



The 3rd Global Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development

Benin 2019

REPORT







YOUNG CHAMPIONS' SUMMIT FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (BENIN 2019)



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to warmly thank all the people and organizations involved in the organization of the third summit of the Young Champions for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development. We sincerely thank the Beninese authorities who offered hospitality to foreign delegations, in this case the President of the National Assembly of Benin, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the National Authority for the Fight against Corruption (ANLC), the Autonomous National Electoral Commission (CENA), the Directorate of Waters, Forests and Hunting, the Think Thank Generation of Vigilants for having done everything possible for the smooth running of the summit. The NGO PLANETE PAIX for its active participation, also we would like to thank all the organizations and structures such as the International Organization Wake up for your Rights, NGO APED-Benin, JERAA circle, CHIKTECH EVENTS, GLENON AGROBUSINESS, ESAE-TV, Fréjus le Miroir Photography for their support to the organization, all the communicators for all their availability, all the members of the organizing committee for the sacrifice made in the organization of the summit, all the participants for all their immeasurable contributions.



CONTEXT

The problem of peace is one of the main concerns that gnaw at the minds of collective consciousness. It is present in African wisdom. It corresponds to a social and political ideal and is rooted in certain strong ideas.

- **"Peace is not an empty word, but a behavior"** (Felix Houphouet Boigny)

- **"Wars starting in the minds of men and women, it is in**

the minds of men and women that the defenses of peace must be erected" (Antraing BOUGHOURLIAN)

what brings us together here in Cotonou, a piece of Africa, this great, rich and beautiful continent, this motherland that gave life to humanity and our generation, exceptional personalities: Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Monsignor Isidor de Souza, Nelson Mandéla, Denis

Mukwege, Abiy Ahmed..., comes down to this issue : **"The share of responsibility of the youth in the building and the maintenance of peace worldwide and especially in Africa"**.

Our wonderful Africa is called to take its place in the concert of nations where the scene is based on sustainable development. But, this is not possible if African youth are



Photo 1: family Photo

not freed from the chains of degradation and suffering such as unemployment, drugs, new diseases, immigration, cross-border insecurity.

Faced with these challenges, we will take our share of responsibility here and now. And the process is simple. It comes down to Analyzing the challenges against peace, security and sustainable development. We will

therefore reflect, think and assume our responsibility in the eyes of history and in the eyes of these problems. In addition, we will plan and take action to bring response by ourselves to those society's ills.

We, Young Champions of the Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development, have only one desire, a dream, a passion: to see Africa as a place, where

peace reigns, a place where we no longer hear of poverty, war, conflicts, refugees. We, Young Champions, want to see Africa taking off. A stable Africa, ensuring its food self-sufficiency for nearly two (2) billion inhabitants by 2030, at zero unemployment rate. And whose link with sustainable development is fairly clearly established.



Photo 2: Welcome and installation of participants

CONDUCT OF THE BENIN SUMMIT 2019

The delegations of the Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development arrived in Benin, some by flight, others by land and still others by sea, from Monday 11 November evening to Thursday November 14 morning. A total of one hundred and fifty (150)

participants from thirteen (13) countries, namely Benin, Burkina-Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Chad, Togo, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo. They actively participated in the work and activities of the summit over

the three (03) days.

The organizing committee of the summit pre-established an agenda which, despite certain modifications, was rigorously followed thanks to the complicity of communicators of several nationalities who made their communications accessible to



Photo 3: The "Aube nouvelle" and "Abidjanaise" performed by the Beninese opera and afro opera artist Marion AKPO

participants during the various keynote addresses or panels and immersions.

From 7 a.m., all participants after having satisfied the registration formalities and retrieving their badges have been installed in the conference room of the Documentation

and Legal Information Center of the Court of Appeal of Cotonou. Under the guidance of the master of ceremonies after an artistic performance by the Beninese opera and afro opera singer Marion AKPO, who interpreted, the "Aube Nouvelle" and the

"Abidjanaise" followed by a series of speeches. At the end of these various speeches, the work proper began. They were punctuated with coffee breaks, networking and lunch breaks.



1. REPORT

DAY I OF THE SUMMIT



Photo 4: Photo of the speeches

1.1. Opening ceremony

We started the day with an opening ceremony chaired by Mr. Achille COMOE, in his capacity as Central President of the NGO PLANETE PAIX. During this protocol phase, we had four speeches from the following personalities:

1. Mr. Adeola Pacome AFFOIGNON, President of the organizing committee
2. Madame Jauresse AMOUSSOU, Representative

of the President of Think Tank the Vigilant Generation

3. Miss. Luchelle FEUKENG, Representative of the Country Delegations

4. Mr. Achille COMOE, Central President of the NGO PLANETE PAIX

These various speakers took the floor in turn to signify the issues linked to this meeting. It was generally accepted that peace, security and sustainable development are

closely related and topical issues.

Overall, they noted the vital role that African youth must play in defending these ideals on the continent, and concomitantly brought to light the importance of this annual international meeting of three (03) days, **"the Young Champions' Summit for Peace and Sustainable Development"**, which is in its third edition.

As part of the 3rd Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development which was held on November 14, 15 and 16, 2019, several panels succeeded each other with communications as rich as each other. This was followed by immersions which enabled the participating champions to benefit from good practices.

1.2. Sub-theme 1: Citizen Engagement, Culture of Peace and Sustainable Development

Panel 1



Photo 5: Communication of Mr. Joël Goga

Mr. Joël GOGA in his communication entitled **"Social entrepreneurship for sustainable development"** first explained the concepts of entrepreneurship and then sustainable development. Then he made the link between these two concepts by showing the contribution of social entrepreneurship to achieving the SDGs and sustainable development. Among other things, he has shown that social entrepreneurship is an opportunity for climate change in the sense that it generates a plethora of action in favor of environmental protection. In addition, he also emphasized the support, protection and promotion of the elderly, because the aging of the population is one of the greatest social transformations of the 21st century and action must be taken in favor of these people who constitute one of the vulnerable strata of the population. By so doing, we are contributing to the achievement of the SDG 3, which aims to promote well-being at all ages. The world will soon know one billion older people and therefore the inclusion of older people and their contribution to achieving sustainable development is paramount. Finally, Joël GOGA congratulated the efforts of the NGO PLANETE PAIX and the Young Champions for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development Program and invited everyone to work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.



