



PROMOTING AIR LINKS BETWEEN AFRICAN STATES AND DIASPORA IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE AFRICAN UNION'S "DECLARATION ON THE GLOBAL AFRICAN DIASPORA SUMMIT

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INTRODUCTION

One of the unique features of the transformation of the OAU/ AU in the last fifty years is the expansion of the regional identity to include people of African descent in the various regions of the world.



AFRICAN DIASPORA????????



When we talk about the African
Diaspora what do we mean?
Better still who do we refer to?

AFRICAN DIASPORA cont'd

The AU (Ex.Cl) considers the African Diaspora as consisting of;

“ People of African origin living outside the continent irrespective of their citizenship or nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of AU.



DECISIONS OF THE AU



The third Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council of the AU of May 2003 pronounced on the importance of the African Diaspora as a component of the AU and its processes.

DECISIONS OF THE AU cont'd

Subsequently, in July 2003, the AU adopted a Protocol on Amendment of the Constitutive Act. Article 3 (q) invites and encourages the full participation of the African Diaspora as an important part of the continent in the building of the AU.



Decision on the Outcome of the Global African Diaspora Summit AU/Dec.443

Paragraph 8. Request the Commission to engage the regional Diasporan Groupings with the view to helping them to organise themselves into regional networks that will facilitate their representation as 'observers' at the AU Summit and eventually, as the Sixth Region of the continent that would contribute substantially to implementation of policies and programmes.



EFFECTS OF THE DECLARATION



One of the important effects of the Declaration is that it offers the basic rule and serves as a working document that will support the objective of rebuilding the African family.

PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Specifically paragraph “ M” of the Programme of Action (Political) states as follows;

“ Encourage AU and CARICOM to create a conducive environment for the African Diaspora to invest , work and travel on the African continent and the Caribbean.”



PROGRAMME OF ACTION cont'd



In addition member States of both AU and the CARICOM are to take measures that would promote and sustain the linkages between AU and the Diaspora in the following priority areas; trade and development, science and technology, travel and tourism, communication and transportation infrastructure etc.

SUGGESTIONS TO PROMOTE AND SUSTAIN TRAVEL AND TOURISM

ESTABLISH AIR LINKS

- HOW?
- Bilateral level (BASAs) between individual states,
- Multi-lateral levels (RECs or AU/AFCAC),
- Using AU Guidelines.
- Charter operations should be offered more favourable terms.



SUGGESTIONS TO PROMOTE AND SUSTAIN

INVESTMENT

- Encourage cross border investments into each other's aviation system (airlines, airports, ground handling services, air navigation etc) by providing incentives
- Where investments in airlines exceed those of "nationals" of the states of registration of the airlines, designation should be based on Article 6.9 of the YD. (Eligibility Criteria).
- Proxy designation should be allowed.



MEDAASE

THANK YOU

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SHUKURAN

OBRIGADO



