



RECOMMENDATIONS

4th International Conference NOW

“African Youth and Migration”

September 3-5, 2017 – Kampala, Uganda

The 4th NOW Conference brought together participants from more than 10 Sub-Saharan African countries, European experts, politicians, refugees and young activists. During the three days of conference we jointly discussed the situation and perspectives of the African youth, migrants and refugees, with the intention to listen and learn. All attendees actively took part in working sessions and they are willing to promote their ideas and conclusions of this conference in the upcoming months to influence the deliberations and outcomes of the EU-AU summit.

Recommendations to the AU / EU Summit

- The international community should give full support to the extraordinary efforts of Uganda and some other African countries in receiving and supporting refugees on the basis of integration and inclusion
- The international community but also Europe should recognise that the biggest responsibility for the support and reception of refugees is borne by African countries themselves
- The AU-EU summit is the opportunity to address the issues of flight and migration, which is of great concern to the young generation, from a positive perspective and to try to develop common concepts of managing – not stopping – migration in a humane way
- All the issues, which are of concern to the African and European youth should be discussed in close cooperation and mutual exchange by the youth themselves
- The AU and EU cooperation should be built on a true partnership, especially fighting the root causes of forced migration in common

European Union & African Union

Improvement of the situation of the youth

- Youth refugees should be participating in the AU/EU summit, their voice should be considered
- the AU and EU should empower, engage and support the youth as dynamic actors, able to design programs according to their needs and aiming towards positive change
- EU and AU should partner and develop a mutual but not imposing cooperation, they should encourage volunteerism, exchange programs between the continents and establish a mutual recognition of skills and certificates
- Online networks should be promoted to connect youth initiatives world wide
- International and -continental sport events (like soccer games) should be run to foster exchange and social cohesion
- The AU and EU should develop comprehensive health care systems addressing especially the most vulnerable groups
- AU and EU should address discrimination and racism and promote inclusion and gender equality
- Project evaluation to identify good practice should involve people concerned in the recipient community



Addressing root causes for forced migration

- o EU and AU should address root causes of forced migration (not only symptoms), link conflict prevention with migration policy programmes, establish policies to integrate migrants (right to work, to mobility, to healthcare and other social services) and set-up a system of legal migration.
- o The AU and EU should commonly address the issues of climate change
- o The AU and EU should fight terrorism with a special focus on the root causes

Improvement of the situation of refugees, migrants and returnees

- o The EU and AU should ensure the security of refugees in the country of asylum
- o The AU and EU should work towards establishing another narrative of migration which does not consider it to be a danger, but a standard
- o AU and EU should disseminate correct information instead of clichés on the European realities ('paradise'...) and Africa (rich only in terms of resources....)
- o The AU and EU should fight human traffickers who are abusing the plights and the hopes of African youth
- o The AU and EU should jointly develop programs for returnees
- o The EU and AU should fund refugee youth led-initiatives
- o AU and EU should promote stronger links between the diaspora and the African continent in order to promote transfer knowledge and experience

European Union

- o The EU should stop considering migration as a threat and should not give in to populist anti-migration policies
- o EU should address the issue of governance in Africa, engage in capacity building of institutions and individual states (anti-corruption, rule of law, equality...) and contribute actively to resolve and prevent conflicts
- o EU should especially engage in capacity building of African youth to enable them to make decisions, funds should prioritize technology and education in Africa
- o Donations & funding should be allocated to local communities and organisations to a large extent in order to develop and benefit local human resources in a sustainable way
- o Expansion of the Erasmus Program to allow African youth to participate

African Union

- o The AU should support youth initiatives and the productive generation, and fund domestic youth-leadership programmes (Africa should help Africa)
- o The AU must invest in the accessibility and sustainability of education for all, starting in early childhood, especially focussing on knowledge and skills that are locally beneficial, and also ensuring circumstances allowing permanent and equal access to education for girls and people with disabilities
- o The AU should develop a sustainable agricultural sector and provide food security for its people. To improve the image of farming, campaigns should promote the agricultural sector to encourage young people to work there.
- o The AU should develop a viable industrial sector including the processing of its products, in order to reduce imports and to bring high value products to international and African markets
- o The AU should develop a market strategy depicting Africa as a continent of hope and opportunities



- o The AU should develop and promote its talents and create an environment where Africans can be proud of their homelands and human resources so that emigration can be considered as an opportunity but not the only option
- o AU should promote internal mobility and exchange of youth
- o The AU should promote and ensure the rights of refugees and migrants
- o The AU and its members should grant refugees, especially women and girls, safety and protection, to prevent abuse and rape, and to support victims in coping, with inspection and legal provisions by the police and in providing health and psychological treatment
- o AU must improve governance, address conflicts linked to tribalism and fight corruption in Africa
- o In addition to regional cooperation, Africa needs a strong and united African Union, to be perceived in a better way and more powerful



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