ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITÉS AFRICAINES
رابطة الجامعات الأفريقية

AAU: The Voice of Higher Education in Africa
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Secretary General’s Message

This report covers the period July 2016 to June 2017. This was a very busy period for the AAU Secretariat in its bid to implement its work plan meticulously amidst organising two key events on the AAU’s calendar. These two statutory events - the 2016 African Universities Day celebrations and the 14th General Conference of the AAU were both successfully held during the reporting period.

The AAU also marked its Golden Jubilee at the 14th General Conference hosted under the theme- AAU @50, Achievements, Challenges and Prospects for sustainable development in Africa. It brought together over 500 participants drawn from Academia, Industry, Development Partner Communities and Governments from 40 countries.

This Annual Report updates information provided in the 2015/2016 Annual Report and highlights the performance of the individual projects. Information is also provided on other non-programme activities that contributed towards achieving the AAU’s goal of promoting higher education in Africa. The Report further presents an update on our membership; AAU’s collaboration in international events; our capacity building efforts and key meetings with some strategic partners, among others.

The financial performance of the AAU is presented in this report.

The period also recorded, unfortunately, the death of Professor Primrose Kurasha, Vice Chancellor of the Zimbabwe Open University and active member of the Association and its various activities. The death occurred in February 2017.

Prof. Etienne Ehouan Ehilé
SECRETARY-GENERAL
The Association of African Universities (AAU) is the apex organization and forum for consultation, exchange of information and co-operation among institutions of Higher Education in Africa. The decision to create the AAU was taken at a meeting of Heads of African Institutions of Higher Education at the University of Khartoum, Sudan in September 1963. This was followed by a founding conference in Rabat, Morocco on 12th November 1967, which was attended by the Heads or Senior representatives of 34 of the then existing 46 African Universities. AAU is one of the key higher education implementing bodies of the African Union.

To be the leading advocate for higher education in Africa, with the capacity to assist our member organizations in meeting national and continental needs.

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

- Supporting the core functions of higher education institutions (HEIs);
- Facilitating and fostering collaboration with and between African HEIs;
- Providing a platform for discussions on emerging issues.

AAU represents the voice of Higher Education in Africa on Regional and International platforms and supports networking by institutions of Higher Education in the areas of teaching, research, quality assurance, information exchange and dissemination.

With a strong representation in all five regions of Africa, AAU, has over the years made tremendous contributions to Higher Education Institutions in Africa through its various projects. Its secretariat is located in Accra, Ghana.

About the AAU

VISION

MISSION

CORE VALUES

MEMBERSHIP

Supporting the core functions of higher education institutions (HEIs);

Facilitating and fostering collaboration with and between African HEIs;

Providing a platform for discussions on emerging issues.

Supporting the core functions of higher education institutions (HEIs);

Equity and Inclusiveness

Responsiveness

Sustainability

Excellence and Professionalism

Teamwork and Collegiality

397 institutions spread across all regions of Africa are currently registered with the AAU. Our members are in these countries;
Intervention Areas

Our intervention areas during the reporting period are highlighted here as follows;

**Strengthening Higher Education Institutions Delivery Capacity by:**
- Enhancing Leadership and Management Capacity in African HEIs
- Improving ICT Infrastructure and Capacity for Knowledge Management
- Improving Quality Assurance in African HEIs
- Promoting Africa’s Centres of Excellence
- Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation
- Promoting Staff Exchange and Academic Mobility

**Promoting Knowledge Generation and Management**
- Improving Research Governance in African HEIs
- Supporting Policy Relevant Research
- Facilitating Academic Staff Mobility
- Promoting Doctoral Scholarships for Staff Development in African HEIs
- Increasing Access to African Scholarly Work

**Promoting the Socio-Economic Relevance of the African University**
- Strengthening University-Industry Linkages
- Developing the Employable African Graduate, through projects such as students’ internships

**Networking, Strategic Alliances, and Funding Issues**
- Improve Collaboration among African HEIs and between AAU and African Sub-Regional HE Associations
- Strengthen Diaspora and Alumni Relations
Highlights of 2016/2017 Events

2016

NOV 07-12
2016 African Universities Day

JAN 06
Official Opening of the New AAU Secretariat Building

2017

APR 24-28
AAU Staff Training in Effective Communication and External Communication

JUNE 05-08
14th General Conference and 50 years Anniversary of the AAU
AAU celebrates **2016 African Universities Day** using Innovative Ways

The 2016 African Universities Day celebrations were held in collaboration with Meltwater Entrepreneurial School of Technology (MEST), Ghana Institute of Management & Public Administration, University of Professional Studies Accra (UPSA) and Wisconsin International University College. The African Universities Day marks the birth of AAU and the 2016 celebrations were held on the **7th, 9th, 11th and 12th November 2016** (dubbed Innovation Week). The theme was "**Entrepreneurial Learning & Communities of Practice**". The 2016 AU Week celebrations were supported by Global Wings Travel and Tours.

