



**COMMON AFRICAN POSITION (CAP)
ON RESTITUTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES
3rd DRAFT**

INTRODUCTION

Restitution of African heritage resources including from museums in Europe and North America as a subject of debate can be traced as far back as the colonial period as well as after independence. The question of restitution of these resources has become a major topic of discussion and concern for Africa and Africans.

The African continent has lost huge amounts of its heritage resources plundered during colonialism and through ongoing illicit trade and these resources are still held outside. These resources were illicitly acquired and or stolen from individuals, custodians, communities, ethnic groups among others. Owing to the importance of these heritage resources to the people, it is necessary to reconstitute the same.

The heritage resources here refer to all illicitly held heritage resources that are in museums, cultural institutions, and private collections. They also include what is presently called 'collections' such as archaeological and paleontological collections, human remains, libraries and archives, objects, and any other specimens under claim.

Despite past initiatives, the rate of restitution of Africa heritage resources has been minimal. Even when and where this has been possible, it has mainly been fraught with resistance and excuses from those holding the illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources.

African independence leaders and leaders from the diaspora as early as the 1950s and 60s, called for the restitution of Africa heritage resources illicitly acquired and or stolen during colonial times. Kwame Nkrumah observed in 1962, independence and true decolonization could only be achieved if and when the scars of the past were healed including by returning of heritage and freedom of the people.

African scholars and professionals have also championed the call for restitution of the heritage resources and the recognition of Africa's central role to the development of human societies. In 1978, the then Director General of UNESCO Amadou Makhtar Mbaw, made a passionate appeal stating that, *one of the noblest incarnations of a people's genius is its cultural heritage built over centuries and people have been robbed of this priceless portion of inheritance in which their enduring identity finds its embodiment...*

The restitution of Africa's heritage resources has been a matter of concern to the AU. The **Charter for African Cultural Renaissance (2006)** called on African States to end illicit trafficking of African cultural property and ensure the return of all illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources to the continent. The **African Union Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Property and Heritage (2022)** supports the process of protection and restitution of Africa's illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources. In this light, it has gone as far as welcoming sub-regional initiatives such as the adoption of **2019-2023 Regional Action Plan for the Return of the Cultural Property to their Countries of Origin** by the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in December 2019.

This Common African Position (CAP) on Restitution of Heritage Resources sets out the recommended measures and actions required to effectively address the continuous loss of African heritage resources including human remains. Further, to identify, recover and manage heritage resources that are in, or recovered from, foreign jurisdictions, in a manner that respects the development priorities and sovereignty of Member States. The CAP aligns with the spirit of the international normative instruments that guide heritage resources acquisition, protection, restitution and promotion.

CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION

Africa's major interaction with the larger global community was intensified with the arrival of Europeans on the continent, culminating into military expeditions, forceful annexations, physical occupation of lands and exploitation of its resources. The clamour for Africa peaked with the **Berlin Conference of 1884-85**, where European nations apportioned parts of the continent to themselves. In the years before and after this partition of Africa, heritage resources were illicitly acquired, possessed, plundered, pillaged and trafficked away from the continent. Even, today, heritage resources both undiscovered and in Museums continue to be illicitly removed and trafficked from the continent.

Through the Organization of African Unity, and later, the African Union, the continent has always taken a firm stand on issues relating to the restitution of heritage resources. The **Cultural Charter of Africa (1976)**, in its Article 28, states that: *"African States should take steps to put an end to the despoilation of African cultural property and ensure that cultural assets, in particular archives, works of art and archaeological objects, which have been removed from Africa are returned there. To this end, they should in particular, support the efforts exerted by UNESCO and take all other necessary steps to ensure the implementation of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the re-institution of works of art removed to their countries of origin."*

From the 2000s, there have been intensified calls and responses towards restitution of heritage resources to Africa. This renewed interest and commitment demonstrates a new wave of global awareness of the need to redress and retribute illicitly acquired and or stolen African heritage resources. In recent times, a few individuals and nations from Europe and the United States of America have heeded the call to retribute heritage resources back to Africa. In October 2017, President Emmanuel Macron of France initiated a change of cultural policy and pledged *"the temporary or definitive restitution of African cultural heritage to Africa."*

Public opinion in nations which have hitherto resisted the idea of restitution have begun to shift and Africa encourages and supports the momentum. Greece and Korea have also amplified the call for restitution of heritage resources to their respective countries. The General Assembly of the United Nations has consistently called for restitution of heritage resources to countries of origin since the 1960s, the most recent being its unanimous vote in December 2021 to support the *"return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin"* and called on Member States to mobilize for the return of illicitly acquired and or stolen cultural treasures.

