

Letter received from the AU acknowledging invitation to launch PAADN:

Dear Mr Dinku,

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your invitation to attend the Celebration of the Africa-Australians Award event in Melbourne, Australia in November 2015. The Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in its Decision Assembly/AU / Dec.443(XIX) on the Outcome of the Global African Diaspora Summit, " Requested the Commission to engage Regional Diaspora Groupings with a view to helping them organize themselves into regional networks that will facilitate their representation as "observers" at the African Union Summit and eventually, in the future, as the Sixth Region of the continent that would contribute substantially to the implementation of policies and programs." This meeting of celebrate Africa-Australians fits appropriately into that profile.

More so, as I have learnt through the various communications and interactions with the Desk Officer, Middle-East, Asia and Pacific Region, Ms Eiman Kheir that the proposed celebration event will also help to set the pace for the consideration and establishment of a regional network for Australia and the wider region.

I am pleased therefore to accept your invitation as an honored Guest for the event. I should be accompanied on the mission, once approved, by the Head of the Diaspora Division, Mr Ahmed Besheer and the Desk Officer for the Region, Ms Eiman Kheir, to facilitate consultations and discussions and preparations for the Network Concept in the aftermath of the official celebrations.

I look forward to meeting you there.

Best Regards,

Jinmi Adisa
Director
African Union
[Directorate of Citizens and Diaspora Organization](#)

Picture with African Union's Delegates at the launch of PAADN, Parliament of Victoria

Dr Jinmi Adisa, Director AU CIDO (Middle); Eiman Khier, Desk Officer and Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific AU CIDO (Lady); Anthony Okara, Deputy Chief of Staff at African Union Commission (Red Tie); and Andrew Crisp Assistant Commissioner Victoria Police.

Click [here](#) to read the AU Communique



People's Voices

"CONGRATULATIONS JOHN!! WELL DONE IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU RECEIVED SERIOUS RECOGNITION FOR YOUR TIRELESS EFFORTS !!"

Warm Regards,

Dorinda

Dorinda Hafner CMC

People of Australia Ambassador

TV Personality and Director, Documentary series "A Taste of Africa" seen in over 48 countries.

Author of 5 international best-selling books "A Taste of" series spanning the UK, US, the Caribbean and beyond."

"John & team - Hats off to you for your great efforts!!"

Regards,

Davies Chibale

Author of Engineered for Success!

African Australian Champions Awards Winner"

"Thanks John for the great news. This is what happens when people work tirelessly together. So let us continue in the spirit of unity. And for you John, you had a vision.

David Malinda

President African Communities' Organisation of South Australia

African Legends Awards Winner

Australia Day Ambassador"

"Hi John & the team

Congrats! Great recognitions!

Happy to support & participate.

John,I am working on my assignment re:media

I'll be working with Sisay from this end. It would help to know the date. Any idea?

Cheers

Elleni Bereded

First African Commissioner for the Victorian Multicultural Commission

Endorsed as 100 most influential African Australians

Appointed by the Prime Minister as one of 40 Australian champions individually selected as People of Australia Ambassadors"

"Well done John this is in the right direction.

Cheers Chika

Chika Anyanwu, PhD, FGLF

Associate Professor of Media,

Head, School of Communication and Creative Industries,

Charles Sturt University, Panorama Avenue

Bathurst NSW 2795, Australia"

"That is wonderful news Mr John. Great work

Khadija Gbla

Khadija Gbla Cultural Consultancy

2014 The Advertiser South Australia's 50 most Influential Women

2013 Madison Magazine Australia's top 100 inspiring Women

2013 Amnesty International Human Rights Activists to watch out in 2013

2013 Australian Representative at the Inter-continental African-Australian Dialogue

2012 Multicultural Human Rights Honor Roll

2011 Young South Australian of the Year 2011

2011 Young African Australian of the Year 2011
2009 Premier's Channel Nine Young Achiever of the Year
2009 Channel Nine Young Achievers RAA Driving Force Leadership Award
2009 Pride of Australia Young Leader Medal
2009 South Australia's Women's Honor Roll"

"Good Morning John,

Have been following the progress of this project since you initiated it. Your courage and persistency in making this happen is really worthy of emulation. ...

I want you to know that African Professionals of Australia Ltd is right beside you on the project.