The Meltwater Entrepreneurial School of Technology (MEST) hosted MEST/AAU Talks on the 7th November 2016 at the MEST Incubation Center in East Legon. The talks discussed "**How we can best prepare African youth for entrepreneurship**". Participants included industry players, staff and students from the University of Professional Studies Accra (UPSA), Wisconsin International University College, Ghana Institute of Management & Public Administration (GIMPA) and AAU Staff.

AAU also partnered with GIMPA to host an Inter-University Challenge that featured 3 student teams on 9th November 2016 at the GIMPA Campus. The three students’ teams came from UPSA, Wisconsin International University College and GIMPA. The teams were given a challenge related to African Higher Education to solve and were scored based on their problem solving, critical thinking and innovativeness by distinguished judges.

The University of Professional Studies Accra (UPSA) hosted the main African University day event on Friday 11th Nov 2016 at the UPSA campus. The event featured a high-level panel discussion that dwelt on the theme: "**Entrepreneurial Learning & Communities of Practice**". The discussions were interactive and lively. The event also included the award ceremony for the winners of the Inter-University Challenge. The Wisconsin team were adjudged the overall winners for the interuniversity challenge.

On Saturday 12th Nov 2016 AAU hosted a moderated one and half hour twitter discussion on the theme: "**Entrepreneurial Learning & Communities of Practice**".
06 JAN 2016

Official Opening of the
New AAU Secretariat Building

The new ultra-modern AAU Secretariat offices was officially opened by the former President of Ghana John Dramani Mahama on January 6, 2017. He was assisted by the former Minister of Education, Professor Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang and the AAU Secretary General Professor Etienne Ehouan Ehile. The construction of the AAU office complex was funded by the Government of Ghana through the Ghana Education Trust Fund (GETFUND). Prof. Etienne Ehile, praised the government of Ghana for facilitating the construction of the office complex – indicating that “Ghana was a leading star on the continent”.

Launch of **AAU-led Webinars** in partnership with **ADEA**

The Secretariat launched an exciting programme for online seminars called webinars in collaboration with the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). Within the reporting period, a total of 10 webinars were hosted by the AAU. Each webinar attracted at least 40 participants. The Secretariat has thus attracted at least 360 Higher Education stakeholders to participate in the webinars. The webinar recordings can be found on this link: https://www.aau.org/webinars/stream.html.

The webinar focused on a number of themes including the following:

- **A** Revitalizing research and innovation to address continental challenges and promote global competitiveness in Africa
- **B** Promoting quality assurance through harmonization and accreditation in Africa
- **C** Promoting Peace Education and Conflict Prevention and Resolution in African Universities.
- **D** Promoting Entrepreneurship in African Universities
- **E** The Role of Women in Fighting Against Climate Change
- **F** Financing Model for African Higher Education
- **G** TVET Strategy for African Technical Universities
- **H** Promoting High Quality Open Access Journals in African Higher Education
- **I** Strategic Fundraising for African Higher Education
AAU organised a retreat for staff of the secretariat from April 24 – 28 2017 in Akosombo, Ghana. It provided the platform to train staff in Effective Communication and External Relations. Staff also deliberated on the preparations towards the AAU 50th Anniversary and General Conference.

The training content included identification of barriers to communication and how to overcome them, development of non-verbal and para-verbal communication skills, use of key communications tools, discussion of facilitation methods and the role of both Emotional Intelligence and stakeholder management in external relations.

Staff were engaged in practical exercises either in their groups or as individuals. This provided the opportunity to practically demonstrate their understanding of the various topics discussed at the workshop. The training also resulted in improved understanding of communications, emotional intelligence, facilitation skills and external relations management.

Earlier in August 2016 (1-4), the organisation of an AAU staff retreat provided the platform for the discussion of content of an AAU Business Plan, as well mapping out a plan toward achievement the Secretariat’s immediate targets.
The Association of African Universities, marked its Golden Jubilee from June 5-8, 2017 at its 14th General Conference held in Accra, Ghana.

This historical event was attended by about 500 participants drawn from the Higher Education Community, Industry and Governments from 40 countries.

