



ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES

15th Quadrennial General Conference of African University Leaders (Virtual)

July 5 – 8, 2021

Theme: The Future of Higher Education in Africa

Programme

Monday July 5		
10.30 – 11.00	Link to the Online Conference Open	
11.00 – 13.00	Opening Ceremony	Chair: Prof. Orlando Quilambo (AAU President & Vice Chancellor Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique)
11.00 – 11.25	A. Welcome Remarks (5 minutes each)	
	Welcome Remarks by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AAU Secretary General (Prof. Etienne Ehile) 2. AAU President (Prof. Orlando Quilambo) 3. Hon. Minister of Education of Ghana 4. African Union Commission Representative 5. European Commission Representative 	
11.25 – 11.55	B. Goodwill Messages by Key Partners (2 minutes each)	
	Goodwill Messages by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Education of Egypt 2. Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research of Sudan 3. Association of Arab Universities (AArU) 4. African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES) 5. Association of West African Universities (AWAU) 6. All-Africa Students Union (AASU) 7. Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) 8. European Universities Association (EUA) 9. Global OBREAL 10. Education Sub-Saharan Africa (ESSA) 11. World Bank 	

	12. International Development Research Centre (IDRC) 13. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)	
11.55 – 12.35	<i>C. African Union's & AfDB's Key Interventions (20 minutes each)</i> <u>Topic:</u> Overview of African Union's Agenda 2063 and Its Interventions in Education in the Era of COVID-19 <u>Topic:</u> The Interventions of the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Education in Africa in the era of COVID-19	H.E. Professor Sarah Anyang Agbor (Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology (HRST) African Union Commission (AUC)) H.E. Dr. Akinwumi Adesina (President, AfDB Group)
12.35 – 13.00	<i>D. Official Opening of the 2021 General Conference</i>	
13.00 – 13.30	Group Photograph, Health Break	
13.30 – 14.30	Plenary Session I: AAU Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcement of Conference Bureau Adoption of Conference Programme Announcement of Nominations to the Board Presentation of Secretary-General's Report (2017-2021)	Chair: Prof. Orlando Quilambo (AAU President) Prof. Etienne Ehile (Secretary-General, AAU)
14.30 – 15.30	Plenary Session II: Keynote Presentations (15 mins for each presenter) <u>Topic 1:</u> Higher Education Situation in Ghana: Past, Present, and Future <u>Topic 2:</u> The EU's Contribution to Higher Education in Africa in the era of COVID-19 <u>Topic 3:</u> The Future of Higher Education in Africa Discussions	Chairs: - Prof. Bakri Saeed (AAU Vice President and President, Sudan International University) - Prof. M. El-Mahrasawy, Al-Azhar University President & AAU Governing Board Member Rapporteur: Mrs. Felicia Kuagbedzi Prof. Mohammed Salifu (Director General, Ghana Tertiary Education Commission (GTEC)) Ms. Deirdre Lennan (Directorate-General for Education, Youth and Culture, European Commission) Prof. Paul Zeleza (Vice Chancellor, United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya.
15.30 – 16.30	Plenary Session III: Higher Education Survival in the era of COVID-19 (10 mins for each presenter) Topic 1: AAU Support to African HEIs during COVID-19 pandemic	Chairs: -Prof. N.N.N. Nsowah-Nuamah (AAU Vice President and President, Dominion University College, Ghana) -Prof. Hassan Mohamed H. Kaafi (AAU Board Member and Vice Chancellor Plasma University Somalia) Rapporteur: Ms. Irene Addai Prof. Etienne Ehile, AAU Secretary General

	Topic 2: Enabling Environment for Academic Excellence in Africa in the era of COVID-19	Prof. Olugbemiro Jegede, Founding Vice Chancellor, National Open University of Nigeria / Former AAU Secretary General
	Topic 3: Consequences of COVID-19 for Higher Education in Africa	Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai, Honorary President, International Association of Universities (IAU) / former Secretary-General, AAU / former Vice Chancellor, University of Mauritius
	Topic 4: Perspectives on Academic Survival during COVID-19 in Francophone Africa	Prof. Bertrand Mbatshi, Secretary General, African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES), Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
	Topic 5 on Subtheme 1: The Future of African Higher Education Post-COVID-19.	Prof. Goski Alabi, President, Laweh Open University of Ghana
	Discussion	
16.30 – 17.30	Plenary Session IV: Some Key African Higher Education Initiatives	Chairs: - Prof. Wahab Ezzat (AAU Board Member and Former President, Ain Shams University Cairo, Egypt) - Prof. Brice Sinsin (AAU Board Member and Former Rector University of Abomeyi-Calavi, Benin) Rapporteur: Ms. Millicent Kyei
	Topic 1 on CESA HE Events: Key Messages from CESA Higher Education in Focus Events within HAQAA Initiative (15 minutes)	Ms. Elizabeth Colucci , HAQAA Initiative Director, OBREAL Global, Spain
	Topic 2 on African Quality Assurance Network (AfriQAN) (10 minutes)	Prof. Luisa Maria Chicoke , the President of CNAQ, Mozambique and President of AfriQAN
	Topic 3 on African HE Jobs Board Initiative (15 minutes)	Mr. Frank Asefuah , Association of African Universities, Ghana
	Topic 4 on Promotion of Research, Innovation and Digital Culture in Central Africa (PRICNAC) (10 minutes)	Ms. Aïda SY- WONYU , AUF Regional Director, Cameroon
	DISCUSSION	
Tuesday July 6		
11.00 – 12.00	Plenary Session V: Sustainable Development Goals & Financing Higher Education in Africa (10 minutes for each presenter)	Chairs: - Prof. Olusola Oyewole (Former AAU President and Former Vice Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria) - Prof. Margaret King, Executive Director, Global Institute for Sustainable Development, USA Rapporteur: Dr. Violet Makuku
	Topic 1: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa: Issues and Perspectives	Prof. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Executive Director, African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), Zimbabwe
	Topic 2: Contributions of West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals.	Prof. Moumini Savadogo, Executive Director, WASCAL, Ghana
	Topic 3: Financing Higher Education in Francophone Africa: Challenges and Opportunities	Prof. Juma Shabani, Former UNESCO Director / Directeur de l'école doctorale Université du Burundi

	Topic 4 on Subtheme 3: Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals.	Presenter: Dr. Beatrice Njenga, Former Head of Education Division, African Union Commission / International Consultant
	Topic 5: Subtheme 4: Funding of African Higher Education Institutions in the face of unpredictable Economy.	Presenter: Prof. Peter Okebukola, Former Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission of Nigeria / International Higher Education Consultant/ Council Chair, National Open University of Nigeria)
12.00 – 13.00	Plenary Session VI: Open and Distance Learning in Higher Education in Africa (10 minutes for each presenter)	Chairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prof. Edward Ako (AAU Vice President and Pro-Chancellor of the University of Buea, Cameroon - Prof. Nadia Badrawi, Vice President of ANQAHE, Advisor Board member of CIQG, Chair of the reform of the medical education committee, SCU. Rapporteur: Mrs. Adeline Addy
	Topic 1: Open and Distancing Learning in Africa: The Case of Open University of Tanzania	Presenter: Prof. Elifas Bisanda, AAU Board Member / Vice Chancellor, Open University of Tanzania
	Topic 2: Open and Distancing Learning in Africa: The Case of Cameroon	Presenter: Prof. Nkuo Theresa Akenji, AAU Board Member / Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda, Cameroon
	Topic 3: Open and Distancing Learning in Africa: The Case of Zimbabwe Open University	Presenter: Prof. Paul Gundani, Vice Chancellor, Zimbabwe Open University
	Topic 4: Open and Distancing Learning in Africa: The Case of National Open University of Nigeria	Presenter: Prof. Olufemi Peters, Vice Chancellor, National Open University of Nigeria
	Topic 5: Open and Distancing Learning in Africa: The Case of Arab Open University in Egypt	Presenter: Prof. Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al-Zakri, President, Arab Open University in Egypt
	Topic 6 on Subtheme 5: Mainstreaming e-learning and the digital divide.	Presenter: Prof. Karen Ferreira-Meyers Professor, Eswatini (Swaziland) University
13.00 – 13.30	Health Break	
13.30 – 14.30	<i>Meeting of ‘Friends of AAU’ (by Invitation)</i>	Chair: Prof. Orlando Quilambo (AAU President & Vice Chancellor Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique) Rapporteur: Dr. Sylvia Mkandawire
14.30 – 15.30	Plenary VII: Contributions of the Diaspora to African Higher Education (5 mins for each speaker)	Chair: HE Ambassador Arikana Chihombori Quao, MD Former Permanent Representative of African Union Mission to the USA Rapporteur: Mr. Schenineda Ankomah
	Speech by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Prof. Margaret King, President/CEO, Global Institute of Planning and Sustainable Development, USA (ii) Prof. Nkem Khumbah, University of Michigan, USA (iii) Dr. Norman Fortenberry, Executive Director, American Society for Engineering Education, USA (iv) Prof. Paul Zeleza, Vice Chancellor, United States International University-Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, (v) Prof. Damtew Teferra, Founding Director, International Network for Higher Education in Africa) (vi) Prof. Chux Daniels, Research Fellow in 	

	Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, University of Sussex, United Kingdom	
	Discussion	
Wednesday July 7		
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session I: <i>Presentations on the Conference Subtheme 1: The Future of African Higher Education Post-COVID-19 (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof. Brice Sinsin (AAU Board Member and Former Rector University of Abomeyi-Calavi, Benin) Rapporteur: Mr. Kwesi Sam
	Paper 1: When education goes viral: Triaging challenges and harnessing opportunities from the COVID-19 pandemic	Presenter: Felix K. Donkor
	Paper 2: Students' Re-imaginings of the Future of Higher Education in Cameroon	Presenter: Dr. Mercy Aki Etta , Head of Service for Teaching and Research, Faculty of Education, University of Buea, Cameroon
	Paper 3: Decolonizing Legal Education in Africa: A Systematic Review of the Literature	Presenter: Prof. Dunia Zongwe , Associate Professor in the Department of Legal Studies at Walter Sisulu University, South Africa
	Paper 4: Semi-Synchronous Learning in Post-COVID-19 Era: The Next Level in the Wake of New Normal	Presenter: Dr. Olayinka Yusuf et al., Senior Lecturer, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension Services, Kwara State, University, Nigeria
	Paper 5: Impacts of the Fourth-Industrial Revolution and COVID-19 Pandemic on the Design of Educational Spaces in Universities	Presenter: Ms. Sara W. Hussein et al., Assistant Lecturer at Department of Architecture Engineering, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt.
	Paper 6: Challenging the Future of Higher Education in Africa: Argumentation of Functional Internationalisation Activities	Presenter: Prof. Noel Kufaine , Lecturer, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Department, Namibia University of Science and Technology.
	DISCUSSION	
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session II: <i>Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions to Addressing the Challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof. Bakary Diallo, CEO African Virtual University Rapporteur: Ms. Irene Addai
	Paper 1: Results from a global study: Covid-19 impact on Student Affairs and Services across the globe with focus on Africa: towards a systemic understanding of student success in Africa	Presenter: Dr. Birgit Schreiber et al., Vice President, International Association of Student Affairs and Services (IASAS), Germany
	Paper 2: Knowledge banks as vehicle for development and the role of African HEIs	Presenter: Mr. Abednego Corletey , Senior IT Specialist, Association of African Universities (AAU), Accra, Ghana
	Paper 3: Challenges Faced by Students During the Covid-19 Lockdown: Rethinking the Governance of Higher Education in Cameroon	Presenter: Dr. Sophie Etomes , Lecturer with the University of Buea, Cameroon
	Paper 4: Higher Education Institutions' Contribution to SDGs and the Impact to Education, Research and Economic Development from the Perspective of Ethiopian Universities of Applied Sciences	Presenter: Dr. Margareth Gfrerer , Managing Director of the Ethiopian Institute for Higher Education (EIHE), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
	Paper 5: Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions To Addressing The Challenges Linked to Covid 19 Pandemic	Presenter: Ms. Yeukayi Dzapasi , Lecturer at Harare Institute of Technology in Harare, Zimbabwe.
	Paper 6: Internet à l'école	Presenter: Sanoussi Baahe Dadde
	DISCUSSION	
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session III: <i>Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions to Addressing the Challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic (continued) (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof. Nkuo Theresa Akenji, AAU Board Member / Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda, Cameroon Rapporteur: Ms. Millicent Kyei