Regards

Tommy Adebayo

Chairperson, African Professionals of Australia Ltd

HSEQ Manager

Total Marine Technology"

"Dear John,

I would like to congratulate you heartily on getting the AU to agree to launch a diaspora network in Australia. I wish you, and my fellow African-Australians working with you, great success. As a researcher on the AU, I am proud of your achievements. ...

Once again, good luck.

Sincerely,

Professor Sam Makinda

Chair of Security Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Murdoch University

Member of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, served on the Australian Foreign

Minister's National Consultative Committee for International Security Issues from 2001 to 2008

Awarded the medal of Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear (EBS) by Ex President Mwai Kibaki (2012)

African Australian Legend Awards Recipient"

Dear John, and others

This is a well-timed initiative. Let us put in our utmost energies into it.

Dr Apollo Nsubuga-Kyobe

AFAIM, MAHRI, FAFBE, AMICDA, JP.

My fellow Africans in Diaspora

Greetings

First, I would like to thank brother John for his efforts to bring us together in this forum. My sincere appreciation to His Excellency, Mr. Molosiwa Selepeng, Botswana High Commissioner and Dean of the African Heads of Mission for being one of us in this forum.

Let me start with where we stand in Africa at the moment. In 2011, as key note speaker, in Tripoli, I had an opportunity to address a large and historic African Diaspora conference in Tripoli. The conference participants included retired presidents, serving ministers, Ambassadors, representatives from African immigrant NGOs, the European Union, the United Nations and the African Union.

I said at the conference that Africa will be a growing investment destination for both advanced and emerging economies for the next 20 years. In order for the African Continent to benefit from the growing economy the state governments have to do more to tackle the hard and chronic issues hindering economic growth. However, they will need assistance from the African technocrats and experts in Diaspora. I specifically mentioned that gender inequality; Poverty remains stuck at unacceptably high levels, high mortality rate (MDG 4 and 5) and recurring internal conflict should be given top priority in Africa. At the conference, I stress the point that, for the last 25 years since the introduction of MDGs, many African countries had improved access to quality education. I urged that, healthcare and infrastructure services were still very low and needed serious consideration in terms of the quality and accessibility in rural and remote areas. If African countries want to see the African continent look like Europe or United States of America then the African in Diaspora should be considered to be one regional block such that it is an extension of African continent in Diaspora with big ideas, unconditional power of Direct Foreign Investment and technical knowhow which is much needed.

secondly, I said to the conference that Africa's future lies with itself and its people in Africa and us living in Diaspora. Africa's greatest potential is its people. For Economic change to happen in Africa, now is the time for the African in Diaspora to work together towards developing sustainable growth strategy for Africa, work with African states governments to initiate change and political will to recognise the contributions of its members in Diaspora through legislative process.

Now is the time to extend the gains that many of us we have contributed to the countries we live (Australia and Australasia region) to Africa and benefit those that have been left behind by helping them overcome premature deaths, poverty and gender inequality and build strong institutions.

I want to remind everyone in this forum that I, Dr Joseph Masika OAM and probably some if not most of us were educated by African peasant and tax payer's money. Australia never paid for my education. It is a high time now to pay back to Africa. I said this in Tripoli and I'm saying it again in this forum.

I look forward to continuing—and strengthening—this fruitful Diaspora forum.

Dr Joseph Masika OAM

*Commissioner- South Australia Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission
Member: Commonwealth Government Ministerial Advisory committee on Africa
Chairperson, Federation of African Communities Council of Australia*

UK

Greetings John Nze-Bertram, Principal Convenor & Chairperson - Celebration of African Australians Inc

Thank you for informing us of your work in Australia. We salute and congratulate you and your pioneering Team.

Once again, it is being demonstrated that, wherever Afrikans found themselves on Our Planet, whether they arrived there through being kidnapped and made chattel slave for centuries, by immigration or refugee flights, there is a NATURAL desire and magnetism for us to turn our faces with pride, to MOTHER AFRIKA, Our Ancestral and Spiritual Home, without which we consider ourselves culturally and spiritually unfulfilled.

We noted your reminder of the various African Union decisions relating to the Afrikan Diaspora, pointing to the creation of Afrikan's 6th Region. This is an important and necessary reminder.

Our Global readerships, no doubt will be delighted to know that Afrikans are working to amalgamate the collective strength and voice of the Afrikan Diaspora in Australia, Asia Pacific towards a common goal. We hope your organisation's protocols will accommodate permanent working partnerships with members and organisations of the Aborigines Community in Australia.

