

LETU 6

YOUTH AFRICAN SOCCER CUP

Eastern Johannesburg

May-June 2009

DRAFT 16 February 2009

An initiative supported by

The Star

*On the road to the
Confederation
Cup!*

South Africa, June 2009

CONTENT

<i>AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM</i>	4
<i>AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</i>	5
<i>LETU 6</i>	6
<i>YOUTH AFRICAN CHAMPIONS CUP</i>	7
Rationale	7
Theme of the Cup	7
Date of the Cup	7
Role Players and Partners in the Cup	7
The Soccer Competition	8
Preparing for the Cup	9
Media Coverage	11
Possible Sponsors	11
What will the money be used for?	11
Contact Details	12
<i>EDUCATIONAL WORKING PLAN</i>	13
<i>ESTIMATE BUDGET 16.02.2009</i>	15
<i>ANNEXURE 1 –SOCCER COMPETITION POOLS</i>	17

African Diaspora Forum

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AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM

OUR MEMBERSHIP

- The African Diaspora Forum is a non profit organisation open to all willing individuals and organisations sharing the objectives of the Forum. Its originality consists in the union of a number of organisations representing African migrant communities living in South Africa.
- So far 22 African countries are represented in the Forum: Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- To work for an integrated society that is free of xenophobia and all other kinds of discrimination;
- To promote and consolidate a Pan African forum for African residents of whatever nationality to work together to build one common voice on common issues, and a shared feeling of belonging to Africa
- To facilitate and develop relationships, exchanges and mutual understanding between South Africans and non South African residents in South Africa (in particular, but not exclusively, through the organisation of pan African cultural events; through the participation in civil society organisations at the local level – such as community policing forums, civics, street committees, etc.);
- To make sure that xenophobic statements in public discourses and policies do not remain unchallenged; and to work with South African institutions (at the national, provincial and local level) to promote integration between all African communities and to dismiss those discriminatory policies that fuel xenophobia.

OUR STRENGTHS

- Consisting of representatives (group or individuals) of various African communities, the Forum has specific language and cultural skills that can be used to facilitate communication as well as to organise cultural events;
- The forum can rely on extended networks of migrants within South African society and mobilise them for specific reasons (support to persons affected by xenophobia, organisation of pan African events of cultural or political nature, etc.);
- The forum has important organisation skills as many of its members are currently community leaders;
- The forum is open to anyone sharing the objectives mentioned above, but its specificity is its inclusion of various African communities; and its knowledge of the issues and challenges experienced at the grassroots level.

OUR CONTACT

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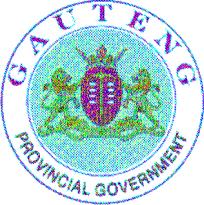
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AFRICAN DIASPORA FORUM - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marc Gbaffou	Chair	Chair: Ivorian Community in SA
Daniel Mundea	Deputy Chair	Chair: Zambian Community in SA
Dr. Claire Benit-Gbaffou	Secretary	France
Javan Safeli	Acting Deputy Secretary	Zambia
Samuel Carstine	Organizing Secretary	Uganda
Faith Ngwenya	Treasurer	Chair: Zimbabwean Residents. Assoc. in SA
Talla Niang	Deputy Treasurer	Senegal
Gabriel Hertis	Fundraiser	Rwanda
Sheikh Amir	Public Relations	Somalia
Eddy Mazembo	Deputy PR	Chair: Federation of Congolese Org. in SA
Maurice Smithers	Ex co member	Secretary: Yeoville Stakeholders Forum
Ibrahim Elmuatasim	Ex co member	JHB rep: Sudanese Community in SA
Prince Adesina	Ex co member	Nigerian Union
Mohammed Habib Allah	Ex co member	Chair: Moroccan association in SA
Dr. Agnes Icatekit	Ex co member	Uganda

Marc Gbaffou has been living in South Africa for 12 years. In Ivory Coast he was the Secretary of the FPI Youth League in 1992-1996; Secretary of FESCI in Yopougon in 1993-1996. He has organised the Ivorian Community in South Africa, through the Association of Ivorians in Johannesburg (AIJ), which he created in 1999; the Community of Ivorians in South Africa (CIAS) in 2003, and Awale-Unité Nationale, created in 2006.



