



AFRO ARAB YOUTH COUNCIL

PRESS STATEMENT:

24th FEB 2023

ACTIVITIES ON THE 19TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE AFRO ARAB YOUTH COUNCIL

The Afro-Arab Youth Council is housed under the office of the president since 2019. H.E Y.K. Museveni is the Patron of the organisation and is offering strategic leadership to assist this organisation stabilise, having suffered immense setbacks as a result of the 2010-2012 civil uprisings that swept through many of its member states.

The AAYC is an international organization of the Youth of the African and Arab Countries, it is a conglomeration of National Youth Organisations from the member states whose interest is to unite the youth of the two regions and mobilise them to participate in various development agendas both within and outside their Countries, and contribute positively to the protection, preservation and promotion of the common good in terms of culture, values, traditions, heritage, and social-economic interests.

The AAYC is an Inter-Continental Platform of Youth Organizations of Africa and the Arab World that enjoys independent legal status and its membership and mandate has grown over time to approximately 70-member state organizations, 30 Non-Governmental youth Organizations, and has recognition with the African Union and Arab League as a specialized organization for the youth in these two regions.

This year 2023, the AAYC celebrates 19 years of existence, and Uganda once again enjoys the privilege to host these celebrations.

It is therefore; with the utmost delight that we look forward to celebrating the 19th Anniversary of the AAYC this year under the theme; ***"Health youths, wealthy Nations."***

It should be Noted that, African governments still face challenges of the youth bulge, and as such it does not only pose a strain on the employment and jobs

availability, but has had an awful toll on the health sector, making it difficult on the existing facilities to ably serve the populations.

The government of Uganda has been at the forefront of addressing this issue, but still needs a lot of support to mitigate on the fatigue placed on not only the facilities but the health personnel inclusive.

No Nation can claim to drive a development and or wealth creation agenda, without building robust approaches to improve health systems.

AAYC is hosting delegations from its member organisations, among whom are health professionals to support local initiatives, and give free treatment to people as detailed below.

Three major activities highlighting this year's anniversary celebrations are as follows;

Activity 1: The Medical Camp

A team of 25 specialists including Pediatrics, obstetricians, Gynecologists, orthopedics, ophthalmologists, ENT, Physicians, Surgeons, anesthesiologists, etc are arriving in Uganda starting from 1st of march to conduct an inaugural AAYC regional medical/surgical camp in Tooro/Kitagwenda from 5th to 7th March 2023.

These have been mobilized through AAYC partner organisations in Morocco, Egypt, Nigeria, Tunisia, Libya, South Africa, Bahrain, Malawi, Nigeria and other AAYC member countries; the Kampala International University Medical school; Ministry of Health through the regional hospital of Buhinga.

The camp is intended to foster Afro-Arab Cooperation in bridging knowledge and skills gap in the region through the pooling of regional expertise.

Further to support Local Government initiatives in ensuring a healthy population. The AAYC partners with governments to boost empowerment agendas towards the youths and general populations.

The camp shall be hosted by the Kitagwenda district local government at Ntara Health Centre 4.

AAYC has had several on ground meetings with the local government leadership and are ready to have a very successful medical camp.

I want to assure all Ugandans, most especially the people of Tooro region, in Kamwenge, kitagwenda, Fort portal, Ibanda, that we are well set for 5th-7th march, to have this medical camp.

Activity 2. Afro-Arab Health Fun Run

It will take place on the 4th of March 2023, in Tooro Kingdom, and HRH King Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi 1V, is expected to flag off.

Three categories have been segmented in this health run.

- a. The youth category
- b. The women
- c. The legends (elderly people)

Several prizes are to be won by the best 10 people, including TV sets, Heifers, bicycles, cash prizes, duvet bedcovers, phones, etc

AAYC in partnership with the sports department at the district have already put in place such systems as; Security of Participants; Route mapping and clearances, including seeking permission for the route and other necessary procedures; logistics, such as Water, T-shirts, Donations etc; Popularizing and publicizing the Run.

The run is intended to create awareness the role of health living, inclusive of physical fitness as a boost to people's health.

Activity 3: The Dialogue.

The dialogue offers platform to bring intellectual discourse to the annual theme of healthy youths, wealthy nations.

It shall take place at Kampala International University Kampala.

It is attracting a great number of youth leaders from across the board, student leaders, the academia, policy makers, the fourth estate, and international participants from 25 countries in Africa and Arab region.



Focus of the Dialogue.

- i. The dialogue seeks to bring together youth representatives, researchers, policymakers, medical and development practitioners from Africa and the Arab regions, to discuss recent developments on the issues of youth health and development of nations in Afro-Arab region.
- ii. The dialogue will provide a unique opportunity to assess the effectiveness of ongoing reforms on addressing youth health and development interest issues in the Afro-Arab region.
- iii. In addition, the dialogue will discuss the latest evidence and emerging challenges on youth jobs, skills and entrepreneurship in Africa to inform country strategies and identify evidence-based innovative and implementable policies.
- iv. Finally, it will encompass in-depth presentations of policy-oriented research by both established academics and young talented researchers from the Afro-Arab region who will debate and recommend policy options to address the persistent mismatches between labor market requirements and skills acquired by Africa's young people and the planning of nations on ensuring a health workforce.

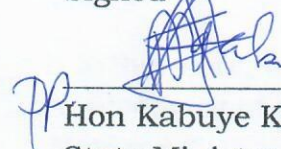
19th ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM FROM 1ST -10TH MARCH 2023

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
1 st & 2 nd /03/023	N/A	Arrival of international delegates Airport clearances/holding ground accommodation check-in
3 rd /03/023	N/A	Travel to Health camp area
4 th /03/023 Health Run	8am-9am	Health run flag off Following the route mapping
	9am	speech by the AAYC SG/AAYC President/Area MP/ mayor/etc
	9:30am	Speech by the chief runner. HRH king Oyo Nyimba Kabamba Iguru Rukidi IV.
	10:00am	-entertainment interludes; group photos, and award ceremony

	11:00am	Closing ceremony
	12:00noon onwards	Area guided tour/free time
5 th , 6 th 7 th /03/023 General Medical Camp	8:00am	Assemble at Ntara health Centre 4
	9:00-9:30am	Health camp launch ceremony starts/speeches/program announcements etc.
	9:30am-5:00pm	Health camp activities
	8pm-8:30pm	AAYC Staff evaluation meeting (evaluation of Day1, and setting for the next day)
7 th /03/023 (specially dedicated to Women in commemoration of the International women's day)	9:00am -3pm	Health camp/program and roles as before
	5pm	Complete the health camp
	7pm-8pm	Staff evaluation meeting
8 th /03/023	9am-5pm	International Women's day
9 th /03/023 Dialogue	8:00am	Participants assemble for dialogue at KIU
	8:30-9:am	Arrival at the dialogue venue
	9: am-4:30Pm	Dialogue program
10 th /03/023		International Departures

Thank you for your attention.

Signed



Hon Kabuye Kyofatogabye
State Minister for Kampala and Metropolitan Affairs
Government of Uganda.