Under the broad theme "AAU @50, Achievements, Challenges and Prospects for Sustainable Development in Africa" participants at the General Conference extensively deliberated on the following five conference subthemes in both parallel and plenary sessions:

1. Promoting science, technology and innovation through higher education
2. Curriculum reform as key to graduate employability and entrepreneurship
3. The role of higher education in managing the environment
4. Higher education as a tool for promoting democratic governance
5. Mobilizing resources for higher education in Africa

In his keynote address, the President of the Republic of Ghana, His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo praised the AAU for being one of the few African institutions in the 1980s and 1990s which consistently stood for and promoted higher education until the policies endorsed by the World Bank and some African governments, which downplayed the role of higher education in favour of basic education, was reversed. He also promised to look into upgrading AAU’s diplomatic status and the possibility of granting tax exemptions for staff of the AAU secretariat.

For his part, the Secretary General of the AAU, Prof. Etienne Ehile, thanked all participants for making time to join the AAU mark its 14th General Conference and called on all stakeholders to continue to cooperate with the AAU in moving it forward over the next 50 years.

"The purpose of the Association will continue to be shaped and realized through the co-operative efforts of all our members, partners and diverse higher education stakeholders" he said.
Prof. Ehile also acknowledged the contribution of the Government of Ghana for hosting the AAU for 47 years out of its 50 years of existence. "We are especially grateful to the Government of the Republic of Ghana for the investments made towards the construction of the new ultra-modern AAU Secretariat and Secretary General’s residence" he added.

AAU’s strong partnership with organisations such as the African Union Commission, European Union, World Bank, and Regional Higher Education Networks like SARUA, IUCEA, AUWA and RUFORUM was also highlighted.

Aside presentation of scientific papers at the conference, the four-day event featured a special Golden Jubilee Awards section where individuals, countries and institutions which had made tremendous contribution to the AAU were acknowledged. Participants also embarked on a tour to the new AAU Secretariat Building which was generously provided by the Government of Ghana, as well as a tour of the University of Ghana and the University of Professional Studies, both situated in Accra, Ghana and located in the environs of the AAU Secretariat.

The conference also featured an ‘AAU Business Session’ which among other things saw the election of a new AAU Governing Board Members.

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As side event, a workshop on Open Science was organized by the African Open Science Platform (AOSP), focusing on Research Data Alliance. The first meeting of the AOSP Technical Advisory Board was also held.

The General Conference and Golden Jubilee Celebrations were preceded by an official launch by the AAU and the Ministry of Education for Ghana in November 2016; and a preconference event dubbed the African Research and Innovation Summit held from June 1-2, 2017.
Prof. Orlando Antonio Quilambo has been elected as the new President of the AAU Governing Board for the period 2017 – 2020. His immediate predecessor was Prof. Olusola Oyewole, who served the AAU from year 2013 to 2017.

Prof. Quilambo is not new to the Association as he has been actively involved in Board activities since 2013 as a Board Member.

Born in Mozambique, Prof. Quilambo obtained his BA at the Faculty of Education at the Eduardo Mondlane University and later at the High School in Gustrow, East Germany.

He obtained his PhD in Natural Sciences at the Department of Plant Biology, University of Groningen in Netherlands. As a Biologist, he has been lecturing Plant Physiology, Ecophysiology and Biotechnology at under and postgraduate levels in the Faculties of Sciences and Agriculture and Forestry Engineering.

He has acquired university managerial experience from various positions including being Head of Department, Dean of the Faculty and Dean of Research.

From 1994 until 2005, Prof. Quilambo was involved in building awareness for the importance of Science and Technology for Development and was a member of the Executive Board of the African Foundation for Research and Development and Coordinator of the Meeting of the Higher Education and Research Institutions in Mozambique, which gave ground for the creation of the first Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology of Mozambique. In this position, he was deeply involved in the formulation of the first National Policy of Science and Technology in Mozambique and the creation of the Academy of Sciences of Mozambique.

He has coordinated several programmes and research projects, has published more than 20 journal articles and a Book, more than 10 publications/communications on university management of Sciences and Technology and is a reviewer of 3 Scientific Journals.

He was Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs from 2005 to 2011, and contributed to the formulation of the Research Policy and Scientific Journal at the University.

He has been the President of the Academy of Sciences of Mozambique since 2009, and the Rector of the Eduardo Mondlane University since 2011.
HAQAA Initiative Consortium
Partners Meeting,
8-12 MAY 2017 • BARCELONA, SPAIN
AAU participated in the HAQAA Initiative Consortium meeting. The HAQAA Project was in its 3rd year and the purpose of the meeting was to map the way forward concerning project implementation for the next phase and to discuss project-related operational issues. HAQAA was conceived by the African and European Union Commissions for harmonizing African Higher Education quality assurance and accreditation and increasing African higher education staff and students’ mobility.

