



AFRICAN
YOUTH
FOUNDATION

Afrikanische Jugendhilfe e.V.
Fondation de la Jeunesse Africaine

all different
all equal

HERITAGE CAFÉ AU LAIT



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

“All Different, All Equal” –
Intercultural Dialogue in Europe

inVent

Internationale Weiterbildung
und Entwicklung gGmbH

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Foreword

Imagine a global world without African Diasporas!

Imagine a world where good governance merges with appropriate policies, to make each country self-sufficient in the critical areas needed for sustenance and national dignity.



Imagine a European continent, where development is the norm, where education and health facilities are available to one and all, and where discrimination and xenophobia doesn't exist. Imagine an African continent, where all Africans work together towards a common goal. The goal of prosperity for all Africans, the goal of securing its place on the world market, the goal of eliminating poverty, dependency and the ever present shackles of the past..

It is often said that the history of Europe has been shaped by the exchanges and interaction between people and cultures the world over. What is less obvious at present is the extent to which, and the spirit in which such exchanges will happen in the future, especially when the theme is **“African Migration”**.

African migration or emigration of African Youth to Europe may have a historic parallel in British economic history. In his book **“Empire – How Britain made the modern world”**, Niall Ferguson states that:

“Between the early 1600s to 1950, more than 20 million people left the British Isles to

begin new lives across the seas. Only a minority ever returned. No other country in the world came close to exporting so many of its inhabitants. In leaving Britain, the early emigrants risked not merely their life savings but their very lives. Their voyages were never without hazards; their destinations were often unhealthy and inhospitable. To us, their decision to gamble everything on a one-way ticket seems baffling. Yet without millions of such tickets – some purchased voluntarily, some not – there could have been no British Empire. The indispensable foundation of the Empire was mass migration: the biggest in human history.”

Instead of co-operation, the African youth are often confronted with suspicion, mistrust, borders and barriers, obstacles to mobility and youth exchanges that result in a **“fortress Europe”** to them. A mentality that feeds xenophobia, prejudice and ignorance about each other. Young African people are seen as liabilities to European countries rather than crucial for the future of an African-European co-operation.

The European Union has made it clear that the promotion of human rights and the development of democratic forms of participation are crucial objectives to consolidate further pan-European co-operation. The promotion of education for African immigrants in Europe, however, cannot be disconnected from the realities around Europe. It is within this framework that the European Commission has agreed to develop together a covenant on youth training aimed at:

Providing further quality training and learning opportunities for youth workers and youth leaders, based on intercultural learning, citizenship and the participation of young people and human rights education.

Multicultural learning has been the basis of youth work and co-operation within the Council of Europe, and it has strongly shaped the contents of training activities with young people and youth workers. Co-operation and solidarity have far-reaching methodological, social and educational aims that are of utmost importance in the shaping of mutual perceptions. They also have important practical implications in the design, contents and methodologies in non-formal educational activities, such as youth exchanges.

Ensuring the right of education and integration for the African youth in Europe is a matter of morality anymore, but one of justice and economic wisdom for all parties. In this new and information-driven global economy, the world simply cannot afford the loss of so much human potential. Unless we act now, quality basic education for all and acceptance of integration will not happen without strong measures: strong national leadership, strong political commitment, investments and financial support, as well as an all-out attack on poverty, inequality, discrimination and exclusion.

It must be said here that it is not always that African Diasporas have taken advantage of opportunities offered them. If there is one locomotive, which takes an underprivileged poor out of her/his status and gives her/him an opportunity for a better life, it is education. Young Africans need to appreciate that, changing themselves and the world around them, can best be done by educational transformation. So while it must be argued that more and better opportunities be offered, it must also be accepted that these on their own are not enough to change the present reality. There

must be a genuine commitment from both sides for improvement in a social upward mobility.

These are the concrete commitment we seek here in Bonn. Commitments, which we believe, are achievable and absolutely necessary. Our conviction is based on the strong partnership of our partner organisations and the Council of Europe, the critical and stimulating support of other youth NGOs, and the positive response of the governments approached.

Our experience as a development organisation has taught us that legal changes are not enough. We must go beyond this to the fuller agenda of human development itself. Integration will only be achieved when it is placed on the front banner of the political and economic agenda and implemented as such.

We must stop labelling excluded foreign children and their families as the problem when the capacity and quality of governance, social services, schools and educational systems in their host countries are also factors.