Photo 6: Communication of Mr. Touré Gorgui

The communication presented by Mr. Gorgui Ba Touré, participant and panelist from the Republic of Malawi focused on the importance of inclusive project management. The theme of the communication is : **“Purpose of Lessons Learned Meeting(s) for project management”**.

The purpose of meeting on Lessons Learned is to identify what was learned during the project/program. The lessons learned are derived by uncovering what project/program stakeholders believe was well done and what could

have been done better.

The Lessons Learned meeting is typically held during the project closure process. However, for a larger project or program, meetings to collect lessons learned can be scheduled and completed at the completion of phases of project or program life cycle, or after particular milestones.

Depending upon scope and size of the project/program, a Lessons Learned meeting may be held after gathering feedback through a satisfaction survey. The meeting can be held with the

entire project team, various stakeholder groups, and/or with individuals tete-a-tete.

The scope of the communication was to participate in the capacity building of young African entrepreneurs on project management. Interesting questions were asked and the discussions were fruitful. And a good number of young people have expressed a wish to extend communication on the project management analysis. Which should be the subject of a future communication.

1.3. Sub-theme 2: Democratic Culture

1.3.1. Keynote address 1:

Financing of political parties

Dr. Narcisse Klao
- Benin -

Public funding, far from being a source of dependence, allows political parties to well organize themselves in order to create more impact on the ground. This funding, according to the panelist Dr. Narcisse Klao, also helps to develop political and even democratic culture in the states where it is practiced. In addition, there are three funding mechanisms:

- Financing the candidate;
- Financing the party (most appropriate)
- And financing the sub-groups and bodies linked to the life of the party.



Photo 7: : Communication of Dr. Narcisse Klao

1.3.2. Keynote address 2:



Photo 8: Communication of Mr. Rufin GODJO

The CENA, Role and challenges in organizing Elections

Electoral expert Rufin GODJO
- Benin -

Established by the Law Number. 2013-06 of 25/11/2013 relating to the Electoral Code in the Republic of Benin, the National Autonomous Electoral Commission (NAEC) main mission is the political organization of elections. This mission mainly concerns political elections, in this case the presidential, legislative, municipal elections and then referendums.

Within the framework of the organization of an election, it globally coordinates ten (10) operations, namely:

1. receipt of the electoral register,
2. the development of its chronogram,
3. the recruitment and training of electoral agents,
4. ordering & receiving election materials,
5. receipt of application files,
6. logistics,
7. centralization and processing of results,
8. the inventory of electoral materials,
9. drawing up activity reports,
10. the evaluation of the electoral process.

As an Election Management body, the NAEC contributes to the consolidation of the electoral system, and therefore to democracy.



Photo 9: Communication of Mr. Achille COMOE



1.3.3. Keynote address 3:

Engaging with candidates and elected officials to get the most from your vote.

Mr. Achille COMOE
- Cote d'Ivoire -

Engaging with candidates and elected officials is an important link for democracy. During an electoral period, it is important for voters to have an idea or knowledge of the candidate's social program. To this end, to know if the candidates are sincere in their social programs, as a leader we should engage with all the candidates without exception, by following these steps:

- Get together in a youth group or association or advocacy group;
- Make an appointment with each candidate;

- Have a good idea, a precise idea and a perfect mastery of what we will say and ask the candidate;
- Obtain a precise and firm promise from the candidates;
- Evaluate in a practical way if his project is SMART, ie Specific, Measurable, Acceptable, Realistic, temporally defined. And measure the positive impact, the credibility of its program for the community so as not to regret the choice. After all these steps, we move on to support and vote the candidate whose program suits our expectations.

However, there are times or situations when the candidate, once elected, no longer respects his program or refuses to grant a hearing when asked to meet us so that we may remind him of his promises. In this case, it is appropriate as a Leader to take legal means such as peaceful demonstrations, pleas, etc. With the development of ICT, social networks are an effective way to make our voice heard in this case.

1.4. Sub-theme 3: Climate Migration and irregular

14.1. Keynote address 4:

Climate migration, a global issue on our doorstep

Dr Akibou Akindélé
- Benin-



Photo 10: Communication of Dr. Akibou AKINDELE

The climate is an integral part of us (population), rich or poor, black or white, we are concerned with the climate. The effects of climate change are accelerating the phenomena of migration of people from one point to another, and this is not without repercussions on the host country. The positive points are the increase in the workforce in this locality, the increase in the

population. The negative point is the creation of shantytowns due to overcrowding, the occurrence of certain diseases, the rejection of immigrant populations on the host lands. Faced with this, it is important to put in place measures that not only counter the climate threat, but also support the phenomenon of climate migration in order to guarantee the development of migrants.



Photo 11: The Meet-in person of the Country Champions

1.5. The Meet-In Person of the Country Champions (MIP-CC)

Afterwards, the Country Champions held a meeting, which enabled them to designate the country which will host the next season of the summit, elect the President, the Vice-President, the Commissioners and proceed to the formation of the Bureau of the Council of Country champions. In total, thirteen (13) Country Champions or their representative attended the meeting in the presence

of the Central President of the NGO PLANETE PAIX, the Technical Advisor to the Central President in charge of the Young Champions program, Mrs. Anna-Françoise DIOUF and his advisor in Communication Mr. Joël GOGA. Cameroon has consequently been elected as the organizing country of the fourth Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development.

The financial contribution of two hundred thousand CFA Francs (200,000 FCFA) per State party for the annual international conference was agreed by consensual to assist the organizing country. Following this choice of Cameroon by its peers, the bureau of the Council of Country Champions was set up, the configuration of which is as follows.



