

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP ON WORLD HERITAGE AND
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN AFRICA
GREAT ZIMBABWE, MASVINGO PROVINCE, ZIMBABWE
26-28 APRIL 2018**

Preamble

We, African academics, site managers and World Heritage experts, gathered at the workshop on “World Heritage and Educational Institutions in Africa”, which took place in Great Zimbabwe (Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe) from 26 to 28 April 2018, acknowledge with gratitude the hospitality of the Zimbabwean authorities and the Great Zimbabwe University for hosting this forum on the involvement of African educational institutions in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

We acknowledge the contribution of UNESCO and the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), Great Zimbabwe University and National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe in organizing this workshop and the generous financial support of the Government of the Netherlands, through the UNESCO/Netherlands Funds-in-Trust.

Recalling

- The 2015 African Union’s “Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want”, which addresses issues related to education and heritage as a catalyst for sustainable development;
- The 2015 “Policy Document for the integration of a sustainable development perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention” adopted by the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention;
- UNESCO’s seven culture conventions designed to complement and reinforce each other to safeguard and nurture human culture and creativity in all its forms (as stated in the Bonn Declaration on World Heritage, 2016);
- The 2016 “Ngorongoro Declaration on Safeguarding World Heritage as a Driver for Sustainable Development” which stresses the need for States Parties to support educational programmes and research to address heritage and sustainable development issues, and thereby building upon the recommendations of the AWHF Tenth Anniversary Seminar which calls for African universities to create knowledge sharing platforms on heritage;
- The 2016 Robben Island (South Africa) and 2017 Loropeni Ruins (Burkina Faso) African Youth Declarations on World Heritage stressing the role and responsibility of young people in promoting conservation and sustainability at World Heritage properties in Africa.

Acknowledging and recognizing that:

- various initiatives by the AWHF have contributed to professional and youth capacity-building on World Heritage in Africa;
- over 50% of Africa’s population is under 25 years old;
- educating young people in heritage and all crosscutting domains contributes not only to transmitting knowledge and skills, and adapting to social and cultural change brought about by technological innovations, but also to promoting sustainable development, cultural diversity and peace;

- to build capacities in a sustainable manner, the involvement of African institutions of higher learning, to support the tremendous potential of heritage to foster sustainable development throughout the African continent, should be increased;
- initiatives by heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning regarding World Heritage issues and research in Africa are ongoing.

We, the participants note that:

1. the main purpose of the workshop on World Heritage and Educational Institutions was to share information on existing curricula related to heritage conservation and management in African institutions of higher learning and provide recommendations for future activities and for the creation of a regional network of educational institutions;
2. the workshop on World Heritage and Educational Institutions in Africa is a strategic initiative aimed at increasing co-operation between national heritage experts, heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning in implementing the World Heritage Convention on the Continent;
3. the workshop featured presentations from heritage experts, heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning on the development and implementation of the existing heritage curricula in Africa. Participants took note of the strengths, opportunities and challenges in the development, delivery and review of heritage curricula in relation to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Africa;
4. heritage curricula being offered in Africa today are similar among African institutions of higher learning but do not sufficiently address the issues intrinsic to the World Heritage Convention in Africa. We therefore recommend solution-based and practical curricula content, an interdisciplinary approach, a database for Pan-African references on heritage in order to address the challenges faced by World Heritage in Africa, and the establishment of programme focusing on World Heritage education including provisions for scholarship opportunities;
5. based on current statistics, Africa is under-represented on the World Heritage List and is over-represented on the List of World Heritage in Danger. We therefore recommend that heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning jointly engage in research to develop and submit credible and justifiable nomination files as part of the upstream process and to address management issues at World Heritage properties;
6. the resources allocated by States Parties to national institutions for the implementation of World Heritage related issues are insufficient. We therefore recommend States Parties to provide financial support for joint research by heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning;
7. the silo approach is persistent between, and within, heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning in Africa. We therefore **recommend** improved communication and collaboration between such institutions to enhance the

production of convincing and informative narratives of African heritage, in a cost-effective and sustainable manner;

8. the involvement of local communities, and particularly women and youth, in the management of World Heritage in Africa is insufficient. We therefore recommend their effective involvement (as custodians and stakeholders of traditional management systems) in the promotion, research, management of World Heritage properties, and the conception and delivery of heritage curricula;
9. that the future of World Heritage lies in the hands of young people, who are not sufficiently involved in World Heritage issues. We therefore recommend creative and innovative strategies to bring youth on board, including addressing their aspirations as future leaders of Africa;
10. the ongoing attempts by African States Parties in balancing heritage conservation and development at and around World Heritage properties and in profiling the role of culture as a catalyst for development are yet to produce convincing outcomes. We therefore **recommend** research on indicators to understand the contribution of African cultural and natural heritage to the Sustainable Development Goals.