In Africa and Europe, AYF is working to increase the need and awareness of potential human resource investments, as well as supporting the development and growth of African Diasporas in both continents.

Together, and with some will power, we can make a difference.....!

*Paulyn Jansen, PhD
Bonn, October 2006*



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INTRODUCTION

Heritage Café au Lait was the main theme of the African Diaspora seminar which took place in Bonn, Germany on 19th and 20th October 2006. The second meeting on the integration of African Diasporas in Europe, delegates from several European countries participated to share and learn new ideas, as well as to initiate new youth initiatives.

It is alleged in some areas that, in most African countries the legal tools created to enable citizens to cooperate on a nationwide basis are not being used. Resources are not used economically or managed to form one consistent network of systematised representations. People in authority are not held accountable for their actions. Assets are not liquid and cannot be used to create credit or capital. Business organisations do not have statutes that allow members to work under one control, neither do they have the means to divide labour and control risks through limited liability and asset partitioning. Qualified citizens cannot be identified, and contracts are unable to reach a market outside the limited confines of family and acquaintances, leading to migration which causes brain drain.

Hosted by the AYF, the gathering represented the European Union, AYF co-operating Organisations, national and international Non-Governmental organisations and other members of the UN family, as well as interested individuals.

Dr. Osei Asante Gyapong, CEO of JAAG Consultancy GbR in Germany, who was the chairman of the session, first welcomed participants. Joining the Chairman as keynote speakers were **His Lordship Peter Finger**, Mayor of the City of Bonn, **Her Excellency Fatoumata Sire Diakate**, Republic of Mali Ambassador to Germany, **Mr. Guy Brandtner**, Administrator, Council of Europe and **Dr. Paulyn Jansen**, Executive Director of the African Youth Foundation.

In preparation for discussions undertaken, meeting participants considered documents prepared by AYF, speakers, background documents by volunteers and other miscellaneous papers, to enhance the deliberations. A list of these is included in this report.

The AYF presented a Draft Plan of Action to participants and received some comments and feedback on the content of the Draft document. The Draft was then adopted and the chairman declared the meeting opened.

A pre-session meeting on “**Heritage Café au Lait**” was held on 19th October 2006. Chaired by **Dr. Paulyn Jansen**, *Director of the African Youth Foundation in Germany*, keynote speeches were delivered by **Mr. Guy-Michel Brandtner**, *Administrator, Council of Europe, Straßbourg*, and **Mr. Eric Priso**, *President of Association Banque jeunesse, France*.

The pre-session comprised a group of youth experts who presented papers and discussed topics Showcasing the contributions and impact of integration in a society, highlighting on the perspectives on Migration and Integration as well as addressing issues of attitudes, the roles governments and youth organisations should take to empower African Diasporas in their fight for integration in Europe referring to French and German experiences for the Youth.

The session also addressed issues pertaining to Successful migration projects by diasporas and the European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation. Recommendations made after the session are also included in this report.

The Friday morning session which was chaired by **Dr. Paulyn Jansen**, *Executive Director of the African Youth Foundation* and **Dr. Osei Asante Gyapong**, CEO of JAAG Consultancy GbR in Germany and member of the AYF Advisory Board, started with an Open Forum on “**Perspectives of Diasporas and**

their contribution in Europe and Africa”.

The panellists for this session were:

Her Excellency Fatoumata Sire Diakate, Republic of Mali Ambassador to Germany, **Ms. Dimitria Clayton**, *Ministry for Integrational Affairs, Family, Women and Integration, State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany*, **Mr. Theodore Priso**, *President 'Banque Jeune' association, France*, and **Mr. Guy-Michel Brandtner**, *Administratoar, Council of Europe*.

Their discussion themes were:

- **Diasporas, migrants and Fortress Europe: - Applying the European human rights Mechanism**
- **Entrepreneurship and Investment projects in Europe and Africa**
- **European Government Policies on migration and integration**
- **Diaspora involvement (financial and human resources) at the European and African level**

The intensive discussions led to the identification of problems and potential solutions to some of these problems. Perspectives of Diasporas and their contribution (*financial and human resources*) in Europe and countries of origins were also discussed.

Discussions during this session enabled participants to realize that, the inability of the African diaspora to represent Africa and the African diaspora community in general, was not only an issue of the unwillingness of the Africans in the Diaspora, but a systematic exclusion structure which hinders the inclusion of African Diasporas at management and decision making levels.

