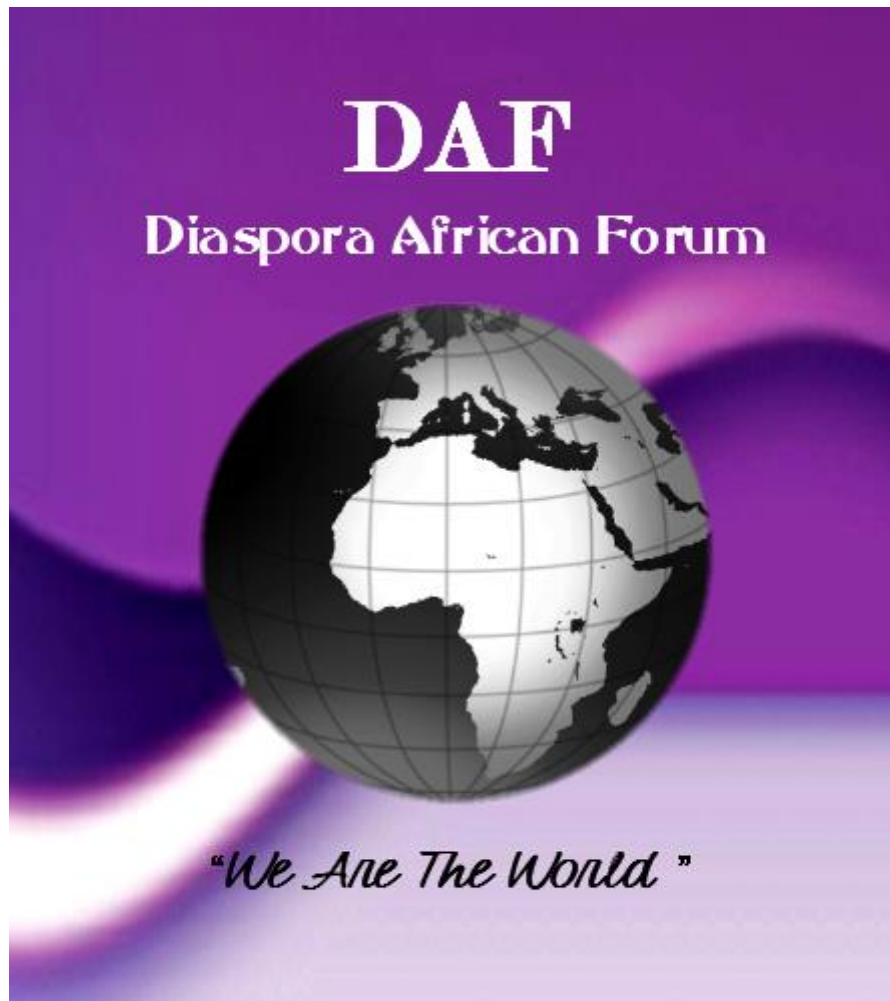


**DIASPORA AFRICAN FORUM (DAF)**  
**BI - ANNUAL REPORT - 2022**  
**PROJECTS & EVENTS**



*DIASPORA AFRICAN FORUM (DAF)*  
*PMB 42 Kotoka International Airport*  
*W. E. B. Dubois Centre, Cantonments – Accra, Ghana*  
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## ***1. LAUNCH OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> REGION OF AFRICA FLAG***

***On 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2022 (02/02/2022)***, The Diaspora African Forum (DAF) launched the 6<sup>th</sup> Region of Africa's flag which took place at the historic W. E. B. Dubois Centre. This event was a tremendous success. We had about 50 countries represented at the event and also over 100 Diaspora organizations launched the flag all over the world during the black history month. As you know DAF's Core mandate is to support the aims and objectives of the African Union (AU). And as part of our objectives, we commissioned a flag which will serve as the official symbolic representation of the Diaspora as the 6<sup>th</sup> region of Africa. The flag was a design of the renowned Development Architect, Professor Kwame Addo.



