Karrar Ahmed Bashir Elabbadi,
Omdurman Ahlia University,
Omdurman, Sudan



Vice President,
Professor Orlando Antonio Quilambo,
Eduardo Mondlane University,
Maputo, Mozambique

MEMBERS



Professor Tolly Mbwette,
Open University of
Tanzania, Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania



Professor John
Ssentamu Ddumba,
Makerere University,
Kampala, Uganda



Professor Komi P.
Tchakpele, Université de
Kara, Kara, Togo



Professor D. D. Kuupole,
University of Cape Coast,
Cape Coast, Ghana



Professor Peter Mbatia,
University of Venda,
South Africa



Professor Zollo Paul
Henri Amvam, Université
de Ngaoundéré,
Cameroon



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