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LETU 6

LETU stands for Local Education Training Unit.

It is a statutory advisory body making recommendations to the HOD at the Education District office, on gaps in education policy and education policy matters.
It is consciously designed to ensure that minority voices and small groupings are given a voice.

LETU 6 comprises the following suburbs: Troyeville, Bertrams, Malvern, Kensington, Jeppetown, Bez Valley.

It covers 19 schools (13 Primary, 6 High Schools).

The following organizations are represented in LETU 6:

- each school has a representative from its SGB (School Governing Body)
- JMPD
- SAPS (sector manager)
- CPF
- ANC Youth League
- ETDP Seta

Currently, the executive committee is headed by:

- Chair: Mariam Davids (aka Mariam Makeba Junior), who works closely with the Gauteng Department of Education and the East Johannesburg DETC;
- Deputy Chair: Tetla Samuels, also the Chair of Jeppe Community Policing Forum.

YOUTH AFRICAN SOCCER CUP

Rationale

After the violent events that have marked South African history, and more recently have targeted African migrants, it is important to carry a message of reconciliation and integration between all those who live in South Africa. East Johannesburg, marked by diversity, coexistence but also unfortunate events of violence, is an important place to continue the process of integration and dialogue.

A sports competition showcasing unity in diversity, harmonious coexistence of all African cultures is possible, and is a way to start this process. On the road to the Confederation Cup hosted in South Africa, June 2009, watch for the East Johannesburg schools' soccer competition involving all African countries!

The African Diaspora Forum (ADF), together with LETU 6, is proposing the following ideas to make the African soccer game a success: a learning experience for all, and a happy event in East Johannesburg.

Theme of the Cup

This African Soccer Cup symbolizes the diversity of the African continent, but also the interaction and engagement between these different cultures, in a healthy sports competition following international rules. It is a moment of intense national pride but also engagement with the others. The theme of the Cup therefore matches the African Diaspora Forum slogan:

'Sidlalasonke, Playing together, *On joue ensemble, eMzansi !*'.

These three languages (English, French and isiZulu) are languages of *communication* (not aimed at representing the diversity of African languages). This task of *representation* will be given to the different school groups representing all African countries, which will come up in the competition with the same idea, expressed in the language(s) of the African country adopted.

Date of the Cup

The soccer competition itself will take place just prior to the Confederation Cup (14-28 June 2009), i.e. between 14 May and 14 June 2009. Workshops with educators, parents and learners will be organized beforehand, starting end of February 2009.

Role Players and Partners in the Cup

The ADF and LETU 6 will be driving the process, but the Cup can only be successful if it involves the community at large.

Several **role players** have been or are in the process of being approached to take an active role in the organization of the Cup:

- The children of Eastern Johannesburg are at the core of the Cup, with the involvement of the 6 High Schools and the 13 Primary Schools of the area, the commitment of the Gauteng Department of Education (*see below*, ‘*Preparing for the Cup*’, for details on the schools’ involvement);
- Educators! The initiative appeals to educators’ enthusiasm and voluntary commitment – it is by no means compulsory.
- Parents, through the School Governing Bodies and else.
- Churches, NGOs, residents association from Eastern Johannesburg;
- Local councilors, of all political parties;
- Political party representatives, of all political parties;
- The Star, which has already shown its commitment and interest in ADF educational initiatives (*see below*, ‘*Media coverage*’).