Supervision Mission to Four Nigerian Health Africa Centers of Excellence,
1-9 MAY 2017 • NIGERIA
A team composed of the World Bank, AAU, Health experts and the National Universities Commission (NUC) of Nigeria conducted a supervision mission to some African Centers of Excellence (ACEs). Using the instrument of Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) model, all the 22 ACEs are evaluated based on their performance in the areas of students’ admission; internships; faculty training; publications; procurement; internally generated revenue; short courses; accreditation; financial management processes; and project management. All financial disbursements by the World Bank to the ACEs are linked to the achievements of these set goals.

The four ACEs visited were

ACEPRD
Africa Centre of Excellence for Phytopharmacology Research and Development at the University of Jos;

CERHI
Africa Centre for Excellence in Reproductive Health and Innovation at the University of Benin;

ACEGID
Africa Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases at the Redeemer’s University, Ede; and

CENTDFB
Africa Centre for Neglected Tropical Diseases and Forensic Biotechnology at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.

Three of the four ACEs had achieved remarkable progress in most of the milestones. However, one challenge faced by the ACEs was the attraction of students from outside Nigeria due to security concerns and financial constraints. In conclusion, the team of the Supervision Mission were satisfied about the performance of three of the four Health ACEs, while one was still lagging behind.
Fourth PASET Forum
3-8 APRIL 2017 • NAIROBI KENYA

AAU was represented at the 4th PASET Forum in Nairobi, Kenya. PASET is the Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology Initiative. The AAU is the RSIF Implementing Unit. RSIF is the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund whose goal is to train 10,000 PhDs in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology. The event was organized by the World Bank PASET Secretariat, World Bank Education Group and the Government of Kenya. The four selected RSIF Host Universities attended the PASET Forum - Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania; Université Félix Houphouët Boigny à Cocody, Côte d'Ivoire, African University of Science and Technology, Nigeria and University of Gaston Berger, Senegal. There were several key outcomes from the meetings – most important being that the Government of Kenya had joined the Governments of Rwanda, Ethiopia and Senegal in the PASET Initiative – pledging to contribute USD 2 million to the initiative.

TUNING Africa Phase II
OCTOBER 2016 • GHANA | APRIL 2017 • SOUTH AFRICA

The Tuning Africa project explores novel methods of developing outcome-oriented study programmes in international working groups of specialists based on a definition or meta-profile of current needs in specific subject areas. The Tuning Africa II initiative is part of the Africa-EU Partnership and aims to promote the harmonization of Higher Education in Africa. The diversity of African Higher Education systems limits recognition of university degrees and therefore restricts mobility. The harmonisation strategy aims to respond to this challenge and Tuning works to improve the comparability of learning outcomes. The AAU participated in the two Tuning Africa events described below:

**GHANA 17-19.10.2016**

The third General Meeting of the Tuning Africa-Phase II project took place in Accra, Ghana, from the 17th to the 19th of October 2016. The Accra meeting brought together over 165 participants from 107 African universities - members of the project - as well as representatives of national and regional Higher Education, organizations and authorities. The third general meeting saw two main objectives being pursued - the implementation strategy for the programmes that had been developed and/or revised using the Tuning methodology were analysed and secondly, the authorities participating in this third meeting initiated the debate which is expected to lead to the establishment of an African Credit System. Two new initiatives were introduced at the third meeting: the participation of students in the group work and the organization of the first Symposium on Research and Good Practices in competence-based student-centred approaches in higher education.

