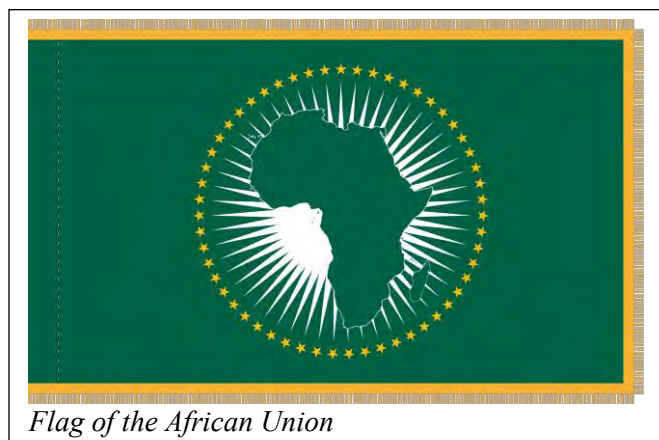


IAPD Africa and the African Union Formalize Partnership with MOU Signing

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Flag of the African Union
capital city of the AU and a symbol of African unity.

In a momentous advancement for interfaith dialogue and cooperation, the Inter-religious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD) Africa and the African Union (AU) have solidified their partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This critical event took place at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in the Caucus Room #14, on April 4th, 2024, at 12:30 PM. The ceremony not only signifies a vital step forward in collaborative efforts for peace and development in Africa but also underscores Addis Ababa's historical significance as the

IAPD Delegation:

- Dr. uZwi-Lezwe RADEBE, IAPD Chairperson.
- Rev. Bakary Camara, Chairman of IAPD Africa.
- Mr. Bhekinhlanhla Derrick Sibisi, President of the Revelation Spiritual Home Church.
- Mrs. Michelle Burrows, Personal Assistant to Rev. Bakary Camara.
- Father Louison Emerick Bissila Mbila, Roman Catholic Church chaplain to the AU.
- Pastor Adane Dechassa, Deputy Director of the Peace Building Department in IRCE (Inter-religious Council of Ethiopia).
- Simon Amare, National Leader of Ethiopia and IAPD liaison officer to the AU.
- Happiness Amare, Deputy Director of WFPW-Ethiopia and wife of the National Leader.

Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (CIDO)/AU Delegation:

- Mrs. Salma El Tanany, Head of CIDO department.
- Mrs. Hazel Maureen Danetta Dixon, CIDO coordinator.
- Mrs. Meseret Fasil, Legal affairs representative.
- Mrs. Yodit Rustom, CIDO Registry office.
- Mr. Begashaw, CIDO facilitator.

The MOU was signed by Dr. uZwi-Lezwe Radebe, Chairperson of IAPD Africa, and Mrs. Salma El Tanany Head of the CIDO department at the AU, marking a joint dedication to fostering peace, development, and spirituality across the continent. The event saw the participation of esteemed delegates from both organizations, including religious leaders, legal representatives, and coordinators, all committed to nurturing a cooperative relationship between IAPD Africa and the AU.



The Journey to the MOU:

The path to signing the MOU began earnestly after the 2017 WORLD SUMMIT in Seoul, Korea, where the IAPD Resolution was endorsed by religious leaders. Since then, IAPD Africa has tirelessly pursued engagement with the AU, a mission embodied by Fr. LOUISON Emerick and Pastor Adane DECHASSA, who were tasked with sharing the IAPD's vision and mission with AU officials. Despite challenges encountered since the initiative's inception post-COVID-19 in 2021, the successful signing of the MOU is a testament to the perseverance and faith of all involved. It is believed that the spiritual support from the Heavenly Parent and the guidance of the True Mother, who has liberated many

African spirits in her endeavors, played a crucial role in overcoming these obstacles.

Looking Forward:

Moving forward, True Mother aims to acquaint a third of the world's population with the teachings and missions of the True Parents by 2027, with a particular focus on leveraging Africa's pivotal role in achieving this vision. This MOU represents not only a practical agreement between IAPD Africa and the AU but also symbolizes a deeper spiritual reconciliation and unity of purpose. It opens doors for African leaders to engage with and benefit from the spiritual guidance of the Unification movement, positioning IAPD to serve as the moral and spiritual conscience of the AU. This partnership between IAPD Africa and the African Union, underscored by the signing of the MOU, is a meaningful offering to the Heavenly Parent and the True Parents, marking a significant milestone in the journey towards peace and spiritual development across Africa.