***On April, 04<sup>th</sup>, 2022, (04/04/2022)***, indeed history was made when we also launched the 6<sup>th</sup> region flag at the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). We presented and handed over the flag to the Secretary-General of AfCFTA, H.E. Wamkele Mene. In attendance were the Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry; Hon. Herbert Krapa and other dignitaries including high level Representatives, Ambassadors and International organizations as well as distinguished traditional leaders from Ghana and Nigeria.



***On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022*** the Diaspora African Forum (DAF) also presented and launched the 6<sup>th</sup> Region of Africa Flag at the Latin American Parliament. This historic ceremony took place at the Journey of African Kings and Queens to Panama, organized by the 6<sup>th</sup> region Chamber of Commerce at Panama.



***On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022***, the Iconic African American Mr. Stanley Straughter launched the African 6<sup>th</sup> region flag in the Council meeting at the City Hall in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. Attorney Kofi Asmah represented on behalf of the Diaspora African Forum (DAF)



The flag was also launched in London, Nigeria, and other part of the world.



**2. HOSTING OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF COASTA RICA AND THE UNITED NATIONS UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE DIRETOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATIONS FUND (UNFPA) AT THE DIASPORA AFRICAN FORUM (DAF)**

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, Ambassador Dr. Erieka Bennett hosted the Vice President of Costa Rica, H.E. Mrs. Epsy Campbell Bar and the United Nations Under-Secretary General/Executive Director of the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), H.E. Dr. Natalia Kanem, with a delegation of about 20 at the Diaspora African Forum (DAF). They were given a tour of the DAF facility and led to unveil their names on the Supporters’ wall.

The Courtesy visit was part of a planned itinerary for the two who arrived in Ghana for a high-level Diaspora Forum on advancing the right of People of African Descent ahead of this year International Day for People of African Descent.



**3. HOSTING OF THE HONOURABLE AMINA GERBA, THE SENATOR OF QUEBEC(RIGAUD), CANADA AT THE DIASPORA AFRICAN FORUM (DAF).**

On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Hon. Amina Gerba, the Senator of Quebec (Rigaud), paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Dr. Erieka Bennett at the Diaspora African Forum (DAF) as part of her itinerary for her Parliamentary mission visit to Ghana. She was accompanied by the High Commissioner of Canada to Ghana, H.E. Kati Csaba; Hon. Rene Cormier, the Senator of New Brunswick; Yues Perron, Member of Parliament for Berthier-Maskinongé (Québec); Doug Shipley, Member of Parliament for Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte; and Remi Bourgaut, Association Secretary for House of Commons and other staff members at the Canadian High Commission. They were given a tour of the DAF facility, a brief history about DAF and the 6<sup>th</sup> Region of Africa and had a discussion on the possible collaboration between DAF and Canada.



#### **4. THE MILLENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF AFRICAN WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS – 2022**

On March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the African Women of Excellence Awards (AWEA) Committee celebrated the Millennial International Edition of African Women of Excellence Awards – 2022 in collaboration with the International Free Zone Authority (IFZA) Dubai, at the Al Habtoor Polo Resort and Club in Dubai. The MIE AWEA 2022 honored 8 remarkable women and men for their outstanding contributions towards gender equality and justice which has become a grand beacon of light in the global journey towards equality.



The Awardees were: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Director-General, World Trade Organization); H. E. Reem Ebrahim Al Hashimy (The Minister of State International Cooperation and Managing Director for Expo 2020); H.E. Rev. Dr. Naa Asie Kabuki Ocansey (Principal Consultant to the Government of Sierra Leone for Direct Investments and Decent Work); H.E. Ambassador Claudia Quintero (Dean of the Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Columbia to Ghana); Mrs. Nadia Murabet. (Founder and President Miracle Africa International Foundation); and Ambassador Nancy Quartey Sam (Vice President of ECOWAS Tourism Private Sector Confederation).