The Afternoon session which was chaired by **Dr. med. MBoyo Likafu** of *Psychosocial Centre for Immigrants, PÄZ Aachen e.V., Germany* and **Dr. Dominique Zinflou** of *PÄZ Aachen e.V. - Intercultural Children and Youth Work in Germany*, featured thematic discussions on:

- **Diversity and cultural impact in working places**
- **Impact of brain drain and brain gain in Europe and Africa**
- **Diasporas, Media, communication & project management**
- **Getting along – Integration has no barriers**

As panellists were: **Ms. Janet Narh, LLB Hons**, *Journalist, Broadcaster BEN TV (sky Channel 148) and GFM Radio, United Kingdom*, **Ms. Fatoumata Traore**, *Association of Diasporan Women, Switzerland* and **Ms. Rebecca Karanja**, *Project Manager, Africarecruit, United Kingdom*;

They highlighted issues affecting the youth, the creation of an African bank to support African projects, lack of clear guidance in skills for the youth, lack of communication between governments, E-learning and Bodies overseeing Diaspora issues.

It was noted that there was a need for a focus on the Diaspora because:

- Diasporas were strategic assets in building Africa's capacity;
- They generated social, financial, intellectual and political capital;
- Diasporas are Africa's biggest aid donor; and
- Shared a common vision for Africa and Europe.

The importance of remittances from the Diaspora being larger than foreign aid since 1997 was also noted.

The participants were appreciative for the opportunity to meet with colleagues and share strategies and experiences. Although some participants would have preferred a greater focus on application of the policies and development projects, most agreed that exploring these subjects in a broad context that is including governments, would give a broad base for practice.

A lobby platform where different organizations and partners could dialogue to implement new strategies on the impact and effects of migration, promoting the use of the YOUTH initiatives, wealth creation by Diasporas in Europe and Africa, related investments and entrepreneurship issues in their host countries was created. Participants also agreed that only when Migration and issues affecting Diasporas were tackled at an individual level that group activism could succeed.

The afternoon session ended with an Evaluation and presentation of preliminary report and recommendations. A draft plan of action was adopted which will be sent to related institutions for future cooperation.

A follow-up and evaluation of actions taken on the recommendations made on The Diaspora Meeting will be held in an African Country (If donors have no objection). Date and venue will be agreed upon by the AYP Executive Board.



PART I

AGENDA

THE CHALLENGE

It is alleged in some areas that, in most African countries the legal tools created to enable citizens to cooperate on a nation-wide basis are not being used. Resources are not used economically or managed to form one consistent network of systematised representations. People in authority are not held accountable for their actions. Assets are not liquid and cannot be used to create credit or capital. Business organisations do not have statutes that allow members to work under one control, neither do they have the means to divide labour and control risks through limited liability and asset partitioning. Qualified citizens cannot be identified, and contracts are unable to reach a market outside the limited confines of family and acquaintances, leading to migration which causes brain drain.

Ironically, Africa possesses some of the world's most skilled and creative people from all walks of life in the numerous fields of the academic world. One group of such important individuals are the "middle class", who work to support the economies of their host countries as well as send in millions of hard currency to the various countries every year. These people, regardless of their background, their heritage and their educational status, have one thing in common. They mostly reside outside Africa due to migration, and are thus classified as the DIASPORA.

These Diasporas, in their long term stay in some European countries have offspring's who are born and raised in Europe. These

young people, hardly have any links to the countries of their parents and till their skin colour, are Europeans, but unfortunately, these young people, don't feel like part of a big European union because they are not recognised as Europeans. Their problems are treated with contempt and are left to survive at the brink of most societies, although given the chance; they could contribute a lot to a tolerant and multicultural Europe.

Under these conditions of widespread extra authority, wealth continues to elude the majority of the people, which leads to migration. The mystery surrounding these myths, which deprives countries from fast tracking economic development, miscommunication, the importance of investments in human resources and financial means, is what this platform will offer for Diasporas to dialogue with their leaders in both Europe and Africa.

The need was identified by the AYPF due to the numerous enquiries from Diasporas, Institutions, youth and related organizations.

1. JUSTIFICATION

AYPF, after a successful first session on **"The integration of the Diaspora"** in May 2005, therefore decided to hold an Open Forum Meeting from the **19th – 21st October 2006** in Bonn, Germany, under the theme:

"Heritage Café au Lait "All Different, All Equal" - Intercultural Dialogue in Europe

to implement a lobby platform where different organizations and partners will dialogue to implement new strategies on the impact and effects of migration, promote the use of the YOUTH initiatives, wealth creation by Diasporas in Europe and Africa, related investments and entrepreneurship issues in their host countries.

