AU-OATUU ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP FORUM
Dar-Es Salaam, Tanzania
9-11 August, 2018

FINAL REPORT
Introduction

The 9th annual forum between the African Union (AU) and Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) took place in the United Republic of Tanzania’s capital city, Dar-es Salaam, from the 9th to the 11th of August 2018 at the Holiday Inn hotel. The theme of this year’s forum was ‘Development and transformation of Africa through good governance, role of trade unions in winning the fight against corruption’ and its focus was on how bad governance on the continent allows for corruption to continue. So, should trade unions set a proper example of transparency, we can hope for better governance on the continent and promote the African Union’s theme of the year 2018 – “Winning the Fight Against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation”

Purpose and Objectives

The overarching objective of the meeting is to look at how Africa can be transformed through good governance and how trade unions can play a part in winning the continental fight against corruption. As a continent, Africa is blessed with raw materials; ‘no other continent is blessed with such abundance and diversity’ according to Ayittey. Despite such natural riches, Africa makes up only 2% of global trade.

Specific objectives include:

1. Creating awareness among trade unions about the fight against corruption
2. Popularizing AU’s Agenda 2063
3. Getting trade unions to engage with governments in implementing and evaluating transformational programs on good governance
4. Identify mechanisms that trade unions can use to popularize the AU’s Agenda 2063

Attendance

There were about 30 participants representing the African Union, CSO’s, TUCTA, OATUU and various trade unions on the continent.

Presentations and Recommendations

The forum was broken down into four thematic parts: the development and transformation of African through good governance, winning the fight against corruption, the role of ECOSOCC trade and industry cluster in Agenda 2063 and the ECOSOCC ongoing reform process.

1. On development and transformation of Africa through good governance

   The forum:
   
   - Requested African governments to name and shame their colleagues Heads of State, top officials and anyone found to be corrupt, to serve as a deterrent to others
- **Recommended** for African governments to adopt a common position on stolen assets in all member states of the union.
- **Underlined** the need for Governments to build strong institutions and requests for these institutions to be made independent
- **Requested** African government, through the various educational systems to introduce topics on corruptions from the basic to tertiary levels to inculcate the needed values in the children and youth who are the future leaders
- **Further requested** for African governments to put in place platforms where they can share best practices on developmental initiative in the continent with the view of improving upon our development agenda
- **Demanded** for Companies and organizations to be audited as well as sneaking in detectives to audit or verify organizational practices in the interest of society

2. **On winning the fight against corruption**

   **The forum:**

   - **Calls** for African governments to increase space on leveraging on ICT and new forms of communication
   - **Requested** for all stakeholders to be involved in the fight against corruption and indicated clearly that it is about all sectors of society to come together on this. It is not up to politicians alone
   - **Calls** on all African countries that have not yet ratified the anti-corruption convention to do so and domesticate it into their laws.
   - **Commended** all Member States who have ratified the anti-corruption convention and are leading in the fight against corruption and further commends the effort of the Tanzania government as the host of the 2018 forum in their effort in winning the fight against corruption.
   - **Requested** African governments to put a ‘Whistle Blowers’ act in place. This will enhance the fight against corruption; however, measures must be put in place to protect the whistleblowers
   - **Calls** on all Countries to use the media effectively to publicize and spread awareness on corruption and its negative effects on society

3. **On the ECOSOCC ongoing reform process.**

   **The forum:**

   - **Requested** the various trade union movement at national and federal level to play a pivotal role in the establishment of ECOSOCC National chapters
   - **Requested** Trade Unions and Civil Society Organizations to make meaningful contributions in the ongoing reform process of ECOSOCC within the wider AU reform process
   - **Underlined** the importance of strengthening ECOSOCC National chapters engagement as a pool of experts for value addition in the work of the union
- **Encouraged** OATUU to take a lead in coordinating its affiliates to apply for ECOSOCC membership in the 3rd Permanent General Assembly of the organ.
- **Decided** that Trade unions be organized at national level and identify individual capacities in terms of representatives to maximize their functions.
- **Recommended** that Trade unions should have focal points or desk officers who will track the activities of the AU and ECOSOCC.
- **Requested** that Trade unions should also have access to AU calendars so as to keep up with activities.

4. **On the role of ECOSOCC trade and industry cluster in Agenda 2063.**

**Trade Unions roles in battling corruption**

The forum:

- **Suggested** the creation of necessary platforms by African governments and trade unions to fast-track the sharing of best practices on battling corruption.
- **Suggested** that African governments take the lead by deepening their internal democracy and shying away from corrupt practices.
- **Seeks to** audit leaders at all levels – they must be proactive and to identify challenges allowing corruption to settle through Trade Unions.
- **Seeks to** educate, sensitize and do advocacy work at all levels through Trade Unions.
- **Suggested** the enforcing of company and multi-national finance declarations.
- **Demanded** statistics on corrupt practices and monitoring/evaluation of corrupt activities in their respective countries.
- **Suggested** that Trade Unions play the advocacy role as well as lobby their government to put in place the ‘whistleblowers act’ and then enact laws that will protect them.
- **Encouraged** Trade Unions to form networks and partner with the media and other credible Civil Society Organizations to publicize and create awareness among their members and public at large.