2 outstanding men also received the He for She awards at this event. They were in persons of Mr. Samuel Dossou-Aworet (Chairman, Petrolin Group; Founder and Chairman, Foundation Espace Afrique and Chairman African Business Roundtable) and Mr. Kerry Adler (CEO, President and Founder of Skypower Group of Companies).



#### **5. AMI EXPEDITIONARY HEALTH IN GHANA**

One of the major projects that DAF embarked on in 2021 was a collaborative effort with Ghana Health Service and AMI Expeditionary Health (a global healthcare service provider with operations and facilities all over the world) to improve our health system to a state-of-the-art Health system in Ghana and other parts of Africa.



#### **6. DONATIONS**

DAF in collaboration with Mercy Ship and also Gradian Healthcare donated Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and Airway Kits to the Government of Ghana and the First Lady's Foundation in Malawi respectively

DAF also partnered with the Simpkins family to donate two (2) High Flow Oxygenators to 2 prominent hospitals. These Oxygenators were the first of its kind in Ghana.



## **7. BOOK LAUNCH IN LAGOS, NIGERIA**

His Imperial Majesty, Ooni Adeyeye Onitan Babatunde Ogunwusi Ojaja II, King of the Ife Kingdom organized a launch for the Ambassador's newly published book; *Aging Gracefully, Listening to your body* at Lagos.

The aim of this book is specifically to encourage and educate the general public especially the elderly on how to appreciate life, pay attention and listen to their health and bodies as they age. The books are made available on Amazon, Barnes & Nobles and Authorhouse for purchase.



## **8. 75<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF MRS. RITA MARLEY**

DAF in collaboration with the Rita Marley Foundation had a memorable 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration to honor the life and works of Nana Rita Marley; wife of Bob Marley at the DAF embassy. The event was part of a bigger global celebration of Nana Rita's to mark her 75th birthday which fell on 25th July 2021.



## **9. THE VOYAGE OF A LIFETIME FOR MOTHER VIOLA FLETCHER AND UNCLE REDD, TWO OF THE THREE REMAINING SURVIVORS OF THE BLACK WALL STREET MASSACRE.**

DAF embarked on another major project which was the Coming Home Visit of Mother Viola Fletcher, Uncle Redd and Family (20) to Ghana. This initiative was in collaboration with Our Black Truth.

Mother Fletcher & her brother Uncle Redd are African Americans, currently 108 & 101 years old respectively. They are 2 of the only 3 remaining survivors of the Tulsa Race Massacre on May 31 and June 1, 1921; which led to the loss of several Black owned businesses, homes and most importantly, over 800 lives.

16 events organized in 8 days for their stay in Accra. Some of the programs: Ambassador's Tea which hosted 17 African Ambassadors presenting gifts from their various countries; a naming ceremony durbar organized to give Ghanaian names to them; a courtesy visit to the President and Vice of Ghana who presented gifts & also offered citizenship to 2 icons; among others.



## 10. EDUCATION THROUGH SPORTS

Bechem United FC and Diaspora Africa Forum in collaboration with Miracle Africa International Foundation organized the Maiden Annual Football Tournament dubbed “*Education through Sport*” in Accra Ghana, hosting prominent football teams and scouts from various countries all around the world. Four outstanding football players received the Education through Sports scholarships of \$500.00 each.

Also, our Faith Soccer Academy football team is currently in France on a European Tour.



## 11. HOSTING NEW YORK MAYOR

DAF organized a Welcome/Sankofa wall ceremony at the DAF Embassy to host the Mayor Elect for New York, Mr, Eric Adams. This ceremony was attended by distinguished individuals such as the Mayor of Accra, Hon Mayor Elizabeth Sackey; Archbishop Duncan Williams and Lady Rosa, Dr. Toni Luck, Rabi Kohane, Ambassador Kwesi Quartey, former AU Chairperson, among others. The mayor had the opportunity to put the name of his late mother on the Sankofa Wall and afterwards visited the W.E.B. Dubois Centre to lay a wreath on his tomb.



## 12. DR BENNETT’S DAY

Dr. Bennett’s day is an annual event, celebrated on every 23<sup>rd</sup> December, where Dr. Bennett together with DAF Staff visit the Kumasi Children’s home to organize a party and celebrate the festive season with 90+ children at the home. Aside the celebration, we also donate food items, educational materials, cash, toys and many more to the Staff and kids at the home as our act of kindness, to put smiles on the faces of these little ones and their guardians.



**13. HOSTING OF SOME KEY PERSONALITIES AT DAF**



**Tony! Toni! Toné!**  
American soul/R&B group



**Imani McGee-Stafford**  
American Basketball player



**Tameka Forster & Ryan Glover**  
American fashion stylist and son



**AJ Jonhson & Tiffany Black**  
American Actresses



**Tanya Sam**  
Tech savvy businesswoman  
Real Housewives at Atlanta



**President J. A. Kuffour**  
Former President of Ghana



**Mayor Eric Adams & Archbishop Duncan Williams**



**Mr. & Mrs. Wintley Phipps**  
Trinidad American Singer & wife



## AWARDS

Ambassador Dr. Erieka Bennett was also honored with a number of awards recently. Some of these awards are:



Women in Entrepreneurship Honoree  
by Women in Entrepreneurship  
for her support to women in entrepreneurship



African Woman of the Year  
by Africa Advancement Forum Awards  
in recognition of her outstanding leadership qualities  
& Commitment to the advancement of Africa



Envoy of Peace  
by World Voices in recognition of her effort  
to promote peace and engagement  
between Africans and the African Diaspora



Excellent Work in bridging  
the gap between the African Diaspora  
and Africa

## 14. SANKOFA & SUPPORTERS WALL



Ghana holds memorial service for George Floyd in Accra (Year of Return in collaboration with the Diaspora African Forum (DAF))



(DAF) honoring Chadwick Boseman by adding his name on a plaque to the historic Sankofa Wall at DAF



Breonna Taylor's Name Unveiled On the Sankofa Wall at DAF

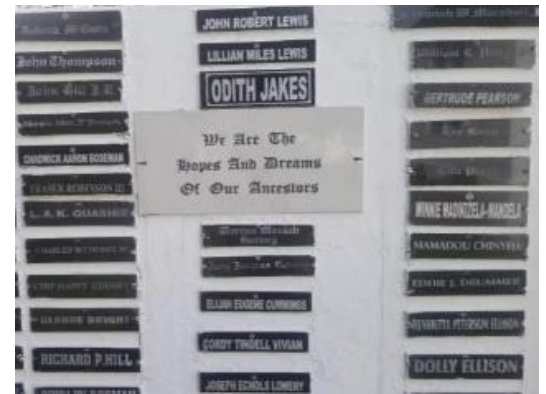
### •SANKOFA WALL

The Sankofa Wall is a memorial wall that has names of renowned leaders, academicians, activists and family members most of whom had the African Dream but never got to experience the Ghana soil. Some of these names include, Harriet Tubman, Marcus Garvey, Bob Marley, Rosa Park Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Chadwick Boseman among others.

We invite you to honor the memories of your loved ones by placing their names on the marble plaques for a contribution of \$100.00 and above to the Mission.

### •SUPPORTERS WALL

This wall has names of individuals and organizations who have supported the DAF mission right from its inception till date. Individuals and organizations make a contribution of \$1,000.00 and above to support the Mission in order to put their names on this wall.



*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT*

## 15. DAF'S KEY ENGAGEMENTS WITH THE AFRICAN UNION OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS

- Signing of the MOU with Mr. Ahmed El –Basheer A. El -Madani, Director Citizens and Diasporas Directorate (CIDO) & Ms. Jennifer Chiriga, Chief of Staff, All of the African Union Commission.



- H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma pays a Courtesy call on H.E. Dr. Erieka Bennett at DAF.



- Presentation of the 6th Region of Africa Flag at AfCFTA





Office of H.E. John Agyekum Kufuor  
Former President of the Republic of Ghana

10<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

Ambassador Dr. Ericka Bennett,  
Diaspora African Forum (DAF)  
W. E. B. Dubois Compound  
Cantonments – Accra, Ghana

Dear Ambassador,

**HOISTING OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> REGION OF AFRICA FLAG**

I am very pleased to hear of the planned hoisting of the Diaspora 6<sup>th</sup> Region flag at the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) secretariat. I have seen the flag and know its designer well. It is perfectly befitting the 6<sup>th</sup> Region.

Thank you for your kind words attributing the start of your diplomatic mission to my administration. You have proven your commitment to Ghana and Africa, and I am proud of you.

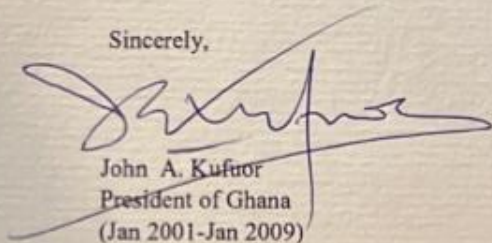
Indeed the forum has justified the allocation of the land by my government in which it stands. I hope that more Diaspora Organizations would rise and thrive with the help of the Forum.

I commend the forum's ability to be self-sustaining and also for gaining the recognition and respect of the major institutions of the continent.

I fully endorse the hoisting of the 6<sup>th</sup> Region Flag and believe that it represents an important step in the development of the 6<sup>th</sup> Region.

Please accept my congratulations and commendations on this momentous occasion. I stand with you in your struggles and in joyous occasions like this.

Sincerely,



John A. Kufuor  
President of Ghana  
(Jan 2001-Jan 2009)



**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**  
*Office of the First Lady*

October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

**H.E Dr. Erieka Bennett**  
**Co-Chair of the African Women of Excellence Awards (AWEA)**

Dear Dr. Bennett,

On behalf of the Her Excellency of the First Lady of the Republic of Rwanda, Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, I wish to express again my sincere gratitude and appreciation to you and the African Women of Excellence Awards committee for recognizing Her Excellency's work through Imbuto Foundation in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

This award communicates hope for African women. It also serves as a recognition for their resilience and bravery – a strong reminder that their efforts have not and will not go unnoticed. Through initiatives like yours, African Women are uplifted, empowered, and inspired to do more.

We wish to express again our gratitude and commit our full support towards this initiative.

Sincerely,


**Radegonde Ndejuru**  
**Advisor to the First Lady of the Republic of Rwanda**

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*Office of the First Lady of the Republic of Rwanda*

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**NIGERIANS IN DIASPORA COMMISSION**  
OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN / CEO



NIDC/CM/001/22/1

24<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

**Ambassador Dr. Erieka Bennett,**  
Diaspora Africa Forum (DAF),  
W.E.B Dubois Compound Cantonments,  
Accra, Ghana.

*Mama 'D',*

**LETTER OF SUPPORT - HOISTING OF THE 6TH REGION OF AFRICA FLAG.**

I write to extend my full support towards the hoisting of the 6<sup>th</sup> Region of Africa Flag, and to thank you for the invitation to attend its launch.

2.0 This brilliant feat indeed marks an awakening through the Diasporic sphere, and the Commission in utmost support, joins you in celebrating all the wonderful accomplishments that have shed positive light on the African Diaspora.

3.0 I look forward to working with you in the future, towards the continued preparation of new programs, celebrating the African Diaspora who are proud and willing to connect to Africa, for national development.

4.0 My hearty congratulations to you on this excellent achievement.

5.0 Please accept the assurance of my high and most sincere regards.

**Hon. Abike Dabiri-Erewa**  
Chairman/CEO.