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## 1. AYP Summit, Addis Ababa

The African Youth Panel summit in Addis Ababa has come and gone but the memories still lingers. Members of the panel returned to Addis Ababa where it all started in 2008 to rekindle the AYP fire. The summit afforded members the opportunity to discuss on progress made with the panel over the last three years and also to fashion out a plan for the coming years. At the summit, the Roskilde Music Festival pledged its continuing support to the African Youth Panel while the African Union Youth Department extended a hand of partnership to the panel in collaborating on future initiatives and progress.



Among the key results from the summit is that members agreed on the new strategic focus of the AYP which will mainly revolve around youth employment, participation and empowerment. A detailed report from the summit can be found on the AYP website.

## 2. Change of Baton: AYP Elects New steering Committee

At the end of the Summit, regional elections were held and as decided, the entire General Assembly elected its chairman. Mr. Ibraheem Ceesay emerged the Chair of the African Youth Panel and took over from Mr. Helder Malauene who has stirred the ship in the past years.

Other members of the Steering Committee elected in their various regions are as follows:

- |                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Southern Africa | - Diana Bulanda-Zambia         |
|                 | -Felix Limbani-Malawi          |
| Central Africa  | - Christian Kam-Cameroon       |
| North Africa    | - Marwa Jabou-Tunisia          |
| East Africa     | -Seggyirinya Hannington-Uganda |
|                 | -Robert Nkwangu-Uganda         |
| West Africa     | - Rotimi Olawale-Nigeria       |
|                 | -Ibrahim Ceessay-The Gambia    |



The new Steering Committee is mandated to lead for a maximum of two years.



### 3. Steering Committee Elects Key Officers

After the summit, the new steering Committee met and after several deliberations, elected SC members into positions. The elected members and their positions are as follows:

Mr. Ibrahim Cessay - Chairperson

Ms Diana Bulanda-Shalala -Secretary

Mr. Seggyrinya Hannington –Treasurer

Mr. Rotimi Olawale –Information/Communications

Mr. Helder Maluene –EX-offico/AYP Manager

### 4. Participation at COP17

As captured in the current grant from the Roskilde Music Festival, the African Youth Panel was represented at the COP17 conference which held in Durban, South Africa. The panel was represented by Mr. Ibrahim Cessay and Mr. Helder Malauene. Participation at the conference afforded the African Youth panel the opportunity to network, promote the panel and also join other world leaders in negotiating a better future for the African continent. Please expect a detailed report from these engagement shortly



## 5. 2012 PLANS:

As discussed at the AYP summit in Addis Ababa, the Steering Committee has finalised the MFA grant proposal. A final proposal will be shared with members of the panel in the New Year. The proposal adopted the recommendation from AYP members to accommodate regional summits in the other regions in Africa. South and Central African regions are likely next on the regional agenda! The main objective of the proposal is to empower African youth in the development process, popularise the African Youth Charter, document best practices and network with relevant stakeholders for sustainable development. If approved, the project will during the first quarter of this year 2012.

Roskilde Proposal: A new proposal is currently being sketched out for the Roskilde Music Festival Association. The proposal has as its backbone the recommendation from panellists on providing competitive small grants for activities and projects for members in their different countries. As soon as a working draft for the proposal is developed, it will be shared with all members to receive more feedback. It is expected that the new Roskilde proposal will be submitted by February 2012 as the Roskilde Board that will approve the grant will meet in the same month.

## 6. Communications within AYP

In order to strengthen communications within the African Youth Panel General Assembly, a new google group has been created and invitations to join the google group have been sent to all members via email. If you have not received the email, please click on this link <http://groups.google.com/group/aypga> to join the group. When you join the group, to send an email to the entire AYP General Assembly, kindly email [aypga@googlegroups.com](mailto:aypga@googlegroups.com)



## 7. About the African Youth Panel

The African Youth Panel (AYP) is a non-profit and non-governmental platform of participation and exchange among youths in Africa, promoting the culture of development and implementing local, national and regional initiatives.

The African Youth Panel (AYP) was initiated under support of the Danish NGO Forum in spring of 2008 to enable African youths give inputs into the Danish Africa Commission processes. The project for the establishment of the Panel was funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Our mission is to unleash the potentials of African youth through policy influence, advocacy and implementation of projects for the benefit of African youth

We call upon all interested individuals / groups to support the work of the AYP either morally, technically or financially.

For comments and feedback on this newsletter, please email Rotimi Olawale on [rotexonline@gmail.com](mailto:rotexonline@gmail.com) and Diana Bulada on [dianabulanda@yahoo.com](mailto:dianabulanda@yahoo.com)