



African Union Commission (AUC) today 25th May 2023, at its Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Organization of the African Unity (OAU) and the subsequent formation of the African Union (AU). The Africa Day which is being observed by all Africans in the continent and the Diaspora, was an opportunity for the AU to pay tribute to the Founding Fathers and Mothers of the OAU/AU for the huge strides they made to achieve sovereignty across the African continent, as well as the decision adopted by African

Heads of State and Government to transition from the OAU to the AU, as issued in the Sirte Declaration in Libya in 1999 which called for the establishment of an African Union, with the aim of accelerating the process of continental integration among others.

The commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the OAU-AU is a milestone that vividly portrays the continent's commitment to solidarity, peace, security, and economic integration. Worth recalling that, the OAU was established on 25 May 1963 in the Ethiopian capital

Addis Ababa, to promote unity and solidarity between African states and to contribute to the economic, social, and political development of the continent, among others. 60 years on, it has been notable in its role of fostering collective action, with the enshrining of common values and the collaboration between African nations.

The celebrations at the AU headquarters took place in the presence of H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Azali Assoumani, President of the Union of Comoros and Chairperson of the African Union H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AUC, H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson of the AUC, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, former Chairperson of the AU Commission, AU Commissioners, Members of the Permanent Representative Committee, AUC staff and their families, Representatives from AU Organs and RECs, the media and invited guests.

In his welcoming remarks, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the AU Commission, said May 25, is a very important day in the history of Africa as it honours the vision and pan-Africanism of the Founding Members of the OAU-AU which laid the groundwork for the African renaissance and its socio economic and political development. The AUC Chairperson noted that

“we have good reasons during this celebration of the 60th anniversary of the OAU to meditate and communion in solidarity with our brothers and sisters who have been forced to internal displacement or exile due to different conflicts in the continent”.

(See complete speech of AUC Chairperson on the AU website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int))

(See complete speech of PM Abiy on the AU website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int))

(See complete speech of the Chair of the AU, President Azali Assoumani, on the AU website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int))

Other events which took place during the celebrations included Honouring the OAU founders Fathers, Planting trees to mark the 60th Anniversary, Exhibitions, various games and activities for children and Cultural evening.

### Background

In May 1963, 32 Heads of independent African States met in Addis Ababa Ethiopia to sign the Charter creating Africa's first post-independence continental institution with the main objectives to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonisation and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity amongst African States; to coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States and to promote international cooperation. Among others.

## Youth Month: Digital economy careers under spotlight

Career opportunities existing in the digital economy will come under the spotlight as the country kicks off the 2023 Youth Month celebrations. The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), together with government departments, will lead a month-long programme of activities to be hosted in various provinces in celebration of Youth Month 2023.

The NYDA, under the stewardship of the Department of Women, Youth, and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) - in partnership with the Department of Sports, Arts, and Culture - launched the Youth Month 2023 activities in Soweto on Thursday. NYDA board executive chairperson, Asanda Luwaca, said this year's Youth Month activities seek to present opportunities available to young people through showcasing those, dialogues and celebrating young change makers.

The 2023 Youth Month will be celebrated under the theme, 'Accelerating youth economic emancipation for a sustainable future'. Luwaca said the agency

will help to expose careers, with the focus being on opportunities in the digital economy.

Highlighting some of the activities planned for the month, Luwaca said the agency will launch the Youth in Business competition in Limpopo, which will be similar to the Dragons' Den, where youth in businesses will be given a 60-second pitch. The winning pitch will be awarded R50 000, with the second and third prize being awarded R30 000 and R10 000, respectively.

“We also have young people who want to advance themselves in the spaces of higher education. We will be embarking on a hotline platform, where we will assist Grade 10 and 11 learners to capacitate them to be ready for the 2024 academic year. “We have partnered with NSFAS [National Student Financial Aid Scheme], the relevant departments and private entities that have bursary opportunities, and institutions of higher learning on how young people can apply, and what courses they have available that are linked to the economy of the future,” Luwaca

said. The agency will also have a State of Youth Affairs dialogue in the Free State and various activations, including a career opportunities expo. “On 16 June, we are officially launching Youth Month with a career opportunities expo.

We will also be launching various partnerships that we have been able to solicitate. “The month of July will be the BRICS Summit, so we will host the BRICS Youth Summit, which will be announced at a media briefing towards the end of June,” Luwaca said.

### 40 under 40 Awards

Luwaca has encouraged young people, who are in the innovation space, to either apply for themselves or nominate a young person who they think deserves or should be getting the necessary recognition for the 40 under 40 Awards.

The 40 under 40 Awards aim to identify, honour and celebrate a cross-section of the nation's most influential and accomplished young business leaders under the age of 40 from a wide range of industries.

“We are launching the 40 under 40 Awards, in partnership with the DWYPD to ensure that those young people that are doing great and innovative work in their respective cities are profiled and given the

necessary exposure,” Luwaca said. The nominations for the 40 under 40 Awards opened on 3 May and will close on 16 June 2023.

Nominations can be placed on the awards website:

[www.fortyunder40awards.co.za](http://www.fortyunder40awards.co.za).

– **SAnews.gov.za**

**FOR BOOKING CONTACT:**  
**CELL: 072 079 6796**  
**EMAIL: [jokubeka@yahoo.com](mailto:jokubeka@yahoo.com)**  
**Facebook: JOK Inspirational Pty Ltd**  
**Instagram: [jokinspirationalptyltd](https://www.instagram.com/jokinspirationalptyltd)**  
**Twitter: [JOK@LTD](https://twitter.com/JOK@LTD)**




**LIKE/FOLLOW US**

call or whatsapp  **071 909 2442**  
**073 709 9598**

**Address**  
 23 Ngodiso Business Centre  
 Zampela  
 Sasolburg

**“Car Magnet Special”**



**R125 each**

**HERBALIFE**  
 Independent Distributor  
 (555) 555-5555  
 your.web.com/or email address

**Full color print**