**SOUTH AFRICA 03-05.04.2017**

The Tuning Africa fourth General Meeting was held from 3 to 5 April 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa. More than 120 participants attended this meeting, which was organized around three main objectives: the group work of the member universities, the symposium of researchers in higher education and the student voice.
The 3rd WACREN General Conference and 4th General Meeting was held in Abidjan from 30-31 March 2017. It was co-hosted by the Ivorian Research and Education Network (RITER). WACREN is the West and Central African Research and Education Network. Capacity building workshops and other pre-conference events took place from March 28 – 29, 2017. The Secretary General participated in his capacity as a member of WACREN Board and PODWAG. The conference theme was “Catalyzing Quality Higher Education and Research” and was attended by over 150 participants from international partners and the African community. Prof Ehile served as a panelist on a high level panel discussion on the theme “Promoting ICT in Higher Education in Africa: AAU prospects” and also delivered a Goodwill Message. Other exciting parallel events, included an AfricaConnect2 project meeting, a joint TANDEM-SciGaIA-MAGIC workshop, and the TANDEM project final event. The event gave opportunities for policy makers, IT Directors, network managers, faculty members, researchers and development partners to interact, share experiences and build new partnerships. Concerning the Africa Connect2 Project, it was indicated that an EU funding of 80% was available for implementation. However, the 20% counterpart funding required from West and Central African countries was the main challenge as only four countries had committed to pay their dues. It was identified that the funding issue could adversely affect the project – and could mean that the West and Central Africa region will continue to lag in the important area of internet connectivity and related ICT infrastructure. Considering the importance of the project, the ECOWAS Education and Human Resource Commissioner, Prof Boly Hamidou committed to prioritize funding for Africa Connect 2 from their 2017 budget.
The AAU participated in the Second Ordinary Session of the Pan African University Council Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Council is the highest governing body of the PAU, an African Union flagship programme established to address quality, relevance and excellence in accordance with the Aspiration 1 of Agenda 2063. The meeting deliberated on a list of important policy questions bordering on the implementation of a full-fledged university structure and network, as well as budgetary, financial and administrative issues. During the meeting, Council members underlined PAU’s status as a continental academic, research and innovation institution which should offer exemplary intellectual leadership for the African higher education system through demonstrating practical relevance to Africa’s current and emerging societal challenges. They discussed the need for the university to be at the vanguard of supporting implementation of national, regional and continental development initiatives such as Africa’s Vision 2063, through research and training of skilled high-level human resources. The Council also emphasized the need for PAU Institutes to take steps to be ground-breaking, innovative and creative, and to serve as models for other African universities in directing their research and development efforts to solve socio-economic challenges confronting the continent. The PAU Rectorate was therefore tasked to provide the PAU Council annual updates on the achievement of this mandate that will also be in line with new paradigms of development for the continent and the rest of the world. The PAU Council noted its appreciation of the progress made in efforts to relocate the Rectorate to Yaounde, Cameroon, in accordance with the decision of the January 2015 Summit of the African Union, and through negotiation and consultative engagement between the Commission and the Government of Cameroon. A similar negotiation process is underway between the Government of South Africa and the African Union Commission to establish the PAU Institute for Space Sciences in South Africa. The Commission has launched a process to recruit permanent academic staff, as well as a Rector and Vice Rector for the PAU, an effort the Council supports and calls for its expeditious implementation. The Council meeting also called for the promotion of gender mainstreaming at all levels, the establishment of a dedicated Gender Unit at PAU, and the identification of responsible coordinators for the PAU institutes to assist in the development of a Gender dimension programme and action plan. The 2nd Ordinary Session of the PAU Council witnessed the induction of new members, after the Council membership was expanded following the amendment of the University’s Statute at the January 2016 Summit of the African Union, to make the Council more inclusive and representative of the spectrum of stakeholders.
Consultation on Higher Education in Africa

NOVEMBER 21-22, 2016 • DAKAR, SENEGAL

The consultation on Higher Education in Africa was organized by the Association of African Universities and The MasterCard Foundation. A group of 39 higher education thought leaders, practitioners in Africa, and development partners met with the goal of developing a common understanding on

1. the priorities and approaches that should be adopted to improve the relevance and quality of higher education in Africa; and

2. how development partners can better collaborate to improve the relevance and quality of higher education and its contribution to accelerating the pace of social and economic transformation in Africa.

The final communiqué highlighted and emphasized the following:

- The need for increased investments in Higher Education;
- Need to achieve women participation of 50% by 2063;
- Importance of quality education that is locally relevant and globally competitive;
- Importance of quality data for evidence-based planning;
- Need to establish strong policies continentally to create an enabling environment;
- Establishment of a core Working Group to support the activities of the Committee;
- Agreement on the official Heads of State Summit Programme;
- Agreement on the official Heads of State Summit Programme;
- Opportunities for the AAU Secretary General to provide insights and clarify misunderstandings about the harmonization of Higher Education within the framework of the joint African Union-European Union strategy;
- A slot was given to the Secretary General to enlighten the participants on innovative models of funding Higher Education that emerged from the 2014 Lome Conference; and
- Networking and advertising of the AAU 14th General Conference and Golden Jubilee. This platform also provided the opportunity for the Secretary General to headhunt for board membership applications from the francophone zone.

The key participating development partner organizations agreed to work together to take forth the group recommendations. This process is also contributing to the strategic planning for the MasterCard Foundation Education and Learning Department.

Committee of 10 Heads of State & Governments’ 1st Technical Task Team Meeting

2-4 MAY 2017 • Lilongwe, Malawi

The key objectives of the meeting were to – discuss the technical support required for the meeting of the committee of 10 Heads of State; prepare necessary background documentations for the meetings; and plan for the relevant studies to support decision making by the committee of 10 champions. The meeting acknowledged the demonstrated strong relationship between higher education performance and economic growth. The meeting also recognized the need for high level support for African Higher Education to provide the needed people to drive Africa’s development.