Were elected:

President of the Council of Country Champions: **AFFOGNON Adeola Bilewomo Pacome Guy (Benin)**

Vice-President of the Country Champions Council: **Yusuf Uma Usman (Nigeria)**

Were appointed:

General Secretary Of the Diasporas / General Secretary of the Country Champions Council: **TOURE Gorgui Ba (Senegal - Malawi)**

Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Country Champions: **SULTAN Seybou (Mali)**

General Treasurer of the Country Champions Council: **MAKADI Angel (DRC)**

Deputy General Treasurer of the Country Champions Council: **VAYOUBA K. Bility (Liberia)**

Communication Officer of the Country Champions Council: **FEUKENG Luchelle (Cameroon)**

Responsible for partnerships and external relations of the Council of Country Champions: **HASSAN Soraya Adel (Egypt)**

Assistant in charge of partnerships and external relations: **EKRA Koffi Félix (Canada)**

Were elected:

Auditor of the Council of Country Champions: **Erick AMANI (Ivory Coast)**

Deputy Auditor of the Council of Country Champions: **Ayisha SEIDOU (Ghana)**

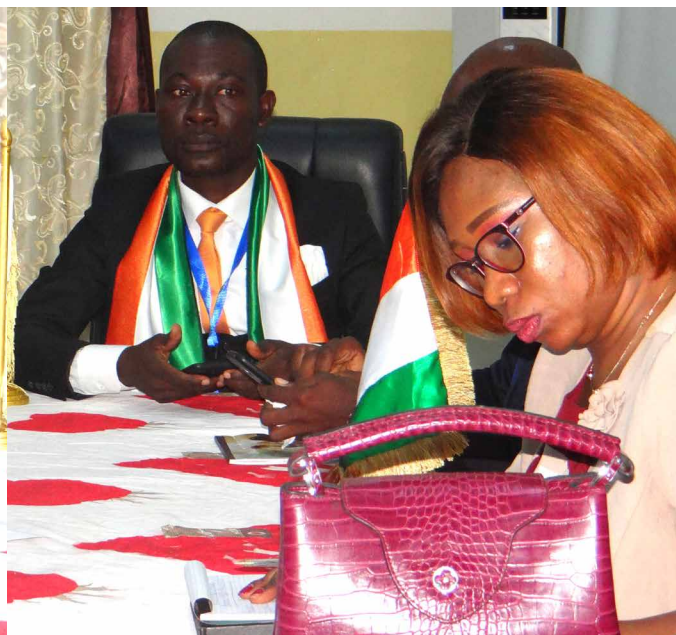
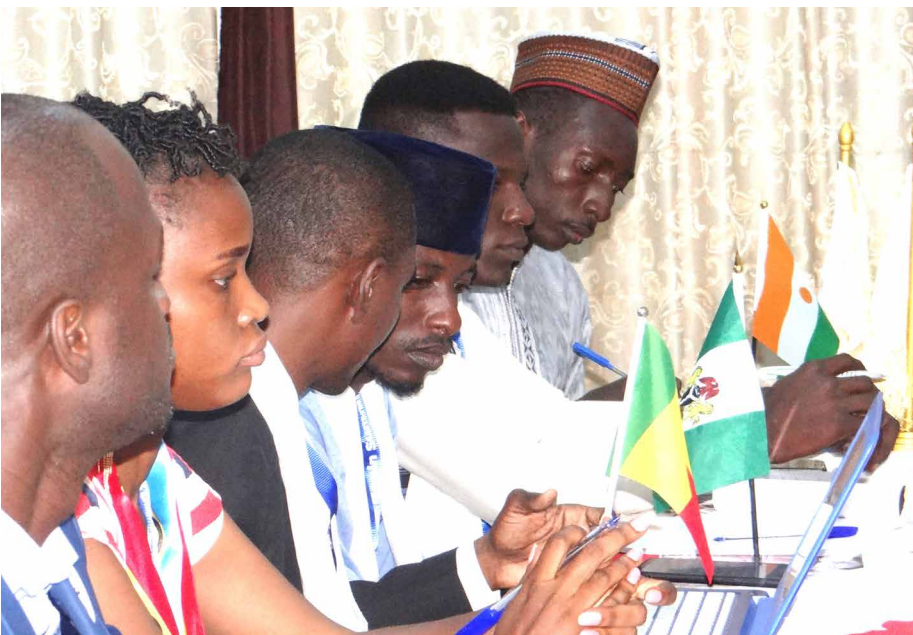
MIP-CC was chaired by:

The Central President of PLANETE PAIX, President, and CEO of the Peace, Security and Sustainable Development Program, **Achille COMOE**.

Assisted by:

The Technical Advisor of the Peace, Security and Sustainable Development Program, **Anna-Françoise DIOUF (Senegal)** and the Communications Advisor of the Peace, Security and Sustainable Development Program, **Joël GOGA (Togo)**.

This meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.