Please keep us informed of the progress of your work, and we recommend that your Team also contact the Afrika and Diaspora Institute (Adi), a Global Collective, with an active interest in Global Afrikan affairs and the Global Leaderships by Afrikans everywhere.

Editorial Collective

Self-Help News – “Giving Voice to the Voiceless”

USA

FYI,

Please, read attached info from Africans in Australia and Asia Pacific.

The Continental African Diaspora all over the world got it. Please, see info below from our brother John in Australia.

No matter where we are in this world, we should all form a strong partnership and help our people on the continent (we don't have to like each other. Just work together). Just like other communities such as the Jewish, Asian, Latino, Caribbean etc.

Let's please, think of the future generations and work to preserve whatever we can for them.

Let's heed President Mbeki's call. We all must work together with our authorities to bring meaningful and positive change in the lives of our people. Else, the continent will sink into far greater poverty and economic slavery than ever before.

The way things are going on the African continent at this critical juncture (instability everywhere), in the long run, no winner will come out of it except for few individuals perhaps.

Please, add john in your list serve to share info.

Best regards,

Binta

Binta Terrier

Chair, Partnership League for Africa's Development

"A well informed mind is well prepared."

NEW YORK

Dear Brother, while doing this with Continental Africans in Down Under to include New Zealand where I met A Nigeria in the New Zealand Customs Department, Please extend same to Fijians, Papua New Guineans and interested Aborigines to be part of the Diaspora. I have raised this issue with the Nigerian High Commissioner on two occasions that I have visited Australia and New Zealand in the last 4 years. I even suggested that a Conference be organised along this line.

I will forward you an invitation for an activity (6 and 7JUNE) here in New York for you to find an African-Australian Business person who may wish to participate.

Ishola Williams

Maj-Gen. (Rtd)

WASHINGTON, DC

Dear our Peaceful Minds, Green Hearts, Peace & Green Makers Fellow Travelers, Supporters, Friends and Readers: It is an honor to share the following information, we been shared to share.

We do not know the organizers, their legal status but we at PGIA support such spirits of African and Africans and Friends unity calls.

We call upon our at home and universal Africana Family and Friends of Peaceful, Healthy and Green Minds of the Highest Spirits- የሰላም የፍቅር ቀና መንፈስ መልካም ምግባር to look into it this noble Africans call.

PEACE IS NOT ONLY THE ABSENCE OF WAR BUT THE VOID OF SELF-PEACE,
PEACEFUL MINDS, LOVING HEARTS, RESPECTING, FORGIVENING SO ONE IS
FREE SO IS ONE IS AT PEACE!!!

In the spirit of Peaceful, Healthy, Green, Natural, Organic, Humanity and Spirituality, African Peace and Greening Africa Mind of WE FOR WE BY WE,

Gashe Tamiru Degefa

Director

Peace And Green Initiative For Africa

Dear John Nze- Bertram

It has been wonderful and exciting to get your e-mail about the excellent and empowering work that your organisation is undertaking in Australia, to uplift the African Diaspora. I very much wish to commend you and your colleagues for such sterling leadership, drive and engagement. What you and your colleagues are doing takes an immense amount of leadership, sacrifice and effort to achieve, and may God crown your efforts with continued success.

For our part, through the work of the Pan-African Solidarity Education Network (PASEN), we have been working to grow the spirit of solidarity between our African and African-heritage brethren across the globe, through raising awareness of our shared challenges in the Education and Skills spheres.

In this regard, I am particularly delighted that you have been in contact as we have been struggling to make contact with our brethren in the African Diaspora in that part of the world. In this regard, your communication is very timely and fortuitous.

Your initiative is one which we very much welcome, having participated in the AU Global Diaspora Summit here in Johannesburg, in 2012. You can be certain that you can wholly count on our support in PASEN, to circulate this information and promote your work.

We would also wish to engage your network once it has been established in the work of PASEN, so that we can extend the networking and collaborative partnerships to our colleagues in the African Diaspora in that region.

As the Initiator and Chair of PASEN, I would very much wish to support and contribute to your efforts in any way you deem useful.

Forwards ever, backwards never!!!

Yours in Solidarity,

Dr. Elizabeth Rasekoala

Chair: PASEN