The final communiqué highlighted and emphasized the following:

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2. Need to achieve women participation of 50% by 2063;
3. Importance of quality education that is locally relevant and globally competitive;
4. Importance of quality data for evidence-based planning;
5. Need to establish strong policies continentally to create an enabling environment;
6. Establishment of a core Working Group to support the activities of the Committee;
7. Agreement on the official Heads of State Summit Programme.

Other outcomes included:

I. Opportunities for the AAU Secretary General to provide insights and clarify misunderstandings about the harmonization of Higher Education within the framework of the joint African Union-European Union strategy;
II. A slot was given to the Secretary General to enlighten the participants on innovative models of funding Higher Education that emerged from the 2014 Lome Conference; and
III. Networking and advertising of the AAU 14th General Conference and Golden Jubilee. This platform also provided the opportunity for the Secretary General to headhunt for board membership applications from the francophone zone.
AAU participated and represented the Working Group on Higher Education (WGHE) in the 2017 Triennale organized by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). The theme for the triennale was “Revitalizing Education towards the 2030 Global Agenda and Africa’s Agenda 2063” and the general goal was to provide the opportunity for the various stakeholders to share their experiences and to collectively develop the policies, strategies, modalities, conditions and factors for the operationalization and successful implementation of the framework of action to reposition and revitalize education and training in Africa for the 2030 Agenda and Africa’s Agenda 2063. The Triennale focused on how the educational components of these agendas could be successfully implemented. Strategic ways were discussed concerning mobilizing African governments, different educational stakeholders in Africa, the private sector and civil society to adopt and provide support for the implementation of the strategic framework of action.

Regional Internet Development Dialogue, 6-10 MAY 2017 • KIGALI, RWANDA

AAU was one of the African Research and Education Community stakeholders selected by WACREN to attend the Regional Internet Development Dialogue organized by the Internet Society. The Internet Society revealed the results of a study entitled “Internet for Education in Africa – Helping Policymakers to Meet the Global Education Goals”. The report assesses how the Internet is used in the education sector in Africa. It also looks at the untapped opportunities by examining experiences in other regions, and provides recommendations for policymakers to help encourage learning via the Internet. Key follow-up actions for AAU Secretariat was to disseminate the Internet Society Report to African Higher Education stakeholders.

AUSA Triennale, 13-18 MARCH, 2017 • DAKAR, SENEGAL

AAU participated and represented the Working Group on Higher Education (WGHE) in the 2017 Triennale organized by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). The theme for the triennale was “Revitalizing Education towards the 2030 Global Agenda and Africa’s Agenda 2063” and the general goal was to provide the opportunity for the various stakeholders to share their experiences and to collectively develop the policies, strategies, modalities, conditions and factors for
The Secretariat delivered a number of capacity building workshops in key thematic areas for the benefit of African Universities. Like previous years, demand for AAU’s training programmes continued to surge, but many potential participants who registered for workshops failed to attend due to funding limitations.

The capacity building workshops undertaken within the period by the AAU are highlighted in the table below:

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Higher Education Teaching Skills Course</strong></td>
<td>Ghana and Zimbabwe</td>
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In line with preparations towards the celebration of AAU @50, the Secretariat issued an online call to beneficiaries of AAU’s programs to complete a survey. The brief survey sought to collect information from beneficiaries of AAU programmes / projects. This was to tell the AAU success story to the world as part of the 50th (Golden Jubilee) Anniversary Celebrations. The personal success stories was also meant to enrich our record of achievement and help AAU demonstrate the contribution of higher education to Africa’s advancement. Some success stories from proud beneficiaries are featured at this section.

Mrs. Adjabeng Kodjofo
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 Ibisme
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 it’s 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.

Miss Elina Mkandawire,
THINK TANK RESEARCHER
RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT - UGANDA YOUTH (MALAWIAN)

In 2016 I was fortunate to be selected among many applicants to receive a “Graduate Internship” grant that enabled me to do a 3-month internship in a reputable environmental consulting agency in Malawi. The internship enabled me upgrade my CV and to apply the theories that I had learned at university. The AAU grant created employment opportunities for me.

Miss Enjema Mbwange, PhD
STUDENT,
UNIVERSITY OF BUEA (CAMEROONIAN)

I work as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Buea in Cameroon. In 2014 I was a recipient of a Graduate Internship grant from AAU and it facilitated my 3-month internship at Credit Foncier du Cameroon. I worked with the Recovery department and I gained invaluable practical skills in Recovery. I also learned a great deal about administration and organizational processes.