2. REPORT

DAY II OF THE SUMMIT

2.1. Sub-Theme 4 : Land degradation - Deforestation - Poverty alleviation

2.1. Keynote address 5:

Education as an essential part of the global response to change

Professor Euloge Ogouwale
- Benin -

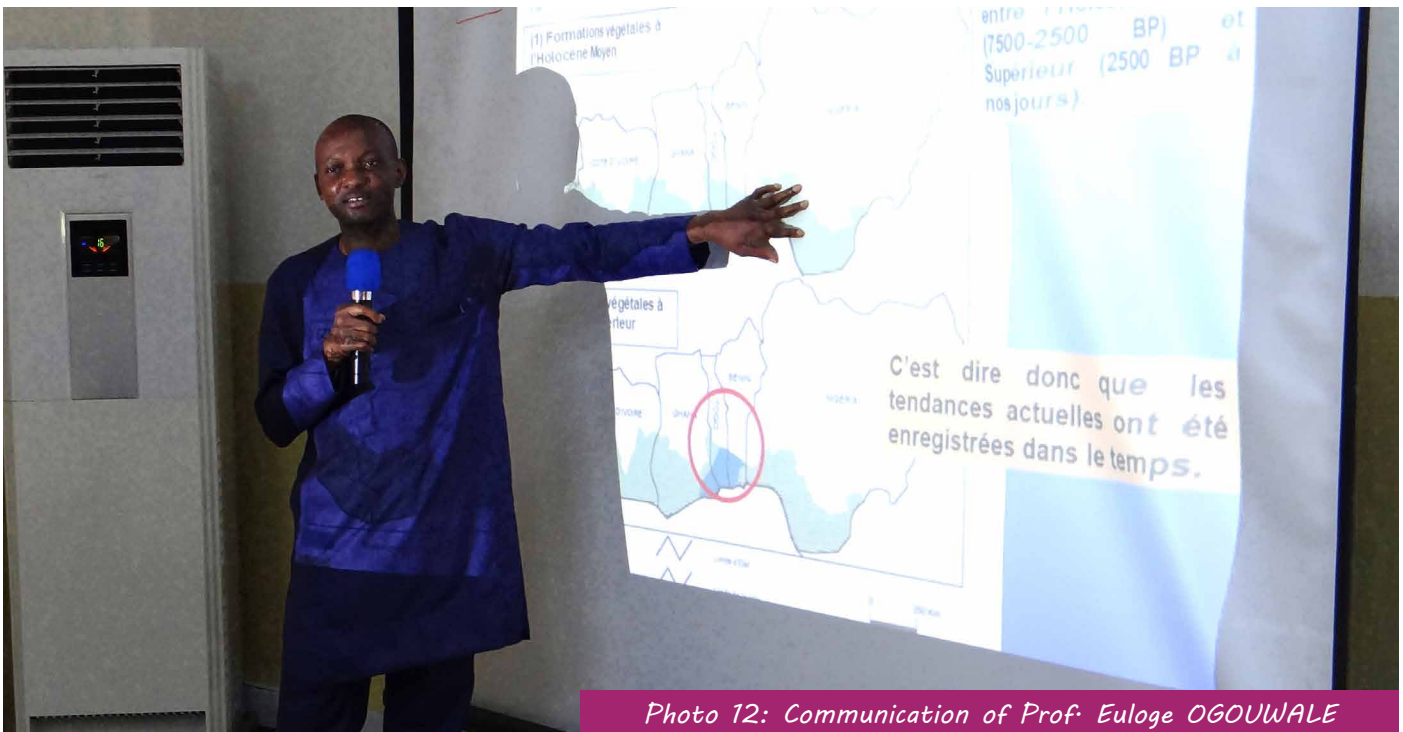


Photo 12: Communication of Prof. Euloge OGOUWALE

The second (2nd) day of the 3rd Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development started at 9:00 am with the communication of Professor Euloge Ogouwalé. The communication focused on the theme: **"Education, an essential element of the global response to climate change"**.

It is urgent to remember that the fight against climate change must start from the bottom of society, which is the family. The education of children in good civic practices is therefore essential since the polluters of tomorrow are the children of today and to change the situation, each parent must be sure to instill in his offspring, the

behaviors and values of an eco citizen. Professor Ogouwale did not fail to focus on the statistics and the prevailing situation in the world and precisely in Africa with regard to Climate change. The communication ended with a discussion between the communicator and the participants.



Photo 13: Panelist on sub-themes on women's empowerment, violent extremism and terrorism

Empowerment of women- Violent extremism and terrorism

2.2. Sub-theme 5 & 6:

Panel 2:

Mr. Herve Gobou, Consultant Journalist, Researcher in Contemporary History from Cote d'Ivoire presented a paper on the theme **"Immigration, statelessness and cross-border security in the ECOWAS space"**. He said that the stateless person, according to the High Commissioner for Refugees is defined as any person not recognized by any state as his national, by application of its legislation. Then he posed

the problem of immigration of the stateless person, which nonetheless raises the security question. This is because the identity and profile of migrants can constitute security issues. In total, the speaker proposed the modernization of civil status and security systems in order to better regulate the questions of movement of people and cross-border security. Afterwards, followed a communication on the Social and Solidarity Economy, the

challenges for African youth.

We essentially retain from the communication **"Social and Solidarity Economy, the challenges for African youth"** of Mr. Elisee N. DITCHARE a specialist in social and solidarity economy from Benin and President of the international network of young Francophone leaders that a social economy enterprise serves its members and its community and is democratic.



The State therefore does not intervene in its management.

Mr. Aristide MOLOU, Doctor at the Félix Houphouët Boigny University in Abidjan shared his knowledge with the champions on the theme, **“peacekeeping in Côte d’Ivoire: young people facing electoral challenges by 2020”**. For the panelist before speaking of peacekeeping, there must be peace. Thus, he proposes to promote respect of human rights, to ensure equality between women and men in order to promote peace and security.

Mrs. Anna Françoise DIOUF in charge of the Peace, Security and Sustainable Development program, spoke to the champions on the theme **“Empowerment of women and girls : Vector of peace, social progress; economic and environmental”** in 10 minutes. Women, according to Anna Diouf, make a huge contribution to the national

economy in particular and to the global economy in general. Because according to her, it is women who invest and drive markets and industries.

Mrs. Sybil Houeton Ogoua of Benin, National Coordinator of the youth, peace and security platform in West Africa supported the words of Anna Diouf by insisting on SDG 5 which stipulates gender equality. The coordinator believes that we should rather talk about equal opportunities since women are more protected by law. She ended her talk with a quote from Kofi Anan who said, **“There is no development weapon as powerful as the empowerment of women.”**

The communication of Doctor Erick AMANI, specialist in political, legal and social philosophy at Alassane Ouattara University (Côte d’Ivoire) focused on **“Advocacy for human development in Africa”**. According to Dr.

AMANI, Africa is the most beautiful continent in terms of cultural possibilities, the most powerful continent in terms of human resources, but remains the poorest in terms of well-being. Africa aspires to development but is still struggling to find its way. The fact is that no serious development project can be operationalized by violating human rights, because development is above all a human development. It serves and responds to the needs and aspirations of humans. This is why this development must go through a real revolution in the education system capable of making respect for human dignity a categorical imperative.