While there are few evidences of successful restitution across Member States, these have come largely by individual benevolence and or bilateral and or multilateral agreements, often hedged in unfavourable conditions. The process of restitution has faced continuing challenges. Diversity of global legal frameworks and shortcomings of International Laws have impeded progress of restitution. For instance, the **1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property** helped to champion the case for restitution but was limited by its non-retroactive clause. All illicitly acquired objects need to be restituted irrespective of the provision of non-retroactivity. The high cost of litigation, especially in foreign courts, have further inhibited success of restitution efforts.

The African Union study on **the Establishment of the On-going Cooperation Activities Between European Union and Africa with Regard to Cultural Goods (2014)** enumerated reasons why African heritage resources are important:

- Cultural Heritage resources are important to the identity of nations. The removal of these heritage resources from their places of origin distorts history and causes irreparable damage to the cultures and ultimately results in loss of identity of the communities;
- Many of the heritage resources that need to be restituted were taken in historically dehumanizing situations. The military expeditions and forceful removal of the heritage resources often accompanied by the loss of lives and liberty of the original owners. It therefore becomes a matter of honour and dignity to have them returned to their places of origin; and
- Most of the heritage resources illicitly kept and exhibited elsewhere have been misinterpreted, misrepresented, mistreated or misused for either lack of proper information or discrediting the purpose of creation and existence of such objects hence the need for provenance research on the restituted objects to establish the correct information about the objects and the subsequent handling of the heritage resources.

African heritage resources have inspired many artists in Europe, America and other continents for centuries. In the words of Felwine Sarr *“Everyone knows African art inspires Europeans and Westerners. Young Africans need to get inspired by it, too.”* The growing economic value of heritage resources in the international market and the burgeoning financial flows driven by e-marketing propel illicit trade and continually frustrates attempts at restitution.

Many African communities relied on oral culture for the transmission and dissemination of knowledge. Heritage resources are key aspects and outputs of African knowledge. Their return is therefore essential for the reconstruction of knowledge. Heritage resources of a community express their intellectual, technological and educational contributions to human civilization.

The process of the creation of these resources provides the basis for intergroup relations, integration and social inclusion. The continued existences of these heritage resources within their context reinforce the bonds of peace and security, diversity,

unity, economic development and collective existence. Consequently, their removal triggers avoidable conflicts and insecurity evidenced in some countries in Africa.

Heritage resources have always provided economic value and empowerment for their communities of origin. The continued presence of heritage resources boosts local economies and invite tourists from across the world. Conversely, the pillage of these resources results in loss of livelihoods and attendant forced migration from such communities. The restituted heritage would be returned to the originating communities and or exhibited in African museums and galleries, inspire diverse cultural tourism products that would boost museum visitors' experiences, resulting in increased revenue generation.

Further, mechanisms to transfer restituted objects to their communities of origin for appropriate storage and or disposal in accordance with respective cultures are guaranteed. The African Union, in partnership with the Government of Algeria through **the Great Museum of Africa (GMA)** and other Pan-African Museums have structures in place for preserving, promoting and showcasing restituted heritage resources.

The African Union, therefore affirms that heritage resources, as part of culture, define people's wellbeing, shared values and aspirations towards economic development and poverty eradication. Bearing on the above, the restitution of African heritage resources remains a top priority for Africa. Restitution is requisite to assist Africa in her ongoing process of redefining her future in line with the aspirations of **AU Agenda 2063**.

PREAMBLE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union

REAFFIRMING our commitment to the **Constitutive Act (2000)**, which requires Member States to achieve greater unity and solidarity between African countries and the peoples of Africa, to accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent, promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples;

NOTING that our aspiration, through the **AU Agenda 2063**, to be a continent with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics calls for an African cultural renaissance, which will inculcate the spirit of Pan-Africanism and ensure that the cultural and creative industries are major contributors to Africa's growth and transformation;

GUIDED by a common determination to cooperate to meet the aspiration of our people, realise solidarity, reinforced and integrated within a greater cultural unity, which transcends ethnic, national, and regional divergences because of a shared common vision;

ACKNOWLEDGING and **ALIGNING** with the **African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981)** according to which "*the virtues of the historical tradition and*

the values of African civilization, which should inspire and characterize the reflection on the concept of human and peoples' rights";

CONVINCED by the **Charter for African Cultural Renaissance (2006)** on the need for the continent to carry out a systematic inventory with the view to preserving and promoting tangible and intangible, movable and immovable, natural and cultural heritages in the spheres of History, Traditions, Arts and Handicrafts, Knowledge and Know-how, and the imperative for African States to *"take steps to put an end to the pillage and illicit traffic of African cultural property and ensure that such cultural property is returned to their countries of origin"*;

NOTING that, according to the **Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954)** (The Hague Convention and its protocols) and its protocols, *"damage to cultural property belonging to any people whatsoever means damage to the cultural heritage of all mankind, since each people makes its contribution to the culture of the world"*;

CONSIDERING the provisions of international instruments relevant to heritage resources, particularly the **UNESCO 1970, 1972, 2001, 2003, 2005 Conventions** and the **2015 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Protection and Promotion of Museums and Collections, their Diversity and their Role in Society**;

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the non-retroactivity clause in the **UNESCO 1970 Convention** and **1995 UNIDROIT Convention** and its **1999 Protocol** poses legal obstacles preventing the recovery of stolen heritage resources;

NOTING that the **African Union Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Property and Heritage (2022)** adopted during the year dedicated to Arts, Culture and Heritage is a strong encouragement to Member States to effectively preserve, protect and promote their cultural property and heritage as vehicles for promoting and achieving economic and social development goals;

RECOGNIZING that the non-recovery of African heritage resources taken out of the continent to foreign jurisdictions has a severe and negative impact on Africa's development agenda and the enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights;

ACKNOWLEDGING that efforts and strategies towards the recovery and restitution of the heritage resources must be situated and contextualized within the broader historical, political, economic and social narrative of Africa including the theft of its heritage resources, slavery and colonization;

CONVINCED that the restitution of the heritage resources to their countries of origin is an act of social justice and a commemorative exercise, which provides a better knowledge of African history and its contribution to the progress of humanity;

AWARE of the need to engage in dialogue with foreign partners, who hold the illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources, with a view to restituting them to their natural and original environment and determined to establish a common framework

for intergovernmental action and cooperation on the practicalities of the restitution and management of the illegally acquired and or stolen heritage resources.

Hereby agree as follows:

Priority 1: Restitution of Heritage Resources

African heritage resources stolen and or illicitly trafficked from the continent and currently in foreign countries be restituted to their places and or communities of origin unconditionally.

Commitments:

- Establish dedicated national, regional, international and institutional frameworks for restitution initiatives.
- Promote heritage driven incentive-based development policies and strategies.
- Strengthen capacities of law enforcement agencies through specialised trainings on the protection of heritage resources against illicit trafficking.
- Strengthen protection mechanisms of heritage resources in conflict zones through training in emergency response, preparation of emergency plans and their implementation.

Priority 2: Identification and Inventories

Member States shall urgently identify, conduct provenance research and inventory of heritage resources that were illicitly acquired and or stolen from the continent and are currently in foreign countries shall involve communities and diaspora in the process.

Commitments:

- Develop and maintain a single register of national and other heritage resources, indicating, location, description and custodianship.
- Accelerate the digitalisation of all national and other heritage resources.
- Support and promote education, research and training in the areas of heritage resources.

Priority 3: Management of Heritage Resources

- Conservation policies and mechanisms for the management of heritage resources shall be established and or enhanced in order to consolidate community based, Pan-African heritage collections and exhibition initiatives.

