



8th PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS GPAM Newsletter

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Announcement

- The Global Pan African Congress will be held in 2025 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Global Pan-African Movement elects new Acting Secretary General and Acting Deputy Secretary General
- Six Regional Meetings to be held in preparation for the 8th Pan African Congress in Kinshasa
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GPAM calls on African people to continue mobilizing for the emancipation of the African world!

8th PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS

The 8th Pan African Congress will take place in 2025 in the capital of the Democratic of Congo, Kinshasa! The new Secretary General of the Global Pan African Movement (GPAM) and the governing council affirmed the importance of the congress occurring in Kinshasa in alignment with the government of the DRC hosting a centenary celebration of Patrice Lumumba, Franz Fanon, and Malcolm X. This momentous occasion amplifies the 8th congress. It will galvanize the public and raise awareness of the work of the past present, and future direction of the African fight for liberation. The governing council added that other centenaries taking place next year such as the Centenary of Abdulrahman Mohamed Babu from Zanzibar be considered for inclusion. Babu was born 22nd September 1924. As a dedicated Pan Africanist, he played a major role in the liberation movement in Tanzania.

8th Pan African Congress 2025 in Kinshasa

Pan-Africanist ideals emerged in the late nineteenth century in response to European colonization and exploitation of the African continent. Pan-Africanist philosophy held that enslavement and colonialism depended on and encouraged negative, unfounded depictions of African people and their culture, values, and contributions to the world. These in turn gave birth to intensified forms of racism which Pan-Africanism sought to eliminate.

The 1945 congress urged the worldwide global Pan African community to unite, to assert their rights, and to reject those seeking to control their destinies. Continuing the tradition, the 8th PAC must encourage Africans to have independent thinking and to gain political power from imperialists. This is a prerequisite for complete social, economic, and political emancipation.

Adejumobi, S. (2008, July 30). *The Pan-African Congresses, 1900-1945*. BlackPast.org. <https://www.blackpast.org/global-african-history/pan-african-congresses-1900-1945/>

8th PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS

Professor George Nzongola Ntalaja was thrilled about the decision taken by the governing council and said that we should “use this event to reignite the ideals of Pan Africanism and to promote independent thinking for people of African descent.” His Excellency Felix Tshisekedi, president of the Democratic Republic of Congo, welcomes the congress taking place in his country and hopes that other African countries will join in support of congress and the Pan African movement. The governing council is committed to raising the necessary funds for an inclusive and successful congress. To that end, a fund-raising campaign has been initiated by the Secretary General and the Chairman of GPAM. We encourage everyone to participate in the regional convenings, make your voices heard, and join in the organizing and planning 8th Pan African Congress! Stay tuned for details about how to get involved. See you in 2025!!!



Rest in Power Dr. Ikaweba Bunting

On October 3rd 2024 Dr. Ikaweba Muhajir Bunting passed away. He was 75 years old. Dr. Bunting was an avid reader, academic, Pan Africanist and father. He is survived by his 7 children Kwihata Mtume Gary Bunting, Kinyemi Rakia Bunting, Mwene Jabril Ikaweba, Mandela Muntakim Bunting, Sojourner Truth Bunting, Shujaa Sundiata Bunting, and Taharka Fanon Bunting.

Dr. Bunting was born on January 9th 1949 in St. Louis Missouri, at the age of three years old his family moved to Compton California. He graduated from Verbum Dei High School where he played American Football for the varsity team. Eventually he went on to earn a scholarship to Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. In 1974 at the age of 25 he was inspired by Julius Nyerere's call for the African diaspora to come and help with nation building. He would eventually go on to become the Director of Department of Unity for the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation in Tanzania and Coordinator for the Secretariat of the Tanzanian National Taskforce to develop the National Action Plan for UNSCR 1325 Women Peace and Security. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Bunting served as the Secretary General of the Global Pan African Movement. He worked for the Tanzanian Film Company and was a past CEO and Festival Director of ZIFF. Dr. Bunting conducted the last interview of Julius Nyerere, the first president of Tanzania prior to President Nyerere's death in 1999.

Over the past four years he worked tirelessly planning and organizing the 8th Pan African Congress. His vision was for the GPAM Governing Council to pass the mantel on to the next generation. Dr. Bunting was often known to say that we need to “organize, not agonize.”

Dr. Bunting saw that time was ripe to host the 8th Pan African Congress. He believed the congress must galvanize Pan-African efforts towards Africa's total socio-cultural, political, and economic independence, self-reliance, and liberation. The congress presents the opportunity to reflect on current threats and opportunities within the global political economy, peace and security; propose strategies to advance a “New” Pan African agenda that effectively responds to Africa's and African peoples' needs within the context of the OAU/AU Golden Jubilee celebrations and the evolving African Union Agenda 2063; reflect on Africa's external relations with the rest of the world and how to reduce Africa's dependency and underdevelopment in the international system; and mobilize African people against neo-colonialism, imperialism and all forms of external domination.

“With the loss of such a leader and grief, a profound sense of Africa's loss is predictable. Let us remember that the brightest stars are best seen in the darkest of nights. Ikaweba Bunting's agency not those of others, shaped his life's choices. For us to live, really live, we must chart paths others avoid or dismiss. If we do this, our actions today shall just paint vivid memories that inspire not just our families but current and future generations also.

Let us grieve Dr. Bunting not only because we miss his wise advice, critical thinking, sense of humor and compassion for human rights and humanity. Let us grieve for a life well-chosen and choices well lived. Our condolences to four generations of Ikaweba Bunting's international family, friends and fellow activists.”

(Irūngū Houghton and Hon. Yusuf Hassan)

GPAM ELECTIONS!

On October 13th 2024 in Arusha, Tanzania, the Global Pan African Movement unanimously elected Professor Ibbo Mandaza as Acting Secretary General and Professor Cheryl Tawede Grills as Acting Deputy Secretary General.

Professor Ibbo Mandaza is an academic, author, and publisher. He is currently the Executive Chairperson of the Southern Africa Political Economy Series (SAPES) Trust, a regional think tank that he co-founded with the late Gilbert Mudenda in 1987. SAPES is headquartered in Harare, Zimbabwe. He has been a long-standing member of the Global Pan African Movement since his participation in the 6th congress in 1974, and the 7th congress in 1994. He is a member of the Governing Council of GPAM and promoter of the proposed Pan Afrika Graduate University for policy studies in Africa.



Professor Cheryl Tawede Grills is a clinical psychologist, social scientist, and Professor of Psychology at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. She served on the California Reparations Task Force, the first state to formally adopt a reparations agenda. She is the co-designer and lead trainer of the Emotional Emancipation Circles which promotes healing from racial trauma. Circles have been delivered across the Pan African diaspora. She has served on numerous commissions in the United States of America, including the 400 Years of African American History Commission and the National African American Reparations Commission.



The Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General are leading the planning the 8th Pan African Congress. They welcome the Pan African community to join them in the planning of this convening whose time is overdue.

The Governing Council of the GPAM calls on all African people to mobilize for the emancipation of the African world!

Don't Agonize, Organize!