Interested institutional partners welcomed this idea and the current proposal was the outcome of this meeting.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE DIASPORA MEETING

2.1. The objectives were:

- Bring together young people with similar minority backgrounds to exchange working practice to be;
- able to leverage the very best influences on leadership to involve and empower the business and political community in Europe and Africa;
- Support networking and co-operation among youth organisations and other institutions and individuals (trainers, multipliers, youth leaders) active in the field of human rights education.
- Create a common understanding of Youth Initiatives through the empowerment and strengthening of European network against racism and multiple discrimination by involving local authorities and educational institutions in the promotion of Human Rights Education and Intercultural Dialogue with young people;
- To develop a groundbreaking leadership style in career, management, trade, investments and entrepreneurship;
- -To adapt business strategies to include diasporas contributions and involvement in businesses in European and African countries; and
- -Identify new frameworks for problem-solving, including strategy models, a branding approach and a crisis leadership model.

3. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

3.1. The AYF, on the occasion of its Diaspora Meeting on "**Heritage Café au Lait: All Equal but Different?**" held from the 19 to 21 October 2006 in Bonn, Germany; *Expresses* its deep appreciation to the:

- a. Council of Europe/European Youth Foundation;
- b. INWent/ Ministry for Integrational Affairs, Family, Women and Integration, State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany,
- c. ZOOM MEDIA KG, GERMANY
- d. Stadtwerke Bonn (SWB)

4. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

4.1. The AYF, on the occasion of its Diaspora Meeting on "**Heritage Café au Lait: All Equal but Different?**" held from the 19 to 21 October 2006 in Bonn, Germany; *Expresses* its deep appreciation to:

- a. **HIS LORDSHIP PETER FINGER**, Mayor of the city of Bonn, Germany;
- b. **HER EXCELLENCY FATOU-MATA SIRE DIAKATE**, Republic of Mali Ambassador to Germany, for the warm welcome extended to the participants.

5. EXPRESSION OF THANKS

5.1. The AYF, on the occasion of its Diaspora Meeting on "**Heritage Café au Lait: All Equal but Different?**" held from the 19 to 21 October 2006 in Bonn, Germany; *Expresses* its deep appreciation to it partners:

- a. JAAG Consultancy
- b. JANERO Consultancy
- c. AfricaRecruit
- d. AfricaNetworking
- e. AFRORA
- f. The African Courier



CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

At the final plenary session on 20 October 2006, there were recommendations as to the need for the inclusion of Diasporas in the contribution of their host and home countries, as well as south-south cooperation if the expectation of national capacities is real.

A lobby platform where different organizations and partners could dialogue to implement new strategies on the impact and effects of migration, promoting the use of the YOUTH initiatives, wealth creation by Diasporas in Europe and Africa, related investments and entrepreneurship issues in their host countries was created. Participants also agreed that only when Migration and issues affecting Diasporas were tackled at an

individual level that group activism could succeed.

The more than 50 participants who attended the seminar in the two days agreed on a plan of action under the title „the way forward “ which should be a guideline for further networking of young people, students, organizations, enterprises and development institutions. Proposals for new Youth initiatives were proposed to be taken into consideration. The deliberations were adopted by all the participants on the final day. A final version of the policy paper was adopted and will be sent to the related institutions together with a complete report about the event.

After the discussion, the Executive Director of the Organisation Dr. Pauly Jansen made a concluding remark. The vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Osei Asante Gyapong, who finally declared the meeting closed.



PART II

RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE WAY AHEAD

THE THEMES ADDRESSED WERE:

Diversity and cultural impact in working places

- **Problems and challenges:**
 - Intolerance of foreigners
 - Lack of interest in integration from foreigners
 - 70% of youth interested in going back to Africa due to racism and discrimination in Europe
- **Solutions:**
 - Having lobbying bodies to lobby on behalf of diasporas at workplaces
 - People of African descent at decision taking positions

Impact of brain drain and brain gain in Europe and Africa:

- **Problems and challenges:**
 - Brain drain is somebody's brain gain
 - Diaspora concerns migration
- **Solutions:**
 - Diasporas as catalysts of change.
 - Pressurizing and lobbying which is very crucial.
 - Participation in law making sectors.
 - Dialoguing with stakeholders and policy makers.

