

# 4. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE NOW IN KAMPALA

## African Youth and Migration

September 3-5 2017, Uganda

Africa is the world's youngest continent with the largest population under 18. African youth have a lot of potential, but is also faced with many challenges. Where people suffer from unemployment, poor living conditions, famines and armed conflicts, they seek a better future – the central question being, how and where to find it.

According to UNHCR, Sub-Sahara Africa hosts more than 26% of the world's refugee population. The vast majority of African refugees and migrants stay in Africa, those trying to go to Europe often risk their lives and are increasingly perceived as a threat in the receiving countries.

As Africa and Europe are connected through a joint past, solutions should be developed together. This NOW conference aims at raising awareness for the cause of African youth, migrants and refugees, bringing together experts from more than ten African and European countries, representatives of the European Union, local and international politicians, researchers, NGOs and refugees to jointly work on this topic, discuss approaches and define proposals and recommendations for the Africa-EU Summit 2017.

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Location: Speke Hotel, Plot 7-9 Nile Avenue, Kampala, Uganda

### Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017

13:00 Welcome Lunch

14:30 Opening

Keynotes from:

**Hannes Swoboda**, MEP (ret.), President of the International Institute for Peace (IIP), Board Member, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue (Austria)

**Musa Ewewu**, State Minister for Disaster Preparedness, Management and Refugees (Uganda)

**Lamine Yahiaoui**, Rapporteur of PRC Sub-Committee of Refugees, IDPs, Returnees to the African Union (Sahrawi)

15:00 Voices to be heard – Reports from African Youth and Refugees

Migration, flight and war are no abstract phenomena – young participants from various backgrounds share their stories with us. To listen to their voices will not only make the overall topic more tangible, but also make us get a real picture of the individual fates.

**Bella Nshimirimana**, Social Worker and 'Refugee Woman of the Year' (Burundi/Uganda)

**Yousuf Diakit **, Chairperson, African Youth Diaspora in Europe (Mali/Austria)

**Simon Marot Toulong**, Program Manager, African Youth Action Network (South Sudan)

17:00 Shuttle to Ndere Centre

18:00 Culture Programme and Dinner in Ndere Centre



Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

9.00

## Session 1

### Migration and Forced Migration from European and African Perspectives

Migration connects Europe and Africa, but patterns of migration and forced migration within Africa and leaving the continent are perceived very differently from each side. Millions endure hardship and misery, hoping to find peace, a safe home or a better life – whereas some succeed, many end up in hostile societies. For some migration is a perpetual phenomenon, to others a constant threat. Understanding the various positions and taking them seriously lays the basis for developing a common approach.

#### Hosts:

**Hannes Swoboda**, MEP (ret.), President of the International Institute for Peace (IIP), Board Member, Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue (Austria)

**Winnie Adukule**, Lawyer and Author (Uganda)

#### Panel with:

**Noemi Cascone**, Junior Policy Officer, European Centre for Development Policy Management - ECDPM (Belgium)

**Kati Piri**, Member and Rapporteur for Turkey, European Parliament (Netherlands)

**Lamine Yahiaoui**, Rapporteur of PRC Sub-Committee of Refugee, IDPs, Returnee to the African Union (Sahrawi)

**Veronique Eragu**, Member, Parliament of Uganda (Uganda)

**Taban Yasin**, Local Government Chairman, Yumbe District (Uganda) - tbc

**Delali Badasu**, Researcher, University of Ghana (Ghana)

**Matthias Esene**, National Project Officer, International Centre for Migration Policy Development - ICMPD (Nigeria)

10.45

Coffee break

11.00

## Session 2

### Reasons and Realities of (Forced) Migration

Though every story is unique, this interactive format aims to explore the diversity of realities, shaped by migration, as well as to analyse the reasons for migration and forced migration.

#### Facilitators of the workshop:

**Susan Alupo**, **Stephanie Fenkart**, **Jennifer Kalule**, **Mary Kampogo**

13.00

Lunch

14:30

## Session 3

### Approaches of Receiving Countries

A society's approach to foreigners shapes the people and the community. It requires solidarity, the will to share and some courage to receive them, to integrate them into schools, labour market, housing. The locals' first reaction however varies between hospitality and fear, people being afraid of crowds, foreign cultures or religions, of influences and changes, of losing grounds. Politicians develop very different strategies to navigate through these ambivalent challenges.

#### Hosts:

**Kati Piri**, Member and Rapporteur for Turkey, European Parliament (Netherlands)

**Susan Alupo**, Deputy Program Manager, Refugee Law Project (Uganda)

#### Panel with:

**Musa Ewewu**, State Minister for Disaster Preparedness, Management and Refugees (Uganda)

**Noemi Cascone**, Junior Policy Officer, European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), (Belgium)

**Bornwell Kantande**, Country Representative, UNHCR (Uganda)

**Petr Pribyla**, Programme Adviser, Delegation of the European Union to Uganda (Uganda)



**Amy Mbacke Diaw**, Director for Assistance and Promotion, Head Office of Senegalese abroad (Senegal)

**Ncumisa Willie**, Research Advisor, South African Human Rights Commission (South Africa)

**Yotam Gidron**, Researcher, International Refugee Rights Initiative (Uganda)

16.00 Coffee break

16.30 **Session 4**

Collection of Claims and Demands for the Africa-EU Summit

The Africa-EU Summit in November 2017 is dedicated to the African Youth. It is our aim to collect proposals, claims and demands for the summit, to be finalised at the end of the conference.

19.00 Dinner

## Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017

9.30 **Session 5**

African Youth: from Motives for Migration to Alternatives to Migration - African Initiatives to Improve the Local Living Conditions

In spite of a variety of local challenges, like unemployment, a lack of decent jobs, war and conflict, poor living conditions, that can be reasons to leave, there are multiple reasons to stay. In this open format, various local initiatives aiming to improve the situation of the African youth shall explicate their motives and goals.

Host:

**Victor Ochen**, Founder, African Youth Initiative Network (Uganda)

Discussion with:

**Janine Hunter**, Researcher, University of Dundee (UK)

**Esther Nakajjigo**, Ambassador for Women and Girls (Uganda)

**Joselyn Namakhula**, Head Gender and Development Officer, Young African Refugees for Integral Development (Uganda)

**Muhammed Kisirisa**, Slum Ambassador and Co-Founder, AFFCAD (Uganda)

**Gerald Abila**, Founder, Barefoot Law (Uganda)

**Yousuf Diakité**, Chairperson, African Youth Diaspora in Europe (Mali/Austria)

**Jude Nyanzi**, Founder, Daystar School (Uganda)

11.00 Coffee break

11.15 **Session 6**

Learnings from Africa for Europe

Review of yesterday's session and finalisation of the policy recommendations for the Africa-EU Summit

13.00 Lunch

14.30 Closing Ceremony

15.00 Press Conference