The Cup cannot operate without the support of a number of important **partners**, including inter alia:

- SAPS; in particular Jeppe and Cleveland police stations which have shown an enduring commitment to hosting or protecting people affected by xenophobic violence in Johannesburg; and to building communities in general;
- CPFs (in particular Jeppe and Cleveland), as they are already working with LETU 6 and the promotion of sport and education is a way to fight crime.
- Johannesburg Metro Police Department;
- Gauteng Department of Education; Eastern Johannesburg DETC;
- Gauteng Health Department;
- Gauteng Department of Sports;
- The City of Johannesburg;
- The Minister of Home Affairs
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- African embassies in South Africa; and other interested embassies;
- The Pan African Parliament;
- 2010 Soccer Cup Local Organizing Committee;
- Nelson Mandela’s Children Fund;
- Talawa Communication, which has offered its services free of charge to the ADF
- Newspaper: The Star.
- Television: M-Net, SABC

The Soccer Competition

- Each of the 19 schools of LETU 6 is to choose and to represent an African country (to be indicated). Each school will prepare its “national” soccer team (one female and one male team), dressed in the soccer uniform and adopting the African players’ names. Other children from the school will be the supporters, led by a ‘child-president’ of the country (*see below*, ‘*Preparing for the Carnival*’), carrying the countries’ flags and singing the country’s national anthem when the teams are entering the soccer field. The members of the African Diaspora, invited by the ADF, as well as the ambassadors of the said countries, will be invited to support the children honoring their country.
- The launch of the competition and Draw Ceremony will gather schools representatives (soccer captain, coach, educator and parents representatives) as well as VIP from soccer organizations and African embassies in South Africa.

- The competition will take place from mid May to mid June 2009, with a series of soccer matches between the different teams. Different competitions will be organized for primary schools and high schools, and, in each category, for male and for female soccer players.
- The first matches will take place in different local / community soccer fields. They'll be organized by a Soccer League Fixture which will organize the competition, with representatives from ADF, educators, parents, learners. There can be sub-committees as 4 different competitions will take place (primary male, primary female, high male, high female). See **Annexure 1 – soccer pools**, for more details on matches' organization.
- The finals will take place in Ellis Park (where South Africa will be playing against Irak during the confederation Cup). It will start with an Opening Ceremony, presenting the Cup, its theme, and allowing for short speeches of key figures present in the initiative.

Preparing for the Cup

The Cup is not just a sports event. Its meaning stems from the sense it takes in the minds of South African and others, and the encounters it creates between all people of Africa.

It can only be successful if it is welcome, understood and appropriated by the residents of East Johannesburg.

It can only be successful if the members of the African Diaspora are confident to participate in such an event.

Therefore, the preparation of the Cup will include a number of workshops, with parents, with educators, and with learners.

With East Johannesburg parents and educators

Before the process starts in the schools with learners, encounters, debates and workshops need to be organized with both educators and parents, to involve them directly in the process.

Several steps can be envisaged:

- Workshops in schools involving educators to discuss how to plan the Cup;
- Workshops involving SGBs in order to inform and involve parents
- Parents Summit organized by LETU 6 on the 14th of March 2009;
- The nomination of an ADF representative in LETU 6;
- The appointment of a school coordinating body for each school (one educator, one parents rep, one representative from the learners, one member of ADF/ the African Diaspora – it can be a parent or an educator of the country adopted)

In East Johannesburg Schools:

- Each school is to 'adopt' one African (non South African) country – the list will be proposed by ADF-LETU6 so as to have a variety of African countries whose citizens are if possible widely represented in Johannesburg.
- Children involved in the Cup: it is recommended to involve learners from grade 6 and 7 in Primary Schools; from grade 9, 10 and 11 in High Schools (also depending on interested educators).
- Educators interested in taking part in the initiative, from different disciplines (e.g. Sport, but also History, Geography, Literature, Music, etc.) will be preparing, with the support of the African Diaspora Forum (ADF) and LETU 6, course material on the

country chosen (in the form of texts, music, guests, etc.). The educators taking part should select one coordinator per school, who will liaise more directly with ADF-LETU6.

- Examples of educational / extra mural activities:

- organize soccer training (and a selection process of the team that will represent the school and the African country in the cup);
 - teach learners the African country's national anthem (to be sang before soccer competition); possibly another song from this country;
 - teach learners about the history and geography of the country adopted;
 - organize different types of exercises for learners to learn about the adopted country (**see below**, educational workplan): class competition (price being an African meal for instance).
- Each school will elect a child-cabinet, including a president for the adopted country, and 4 members of cabinet representing relevant portfolio for the country adopted. (E.g. Minister of reconciliation in Rwanda; Minister of Energy in Nigeria; Minister of Tourism in Senegal or Egypt; etc.). The election process can be a democratic learning experience (voting registration, party or candidate campaigning, voting process, etc.).
- This child-cabinet has an important role to play, as it will be the public face of the school and of the country (talking to media; making a speech to open the soccer matches; visiting the embassy). The election process (and the election of the best candidate) is all the more important!
- ADF will try and liaise with the embassies of the 'adopted' countries and support a partnership between the school and the embassy. The child cabinet will be chauffeured-driven to the embassy. The child-president can then hand over an invitation for the ambassador to come and visit the school, provide it with flags, and attend the soccer match, etc.
- Each selected soccer player can adopt a soccer player from the African national team, and do a research about him that he/she will present in the class room. This should be an opportunity not only to learn about the player but also to learn about the country's geography, people's stories, trajectories, etc. (where was he born? How did he start soccer? What is his home language, how do you greet in this language? What was his family doing for a living? How many siblings? When did he come to the capital city? Etc.)
- It is important not only to learn about another country's culture, but also to meet people from this country living in South Africa, and understanding them as "people like us", from the same area and the same community. Educators could ask children to do a small research / interview of a foreign family (possibly visit their home) and present their findings in the classroom. Learners of foreign origin could do the same about a South African family.
- 5 children can be selected (for instance for the best essay, or poster, or response to questions pertaining to the adopted country) and taken in a restaurant / house of the adopted African country, where the children, accompanied by 2 educators, will taste their adopted African meal and hospitality. They can be asked to give a report back to the classroom, for instance to make a poster or write an essay about their experience.
- A visit can be organized for a limited number of learners and educators to the Pan African Parliament in Midrand.
- South African team soccer players can be contacted to visit the schools.

Media Coverage

As mentioned previously, the Cup is not a one-day event only. Media need of course to cover the matches and in particular the final at Ellis Park, but it is even more important to cover the process at stake, in the schools and in the neighborhood.

The Star which is supporting the initiative can help providing media coverage, and there could be a daily short article when the soccer competition kicks off mid May 2009.

M-Net has shown an interest in covering this sort of community sports initiative, and will be covering the competition.

Possible Sponsors

Several sponsors are being considered:

- The Star has already expressed its willingness to support the Cup as an educational activity building integration;
- The Muslim Association in South Africa has already expressed its willingness to support any educational activity carried by the African Diaspora Forum;
- DFID has also expressed its support;
- The Pan African Parliament has expressed its interest and willingness to support
- The African embassies in South Africa can be approached, to establish partnerships with the Alex schools which will have adopted their country. This partnership could be driven by the child-president selected in each school for each African country;
- Nelson Mandela Children's Fund could be approached (possibly by a congregation of African child-presidents, representing the 5 African sub-regions: Southern, Northern, Western, Eastern and Central Africa) for sponsoring the event;
- The City of Johannesburg, in particular in providing services from its various utilities (JHB Water, Pikitup, Fire response, Ambulance service, Safety, Health inspection of stalls, etc.).
- EPWOS, Ellis Park World of Sport, should be approached to let learners use its facility for the finals;
- South African Football Federation (SAFA)
- Supersport;
- Different businesses linked to sport (Adidas, Nike, Reebok) can be approached to subsidize the soccer matches and in particular the soccer uniforms of each country involved (2 teams per country, one male and one female; 21 countries).

What will the money be used for?

