



2022 IOPD AFRICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ASSEMBLY

SUMMARY REPORT

February 2022

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD) is a space open to cities and human settlements, international, national and local institutions and organizations, universities and research centers wishing to know, exchange or deepen reflection on democracy, participatory action at the local level with the aim of improving democracy and local governance. Its global headquarters are in Barcelona and the IOPD works in collaboration with UCLG, Metropolis and different international institutions.

The Coordination for Africa of the International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (OIDP Africa) was launched on December 7, 2012 in Dakar, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Regional Planning and Local Authorities of SENEGAL, the Director of Programs of UN Habitat (Nairobi-KENYA), the Secretary General of the International Observatory (Barcelona-SPAIN), the President of the Union of Associations of Local Elected Officials (UAEL) of SENEGAL and in the presence of 156 participants from 13 countries from Africa.

By resolution of the 19th General Assembly of the IOPD in Mexico City, the IOPD Africa has undertaken to revitalize the bodies by appointing political representatives (Presidents and Vice-Presidents) for the 5 sub-regions (Southern Africa, Central Africa, East Africa, North Africa and West Africa) and the choice of sub-regional Focal Points (operational bodies): Civil Society Organizations.

Following a long consultation process, the sub-regional caucuses were held during the year 2021, and made it possible to arrive at a consensual choice of two local elected officials in each sub-region of Africa, assuming the role of President (e) and Vice-President of the sub -region . To finalize this implementation and define the prospects for collaboration, the IOPD Africa organized the General Assembly which allowed the installation of its board of directors which brings together the local authorities designated during the caucuses, as well as various actors of civil society, academics and state representatives.

The meeting of the assembly was held on **Thursday February 17, 2022 at 10 a.m. GMT** on Zoom. About sixty participants from 10 countries (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Spain, Ethiopia, France, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, DR Congo, Senegal).

The meeting began with greetings from Mr. Bachir Kanouté to the invited personalities, board members and session participants. He then proceeded to a framing of the session by setting out the agenda, but also by presenting the context of the creation of the IOPD, the launch of the African coordination, the objectives and the panorama of the countries. After this brief context, Mr. KANOUTE introduced the various personalities attending the webinar, before giving way to the official opening speeches.

1. OPENING OF THE WORKS

The first speech was delivered by **Mr Éric PIOLLE**, Mayor of Grenoble and President of the IOPD. Mr. PIOLLE welcomed the new members of the IOPD Board of Directors and focused his speech on the content of the next IOPD conference, which will be held from December 7 to 10, 2022 in the city of Grenoble, in France, the theme of which will be "Democracy in Action". More specifically, three (3) major themes will be the subject of the conference, namely i)

ecological transition and climate challenge, ii) social justice and fight against inequalities and finally iii) the issue of youth. .

The Mayor closed his speech by announcing that Grenoble had been chosen to embody the Green Capital of the European Union in 2022 (label which will allow it to expand its actions in favor of the environment) and that the closing ceremony will coincide with the 21st IOPD Conference.

Speaking afterwards, **Mr. Issaka Garba ABDOU**, Coordinator of the Secretariat of Specialized Technical Committee No. 8 of the African Union, welcomed the initiative, because the actions of IOPD Africa are aligned with the prospects of the African Union, in link with the implementation of the African Charter of Values, Principles and Standards of Decentralization and Local Governance. He also mentions possible collaboration, in particular the joint conduct of advocacy activities in favor of the signing of the Charter, which requires a certain number of ratifications for its effective implementation. As a line of collaboration, Mr. ABDOU also returns to the possibility of working within the framework of the establishment of the High Council of Local Governments of the African Union. Mr. ABDOU ended his speech, wishing a happy follow-up to this new collaboration.

In his speech, **Dr. Adama DIOUF**, Minister Counselor and President of the Union of Associations of Local Elected Representatives, argues that spaces like the IOPD are frameworks that local development actors need very much. He also spoke about the issue of participation, which is an institutional principle of the General Code of Local Governments in Senegal and the importance of giving substance to this principle.

Dr. DIOUF finally mentioned the importance of advocacy in favor of decentralization policies, in particular by identifying their strengths and weaknesses. Dr. DIOUF closed his speech by reiterating his commitment to this collaboration which he wishes to be fruitful.