We, the participants further:

11. **Urge** States Parties, heritage institutions and institutions of higher learning in Africa to accelerate the implementation of the above recommendations;
12. **Request** the State Party of Zimbabwe to present the outcomes of the workshop to the 3rd African World Heritage Experts Meeting (4-8 June 2018, Zimbabwe) and to the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee (24 June – 4 July 2018, Bahrain);
13. **Commit** to present the results of the workshop to our respective institutions and, wherever possible, to National Commissions for UNESCO, to encourage further dialogue at the national level;
14. **Note**, with appreciation, the francophone workshop that will be held in 2018, and look forward to the integrated recommendations, including an action plan.

Signed this day of 28 April 2018, at the Great Zimbabwe Hotel, Masvingo Province, Zimbabwe:

The Participants

(in alphabetical order)

Prof. George Okello Abungu (Okello Abungu Heritage Consultants); **Dr Wazi Apoh** (University of Ghana, Ghana); **Dr Garth Benneyworth** (Sol Plaatje University, South Africa); **Mr Rodney Bunhiko** (UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa); **Ms Sana Butler** (Preservation Africa); **Dr Elgidius Ichumbaki Bwinabona** (University of Dar Es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania); **Prof. Herbert Chimhundu** (Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe); **Prof. Regis Chireshe** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Prof. Shadreck Chirikure** (University of Cape Town, South Africa); **Dr Chipo Chirimuuta** (Zimbabwe Open University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Henry Chiwaura** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Pieter-Jan Debuyst** (UNESCO World Heritage Centre); **Mr Damir Djakovic** (UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa); **Mr Simba Farai** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Ms Nyasha Agnes Gurira** (Midlands State University); **Mr Goodman Gwasira** (University of Namibia, Namibia); **Prof. Pesanayi Gwirayi** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Ms Christinah Gwirayi** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Tekle Hagos Haile** (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia); **Dr Ceessay Hassoum** (National Centre for Arts and Culture, Gambia); **Ms Margret Jongere** (Bindura University of Science Education, Zimbabwe); **Dr Seke Katsamudanga** (University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe); **Dr Susan O. Keitumetse** (University of Botswana, Botswana); **Prof. Jafari Kideghesho** (College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka, United Republic of Tanzania); **Dr Herman Kiriama** (Kisii University, Kenya); **Dr Elizabeth Kyazike** (Kyambogo University, Uganda); **Dr Michael Mabvuma** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Lesley Hatipone Machiridza** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Godfrey Mahachi** (National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe); **Dr Simon Makuvaza** (National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe); **Prof. Joseph Mangut** (University of Jos, Nigeria); **Dr Freddy Safieli Manongi** (Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority, United Republic of Tanzania); **Dr Munyaradzi Manyanga** (University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe); **Prof. Jacob Mapara** (Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe); **Dr Abdallah Rashid Mkumbukwa** (State University of Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania); **Mr Edmond Moukala** (UNESCO World Heritage Centre); **Ms Sandra Mpofo** (National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe); **Rtd Col Niya Mtombeni** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Tapuwa Raymond Mubaya** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Prof. Never Muboko** (Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe); **Mr Francis Muchemwa** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Jenet Mudekunye** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Tawanda Mukwende** (National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe); **Prof. Dawson Munjeri** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Amos Mushati** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Mr Nicholas Mutami** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Ms Salachi Naidoo** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Catherina Namono** (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa); **Dr Ndukuyakhe Ndlovu** (University of Pretoria, South Africa); **Ms Charity Ndlovu-Nyathi** (National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe); **Ms Maya Nwabisa** (Statistics South Africa); **Mr Godfrey Nyaruwanga** (National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe); **Dr Ishanlosen Odiaua** (International Development Consultant); **Mr Peter Okwaro** (Centre for Heritage Development in Africa, Kenya); **Dr Yoshie Sekine** (Edogawa University, Japan); **Mr Souayibou Varissou** (African World Heritage Fund); **Mr Pascall Taruvinga** (Robben Island Museum, South Africa); **Ms Genius Tevera** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Thomas Panganayi Thondhlana** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr Rabson Wuriga** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe); **Dr William Zivenge** (Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe).