



# AFRICA CONTINENTAL SUMMIT DECLARATION

## NIAMEY, NIGER 2019

*Building a Peaceful and Prosperous Africa  
Centered on Universal Values*

### WORKING SESSION

#### THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of PARLEMENTARIANS FOR PEACE (IAPP)

The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (AIPP) held its plenary session on Friday, 29 November 2019 at the Nigerian Parliament House, during the Africa Continental Summit held in Niamey in Niger, from November 27-30 to discuss and reflect on:

- IAPP missions: what kind of laws and actions for a reconciled and peaceful Nation and Continent centered on Universal Values;
- The role of parliamentarians for a united, peaceful and prosperous Africa: what kind of laws and actions for reconciliation and peace.

After the welcome address by HE Ousseini Tinni, Speaker of the Niger Parliament, the Secretary General of the Universal Peace Federation Africa, Dr. Patrèn ZINSOU, expressed in his introductory words on behalf of the Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon all his gratitude to the African parliamentarians present in the room. He made a brief presentation of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. An informal institution created for the sake of peace, it brings together former and active parliamentarians. The education and integration of universal values into the training programs promoted by AIPP are the main instruments for achieving lasting peace in our continental sphere.

The Association collaborates with formal institutions established on the African continent (parliaments, regional organizations, governmental and inter-governmental institutions, traditional chiefdoms, NGOs) in their promotion and peace building missions. Its operation is guided by four (4) guiding principles:

- Political neutrality by bringing together parliamentarians beyond any political, national or religious affiliation;
- Promotion of dialogue as the key instrument for conflict resolution;
- Respect for all religions and religious traditions;
- The importance of building healthy, harmonious families as cornerstones of peace, prosperity and patriotism.

During the discussions that followed the introductory speeches, the parliamentarians made a diagnosis of the causes threatening peace in Africa. These causes are many and varied and have as a common denominator poverty, hunger, corruption, ignorance, poor governance, intolerance, rape, marginalization and exclusion of certain social categories, territorial differences, environmental degradation, climate change, lack of communication with the grassroot, etc...

Building peace in Africa necessarily involves finding appropriate solutions to these scourges. In this perspective, Parliamentarians, as now ambassadors for peace, have made several recommendations:

- get closer to the people for raising awareness and educating them about the values of peace;
- cultivate pedagogy of peace through behavior;
- contribute through appropriate legislation to the fight against poverty and hunger in Africa;
- initiate, vote and control laws that promote peace;
- Initiate, vote and monitor laws that guarantee social protection, good governance, inclusion of young people and women in the public sphere;
- strengthen the legislative framework for the fight against corruption;
- initiate a legislative mechanism for an education for all and of quality integrating the issues of morality and citizenship;
- support government institutions in the eradication of poverty, ignorance, political and social violence;
- Value traditional mechanisms of conflict resolution and management;

- promote interreligious and intercommunity dialogue;
- establish parliamentary networks for peace;
- establish a cordial relationship within Parliaments to defend the interests of the people;
- contribute through appropriate legislation to ensure fair, free, equitable and transparent elections;
- work for the promotion of consensual democracy in all states;
- accompany state governments in the implementation of the Free Trade Area Agreement in Africa;
- institute legislation on the management and protection of ecosystems and climate change.

The stated recommendations express the will of the Parliamentarians to establish a true culture of peace by supporting the action of the AIPP.

- initiate, vote and control laws that promote peace;
- Initiate, vote and monitor laws that guarantee social protection, good governance, inclusion of young people and women in the public sphere;
- strengthen the legislative framework for the fight against corruption;
- initiate a legislative mechanism for an education for all and of quality integrating the issues of morality and citizenship;
- support government institutions in the eradication of poverty, ignorance, political and social violence;
- Value traditional mechanisms of conflict resolution and management;
- promote interreligious and intercommunity dialogue;
- establish parliamentary networks for peace;
- establish a cordial relationship within Parliaments to defend the interests of the people;
- contribute through appropriate legislation to ensure fair, free, equitable and transparent elections;

- work for the promotion of consensual democracy in all states;
- accompany state governments in the implementation of the Free Trade Area Agreement in Africa;
- institute legislation on the management and protection of ecosystems and climate change.

The stated recommendations express the will of the Parliamentarians to establish a true culture of peace by supporting the action of the AIPP.