

Yaoundé Declaration of African Parliamentarians on Evaluation

We the parliamentarians from the seven countries (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania, Togo and Uganda) in Africa who took part in the Parliamentary forum on Supporting an Enabling Environment for Evaluation in Africa, as part of the 7th African Evaluation Association (AfrEA) Conference in Yaoundé, 3-4 March 2014, recognize the important function of evaluation in national decision making and the crucial role of parliamentarians in ensuring evaluation evidence is used for strengthening decision making for greater development effectiveness and inclusive growth.

In this context we commit to:

- Raise awareness within our own parliaments, and amongst parliamentary colleagues in other countries in Africa, about the importance of using evidence generated by evaluation for oversight, policy-making and national decision-making.
- Demand solid evaluation evidence to support the development of a culture of evaluation and evidence based decision-making at all levels of government and other stakeholders in development.
- Make use of evaluation evidence in our own engagement in parliamentary debate, in legislative, policy discussions and decision making.
- Work towards the institutionalization of evaluation to support evidence based policy-making. This should include developing a policy on evaluation applicable to all levels of government. Such a policy should ensure that evaluation in our countries is responsive to social, political, economic, gender equality, minorities and environmental concerns, in support of inclusive growth and greater development effectiveness.
- Work to bridge the gap between evaluators (as providers of impartial evidence) and parliamentarians, (as users of evaluation evidence.)

We also recognize:

- The importance of building on existing strengths within each of our countries and linking with other important sources of information, including monitoring and audit.
- All initiatives should be led by countries, based on their local context; whilst we recognize the potential for learning across countries, sharing experiences and good practices.
- It is crucial to value diversity within the continent and to tailor approaches that suit different settings, including the differences between African countries' parliamentary systems.
- The importance of ensuring that both men and women parliamentarians are committed and engaged in this debate, are demanding and making use of evaluation evidence.
- The need to explore options to support Parliamentarians in this work including (i) multiple sources of finance – internal and external; and (ii) technical support from institutions such as

AfrEA, AfDB, CLEAR, Evalpartners, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Finland, European Union, UNICEF, UNDP UN Women, World Bank and others.

- Evaluators have a role to play in bridging the gap between their work and policy makers. Evaluators need to engage parliamentarians in their work and better communicate findings to them, in a succinct and cogent manner.
- The importance of collaborating with national evaluation associations and civil society organizations engaged in evaluation.

In this context we resolved that:

Participants of this meeting would become founding members of the *Network of African Parliamentarians for Development Evaluation*. The network will, inter alia:

- (i) raise awareness amongst parliamentarians about how useful evaluation can be in their work;
- (ii) share experiences across countries in Africa and beyond; and
- (iii) examine the potential for South-South Cooperation in this area.

A core group will work to help operationalize the network. Each participating country is represented in this core group. The core group will draft a mandate for the group and seek external support for a secretariat to support the network.

Yaoundé

4 March 2014

SENATOR A. WILAKUMTCHALE Mmamah
(KENYA)

Senateur Ouli Ndongo Bonique
Cameroun

MDAMPEA MBIO Nwaele
Senateur Cameroun

senateur Eloumba Redjo Therese

Senator DINHA Ignatius Bayin

Hon. F. T. Baffour MP.
(GHANA)

Hon. Genesis Mbrucksek

Hon Njong Evanghous Ndum

Hon. Edims

Hon. ENOW TANJONG


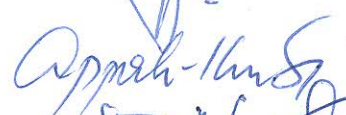


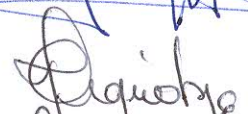
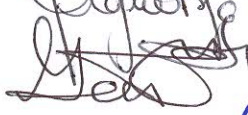
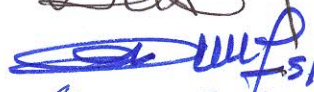


Sen. Roger NBAISA NDINE
(CAMEROON)

HON. SUSAN MUYOKA
(KENYA)

Alioum Alha
Senateur (CAMEROON)

HON. HAROUNA NYAT

Hon Halia Nious
(Cameroun)

- 1) SENATEUR NONO Cameroun 
- 2) Hon. Dr KWO APPIAH-KUB GHANA 
- 3) NGUIEBE JOTEL Cameroun 
- 4 Hon. Nanga e/c MEVANA Cameroun 
- 5 Hon. TIGNOKPA A. Damba TOGO 
- 6 Hon. Girma Seifu Maru Ethiopia 
- 7 Hon. APEZOUKE ASSOU TOGO 
8. Mahmoud Thabit Kombo Tanzania UR 
9. Hon. Sunjeer Biridi Kenya 
- 10! Hon. Evelyn Naome mpegi-Kaabule - UGANDA - 