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,  
BOTHU 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. Paschal Mihyo,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
tanzanian african institute for development initiatives (tanzanian)

I was employed by the AAU as Director of Research and Programmes between 2004-2005. I have been an AAU Consultant and I have participant in several AAU Events. In 2015 I supported the AAU organized University-Industry Linkages workshop as a Rapporteur. I was part of the team that conducted a study on Staff Retention in African Universities in 2007. I contributed to the ADEA-AU 2008 publication on Staff Retention in African Universities and Working with the Diaspora.

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 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. Alexander L. Darling,  
FORMER STAFF  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO (AMERICAN)

I was employed at the American University in Cairo as Vice President for Planning & Administration. I benefited from the Eighth AAU Senior University Management Workshop (SUMA VIII) which was held from 27 October to 4 November 2001, at Sheraton Cairo Hotel, Egypt. The workshop was part of a series aimed at “developing the leadership and management skills of senior academic and administrative heads of African university institutions”. It was organized by the AAU Secretariat in collaboration with Ain Shams University of Egypt.

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”.

AAU: The Voice of Higher Education in Africa

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017

ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES
ASSOCIATION DES UNIVERSITÉS AFRICAINES
Memoranda of Understanding Signed With Various Partners

The African Union Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology, H.E. Dr Martial De Paul Ikounga signed a memorandum of understanding with the Secretary General of the Association of African Universities (AAU), Professor Etienne Ehouan Ehile on December 19, 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The MOU replaced the one signed in 2007. AU Agenda 2063 calls for an education and skills revolution to meet the human resource needs for actualizing Africa’s social economic development. Universities in Africa occupy a strategic role in ensuring that our education systems are oriented towards promoting innovation, critical thinking, pan Africanism and entrepreneurial orientations, while addressing Africa’s challenges and optimizing its opportunities. Over the last decade, the partnership between the AUC and the AAU witnessed the strengthening of the African higher education space through promotion of intra-African academic mobility, harmonization of qualifications for mutual recognition across Member States; and promotion of a culture of continuous quality improvement through the AU’s African Quality Rating Mechanism. The AAU has been able to mobilize African academia to promote the continental vision of Agenda 2063, and has helped to build accountable leadership and quality in research and scholarship.

To implement the MOU, the AAU agreed on a road map with the AUC, which takes into consideration the Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25) and the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), as well as the Continental Strategy on TVET as guiding frameworks that reflect Agenda 2063. Other MOUs signed by the AAU Secretariat also signed memoranda of understanding with the following organizations:

- **eLearnAfrica** - for supporting the development and deployment of online learning resources by our member universities. The eLearnAfrica platform will allow member universities to use the eLearnAfrica platform and Learning Management System (LMS) to take advantage of user-friendly technologies to support the didactic and administrative functions of the universities.

- **ESSA** - collaborating in the exchange of contacts, strengthening of business links of AAU and development of joint programmes. ESSA is associated with the German Bosch Foundation.

- **CABI International** - to promote co-operation in the field of publishing, including education, workshops and training, publishing, open access development, access to content, and exchange of experience and knowledge acquired in research and education.

- **Pan African Chamber of Commerce & Industry** - to promote university-industry relations and improve curricula and graduate employability