Commitments:

- Ensure Member States allocate at least one percent of their annual national budgets to the arts, culture and heritage sector by 2030 in line with Assembly Decision 772 (XXXIII) and facilitate the implementation of all other relevant AU instruments, decisions and policies on the management of heritage resources.
- Provide adequate security and interactive infrastructure for the protection and exhibition of heritage resources.
- Make heritage resources of greater relevance and benefit to the communities through creative expressions.
- Accelerate capacity building trainings for heritage resource custodians and stakeholders to address skill and knowledge gaps.

- Ensure timely completion and operationalisation of **the Great Museum of Africa (GMA)** – a Flagship Project of the **AU Agenda 2063**, as a continental hub for restituted heritage resources.

Priority 4: Education and Awareness

Heritage resources shall be preserved for sustainability through innovative and holistic education approaches that allow for a better understanding of previous generations and accurate history.

Commitments:

- Promote both formal and informal education that will allow for creative knowledge sharing.
- Increase stakeholder awareness in order to ensure community participation and inclusiveness in safeguarding heritage resources.
- Empower communities to utilise creative storytelling techniques to evolve accurate narratives that promote awareness of their heritage resources.
- Integrate heritage education, into national curricula including oral traditions, documentation and translation of materials on heritage resources in African languages.
- Support scholars to undertake research and training in the areas of heritage resources.
- Implement formal and informal heritage education programmes for children from early childhood.
- Provide inter-agency and joint capacity building initiatives for artists, curators, law enforcement agents, culture and creative industries professionals on restitution of heritage resources.

Priority 5: African Regional Parliaments and National Assemblies

African Regional Parliaments and National Assemblies shall use their mandates and perform effective oversight and accountability roles to ensure implementation of the Common African Position on Restitution.

Commitments:

- The Pan-African Parliament (PAP), Parliaments of Regional Economic Communities and national assemblies shall play a critical role in ensuring that restitution is prioritized.
- A network of PAP and other Regional Parliaments should be established as a cross-cutting entity to give agency, and priority to restitution.
- Encourage PAP to work with EU Parliament, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), and similar institutions to engage in the campaigns for Restitution.
- Ensure that resources are allocated through respective budgetary processes to support institutions, groups and initiatives that promote the restitution.

Priority 6: Youth and Diaspora

The youth as agents of transformation and future custodians of heritage resources and the diaspora populations shall be empowered to support their local communities in making and overseeing claims, including creating global initiatives that advance the Common African Position on Restitution.

Commitments:

- Galvanize youth-led technology institutions to evolve innovative ways of collecting archives and creating claims.
- Collaborate with diaspora heritage institutions, advocacy groups, and communities to identify illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources.
- Create restitution-centred popular-culture campaigns to mobilise support and ensure sustainability within the youth and diaspora.
- Leverage social media channels to engage youth and diaspora as ambassadors to prevent illicit trafficking and sales of African heritage resources online.
- Create homecoming programs for the diaspora to connect with communities on the continent to change tainted narratives on African heritage resources.

Priority 7: Media and Civil Society

Media outlets shall be enabled to engage in investigative journalism, agenda setting, and ensure the delivery of accurate information to communities and multiple audiences. Civil Society shall be encouraged to promote debates, lobby and mobilise actors in countries holding illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources to advocate for their restitution.

Commitments:

- Encourage and support local, national and international media outlets to key into the process of agenda setting and sensitization of different segments of the society on restitution of heritage resources
- Umbrella bodies, such as National Association of NGOs at national, regional, and continental levels should be encouraged to support the efforts by the Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) they represent to elevate and embrace the Common African Position on Restitution.
- Advocate and drive campaigns that will identify and appoint Restitution Ambassadors of heritage resources that will amplify voices from communities at all levels.
- Empower the Restitution Ambassadors to promote the Common African Position on Restitution through the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs).

Priority 8: Cooperation and Partnership

Continental and international cooperation and partnerships that support restitution of heritage resources shall be built and enhanced in the spirit of justice and solidarity.

