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# AU AGENDA 2063

- ▶ Our Aspirations for the Africa We Want
- ▶ Agenda 2063 seeks to deliver on a set of **Seven Aspirations** each with its own set of goals which if achieved will move Africa closer to achieving its vision for the year 2063.
- ▶ These 7 Aspirations reflect our desire for shared prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, where the full potential of women and youth are realised, and with freedom from fear, disease and want.

# AU AGENDA 2063

► The relevant Aspirations is as follows:

1. A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
2. An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
3. An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential offered by the African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children

## ASPIRATION 1: A PROSPEROUS AFRICA BASED ON INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### ❖ **Goals:**

1. A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all
  - ending poverty, inequalities of income and opportunity; job creation, especially addressing youth unemployment; facing up to the challenges of rapid population growth and urbanization, improvement of habitats and access to basic necessities of life – water, sanitation, electricity; providing social security and protection;

# RATIONALE

- ▶ Africa is and will, for the foreseeable future, remain demographically the youngest of all world regions.
- ▶ Its large population share of children and youth represents a key promise for the continent's future.
- ▶ At the same time – and while the proportion of older persons in Africa's population will remain below ten percent in coming decades – their absolute number will grow extraordinarily rapidly: faster than in any other major world region.
- ▶ This ageing of Africa's population is, and must be recognised as, another key marker of the continent's unique demography and the potential inherent in it.
- ▶ Africa now faces the urgent challenge and opportunity to forge practices, systems, institutions and legal and policy environments that can serve the needs, and harness the capacities of present and future cohorts of older people, in support of the continent's overall development aspirations.

# STRATEGIC VISION

- ▶ The strategic vision of this framework is three-fold:
- ▶ **First**, is an unshakeable commitment to upholding the human rights and freedoms of Africa's older persons in Africa underpinned by the entry into force of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the rights of older persons in Africa.
- ▶ **Second**, is a firm and indelible realization that investments in ageing and older populations are **not** separate from, marginal to, or detracting from core objectives to enhance the prospects of children-, youth- and women in pursuit of social and economic development.

# STRATEGIC VISION

- ▶ Rather, strategic investments to enhance capacities and well-being in older age can benefit both older and younger people today and in future as well as foster cohesive societies.
- ▶ This is because such investments can harness the linked lives of old and young, and the intergenerational influences that older adults wield on the exposures, opportunities and perspectives of young people, at family- and community- and societal levels.
- ▶ Moreover, investments in capacities and well-being in later life have the potential to leverage older people's latent transformative assets: their experience and generativity.
- ▶ **Third**, building on the first two, is the widespread pursuit of comprehensive investments to adapt existing or forge new social, health and economic systems and structures to enhance the capacities, engagement and well-being of all older people.

# SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- ▶ This policy document provides the AU and its agencies, the regional economic commissions, all African Member States and other stakeholders with strategic directions for making the case for, and for formulating strategic priority responses on ageing and older persons at all levels and across sectors, as an integral part of core development efforts.
- ▶ As such, the framework represents a key African contribution to both the Decade of Action on Healthy Ageing (2020-2030) and the broader overall Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development (2020-2030).



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES

- ▶ Africa is a diverse continent and her people grow old in a variety of settings.
- ▶ Recognising the foundational importance of gender in shaping later life experiences it is important to acknowledge the marked diversity and disparities in status, opportunities, abilities, capacities, well-being and life expectancy that exist within the older population.
- ▶ While many older people live in poverty and ill-health across the region, others enjoy wealth, influence or robust health.
- ▶ Despite and precisely because of this huge diversity, a number of critical cross-cutting approaches need to be brought to bear on the development and translation of responses across all strategic action areas:

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES

- 1. HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH:** All actions and approaches recommended in this policy framework should promote, protect and respect the human rights and freedoms of older persons – and adhere to the principles of universality, indivisibility, equality and non-discrimination, participation, accountability, as committed to by African Member States in key continental and international conventions and instruments, notably in the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights and its Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons.
- 2. RECOGNISE AND REDRESS INEQUITIES:** Across all strategic action areas in this framework, it is critical that efforts are made to identify and understand existing intersecting inequities in relevant outcomes, along gender, disability, age or other lines -- and to ensure that responses are designed to redress such disparities.
- 3. INCLUDE AND CENTRE OLDER PEOPLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESPONSES ON AGEING:** Across all strategic action areas in this framework, it is critical that the perspectives of older persons are centred in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of- and the reporting on responses.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES

- 4. SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES:** Africa looks to families and their communities as key social groups in which older people's lives unfold and which challenges and opportunities of later life are to be understood.
- 5. HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES:** Africa is seeing an exponential growth in the penetration and acceptance of information and communications technology (ICT) – with mobile technologies now the largest technological platform in the continent and older persons are both active agents- as well as potential beneficiaries of ICT utilization and interventions and these technologies can play an important role in the forging of responses on ageing.
- 6. EXPANDING SOCIAL PROTECTION:** In Social Agenda 2063, Africa recognises the right to social protection across the lifecycle. Ensuring access to social protection is both an economic and a social imperative: necessary for promoting inclusive and people driven sustainable development that will reduce poverty and inequalities and generate resilience against future shocks.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CROSS-CUTTING APPROACHES

- 7. HARNESSING THE INTERSECTION OF AGEING WITH OTHER MAJOR DEMOGRAPHIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL TRENDS:** In addition to population ageing, Africa is experiencing a set of other major demographic, social and environmental trends, key among which are migration and displacement, urbanization and the growth of urban slums, climate change and emergencies as well as their implications for rural development. Older people are affected by- and at the same time, can shape the form of, and responses to these critical concerns.

# STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS

- 1. ADAPTING AND ENSURING ACCESS TO HEALTH SYSTEMS:** Africa's health systems remain oriented to the needs of younger age-groups – including maternal, new-born and child health, infectious diseases, and the primary prevention of the most prominent non-communicable diseases through lifestyle-related behavioural changes.
  - The responsiveness of health care services to the more chronic and complex health problems and priority health needs of older people remains minimal
- 2. DEVELOPING LONG-TERM CARE SYSTEMS:** The number of older people who are no longer able to live independently without the assistance of others and who require care and support is set to rise. Action is needed to expand home-grown, sustainable and equitable systems of organised LTC provision and support – to sustain, supplement or, where no alternative exists, ~~needed~~, substitute for the care provided by families —while at the same time reducing gender inequalities and offering an important area of employment creation for Africa's youth as part of a LTC economy.
- 3. INVESTING IN OLDER PEOPLE'S INTERGENERATIONAL ROLES:** Older people are typically – but erroneously - considered irrelevant to the achievement of child- and youth-driven social and economic progress and the achievement of a first demographic dividend. Yet, an intergenerational perspective reveals that older persons are directly relevant to, and constitute a potential resource for driving such broader development. Their relevance arises from the intergenerational positions and functions older persons already assume within families and communities and from potential new societal roles they might play.

# STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS

4. **ELIMINATING AND ADDRESSING ELDER ABUSE:** Older persons have the right to safety and a life free from all forms of elder abuse. These include financial, physical, sexual, and psychological mistreatment, exploitation, violence and neglect, as well as harmful traditional practices and abuses of older women related to property and land rights, and any form of abandonment or negligence of older people that takes place within the family or that is perpetrated or tolerated by the State, its institutions or agents, regardless of where it occurs.
5. **ENSURING ADEQUATE INCOME SECURITY:** Pension schemes, and the income security they provide, can have a transformative impact for older people and their families in enhancing dignity, independence and food security, and facilitating access to basic services particularly health care and education.
6. **ELIMINATING AGE-BASED DISCRIMINATION:** Older persons , regardless of their abilities, gender, beliefs, capacities or socio-economic status have the right to be treated equally before the law and the right to be protected against discrimination in public life, including in the labour market.

# STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS

- 7. ENSURING ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE:**  
The right to adequate housing and access to infrastructure such as transportation, basic services such as water, sanitation and electricity, recreation and information and communication technologies and systems, is a key component of rights to an acceptable standard of living and non-discrimination.
- 8. SUPPORT OLDER PEOPLE'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL AND GOVERNANCE PROCESSES:** Older persons have the right to participate in social and cultural life building on their right to freedom of expression, representation, association and to information about, and engagement in public decision making processes.
- 9. ENSURE ACCESS TO LEARNING AND EDUCATION IN LATER LIFE:**  
Access to adult learning and education is recognised as an essential element of the right to education. Increasing longevity expands opportunities for attaining basic and advanced education and skills in adulthood and for capitalizing on these to foster inclusive, equitable, tolerant, sustainable and knowledge-based societies.

# STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS

- 10. FOSTERING AFRICA-CENTRED RESEARCH AND TRAINING ON AGEING AND LATER LIFE:** Increased capacities for, and the expanded generation of locally relevant evidence and knowledge on ageing are critical for informing the development of policy and programmatic responses across all strategic action areas above; and for ensuring that African institutions and scholars take their rightful place in shaping debates on ageing in the continent and globally.
  
- 11. ENABLING YOUNGER PEOPLE TO PREPARE FOR LATER LIFE:** Aging is a process that starts at birth and ends at death. Capacities, well-being and conditions and inequalities in older age are influenced by differential choices, experiences and exposures earlier in life. In addition to broader efforts to enhance the opportunities and capabilities of Africa's young people it is important that efforts are made to enable them to prepare for, and shape prospects for their own later life. Fostering young people's awareness and understanding of older age and constructive attitudes toward older persons is key for preparing their future. It is equally important for positive intergenerational engagement in the present.



# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS

- ▶ African Union Commission
- ▶ Other AU Organs
- ▶ Member States
- ▶ Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- ▶ Older Persons Organisations
- ▶ CSOs and other non-state actors (CSOs, Donors, UN Agencies, the Private Sector, Community Leaders, Faith-based Organisations, Academia, and Media)

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS

12/7/21

# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAKEHOLDERS

12/7/21

# STRATEGIC ACTION AREAS

12/7/21

# STATUS OF SIGNINGS AND RATIFICATIONS – OLDER PERSONS

NO	COUNTRY/PAYS	DATE OF/DE SIGNATURE	DATE OF/DE RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION	DATE DEPOSITIED/ DATE DE DEPOT
1	Angola	17/06/2020	-	-
2	Benin	31/01/2017	06/09/2019	26/09/2019
3	Cameroon	05/02/2020	-	-
4	Central Africa Republic	04/10/2019	-	-
5	Chad	01/07/2018	-	-
6	Comoros	29/01/2018	-	-
7	Gabon	05/07/2019	-	-
8	Ghana	04/07/2017	-	-
9	Guinea Conakry	13/12/2018	-	-
10	Lesotho	10/10/2018	11/04/2018	10/10/2018
11	Mali	01/07/2018	-	-
12	Malawi	-	12/04/2021	13/07/2021
13	Mozambique	29/06/2018	-	-
14	Mauritius	14/05/2021	-	-
15	Nigeria	10/02/2020	-	-
16	Rwanda	21/10/2019	-	-
17	Sierra Leone	14/07/2017	-	-
18	Togo	16/04/2018	-	-
19	Zambia	17/07/2016	-	12/7/21
		Signatures 18	Ratifications 3	Deposit 3

# STATUS OF SIGNINGS AND RATIFICATIONS – PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

NO	COUNTRY/PAYS	DATE OF/DE SIGNATURE	DATE OF/DE RATIFICATION/ACCESSION	DATE DEPOSITIED/ DATE DE DEPOT
1	Angola	17/06/2020	-	-
2	Burkina Faso	17/01/2019	-	-
3	Cameroon	05/02/2020	-	-
4	Central Africa Republic	02/10/2018	-	-
5	Gabon	05/07/2019	-	-
6	Mali	01/06/2010	18/02/2021	10/05/2021
7	Mozambique	29/06/2018	-	-
8	Rwanda	21/10/2019	-	-
9	South Africa	29/04/2019	-	-
10	Togo	22/05/2019	-	-
		Signatures 10	Ratifications 1	12/Deposits 1