Mrs. Aminata Mbengue NDIAYE, President of the High Council of Local Governments of Senegal, began her speech by welcoming the audience, but also by expressing her joy at having been invited to the assembly of IOPD Africa and by congratulating the work in favor of local governments. Mrs. NDIAYE then shared various experiences that she implemented during her long career as Mayor, focusing in particular on equity in local governance in collaboration with UNDP and UN Women, on citizen control, schooling girls implemented by women teachers and the employment of young people, particularly in the cleaning sector.

She then closed her speech by presenting the missions of the High Council, in particular the implementation, development and evaluation of all decentralization, local development and land-use planning policies, the success of which is guaranteed only by a good link between participatory democracy and representative democracy.

2. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the end of the opening speeches, Mr. KANOUTE presented the structure of the Board of Directors of IOPD Africa, whose composition is as follows:

The General Assembly: All members of IOPD Africa

Composition of the Board of Directors: 12 members:

- 5 local elected representatives from the sub-regions of Africa
- 3 Civil Society representatives and strategic partners
- 1 University Professor,
- 1 Representative STC n°8 of the African Union
- 1 Development Partners Representative,
- IOPD Africa Coordinator (*Board Secretariat*)



The members of the Board of Directors were introduced and each was given the floor to briefly introduce themselves, present their biography, in particular their current position, their previous experiences, the major initiatives they participated in, but also their academic background and the certifications they have obtained.

1) Local elected officials representing the sub-regions

- **Southern Africa:** Mr. Calisto COSSA, Mayor of the Municipal Council of Matola,
MOZAMBIQUE
- **Central Africa:** Mrs. Monique AYI, Mayor of Dzeng , CAMEROON
- **East Africa:** Mrs. Rondro ANDRIAMAHASORO, Mayor of Ampasy Nahampoana , MADAGASCAR
- **North Africa:** Mr. Mohamed SEFIANI, Mayor of the Municipality of Chefchaouen, MOROCCO
- **West Africa:** Jean Marc YACE, Mayor of Cocody, COTE D'IVOIRE

2) Civil Society Representative

- Mrs. Espérance MWAMIKAZI, Coordinator of the Association APEF (Action for Children and Women), DR CONGO,
- Mr. Ousseynou NGOM, Program Manager at Hewlett Foundation , AFRICA
- Mrs. SY Mame Aïssatou, Program Officer at Enda ECOPOP, SENEGAL

3) Development Partners Representative

- Mr. Oumar SYLLA, Director for Africa, UN Habitat

4) Representative of Universities

- University representative (to be finalized)

5) Representative of States

- Representative of the Ministry of Local Development, (to be finalized)

6) IOPD Africa Coordination

- Mr. Bachir KANOUTE, Coordinator of IOPD Africa

Mr. Oumar SYLLA, Director for Africa, UN Habitat and representative of development partners could not attend, due to unstable connectivity from Bangui where he was on mission. The representative of the University of Witts and that of the Ministry of Local Development of Egypt could not be presented, because the process of appointment is in progress. They are granted a period of time until March 15 for designation or replacement.

3. THE STRUCTURE OF THE IOPD AFRICA STATUTES

The statutes and various texts having been sent to all the members, it was a question, during this meeting, of collecting the observations and suggestions on the texts. Previously, a presentation of the structure of the statutes was made to the assembly. The 14 articles of the statute were presented and adopted.

Structure of the statutes of IOPD Africa

Preamble

Article 1: Purpose of IOPD Africa

Article 2: Headquarters and language of IOPD-Africa

Article 3: Values and principles of the observatory

Article 4: Object and purpose of the Observatory

Section 5: Membership

5.1 - Associate Members

5.2 - Collaborating Members

5.3 - Honorary Members

Article 6: Rights and Obligations of Members

Article 7: Membership and loss of membership

Article 8: Membership fees

Structure of the statutes of the IOPD Africa (continued)

Article 9: Governance Structure

9.1: The General Assembly

9.2: The Board of Directors (BoD)

Article 10: Presidency

Article 11: Executive Board or Executive Coordination

Article 12: General Financial Provisions

Article 13: Legal Power and Character of IOPD-Africa

Article 14: Regulations

4. THE IOPD AFRICA ACTIONS PLATFORM

IOPD AFRICA PLATFORM www.oidp-afrigue.org

TERRITORIES

- Country overview
- Local Govts. Profile
- Participatory Democracy Index (IDP)

