

Agenda 2063

2013

In 2013, African leaders united to endorse Agenda 2063, marking the 50th anniversary of the Organization of African Unity established in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in 1963. This bold agenda, as outlined by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, aims to establish a transformative vision for the continent as it advances toward 2063, consolidating past African initiatives into a unified framework. Agenda 2063 aspires to cultivate an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa, led and governed by its own people while emerging as a formidable player on the global stage. It delineates eight core ideals that will serve as guiding principles for the continent in the coming years. The adoption of this agenda represents a shared dedication from African leaders to confront the continent's socio-economic challenges and chart a clear course for sustainable development over the next fifty years. This framework is designed to facilitate Africa's socio-economic transformation, aligning with the vision of "The Africa We Want," and is grounded in the priorities identified by both African citizens and their leaders, with a central aim of fostering political unity among African nations to collaboratively address common challenges and bolster regional stability.

Questions for consideration: What justifications do African leaders offer for embracing Agenda 2063 and what aspirations does it include? How do these aspirations stack up against those presented in the Lagos Plan of Action from 1980? In what ways do they contrast with Africa's Priority Position on Economic Recovery established in 1985? How do the aspirations of Agenda 2063 align with the Treaty Creating the African Economic Community from 1991? Are they different from the Cairo Agenda for Action introduced in 1995? What is their connection to the New Partnership for Africa's Development? When Tesha noted that African leaders appear to have a remarkable enthusiasm for new declarations and initiatives, what was he implying? What are the implications of the claim that Africa's history is marked by numerous prior initiatives?

In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2013

According to the African Union Heads of State and Government,

The Agenda 2063 was agreed upon by the African leaders in 2013 through the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration during the commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). In their 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, the Heads of State and Government, while acknowledging past successes and challenges, rededicated themselves to the continent's accelerated development and technological progress. The Agenda emphasizes a guiding vision to build an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven and managed by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena; It identifies eight ideals to serve as pillars for the continent in the foreseeable future. Agenda 2063, as a people-driven initiative, is to translate the ideals into concrete objectives, milestones, goals, targets and actions/measures (African Union, 2013).

Agenda 2063, according to the AU, seeks to:

- Galvanize and unite in action all Africans and the Diaspora around the common
- Build peaceful, integrated and prosperous Africa.
- Harness the continental endowments embodied in its people, history, cultures
- Develop natural resources, geo-political position to effect equitable and people centered growth and development.
- Build on and accelerate implementation of continental frameworks, and other similar initiatives.
- Provide internal coherence and coordination to continental, regional and national
- Build on frameworks and plans adopted by the AU, RECs and Members states plans and strategies.
- Offer policy space for individual, sectoral and collective actions to realize the continental vision.

Source: African Union (AU)

Goals and Priority of Agenda 2063:

1. A prosperous Africa with:

- “A High Standard of Living Quality of Life and Well Being,”
- “Well Educated Citizens, Science, Technology, and Innovation,”
- “Health and well-nourished citizens,”
- “Transformed Economies,”
- “Modern Agriculture for increased productivity and production,”
- “Blue/ocean economy for accelerated economic growth,”
- Environmentally sustainable climate and resilient economies and communities.”

2. An Integrated Continent, Politically United with:

- “United Africa (Federal or Confederate),”
- “Continental Financial and Monetary are established,”
- “World Class Infrastructure crisscrosses Africa.”

3. Good Governance, Democracy, Human Rights, Justice and Rule of Law:

- “Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law,”
- “Capable institutions and transformative leadership.”

4. A Peaceful and Secure Africa:

- Peace, security and stability,
- A stable and peaceful Africa
- A fully functional and operational APSA

5. Strong Cultural Identity, Values and Ethics with:

- African Cultural Renaissance is prééminent.

6. People Driven Development

- Full Gender equality in all spheres of life
- Engage and empowered youth and children

7. A Strong and Influential Global Player and Partner

- Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence
- Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development

Aspiration 1: A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development—Africa will by 2063 be a continent of shared prosperity, which finances and manages its own growth and transformation.

Aspiration 2: An integrated continent, politically united based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance—By 2063 Africa will have emerged as a united, strong, sovereign, independent and self-reliant continent that realizes full economic and political integration.

Aspirations 3: An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law—By 2063, Africa will have undergone a deepening of the culture of good governance, democratic values, gender equality, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

Aspiration 4: A peaceful and secure Africa—By 2063, Africa will emerge as a peaceful and secure continent, a conflict-free continent with harmony and understanding among communities at the grassroots level.

Aspiration 5: An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics—Africa, as the cradle of human civilization, is custodian of a cultural patrimony that has contributed enormously to human progress. African cultural identity, values and ethics as a critical factor in Africa's re-emergence on the global stage in the decade of the 2010s, will be promoted and strengthened by 2063.

Aspiration 6: An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children—By 2063, Africa will be a continent where all citizens will be actively involved in decision-making in all aspects of development, including social, economic, political and environmental. Africa will be a continent where no child, woman or man will be left behind.

Aspiration 7: Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner—Africa will emerge as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner with a bigger role in world affairs.

Source: African Union