Diasporas, Media, Communication and Project Management:

- **Problems and challenges:**
 - Structural problems within the African Diaspora groups in Europe
 - Networking difficulties
 - Qualifications rejection in European institutions
- **Solutions:**
 - Documentary programmes for youth issues
 - Education programmes
 - Shadowing schemes for youth
 - Including the media: print, media, aircast

Getting along – Integration have no barriers:

- **Problems and challenges:**
 - Integration of cultures
 - Integrating the Diaspora in the European system
 - Africans not feeling as part of the European system (concept of European citizenship missing)
 - Lack of communication between institutions, parents and children
- **Solutions:**
 - Relationship of Diasporas and Africans
 - Dialoguing about peace than only conflicts
 - Showcasing best practices
 - AYF to be involved as an enforcement in Africa on behalf of the diasporas
 - Recommending projects which AYF could undertake

SUGGESTIONS/PROPOSALS:

- Lack of respect from European partners which leads to lack of interest in European citizenship should be curbed if respect of human rights is one of the goals for intercultural activities.
- Interactive dialogues amongst Diaspora youth should be encouraged.
- Support of educational programmes, information training and practical skills for the African Diaspora youth.
- Creation of a Diaspora newspaper to interact with the Diaspora youth.
- Promotion of African Diasporas in management decision positions.
- Diaspora appeal/dialogue to / with European and African governments.
- Information to African Diaspora and African Youth (inclusion in social society, European and African countries).
- Support innovative projects of African youth in the Diaspora, e.g. give the youth a voice every year for the best innovative project.
- Creating a lobby platform which would enable dialogues between all stakeholders on annual basis.
- AYPF involvement with other countries in youth projects e.g. creation of exchange programmes.



PART III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

No.	Reference No.	Document Title
1.	AYF/ADL/2006/2	Provisional Agenda
2.	AYF/ADL/2006/1	Notification
3.	AYF/ ADL/2006/1/Add.1	Notification (additional 1)
4.	AYF/ABEN/2006/1	Plan of Action (Draft)
5.	AYF/ABEN/2006/1/Final	Plan of Action (Final)
6.	AYF/ABEN/2006/1/Rev.1	Plan of Action (Revision 1)
7.	AYF/ABEN/2006/1/Rev.2	Plan of Action (Rev. 2)
8.	AYF/ULG/2006/1	AYF-ULG Working paper (by Eric Asempah, Ghana)
9.	175 EX/16 Rev.2	UNESCO's Role and the challenge of illegal African migration
10.	AYF/ADL/Misc./2006/1	De l'importance des structures locales pour une gestion optimale des transferts de la diaspora (by Dr. Tamokwé P. Georges B. and Soffo Rodrigue, Cameroun)



PART V

CONCLUSION

European and African Governments, along with many other partners, have worked together for decades to try out new approaches to tackling brain drain.

In AYF's deliberations on the results of such experiments, the organisation's concept is to try to mainstream the various elements into a more holistic approach, which is defined as sustainable development for the more vulnerable through a decentralised method to governance. Out of practical necessity, the AYF is trying to interpret this concept into some programmes of co-operation in some European and African Countries.

This Open Forum not only addressed leaders, but also addressed youth workers and youth leaders, who are the carriers of

experience of both youth work and young people in all the countries concerned, as well as their role as multipliers.

The Open Forum also provide a context for the development of joint projects by making use of the best practices of the co-operating organisations in the field of intercultural learning and Information Technology education as well as the provision of a platform for African Diasporas and Stakeholders to start taking action after their dialogues.

It is up to us as Africans, Diasporas and stakeholders, to discuss our issues and take actions to steer the boat away from the mighty waves of discrimination, racism, poverty, human rights abuse, and unemployment in the countries we find ourselves in.

Like any simple idea that aspires to change the world, it is less simple than it seems.

We hope that over the long term, all partners will benefit from participating in this process as a singular approach to co-ordination and management of efforts to address Africa's brain drain.