KNOWLEDGE

- Thematic discussion
- Watch and alert
- Good practices
- Local Leadership Award

RESOURCES

- Skills directories
- Documentary
- Photo/Video Library
- Media library

CAPACITIES

- Training (*distance / F2F*)
- Webinars
- International Conference
- Postgraduate research grant

The presentation of the action platform of the IOPD Africa (www.oidp-afrigue.org) gave a glimpse of the 4 main lines of action and intervention of the IOPD Africa:

- 1) **Territories** : this axis brings together the panorama of the member countries of the IOPD Africa, the presentation of the profile of the African local governments which practice the

participatory budget, but also the Participatory Democracy Index (being developed with IOPD World), and which aims to assess the quality of participatory democracy in countries.

- 2) **Resources** : this axis presents the directory of experts who have been trained and accredited on the training themes offered by IOPD Africa, but also documentary resources (documents and teaching materials), photos and videos.
- 3) **Knowledge** : the "Knowledge" axis brings together thematic discussions, such as the consultations on the management of the COVID-19 pandemic held in 2020, monitoring and alerts to identify good and bad practices in participatory democracy and the Local Leadership Excellence Awards, which rewards best practices and innovations in local governance.
- 4) **Capacities** : the 4th axis includes training (online and face-to-face) provided by IOPD Africa, webinars, international conferences, but also the postgraduate research grant granted to researchers working on one of the themes of participatory democracy.

5. IOPD AFRICA 2020 – 2021 MANAGEMENT REPORT

The IOPD Africa 2020-2021 management report was presented to the audience by the Mr. KANOUTE, more specifically the key activities of the two exercises. It's about :

- Consultations on the " **Management of the Coronavirus pandemic in Africa: the response of cities and territories** ", which aimed to share and reflect on the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic in the continent, through the lived experiences, impacts (on local development, democracy and citizen participation) and resilience strategies;
- From the training session on local economic development held from March 3 to 13, 2020 in Tunis. It was also on this occasion that the framework partnership agreement was signed between enda ECOPOP (IOPD focal point in Africa) and the Center for Training and Support for Decentralization (CFAD) in Tunisia;
- From the 3rd Edition of the Local Leadership Excellence Award. This edition was held in digital format, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the digital format has on the other hand made it possible to gain in audience since it recorded the participation of people located outside Senegal;
- The establishment of the Political Bodies of the IOPD Africa, which was held in 5 sub-regional caucuses, which made it possible to designate successively the elected representatives for West, North, Central, East and finally Southern Africa. These consultations were also an opportunity to launch calls for applications for operational bodies.

1- West Africa (March 30, 2021)

- Jean-Marc YACE, Mayor of Cocody, COTE D'IVOIRE
- Mr. Baba NDIAYE, President of Kaolack DC, SENEGAL

2- North Africa (April 13, 2021)

- Mr. Mohamed SEFIANI, Mayor of Chefchaouen, MOROCCO
- Mrs. Imen OUARDANI, Deputy Mayor of Sousse, TUNISIA

3- Central Africa (April 27, 2021)

- Mrs. Monique AYI, Mayor of Dzeng, CAMEROON
- Mr. Ghilsain NGUIMBI, Mayor Dolisie, REP. CONGO

4- East Africa (June 8, 2021)

- Mrs. Rondro ANDRIAMAHASORO, Mayor of Ampasy, MADAGASCAR
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5- Southern Africa (July 15, 2021)

- Mr. Calisto COSSA, Mayor of Matola, MOZAMBIQUE
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Bachir Kanoute



- From the training session on the preparation and financing of investment projects, which took place from November 24 to December 16, 2020 at the International Center for the Training of Authorities and Leaders (CIFAL) of the City of Dakar;
- Training in advocacy for civil society actors for Togo's accession to OGP, which was held from August 18 to 20, 2021 at the Agora Senghor in Lomé, and which was implemented by the NGO "Support for Development and Community Health" (ADESCO), with the support of partners Expertise France, CFI Développement Médias and the French Development Agency (AFD);
- Training of facilitators on the guide for citizen participation and engagement in local public management in Mali, held in December 2021 in Bamako, at the General Directorate of Territorial Collectivities (DGCT) and in collaboration with the Ministry of Administration Territorial and Decentralization of Mali, the Mali Office of Swiss Cooperation and the Network "Succeeding Decentralization in Mali".