Commitments:

- Encourage Member States to secure collaborations and partnerships in the form of financial and technical assistance to realize their agenda on heritage restitution.
- Increase cooperation within and between Regional Economic Communities to facilitate the implementation of the Common African Position on Restitution.
- Conclude ongoing bilateral, regional and international partnerships that support restitution of heritage resources by addressing the challenges created by countries holding the heritage resources.

- Encourage inter-agency and cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies in Member States to safeguard heritage resources and facilitate the restitution of illicitly exported and or stolen heritage resources.

Priority 9: Arts, Culture and Creative Industries

Artists and other Creative Industries Professionals shall be encouraged to work within their communities to utilise different mediums of knowledge sharing, advocacy and expand audiences.

Commitments:

- Encourage national policy making bodies to involve artists and art-centred institutions in policy formulation and implementation in regard to restitution.
- Ensure the African Union Pan-African Cultural Congress (AU-PACC) discharges its function of galvanising positions of artists and other creative industries professionals to strengthen policies on heritage resource.
- Encourage the integration of oral traditions and African knowledge systems in order to promote the African position on restitution.
- Support artists to undertake advocacy and sustain creative initiatives on restitution.
- Facilitate the role of artists, independent curators, culture and creative industries professionals as links between the communities and heritage institutions to promote and sustain community-based engagements on restitution.
- Empower and provide support to art communities to safeguard heritage resources.

CONCLUSION

WE, THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION,

CALL FOR the unconditional restitution of heritage resources of African origin illicitly acquired and or stolen from the continent as a matter of natural justice, social cohesion and integration, peace building and sustainable development of our people.

COMMIT to identified strategic activities to ensure mobilization and participation of communities on the continent and the diaspora to ensure expeditious return of the heritage resources.

UNDERTAKE to provide appropriate and enabling environment to safeguard our heritage resources through effective management systems to protect, secure and promote the utilisation of heritage resources for the benefits of the African people.

ANNEX 1

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

To ensure an efficient and effective implementation of the Common African Position on Restitution of Heritage Resources, WE commit to the following actions at national, continental and international levels:

1. AT NATIONAL LEVEL:

A. THE MEMBER STATES SHALL

- (1) Establish dedicated national institutional frameworks for restitution initiatives.
- (2) Promote heritage driven incentive-based development policies and strategies.
- (3) Develop and maintain a single register of national and other heritage resources, indicating, location, description and custodianship.
- (4) Organise specialised training programmes for law enforcement agencies on the protection of heritage resources to combat illicit trafficking.
- (5) Accelerate the digitalisation of all national and other heritage resources.
- (6) Support and promote education, research and training in the areas of heritage resources
- (7) Provide adequate security and interactive infrastructure for the protection and exhibition of heritage resources.
- (8) Make heritage resources of greater relevance and benefit to the communities through creative expressions.
- (9) Accelerate capacity building for heritage resource custodians and stakeholders to address skills and knowledge gaps.
- (10) Increase stakeholder awareness in order to ensure community participation and inclusiveness in safeguarding heritage resources.
- (11) Support scholars to undertake research and training in the areas of heritage resources.
- (12) Implement formal and informal heritage education programmes for children from early childhood.
- (13) Provide inter-agency and joint capacity building initiatives for artists, curators, law enforcement agents, culture and creative industries professionals on restitution of heritage resources.
- (14) Implement all other relevant AU instruments, decisions and policies on the management of heritage resources.
- (15) Integrate heritage education, into national curricula including oral traditions, documentation and translation of materials on heritage resources in African languages.
- (16) Encourage and support media to key into the process of agenda setting and sensitization of different segments of the society on restitution of heritage resources
- (17) Encourage Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and other actors to elevate and embrace the Common African Position on Restitution.
- (18) Create homecoming programs for the diaspora to connect with communities on the continent to change tainted narratives on African heritage resources.
- (19) Identify and appoint Restitution Ambassadors of heritage resources that will amplify voices from communities at all levels and empower them to promote the Common African Position on Restitution through the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs).
- (20) Conclude ongoing bilateral, regional and international partnerships that support restitution by addressing the challenges created by countries holding the heritage resources.