List of Participants

<p>Asante Gyapong, Osei Dr. JAAG Consultancy GbR Germany</p>	<p>Ahouma, Severin African Human Resource Germany</p>
<p>Barry, Alpha Ousame Africa Progress Germany</p>	<p>Barry, Mamadou Africa Progress Germany</p>
<p>Brandtner, Guy-Michel Directorate of Youth and Sport, Council of Europe Belgium</p>	<p>Ceki, Ladislav Eine-Welt-Forum Düsseldorf Germany</p>
<p>Clayton, Dimitria Ministry for Integrational Affairs, Family, Women and Integration, Sate of NRW Germany</p>	<p>Djite, Mamadou GNJS Senegal</p>
<p>Duval, Claire Institute of Youth in International Relations France</p>	<p>Ekeh, Sab SABON Management Germany</p>
<p>Eze, Tony E. Embassy of the Republic of Nigeria Germany</p>	<p>Femi-Dagunro, Joe Nigerian-German Business-Group Germany</p>
<p>Finger, Peter Mayor of the City of Bonn Germany</p>	<p>Franken, Gloriose Burundi</p>
<p>Heyer, Antje Youth for Democracy Austria</p>	<p>Ibanda, Masoso Africa Charity und kultur e.V. Germany</p>
<p>Ilochi, Etuka Joachim Youth Enhancement Organisation Nigeria</p>	<p>Jansen, Leonard Leo.xls Kids Club Germany</p>
<p>Jansen, Bernhard InfoBonn Germany</p>	<p>Kallaghe, Stella Germany</p>
<p>Kamara, Abdoul Fadul The Redeemers Germany</p>	<p>Kamara, Martina The Redeemers Germany</p>
<p>Karanja, Rebecca AfricaRecruit United Kingdom</p>	<p>Kofi, Toni STAND The Netherlands</p>
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Lotutala, Maria Germany	Lotutala, Elisa Germany
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Mohammed, M.L. Embassy of Nigeria Germany	Mouafo, Dr. Emmanuel NEGROPOLIS Foundation Germany
Musoro, Dr. Livingstone London Metropolitan University United Kingdom	Narth, Janet BEN TV (Sky Channel 148) GFM Radio United Kingdom
Onu, Ernest Foreigners Association Germany	Onyango, Marc Student German
Matveeva, Natalie UNESCO-UNEVOC Germany	Otieno, George AYF Nairobi Kenya
Priso, Théodore Banque Jeune France France	Ramani, Balasubramanian YPARD Germany
Sall, Cheikh Tidiane Embassy of the Republic of Senegal Germany	Schneider Addae-Mensah, David Union pour l'Europe Fédérale Belgium
Schwarz, Annika Jugendstätte e.V. Germany	Severin, Ahauma AHR Kamerun
Sire Diakate, Fatoumata H.E. Embassy of the Republic of Mali Germany	Steinecke, Christine Dach Afrika Germany
Tahirou, Boubacar ONG CANIS Switzerland	Traore, Fatoumata L'association de jeune filles AFEP-ONG Switzerland
Ubani, Dr. Daniel Nigerian Community Germany Germany	Warnecke, Andrea BICC Germany
Zimmerman, Orlof Europa Union Belgium	Zinflou, Dominique Psychosocial Centre for Immigrants Germany

AYF Secretariat	
Assenbacher, Petra Coordination African Youth Foundation Germany	Behring, Sven Event Organisation African Youth Foundation Germany
Iqbal, Asif Events Management African Youth Foundation Germany	Jansen, Paulyn Dr. Executive Director African Youth Foundation Germany
Kaspari, Lily Coordination African Youth Foundation Germany	Namande, Agnes Administration African Youth Foundation Germany
Onyango, Vincent Programme Coordinator African Youth Foundation Germany	



“All different, All equal” is the call of the Council of Europe for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation.

In 1995 – 50 years after the end of World War II – the Council of Europe ran a European Youth Campaign entitled “All Different – All Equal” in order to reinforce the fight against racism, anti-Semitism, Xenophobia and Intolerance.

Nevertheless the struggle – 10 years afterwards – still goes on. For this reason, from June 2006 to September 2007, the Council of Europe will run a new Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation, based upon the same slogan and using the same successful logo.

The 2006-2007 Campaign is being organised in partnership with the European Commission and the European Youth Forum.

People all over the world differ in so many ways, for example what people believe in and how people look, but regardless of these differences they should be given equal rights. Did you know that in some regions of Europe people with a non-white skin colour are afraid of walking alone on the streets?

Did you know that in some regions of Europe gay people cannot kiss in public without fearing harassment? Did you know that in several regions of Europe having a handicap means not taking part in public life? Did you know that you have the right to be heard in all decisions regarding young people's issues?

That is what the Campaign is about: to respect diversity, to know about human rights and to take action in defending your own rights as well as to stand up against the discrimination of others.

This project is partly funded by the

EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

in the framework of the “All Different, All Equal” Campaign

**all different
all equal**