6. 2022-2023 ROADMAP

After the presentation of the management report, Mr. KANOUTE declined the content of the 2022-2023 roadmap of IOPD Africa. These include:

- The call for applications for the Presidency of IOPD Africa and the organization of the "Assises de la Démocratie Participatif 2023";
- From the 9th AFRICITES Summit, to be held from May 17 to 21, 2022 in Kisumu, Kenya, where IOPD Africa will participate in a networking workshop;
- From the World Urban Forum, which will take place from June 26 to 30, 2022, in Katowice, Poland, during which OIDP Africa will also participate in a networking workshop;
- From the meeting of the Board of Directors for the selection of the City which will ensure the Presidency of IOPD Africa and the organization of the next conference. The meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2022 at 10 a.m. GMT;
- The establishment of working groups for the development of the Quality Index of Participatory Democracy (IDP), in collaboration with IOPD World;
- The finalization of the installation of sub-regional and national focal points;
- The signing of the 2021-2026 cooperation frameworks (sub-regions and countries).
- The organization of 4 international training sessions on the themes of Participatory Budgeting, Local Leadership, Local Economic Development, and Prevention and Fight against Corruption.
- Operational guidelines:
 - Update of the panorama of the 30 member countries of the IOPD Africa,

- Updating the profiles of member local governments,
- Organization of 3 thematic discussion forums,
- Organization of the Local Leadership Excellence Award in Senegal but also in Africa, in collaboration with the African Union

7. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF IOPD AFRICA

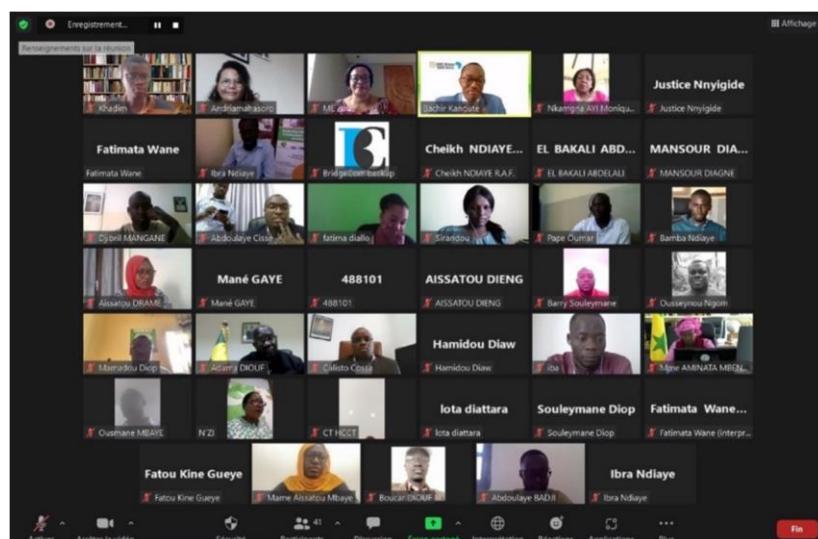
The Coordinator shared the call for applications to hold the Presidency of IOPD Africa and host the 2023 Conference. He presented the general context of the call, the eligibility criteria for cities and local governments wishing to apply, the content of the application as well as the deadline for receipt. He also presented the format for designating the city, which will be done during the meeting of the Board of Directors, scheduled for August 10, 2022, and finally, the commitments of the city chosen for the organization of the conference and designated President of IOPD Africa for a period of two years.

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERIM PRESIDENT OF IOPD AFRICA

The presentation of the call for candidates then gave way to the designation of the city that will hold the interim presidency of IOPD Africa, until the designation in August of the President of IOPD Africa. Following the exchanges, the Municipality of Cocody was designated. Mrs. Odette N'ZI, Municipal Councilor, representative of the Mayor, confirmed the acceptance of the Municipality to assume the presidency.

9. CLOSING

After Mr. KANOUTE's thanks to the eminent personalities and participants attending the Installation Assembly, the closing speeches of the President of the High Council of Territorial Communities and the Representative of the Mayor of Cocody, appointed Interim President of IOPD Africa, ended the meeting at 12:33 p.m.



You can watch the entire session here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cm090TkElbI&t=2s&ab_channel=EndaEcopop