	Paper 7: Education and Culture is the Proper Entrance to Africa..! “Green Entrepreneurial Education in Africa”	Presenter: Prof. A. Ead Hamed , Professor of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Cairo University, Egypt
	Paper 8: Review of Empirical Studies on the Efficacy of the Culturo –Techno- Contextual Approach in Breaking Difficulties Related to Studying Concepts within the African Region	Presenter: Dr. Fred Awaah et al. , University of Professional Studies – Accra, Ghana Email: akaphari@yahoo.com
	Paper 9: Framing the Role of Higher Education in Sustainable Development: A Case Study Analysis	Presenter: Suzanna Elmassah
	Paper 10: Challenges Faced By Higher Education Institutions When Migrating From the Traditional To The Digital Classroom During COVID-19	Presenter: Prof. Vannie Naidoo , Academic staff member at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa, in the Faculty of Law & Management studies.
	Paper 11: Enhancing the Contribution of Higher Education in Fourth Industrial Revolution	Presenter: Ndirangu N. Ngunjiri
	Paper 12: Mechanical and Water Absorption Property of Micro-Sisal Fibre Reinforced Waste Low Density Polyethylene Composite	Presenter: Yusuf Adamu
	Paper 13: Molecular Dynamics Study on the Miscibility of Polylactic Acid (PLA) Blends with other Polymers	Presenter: Dr. Stanislas Bigirimana et al., Co-founder Code Empire, Harare, Zimbabwe
	DISCUSSION	
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session IV: <i>Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof. Crispus Kiamba (former Former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Kenya / Former VC, University of Nairobi) Rapporteur: Mrs. Felicia Kuagbedzi
	Paper 1: The Last Digital Frontier: The History and Future of Science and Technology in Africa	Presenter: Mr. Brian Asingia , CEO DreamGalaxy Platform
	Paper 2: Intellectual Property and Knowledge Management in Institutions of Higher Education in Zimbabwe	Presenter: Stanislas Bigirimana
	Paper 3: Advanced Light Sources and Cryo-Electron Microscopes at Africa’s Universities as Centres of Structural Biology and Materials Research for Global Health and Bioeconomics	Presenter: Connell, Simon H. , et al.
	Paper 4: The Psychological impact of COVID-19 change management strategies on working-studying parents	Presenter: Dr. Vongai Ruzungunde et al., A Post-Doctoral Research Fellow In The Department Of English, Social Sciences And Humanities, the University of Fort Hare, Eastern Cape, South Africa
	Paper 5: The Proliferation and Propensity of Publications in Predatory Journals among Academics in Institutions of Higher Education in Ethiopia: Implications for SDG	Presenter: Prof. Mohammed M. Yimer , Vice Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Woldia University, Ethiopia
	Paper 6: Engendering Sustainable Development Competencies in Higher Education: The Case of Egypt	Presenter: Prof. Suzanna ElMassah , Professor of Economics and Finance at Cairo University and Zayed University, Egypt
	DISCUSSION	
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session V: <i>Funding of African Higher Education Institutions in the face of unpredictable Economy (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof. Jane Ngila (Deputy Vice Chancellor- Academic Affairs, Riara University, Nairobi, Kenya) Email: jcngila@riarauniversity.ac.ke Rapporteur: Mrs. Adeline Addy
	Paper 1: Innovative Financing Options for Higher Education in Nigeria: An Alternative in the Face of Unpredictable Economy	Presenter: Prof. Suleiman Mohammed , Vice-Chancellor of Nasarawa State University, Keffi in Nigeria.
	Paper 2: Endowment funds in Zimbabwe state	Presenter: Dr. Lifa Maposa , Senior

	universities- What is the missing link ?	Member of the Department of Finance at the National University of Science & Technology, Zimbabwe
	Paper 3: A Review of Funding Patterns For Higher Education Institutions In Lesotho	Presenter: Dr. Malefetsane Nketekete , Lecturer in the Department of Business and Management Development of the National University of Lesotho.
	DISCUSSION	
11.00 – 13.00	Parallel Session VI: <i>Mainstreaming e-learning and the digital divide (15 mins for each presenter)</i>	Chair: Prof Fadwa Abdelrhman Ali Taha (Vice Chancellor, University of Khartoum, Sudan) Rapporteur: Mr. Peter Kodjie
	Paper 1: A Case for Innovation, Renewal and Mutual Interdependence in African Higher Education Post-COVID-19	Presenter: Prof. Benedicta Egbo , Professor Emeritus of Education at the University of Windsor, Canada
	Paper 2: An assessment of factors contributing to a digital divide in Mainstreaming E Learning in Higher Education, a selected case of a University in Bulawayo Province, Zimbabwe	Presenter: Mr. Andrew Mangena , Computer Science Lecturer at the National University of Science and technology, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
	Paper 3: Leveraging on Technology in Managing Student Affairs	Presenter: Prof. Isaac Zeb-Obipi , Professor of Management, is of the Department of Management, Faculty of Management Sciences of the Rivers State University, Nigeria.
	Paper 4: E-Learning Platform Preferences of Graduate Students of the University of Education, Winneba-Ghana	Presenter: Ms. Rhoda Mahamah et al., Assistant Lecturer, University of Education, Winneba, Ghana
	Paper 5: Using emoticons to reduce transactional distance; navigating the contextual complexities of COVID-19 imposed virtual learning spaces	Presenter: Sindiso Zhou e al.
	Paper 6: Mainstreaming E-learning across the Digital Divide in Africa	Presenter: Mr. Paul T. Elijah et al., Lecturer of Mechanical Engineering in Nigeria Maritime University
	DISCUSSION	
13.00 – 13.30	Health Break	
13.30 – 15.30	Parallel Session VII: Working Group Meeting: To Deliberate and Draft Subtheme Reports	
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 1: <i>The Future of African Higher Education Post-COVID-19</i>	Chair: Prof. Damtew Teferra, Founding Director, International Network for Higher Education in Africa Rapporteur: Mr. Kwesi Sam
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 2: <i>Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions to Addressing the Challenges linked to the COVID-19 pandemic</i>	Chair: Prof. Rosemond Boohene, University of Cape Coast, Ghana Rapporteur: Ms. Irene Addai
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 3: <i>Contributions of African Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) towards Acahieving Sustainable Development Goals</i>	Chair: Prof. Anna Nhampule, Former President, National Council on Quality Assurance in Higher Education (CNAQ), Mozambique) Rapporteur: Mrs. Felicia Kuagbedzi
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 4: <i>Funding of African Higher Education Institutions in the face of unpredictable Economy</i>	Chair: Prof. Amany El-Sharif (Dean Faculty of Pharmacy, Al-Azhar University & Director of AAU North Africa Regional Office (NARO)) Rapporteur: Mrs. Adeline Addy
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 5: <i>Mainstreaming e-learning and the digital divide</i>	Chair: Prof. Jairos Kangira, University of Namibia Rapporteur: Mrs. Ruth Nyarkoh
13.30 – 15.30	Subtheme 6: <i>Contributions of the Diaspora to African</i>	Chair: Prof. Nkem Khumbah, University of

	<i>Higher Education</i>	Michigan, USA Rapporteur: Ms. Millicent Kyei
Thursday July 8		
11.00 – 13.00	Plenary Session VIII: Reports and Working Group Session on Conference Sub-themes	Chair: Prof. Rungano J. Zvobgo (AAU. Governing Board Member/ Vice Chancellor Great Zimbabwe University) Rapporteur: Mrs. Gabby Hansen
	Reports from Various Conference Themes: Parallel Sessions	Rapporteurs
13.00 – 13.30	Health Break	
13.30 – 14.30	Plenary Session IX (Closing Ceremony)	Chair: New AAU President
	Reports from Working Groups	Rapporteurs
	Presentation of the Conference Communique	Rapporteur-General, Nana Prof. Osei Darkwa, Former Vice Chancellor, Ghana Technology University / Jane Addams College of Social Work University of Illinois-Chicago, IL USA
	Official Closing	

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