This is a voluntary initiative led by a non-profit organization (ADF) in conjunction with a quasi government body (LETU). Therefore no payment of any work should be expected for people engaging in the initiative. However, when possible, stipends will be made available in particular for parents or members of the Diaspora who are currently unemployed (covering in particular transport and telephone costs). In particular two project coordinators will be appointed for ADF at the Star's office and given a weekly stipend. They'll be taking care of the logistics (transport of facilitators and learners; contact with the embassies; paperwork and authorization; etc.).

The bulk of the expenditure will be used in the following (see Estimate Budget) – different sponsors can be approached for different items, to lower the overall cost:

- Transport and phone costs for coordinators (parents, ADF, LETU members involved, according to their actual involvement and activity)
- Transport for learners (to embassies, to migrants' houses or restaurants, to soccer fields, to the Pan African Parliament)
- Cost of the African meal to be provided to 5 learners and 2 educators (times 21 countries)
- Renting the soccer fields for the soccer competition and stadium
- Purchase of African flags and possibly course material on the adopted country
- Purchase of African soccer teams uniforms
-

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This concept note is a working document, and WILL change in the process of preparation of the Cup, in the debates and workshops with the various partners and role players.

EDUCATIONAL WORKING PLAN

DRAFT 10.02.09 – to be discussed and amended with LETU 6, Educators and Parents

WHEN?	WHAT?	WITH WHOM?	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?	IS THERE A BUDGET?
From April to May 2009	Teaching about the African country concerned (history, geography, customs, literature, music, dance, sport, etc.)	teachers	teachers with the help of ADF / migrant residents	Possibly small budget to buy course material (CDs, DVD, books)= R300 per country (to be shared between relevant teachers)
	Election in each class of a child president and his/her cabinet. Candidates need to campaign and explain why they would be a good president / minister. Cabinet portfolios need to be chosen according to relevance to the country	Class teachers + governing body Involve the Star	teachers	No
	Discussion in class about 'what happened' in May 2009 Learners can then be requested by teachers to conduct interviews (for instance with local leaders) and do a poster on the matter	Facilitated by: class teachers and ADF Involve the Star	Teachers / ADF/ parents	No
	Bringing 5 children / school to an African restaurant (children can be selected in a competition organised in class – what they know about the country, for instance; best poster; etc.)	ADF affiliated organisations: Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan, Uganda, Senegal, etc. And THE STAR	Each ADF organisation	Transport organised / R50 per meal per person (10 people max per school)
	Each class (or each child cabinet, depending on budget) to visit the Pan African Parliament (Midrand)	Pan African Parliament The Star	ADF	PAP o fund transport (Bus)
	Child president and cabinet to visit his/her adopted embassy to open partnership with embassy (each embassy to give a flag, to be planted in the school and used in carnival procession)	African embassies The Star	ADF	Embassies to fund transport?
	Each school to select soccer teams (one male, one female) that are going to represent the school in the	Teachers / coaches	Teachers / coaches	No. some ADF members can be soccer coaches

	soccer cup. The teams need to be trained on a regular basis			for schools who do not have soccer coaches
	Each learner selected in the school soccer team to adopt the African player he/she is representing, to do a research about him and present it to the class (where was he born? What was his family background? How did he get into soccer? etc.)	Teachers, ADF	teachers	Hopefully soccer uniforms of the adopted country (depending on sponsors)
From mid May to mid June 2009	Soccer competition starts! Each team to engage in soccer competition Learners to be part of the 4 Soccer League Fixture (Primary male, Primary female, High male, High female) together with teachers and parents representatives	Teachers, coaches, parents The star Mnet	Fixture league Teachers coaches	Money for transport / rental of local soccer field
	Ambassador to visit the school where the child president has invited him/her – maybe to attend soccer match	Ambassadors, SAPS The star	ADF	African embassies
	Child president to prepare a speech and class to be ready to sing national anthem of their adopted country when their soccer team is playing	teachers	Teachers, ADF	no
Mid june	Soccer final! Hopefully in Ellis Park Members of local communities to prepare stalls to sell food from different cultures around the stadium	All schools, parents, VIP invited Star, Mnet		Medals and trophies for finalists Hopefully other prices

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