The panel ended with a question and answer session.

A break was observed at the end of this panel to allow participants to regain strength before the immersion phases. The immersions started at 4 p.m.



2.3. Participants' immersion in the Institutions

2.3.1 Group 1 immersion:

National Anti-Corruption Authority (NACA)

The first immersion group made up of 16 members of all nationalities, went to the National Authority for the Fight against Corruption and was received by its President Jean-Baptiste ELIAS who put the emphasis on the role and the activities of the institution. From his statements, we should remember that Sustainable Development is a development that lasts and that takes into account all aspects of life whether economic, environmental or social. No state can achieve sustainable development without resources, hence the importance of fighting corruption of sustainable development. Benin signed on December 21, 2001 in Dakar, the code of ratification of the fight against corruption and several other codes, but the bitter observation is that corruption remains a sea snake in Benin and among the evils, suffered



Photo 14: Family photo of the Pre-sident of the National Anti-Corruption Authority with the participants

by public administration it is undoubtedly the most visible. The participants also knew that the declaration of the assets must be made upon taking office and at the end of the mandate of each civil servant in accordance with article 7 of the law number 2011-20 of October 12, 2011 on the fight against corruption and other related offenses in the Republic of Benin. The NACA also does not punish the corrupters, but is responsible for ascertaining the act of corruption and reporting to the Chamber of Accounts or

the CRIET a court of Repression of Economic Offenses and Terrorism. The question and answer phase was not omitted during this interview with the NACA.

During this phase, the participants were able to shed light on their various questions. When the Président was Asked how he manages to live in peace with his family despite his Whistleblowing work, Jean Baptize ELIAS after a long moment of laughter filled with emotion, confided to the participants that he is inflicted with rules that he

works to respect. There has been no lack of advice on this occasion: **“Young people must put the necessary pressure to reduce corruption in Africa if not to eradicate it ”** says Doctor Jean Baptise Elias. The participants were given the document of the law number 2011-20 of October 12, 2011 on the fight against corruption and other related offenses in the Republic of Benin. The session ended round about 6 p.m. by a photo of the President of the NACA with the summit participants.



2.3.2 Group 2 immersion:

Department of Water, Forests and Hunting

The participants in this immersion were fourteen (14) all nationalities combined. The communication of this immersion was ensured by the Commander AKINDELE G. Sylvain, Agricultural Engineer, Conservative Officer of Waters and Forests. The objective of this immersion is to allow

the Champions to have a glimpse on the contribution of the DWFH of Benin in the fighting against deforestation. Two essential points were addressed, namely: (1) the forest heritage of Benin and (2) the missions of DWFH.

Speaking of forest heritage, the Commander gave a brief

description of this heritage. Regarding the missions, we have the exclusive missions which are among others: the development of land management instruments, the constitution and monitoring of the management of the State forest domain, the development and monitoring



Photo 15: Family photo with Commander AKINDELE G. Sylvain

of policies. As for non-exclusive missions: participation in the execution of works, the constitution, assistance and promotion of sectors carrying forest products.

The question of deforestation was discussed, defined in all its forms, as well

as the question of regulatory laws in the forestry sector. This stage was followed by that of the proposals and the measures to be taken to combat deforestation such as reforestation, the management of forest plantations.

The problem of soil degradation was addressed, and the emphasis was put on the causes and consequences. Forms of degradation was named. The immersion ended around 7 p.m



2.3.3. Group 3 immersion:

National Autonomous Electoral Commission (NAEC)

Around 4 p.m., the Young Champions (thirteen (13)) went to the premises of the National Independent Electoral Commission (NAEC) for an immersion of one hour

and thirty minutes. Under the supervision of Mr. Rufin KODJO and Mr. Georges OCHERE, the participants were interviewed on the history and the functioning

of the institution in charge of the political organization of the elections in Benin. It was created in 1995 as an ad hoc structure by the Beninese constitutional court. In 2013,



photo 16: Family photo at the NAEC

it became an administrative body responsible for organizing the elections.

In 2014, it was split into two (02) bodies, the Electoral Council and the General Secretariat. At the end of this detailed presentation of the NAEC, broken discussions followed. During the discussions, several themes

were addressed, including the organization and financing of elections, the means of fighting corruption during electoral periods, the difficulties encountered in the exercise and functioning of the institution and the functioning of the institution and its executives / staff, the method of

recruiting NAEC agents and the legal framework for elections in Benin. The talks ended at around 5.30 p.m. with a family photo with the Organization's Representatives (NAEC) and all members of the delegation.



3. REPORT

DAY III OF THE SUMMIT

3.1. Keynote adresse 6:

The Circular Economy, what challenges for African youth?

Edith HOUHA
- Benin -



Photo 18: Communication of Mrs. Edith HOUHA Benin

The third day, Saturday, November 16, took place the last panel of the summit with the theme: **"The circular economy: what challenges for African youth?"** This important theme is presented by Edith Houha, expert in sustainable development. When speaking, she highlighted the efforts that women are making to recycle waste in Africa. Furthermore, she made the difference between traditional linear economy and circular economy. Thus, the traditional linear economy consists in the purchase, consumption and destruction of waste after use of the product, while the circular economy consists in seeking more effective solutions at each of the previous stages, by developing a strategy eco-design and by reintroducing the destroyed product into the production process. We are then witnessing a transformation of waste into raw material. After his presentation, the participants asked questions and made some contributions aimed at confirming the strength that women constitute for sustainable development.

3.2. Cultural activities

To demonstrate the integration of the African states present, we saw the passage of the countries with their respective national dances.

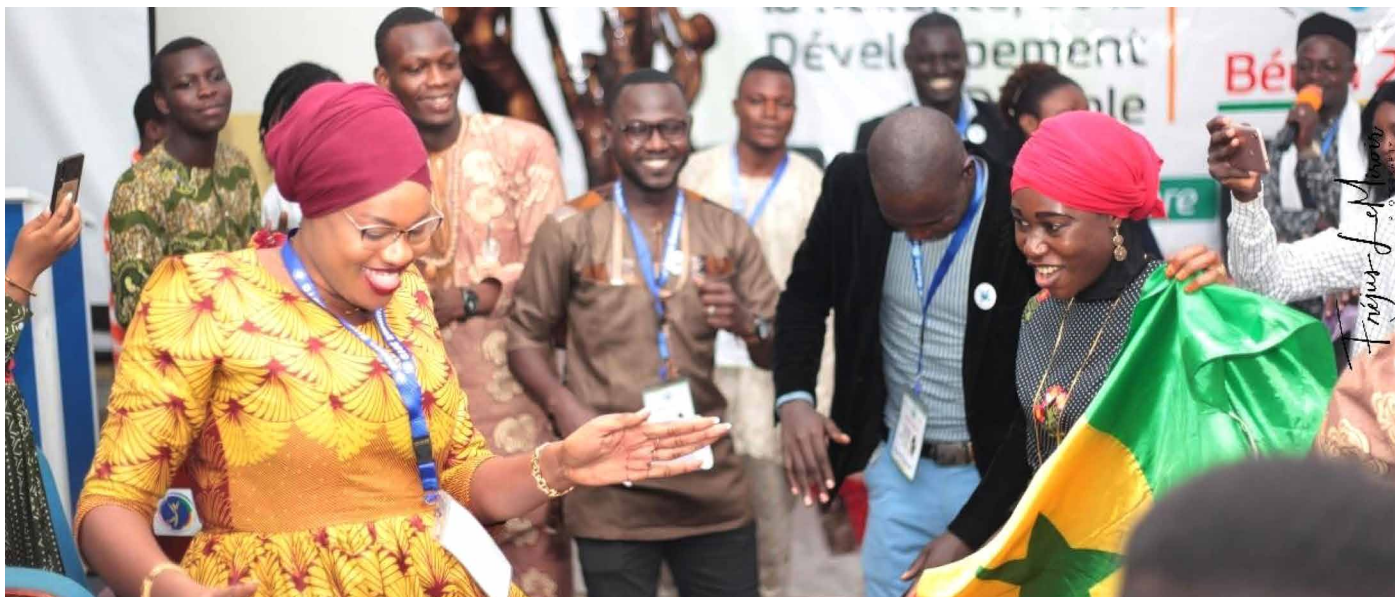


Photo 19: Some images of cultural animation

3.3.. TV shows and Interviews

This activity allowed the Champions to explain the Young Champions for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development program. The Champions highlighted the interest of the program and called on the States and the competent Institutions to provide technical but above all financial support. They outlined some conclusions from the 2019 Benin summit.



Photo 20: Some images of TV shows and Interviews



Photo 21: Cotonou Declaration



3.4. The Declaration of Cotonou: The resolutions of the 3rd season the Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development.

At the end of these three (03) days of capacity building, awareness raising and experience sharing to lay the groundwork for the construction of a strong and solid Africa that shines, but above all Africa at peace :

We, Young Champions aware of the stake which is ours and of our share of responsibility in the building and the maintenance of peace in the world and especially in Africa took unanimous resolutions, breviary of the 3rd summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development which are defined as follows:

1. Recognize the primordial role of youth in the maintenance of peace, security and sustainable development;
2. insist on the need to strengthen the participation of all African countries at the summit for peace, security and sustainable development;
3. integrate questions of Information and Communication Technologies as well as the fight against fakenews (false information);
4. advocate for the involvement of Young Champions in the governing bodies of our respective countries to contribute to the development of public policies in favor of peacekeeping;
5. create a platform for young African journalists for peacekeeping;
6. encourage young people to join decision-making bodies so that they can participate fully in the maintenance of peace and security in Africa;
7. sensitize the States to include civic education in their curricula from kindergarten for a better awareness, for the protection of the environment and the fight against corruption;
8. establish a Council of Young Champions for peace, security and sustainable development whose mission is to promote the ideals of the program;
9. have the program of Young Champions for peace, security and sustainable development accredited to organizations such as, ECOWAS, African Union and United Nations;
10. request technical, institutional and financial support from all States Parties;
11. . award price of peace and tolerance each season to the political, religious and traditional authorities, actors of civil society who are peacemakers, and show tolerance in the organizing country ;
12. have young people recognized as champions of peace in all the countries where the NGO PLANÈTE PAIX is represented;
13. facilitate the involvement of the Country Champions involved in the program in the organization of legislative, and municipal and presidential elections in their respective countries;
14. recognize Young Champions as peace watchers before, during and after elections in each country



4. Appendices



Appendix 1:

Speech of the President of the Organizing Committee of the Benin Summit 2019.

Mister President of the NGO PLANETE PAIX,

Dear Representative of the President of Think Thank the Vigilant Generation,
Mister President of the alumni association, Yali

The Representative of the Young Champions,

Distinguished guests in your respective ranks and grades,

Ladies and gentlemen

I am honored today, Thursday, November 14, 2019 where we are meeting in the conference room of the Center for Documentation and Legal Information of the Court of Appeal of Cotonou as part of the 3rd season of the Young Champions' summit for peace, security and sustainable development, to come to this desk to express to you orally the expression of my depths which means that without you and me, without all of us, the generation of Young Champions cannot to be moved and hatched in the light of dawn. Joy is the expression of the smile that appears on our faces and which lets glimpse the image of a young person aware of the stake that is his.

We come from a distant adventure sometimes strewn with pitfalls, rich in painful and historical memories in essence. It is without comparison that, the third season of this Summit of Young Champions, which takes its source from the experiences of the previous seasons, held in Abidjan in 2017, 2018 is an initiative of the NGO PLANETE PAIX based in Cote d'Ivoire in Abidjan. Indeed, Benin through Think Thank the Vigilant Generation, participated in the 2017 and 2018 editions of this international meeting, the recommendations and reports of which were submitted to the African Union. This remarkable presence of the Beninese delegation in Abidjan in 2018 led to the unanimous choice of our country to host the 2019 edition of the Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development.

This annual three-day program, both theoretical and practical, of capacity-building, awareness-raising and the experience sharing is above all an instrument



of peace, solidarity, living together, democracy and development.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Benin today through the Think Tank Generation of Vigilants has the privilege of hosting thirteen (13) countries including Burkina-Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt, Mali, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Chad, Togo or about fifty foreigners without forgetting ours who came from Djougou, Parakou, Allada, Calavi, Porto-Novo, Cotonou to participate in these three (3) days of reflection on the issues of peace, security and sustainable development. They were welcomed for some from Cardinal Bernardin GANTIN international airport, for others by land for two or three days of travel. This is proof that we come from a distant adventure sometimes strewn with pitfalls, rich in painful and historical memories in essence.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Now is the time for me to thank the organizing committee, which has spared no effort to ensure with passion its role of providing a warm and cordial welcome to all.

We are a chosen generation, young professionals from different backgrounds who have agreed to join forces regardless of our race, gender, religion, ethnicity, culture like the jar of King Guezo, symbol of peace, solidarity, living together and accepting others. In a word, we are champions committed to be *ad vitam aeternam* peacemakers.

Thank you!

God bless us !



Appendix 2:

Speech of the President of Think Tank the Vigilant Generation at the inaugural ceremony of the Summit on Peace, Security and Sustainable Development

Mister President of the NGO PLANÈTE ET PAIX,
Mister President of the Organizing Committee,
Mister President of the Yali Benin alumni association,
Madam the Representative of the Young Champions,
Dear young champions from Africa,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

When we approach the issue of peace, African wisdom and the collective conscience of humanity endorse and promote certain strong ideas. Let me share some with you:

"Peace is not a mere word, it is a behavior"

"Since wars begin in the minds of men and women, the defenses of peace must be erected in the minds of men and women"

We can expose others. But let's bring our minds back to this historic place where we meet, among young people after the edifying experiences of Abidjan. Let's focus on the noble and common cause that brings us together here, we, Young Champions, we, young conscious people of Africa and the World.

Indeed, what brings us together on Beninese soil, the country of Monsignor Isidore De Souza; what mobilizes us here in Cotonou, a piece of Africa, this great,



rich and beautiful continent, this motherland which gave life to humanity and our generation, exceptional personalities: Nelson Mandela, Denis Mukwege, Abiy Ahmed, comes down to this problem: The share of responsibility of the youth in the building and the maintenance of peace worldwide and especially in Africa.

Our wonderful Africa is called to take its place in the concert of the continents where the scene is based on sustainable development. However, this cannot be done without African youth being freed from the chains of debasement and suffering such as unemployment, drugs, new diseases, immigration.

Faced with these challenges, we will take our share of responsibility, here and now. And the process is simple. It starts with deciphering the evils against peace, security and development. So we will reflect, think and take ownership of our ills. Next, we will act with words and actions to resolve our ills.

I strongly invite us to this commitment, dear friends.

It is on these words of empowerment and hope that I wish us a summit full of resolutions and success.

Long live African youth,

Long live peaceful Africa

Long live secure Africa,

Long live sustainable Africa.



Appendix 3

Speech by the Representative of the Young Champions

Mister President of the NGO PLANETE PAIX,
Representative of the President of Think Thank the Vigilant Generation,
Mister President of the Yali alumni association,
Mister President of the Organizing Committee
Distinguished guests in your respective ranks and grades,
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great privilege for me to speak this morning on my own behalf, and on behalf of all the heads of country delegations present here, whom the organizing committee has chosen to call "Country Champions"

First, I would like to express our deep gratitude to the NGO PLANETE PAIX and the Think Thank Vigilant Generation for this opportunity that they offer to African youth to be able to meet in these places to debate on security issues and of course, sustainable development.

We cannot fail to thank you for the special attention that we have received since we came close to Beninese soil.

Ladies and gentlemen

We are here, gathered in these places, because we have only one desire, a dream, a passion: to see Africa where peace reigns, to see Africa where we no longer hear of war, refugees, but to see an Africa taking off. And of course, the link with sustainable development is fairly clearly established. Indeed, imagine a continent



which in a few years will have nearly 2 billion inhabitants, and these souls will of course have to be fed. But this task will not be easy if wheat production in Mali falls due to the scarcity of rain, due to climate change. Or if in Niger the oxen are struggling to grow because they lack grazing. And you know well why young people often find themselves on the streets, because they are hungry ...

In view of all this, it is therefore clear that, at the end of this exchange, we wish to lay the groundwork for the construction of a strong, solid Africa, Africa that shines, but above all Africa in peace.

You have chosen us, from more than ten countries, to be the ambassadors of this event in our different countries. And we are grateful for that. You can be sure, we are not perfect, but we promise to do whatever is possible in order to achieve the goals that are linked to this important mission. Our mission, that is to work in our different countries so that the resolutions taken during this summit are not forgotten, but are really applied in order to create impact. We do believe, that thanks to your advices, and with the grace of God, we will surely make it.

Dear leaders,

Dear Peace Ambassadors

We thank you for believing in Africa

And thanks for all the efforts you put in place daily, in order to make Africa the place to stay.

For your kind attention,

I thank you.



Appendix 4

Speech by the Central President of PLANETE PAIX and CEO of the Young Champions Program.

Madam Anna Diouf, The Technical Advisor in charge of the Young Champions for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development program,

Dear Country Champions,

Madam the Representative of Think Tank the Vigilant Generation

Mister President of the Organizing Committee,

Madam the Representative of the delegations,

Mister Chairman of the Supervisory Board of YALI, I am a fruit of YALI.

Dear journalists, I thank you,.

On my own behalf, on behalf of the Organizing Committee and the Young Champions Program Expert Committee, I salute you.

We are here in this room to take a strong action and as such I listened with admiration to the speeches that preceded me. My sister, who represents the President Erick Houto, quoted President Felix Houphouet Boigny who said: **"Peace is not a mere word, but a behavior"**. Yes, it is because Peace is not a mere word that we are here. The President of the Organizing Committee said that some came by flight, others by land, still others by sea. I was told that there are Nigerian brothers who borrowed canoes to join us. I would like to thank them and this should be welcomed.