B. THE PARLIAMENT SHALL:

- (1) Prioritize the restitution of illicitly acquired or stolen heritage resource in the implementation of the national culture agenda.
- (2) Adopt legislation that strengthen capacities of law enforcement agencies on the protection of heritage resources to combat illicit trafficking.
- (3) Ensure that resources are allocated through respective budgetary processes to support institutions, groups and initiatives that promote restitution.
- (4) Empower communities to utilise creative storytelling techniques to evolve accurate narratives that promote awareness of their heritage resources.
- (5) Galvanize youth-led technology institutions to evolve innovative ways of collecting archives and creating claims.

C. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS SHOULD:

- (1) Encourage national policy making bodies to involve artists and art-centred institutions in policy formulation and implementation in regard to restitution.
- (2) Support artists to undertake advocacy and sustain creative initiatives on restitution.
- (3) Facilitate the role of artists, independent curators, culture and creative industries professionals as links between the communities and heritage institutions to promote and sustain community-based engagements on restitution.
- (4) Empower and provide support to art communities to safeguard heritage resources.

D. THE MEDIA SHOULD:

- (1) Support, elevate and disseminate information on the Common African Position on Restitution.
- (2) Collaborate with diaspora heritage institutions, advocacy groups, and communities to identify illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources.
- (3) Develop restitution-centred popular-culture campaigns to mobilise support and ensure sustainability within the youth and diaspora.
- (4) Engage, particularly through social media channels, youth and diaspora as ambassadors to prevent illicit trafficking and sales of African heritage resources online.

2. AT THE CONTINENTAL LEVEL:

A. THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION SHALL:

- a. Ensure:
 - (i) Assembly Decision 772 (XXXIII) regarding the allocation of at least one percent of the annual budgets of Member States to the arts, culture and heritage sector by 2030 is implemented.
 - (ii) Facilitation and implementation of all other relevant AU instruments, decisions and policies on the management of heritage resources.
 - (iii) Timely completion and operationalisation of **the Great Museum of Africa (GMA)** – a Flagship Project of the **AU Agenda 2063**, as a continental hub for restituted heritage resources.
 - (iv) African Union Pan-African Cultural Congress (AU-PACC) discharges its function of galvanising positions of artists and

other creative industries professionals to strengthen policies on heritage resource.

- (v) Inter-agency and cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies in Member States to safeguard heritage resources is developed and facilitate the restitution of illicitly exported and or stolen heritage resources
- (vi) The Integration of oral traditions and African Knowledge Systems in the development of narratives on the restituted heritage resources is undertaken in African countries.
- (vii) Strengthen protection mechanisms of heritage resources in areas experiencing armed conflicts through training in emergency response.

B. THE PANAFRICAN PARLIAMENT SHALL:

- (i) Create internal mechanisms to preserving, promoting and showcasing restituted heritage resources.
- (ii) Play a critical role in making sure that national Parliament and Parliament of Regional Economic Communities prioritize in their activities the restitution of illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources.
- (iii) Member States secure collaborations and partnerships in the form of financial and technical assistance to realize their agenda on heritage restitution.
- (iv) Support increased cooperation within and between Regional Economic Communities to facilitate the implementation of the Common African Position on Restitution.

3. AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL:

- (1) African countries should conclude bilateral and multilateral partnerships that support restitution by addressing the challenges impeding restitution of heritage resources.
- (2) The African Union Commission shall engage with the European Union and similar institutions on the implementation of the Common African Position on Restitution.
- (3) The Pan-African Parliament shall engage with the Parliament of the European Union, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), and similar institutions on the implementation of the Common African Position on restitution.
- (4) Civil society organisations should develop and strengthen collaborations and partnerships with western civil society organisations and other actors to address the challenges inhibiting timely restitution of heritage resources.
- (5) Diaspora heritage institutions, advocacy groups, and communities shall collaborate to identify illicitly acquired and or stolen heritage resources and prevent their illicit trafficking and sales online.
- (6) The Diaspora heritage institutions shall connect with communities on the continent to change tainted narratives on African heritage resource