

ACP Prize for Women and Youth: The ACP Secretariat focuses on creativity and entrepreneurship at the Paris Book Fair



The objective of the "African Literatures Pavilion" is to ensure the visibility of African literature at major international events. After the Pavilion's success, following its launch at the Paris Book Fair in 2017, this initiative by the *Agence Culturelle Africaine* (African Cultural Agency) or ACA, has snowballed and increased its promotional spaces in Europe, and soon, in Africa.

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Message from the ACP Secretary General on International Women's Day 2018



International Women's Day

As we celebrate International Women's Day, I wish to send a special message to all the women who work in the cultural and creative industries in ACP countries.

Today, 8 March, despite the fact that there are still major disparities between men and women in terms of access to skilled employment, management positions, or access to finance, I am pleased to remind you of the commitment made by the ACP Ministers of Culture, who met in Brussels, last November:

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ACP and IFAD strengthen cooperation



Brussels, 6 March 2018 /IFAD/ACP: The President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), H.E Mr. Gilbert F. Houngbo, was received by the ACP Secretary General H.E Dr. Patrick Gomes and the ACP Committee of Ambassadors, as part of a strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations.

As the ACP Group and IFAD share common development priorities, the meeting was an opportunity for both institutions to widen and deepen their relationships in line with agenda 2030 and sustainable development goals.

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New Ambassadors of Rwanda, Tuvalu join ACP family in Brussels



Brussels, 16 February 2018/ ACP: New representatives of ACP member states Rwanda and Tuvalu were presented to the Committee of Ambassadors on Thursday, along with a formal introduction of the new Permanent Representative of the African Union.

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Inaugural statement of the new Chairperson of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors, H.E. Mrs. Sheila Sealy Monteith



The Ambassador of Jamaica to the European Union, H.E. Mrs Sheila Sealy Monteith takes up the role of Chairperson of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors for the period 1 February - 31 July 2018. Her inaugural statement as Chair, setting out Jamaica's outlook and objectives for the ACP Group under its presidency, was delivered to the Committee of Ambassadors on 15 February, 2018. (Full text below)

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Strategies to boost transformative role of ACP mining sector endorsed at high level meeting



Brussels, 14 February 2018 /ACP: Concrete strategies to enhance the transformative role of mining in African, Caribbean and Pacific economies were endorsed at a high level ministerial meeting in Brussels this week, targeting enhanced policy options, sustainable job creation and inter-sectoral linkages.

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Remarkable contributions to culture sector, creative industries celebrated



Brussels, 10 February 2018/ ACP/CulturesPlus/ ACP: Pioneering projects such as *Lamb* - the first Ethiopian film ever to be selected at the Cannes festival, and Docusound - a network of radio documentary makers, many of whom are disabled, were celebrated amongst a wide range of success stories at the final conference of the ACP/Cultures+ Programme, held 8-9 February at the ACP House in Brussels.

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Jamaica to steer Committee of Ambassadors in lead up to Post-Cotonou talks



Brussels, 12 February 2017/ACP: The Ambassador of Jamaica to the European Union, H.E. Mrs. Sheila Sealy Monteith has set in motion a rigorous plan of action under Jamaica's chairmanship of the influential ACP Committee of Ambassadors, made up of envoys from 79 member states who regularly gather to monitor the organisation's activities and policy implementation.

As Chairperson for the period 1 February – 31 July 2018, Ambassador Monteith will also lead a new Bureau of six regional coordinators, along with the Troika, who are responsible for coordinating the work of the Committee of Ambassadors.

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Six pilot projects plus market study launched to enhance competitiveness of Pacific coconut industry



Port Vila, Vanuatu, 7 February 2018/SPC/ACP: A major market study and six pilot projects to advance the coconut industry in Vanuatu and Samoa were launched in Port Vila, thanks to a joint initiative of the European Union, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and the Pacific Community (SPC).

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High level ministerial to tackle job creation in mining sector



Brussels, 6 February 2018/ACP: Mining ministers and senior officials from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific will gather in Brussels at the ACP House on 14 February 2018, for a high level ministerial meeting on mineral resources development, co-organised with the African Mineral Development Centers (AMDC). The ministerial segment will be preceded by two days of discussions by senior officials on 12 and 13 February 2018.

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