Ladies and Gentlemen dear Champions understand that the action we are taking is noble. We are going to take a very simple action. On November 6, 2019, it is an act of solidarity of course, the Semafo gold mine in Burkina Faso was attacked, people died and for that matter I would like us to observe a moment of silence Please.

In 2017, I knew two (02) men. But, two (02) men who showed me their love for Africa, for their Country. Two (02) men who showed me that in reality things do not come about by themselves. But, it is in action that things are born. Wonderful and entrepreneurial people.



The first one, I met him at the Belle Cote hotel. The first one the President Erick Houto who for professional reasons has not been able to be among us. The second one, he will recognize himself. I met him at the Belle Côte hotel. I think that by his brilliant participation, he was given a nickname. Mr. Pacome Affognon, do you remember your nickname?

He got so involved that we call him Think Tank. His name even disappeared.

Whenever he wanted to raise his hand we would shout Think Tank, Think Tank.

He represented his Organization with dignity, thus his country. Yesterday when unanimously we voted for your candidacy for the organization of the summit, we knew that the task was not going to be easy. But, at the same time we knew that in you, I am talking about the whole team, there is a potential. And you have successfully demonstrated that beyond your leadership, you have also a championship.

It was not easy. I watched, I came myself, I saw a lot. Not everything is said in public. However, we would like to thank the authorities of Benin. I ask you to applaud them, to cheer them on. Mr. Tosso from the Ministry of Sports can testify to this. I think in no time; it was yesterday that technically they could, since the administration is cumbersome. The Minister did everything he could to be among us, unfortunately at the last minute, he could not. The Minister of Digital Economy and Digitization would have also been here. But today she has got an activity at the same time.

At 8:46 a.m., 8:46 a.m. on September 11, 2001, an AA aircraft of the American Airline, ripped open the north tower of the Wall Street Center, killing more than 300 people. In total, there were 2,973 deceased from 93 countries. 2973 plus 19 hijacker terrorists who perished in this human monstrosity. Near us, in Burkina Faso since 2015 the France Presse Agency has been able to count more than 600 dead in terrorist attacks, there is Mali. On March 13, 16 people died in the popular district of Grand Bassam. And that same evening, it was claimed by Aqmir. Every year, more than 30 million forests are lost, the size of Italy. The World Bank estimates that by 2050, there will be more than 140 million people who will migrate to flee the effects of climate change, including 86 million in sub-Saharan Africa, 40 million in North Asia and 17 million in Latin America.



If you are asked about the interest or the *raison d'être* of the Young Champions program, you do have Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Champions, dear Champions, the Answer.

It is to be able to make our modest contribution to the effort of Peace, Security and Sustainable Development in our Nations. Today, things are more or less difficult. We will have dear friends meeting this evening with the Country Champions who are 27 in number. You know, in 2018 during an exchange with a Comrade, Marie Bonnefoi, a French citizen, I told her, Marie, we are going to help women to empower themselves. Her response was quick. She said dear friend we help no one to empower himself. Everyone is empowered. In the word empowering, there is idea of taking action by yourself.

If we, young people do not learn to work, to take control of our destiny. If we count on our governments, our rulers, if we count on parents we will always lag far behind.

I don't think we do. Indeed, paying for your flight ticket from Nigeria to Benin, to Cotonou, from Senegal to Cotonou, from Niger to Cotonou, from Togo to here, even if it's the nearest door, it's a part of sacrifice. This indicates our interest in the program. It's together, I say together that we will succeed in the program, we will succeed in making the program sustainable, it's together. I'm going to tell us that at the end of the summit, the Country Champions with their delegations should be able to hold a press conference in their respective countries, officially submit the final report to the authorities of their home countries. This is how the authorities can help you. If you don't give your reports, if you don't make the restitution, and wait until the last moment to go to the ministry of youth or any other institution to ask them for help, they will not give you that. When they see that there is action on the ground, when they see activities that the individuals embodying these institutions will be willing to help you because without action no one will help you. Look in your families, when you are not important no one is interested in you. But as soon as you start working and they see your actions, when they will see the pictures of you from here, people will call you and say to you ***"it seems you've become a very important personality"***.



So dear friends, I am satisfied, tomorrow we are not going to take outsiders, but, the panelists, the panelists will be chosen from among us. We will send the link very soon to those who wish to be panelists so that they can apply. We will send you the information on a daily basis. We are going to create a special WhatsApp group for the summit in order to communicate and share ideas.

It's difficult, but as you know in business, the first asset is human resources. And I know that the youth, this youth if we know how to give them the due role, our States, our continents and the entire world will benefit from that.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

the Technical Advisor in charge of the Young Champions program,

Mister Bienvenu Tosso,

Mister Chairman of the Organizing Committee,

Madam the Representative of Think Tank Génération des Vigilants,

Madam spokesperson of the delegations,

Mister Chairman of the Supervisory Board of YALI,

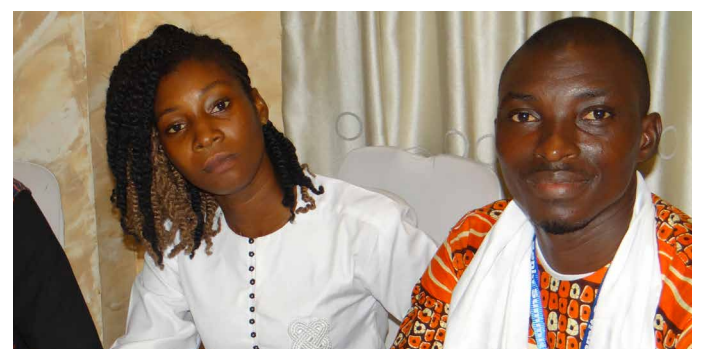
it is in these words that I declare open the third season of the Young Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development.

Thank you.

Appendix 5

Photo album of the concert of peace and tolerance followed by the decorations and the presentation of the painting of the Benin Summit 2019







The 4th Global Champions' Summit for Peace, Security and Sustainable Development



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