

Africa Webinar: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values

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We conducted our webinar on July 4th, 2020 with the theme "Rebuilding and Renewing our Nations in the Post-Covid 19 World: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values. "

Background: The COVID 19 crisis has created widespread disruption throughout the world. The disruption has not only impacted the lives of those individuals who have been infected, and their families and loved ones, as well as health care workers, but it has also impacted children whose schools have closed, workers who have lost their jobs, companies forced into bankruptcy. The Covid-19 crisis is having broad impact on the geopolitical balance of power as well as the global economy. It is affecting all sectors: religion, government, academia and education, business and the economy, the family, women and youth, the media, and the environment. Some predict an end to the era of globalization and a continued rise in nationalism. Some worry that we are facing a global economic depression. At the same time, there are many who are asking "where do we go from here." Many consider this time as a potential turning point or transformative moment for our world. During this ISCP Summit Webinar we will address and propose solutions and best practices that will lead us forward as one human family, with emphasis on interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.



Panelists:

H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya

H.E. Dr. Julius Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

H.E. Dr. Catherine Samba-Panza, President of the Central African Republic (2014-2016)

H.E. Hery Rajaonarimampianina – President of Madagascar (2014-2018)

Chair: H.E Dr. Goodluck Jonathan, President of Nigeria (2010-2015), Chairman of ISCP Africa

Dr. Thomas Walsh, Chairman of UPF International

Host: Mrs. Katherine Rigney, Chair of UPF Africa

Africa's Covid-19 response much better than rest of world, President Kenyatta says NAIROBI, 5th July 2020 (PSCU). President Uhuru Kenyatta has commended Africa's concerted response to Covid-19 saying measures being implemented by African countries are helping slow down Coronavirus spread. The President said despite limited resources, the continent had rolled out proactive measures that were helping save lives. "Africa has responded to Covid-19 much better than most other parts of the world, particularly when you consider its relatively weaker resource base. "For a continent with 1.2 billion people, we have about 400,000 confirmed cases and just over 10,000 deaths. For comparison, that is about 15% of the cases in the United States and 7% of US deaths," the President said. The Head of State spoke last evening at State House, Nairobi during a webinar on post Covid-19 reconstruction organised by the African chapter of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP-Africa).



ISCP is an international network of current and former Heads of State and Government who use dialogue to address global challenges among them climate change, conflict, poverty and corruption. ISCP-Africa is chaired by former Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan.

President Kenyatta warned against complacency in Africa's Covid-19 response saying, the pandemic is likely to get worse in coming months. "We need to actively prepare for the looming crisis. Let me, however, hasten to add, that there is no room for complacency," the President cautioned. He listed peer learning, data driven decision making, pragmatism and, regular and transparent communication as some of the best practices that will stand Africa in a better position to defeat Coronavirus. Using the example of Kenya, the President said religious leaders are a key actor in containing the spread of Covid-19. He said religious institutions provide critical outreach to vulnerable communities and have an extensive network of faith-based health and education infrastructure that are critical in Covid-19 response. "I am working hand in hand with religious organisations who are influential voices in shaping personal and community responses to Covid-19," the President told the global audience that included former Central African Republic President Dr Catherine Samba-Panzi. Going forward, the President urged African leaders to continue working together, with the support of partners, in crafting interventions that enhance resilience of the continent's vulnerable populations. "We should work in collaboration with our development partners to build capacity for local production of health equipment and to strengthen our local manufacturing capacity more generally," he said.

Dr Samba-Panzi said Africa's response to Covid-19 should give more prominence to women. The former Central African Republic President said women should be given the same prominence as frontline health workers because they play the same role at the household level. Former Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan congratulated the African Union for its leadership in the fight against Covid-19.

Dr Jonathan said the prominent role played by Africa CDC, the Africa Covid-19 Fund and the joint Africa procurement platform in Covid-19 response had demonstrated the continent's potential to overcome its development challenges going forward. And that is what was done by PSCU for media.



PSCU – Presidential Service Communication Unit.

Top 4 media houses captured in prime news. Including the national broadcasting station and all printed and electronic news.

Very much appreciated. Indeed it was great.

We had over 300 Ambassadors for Peace watching, including 6 Governors, 12 members of Parliament, 7 Academicians, more than 30 Religious leaders, many lawyers and corporate Engine captains, and all media houses, including Catholic owned ones.

The webinar was recorded by the Kenya Presidential Service Communication Unit as well as Kenya Broadcasting Corporation of Kenya.

The webinar yesterday was broadcast on two TV stations in Sierra Leone: The Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation [SLBC] and African Young Voices [AYV] Televisions.

Well, Sierra Leone has a population of about 6.6 million people. Those stations are the two major ones. If they have 35% urban population, it means that more than 2 million people saw it.