- **Ghana Chamber of Commerce** - to promote university-industry relations and improve curricula and graduate employability
# Events Attended by Secretariat Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 - 26 May, 2017</td>
<td>UNECA Weather &amp; Climate Information Services for Africa (WISER) Meeting</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 - 23 May, 2017</td>
<td>Quality Assurance for Higher Education Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Lagos, Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 30 May, 2017</td>
<td>African Network Operators Group Trainings and Africa Internet Summit</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 - 19 May, 2017</td>
<td>10th ACE Project Steering Committee Meeting and the 7th ACE Workshop in</td>
<td>Lagos, Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 – 21 April, 2017</td>
<td>Meetings on M&amp;E and Project Governance with the 3 ACEs in Cote d’Ivoire.</td>
<td>Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 7 April, 2017</td>
<td>4th PASET (Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering &amp; Technology) Forum</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 - 5 April, 2017</td>
<td>The Tuning Africa 4th General Meeting from in.</td>
<td>Johannesburg, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-23 March, 2017</td>
<td>Africa Centre of Excellence Agriculture Experts supervision mission to CEADESE</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-17 March, 2017</td>
<td>Association for the Development of Education in Africa 2017 Triennial Meeting</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10 February, 2017</td>
<td>ECOWAS Verification exercise of ECOWAS Nnamdi Azikiwe Academic Mobility Scheme (ENAAMS) Students studying at UCAD</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9 December, 2016</td>
<td>African Open Science Platform Meeting</td>
<td>Pretoria, South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-18 November, 2016</td>
<td>9th Africa Centres of Excellence Project Steering Committee Meeting and 6th Africa Centres of Excellence Project Workshop</td>
<td>Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-23 November, 2016</td>
<td>Higher Education Consultation in collaboration with the MasterCard Foundation</td>
<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Events Attended by Secretariat Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9-11 November, 2016</td>
<td>Meeting with Universities in South Africa on the HAQAA (Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation) Initiative and other Quality Assurance related issues.</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3- 5 November, 2016</td>
<td>Pan African University Council Meeting</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 - 25 October, 2016</td>
<td>Working session of the Encyclopaedia Africana Project within the framework of African Unions Agenda 2063</td>
<td>Akosombo, Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17- 28th October, 2016</td>
<td>Africa Centres of Excellence Supervision Mission to Benin City, Jos and Zaria</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14 October, 2016</td>
<td>HAQAA (Harmonisation of African Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation) Initiative Francophone training course for Country Focal Persons</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th August - 2nd September, 2016</td>
<td>Association for the Development of Education in Africa Conference</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 22 July, 2016</td>
<td>Technical and financial review of the ECOWAS Nnamdi Azikiwe Academic Mobility Scheme Project</td>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-14 July, 2016</td>
<td>International Private Universities Conference</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Update on AAU Membership

As at the end of the reporting period, AAU had a total membership of **397**. This includes **44** Associate Member Universities.

### List of New Members approved by the AAU Executive Board within the period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2016</strong></th>
<th><strong>FULL MEMBERS</strong></th>
<th><strong>ASSOCIATE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ghana</td>
<td>University of Somalia (UNISO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zenith University College, Ghana</td>
<td>Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nigerian Turkish Nile University</td>
<td>Cape Cost Polytechnic, Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria</td>
<td>Bugema University, Uganda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2017</strong></th>
<th><strong>FULL MEMBERS</strong></th>
<th><strong>ASSOCIATE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ho Technical University, Ghana</td>
<td>Jazeera University, Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Umaru Musa Yar’adua University, Nigeria</td>
<td>Marodijeh University, Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accra Technical University, Ghana</td>
<td>Adeleke University, Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Koforidua Technical University, Ghana</td>
<td>Lukenya University, Kenya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kesmonds International University, Cameroon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Edo University Iyamho, Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Instituto Superior de Ciências de Educação à Distância (ISCED), Mozambique</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Overview

Performance Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>2015/2016</th>
<th>2016/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$2,709,763.00</td>
<td>$2,270,336.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td>$2,486,668</td>
<td>$2,032,926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$589,909.00</td>
<td>$656,656.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comm Serv.</td>
<td>$135,980.00</td>
<td>$162,975.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Operating Expense</td>
<td>$51,016.00</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grants from Donors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>2015/2016</th>
<th>2016/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Bank - ACE</td>
<td>$394,971</td>
<td>$995,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sida</td>
<td>$823,007</td>
<td>$395,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACBF</td>
<td>$636,952</td>
<td>$274,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adea</td>
<td>$40,965</td>
<td>$760,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecowas Mobility Scheme</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$176,044.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Improving AAU websites

The following AAU websites have been redesigned and launched:

Main AAU Website: https://www.aau.org/
Blog: http://blog.aau.org/
Events: http://events.aau.org/
HAQAA: https://haqaa.aau.org/
AFRIQAN: https://afriqan.aau.org/
ENAAMS: https://ams.aau.org/
Online Forums: https://forum.aau.org/

Revamping the DATAD Platform

The Secretariat teamed up with the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAF) to provide the Database of African Theses and Dissertations (DATAD) platform with a more reliable hosting venue and upgrade the system. This process resulted in DATAD now being referred to as DATAD-R (Database of African Theses and Dissertations, incl Research Articles). The URL is: http://datad.aau.org/

Developing computerized systems to improve AAU operations

The following systems were developed and launched:

A Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund Online Application & Review System
B Online Registration System for 14th General Conference
C Online submission and Review System for the 14th General Conference papers
The Secretary General
Association of African Universities
African Universities House
Trinity Avenue, East Legon, Accra, Ghana
P. O. Box AN 5744, Accra-North, Ghana

Tel: +233-302- 774495 / 761588
Fax: +233-302- 774821
Email: info@aau.org or secgen@aau.org
Web: www.aau.org
Facebook: Association of African Universities
Twitter: AAU_67
Blog: blog.aau.org

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT