

REPORT
ON
The ONE
AFRICA
DIALOGUE

TOPIC:
ASSESSING
AFRICA'S
STATE OF
GOVERNANCE,
POST-

INDEPENDENC E

AFRICAN VOICES
INTERNATIONAL

FREEDOM IN AFRICA



REPORT ON The ONE AFRICA DIALOGUE

The **ONE AFRICA DIALOGUE** under the topic **ASSESSING AFRICA'S STATE OF GOVERNANCE, POST-INDEPENDENCE**, was a Forum held on Zoom amongst Freedom Giants and other Pan-Africanists, on the 12th of September, 2020. The Forum was implemented to make the African populace, particularly the youth to be voices of change, in our Nation's Governance and Societies, for the smooth growth of the African Governing System and Society.

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL on her Goals of seeing to the Cross-validation of the Continent's Governance believes that the various Governments of our African Countries, can only thrive when Africanists raise their voices on how the Governments should be led. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** believes in Africa, as the preferred destination for a vibrant Democracy and Good Quality Governance.

The meeting was held by Pan Africanists from Zimbabwe, Uganda, Gambia, Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt, Kenya, South Sudan, Angola and Ghana.

The Meeting began at 6:00pm and ended at 7:10pm. The Time Zones for the Various Countries were as follows. 6:00pm: Ghana 7:00pm: Nigeria 8:00pm: South Africa 9:00pm: South Sudan

The Meeting began with an Opening Prayer by Madam Felicity Odame; a Freedom Giant in AVI, after which there was an introduction by Madam Mary Aduamoah; a staff of **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**.

The Meeting was chaired by Freedom Giant, Isaac Boadu (President of **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**) at 6:15pm. The topic, **ASSESSING THE STATE OF AFRICA'S GOVERNANCE, POST-INDEPENDENCE**, was a very crucial topic, which was geared towards directing African Leaders towards leading their various African Countries, in the right way, to reflect the Freedom, we stand and have always stood for during the Colonisation Period, Pre and Post the Colonial Period, also. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**, believes Africans were never uncivilized, but were just exploited by the Western world, into accepting their way and manner of doing things. A critical look of the Freedom we stand for, needs an assessment after several years of Post-Independence by the African Anatomy.

FACTORS THAT WERE DELIBERATED UPON BY FREEDOM GIANTS

1. THE MAXIMUM EXPOSURE OF THE RULE OF LAW, IN THE AFRICAN ANATOMY

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL came out with a firm standing that, the Prevalence of the Rule of Law in our African Countries on an average note, is minimal. The Rule of Law works though and is operative but is not fully implemented in every platform, in our Societies. Governing leaders, technocrats, the elites, Upper Class and Politicians dwindle with the Rule of Law to favour them and mitigate the Freedom of the Low Class, vulnerable, neglected and those in Abject Poverty. This has created a scene where people within the Lower Class feel afraid to even voice out their views when they see that things are not going on well, in the society, because they know they will not be favoured and possibly threatened. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** is calling on the African anatomy to rise up, and be void of Discrimination in the Practice of the Law in our various countries. Our African Countries can only thrive when we promote Equality, Integrity and Fairness in the Practice of the Law. This is the only way, we can

ensure a fair warning to Posterity to refrain from taking the into to their own hands and stop abusing Power and infringing the rights of others. This is the time for us to cause a change and we must be the change. We must ensure that the law is not below any individual to promote rapid development in our nations. The change we want can only thrive, when we operate in fairness and are all law-abiding citizens.

2. QUALITY OF ELECTIONS IN THE AFRICAN ANATOMY

Elections in the African Continent cannot be hailed because of the manner and way, at which such Political Events, are carried out. The viability of a credible elections each time is always in question, in a large percentage of our African Countries. This has created conflicts and misunderstanding between Political Parties Citizens, Religions and various Ethnic Bodies in the African Continent. We must learn to understand that, the nation does not belong to a particular group or sector of people, but belong to the entire citizenry in a nation. As a result, elections are not and must not be manipulated in any country. Elections are carried out to reflect the true representation of the citizens in the country. In the case where Elections are manipulated, it defies the Freedom of the country, because the path of Freedom, the Nation must thrive in, is thwarted and derailed which now leads to dictatorial regimes and Governments handling power. We must allow Fairness to breed in every level of elections, that is carried out in our African nations.

3. INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL believes in Individual Freedom, as a Right that must be exercised by every individual in the Political Atmosphere. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** prohibits every Social Anatomy that does not give individuals and various parties concerned with National Development, the honour to air their views. The individual citizen must be able to exercise his Freedom of Speech by voicing out his or her complaints, suggestions and views or how things should go, in the National Circle. Individuals must not be coerced into accepting Mediocre Leadership and corrupt Governance. They must be able to voice out their views as proactive steps, of ensuring a Progressive Governance, backed by a Democratic Body. Limitations should never be placed on the rights or individuals to voice out their views. The populace must never settle for less, whilst our leaders accumulate huge receipts, into their accounts. We must be voices of change, so that our countries never run bankrupt, have stagnant economies and retrogressions in our Development Plans. We must always seek for the integrity and dignity of our African Countries. We must ensure that things are done the appropriate ways through the change we propagate through our bold and courageous voices of change. We must remain firm no matter where we stand as people of change. We must stand for Freedom and expansion in Development in every Crum and nanny in our Districts in our cities of Africa.

4. POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Governance must not only in the hands of our leaders. The Central System must make way for all Political Parties, Civil Society Organisations, Individuals and Social Groups to participate in the Decision-Making Processes of the Countries, in Africa. An inclusive Governance with all Major stakeholders and Interested partners must always be accepted, once the goal is for the Development of the nation. Africa will thrive when the Government is in the hands of the people and the whole populace must be involved a fair distribution of the National Cake of Development, in the countries of Africa. This is the only ways we thrive

in Unity and Tranquillity. Fairness is a major factor, for the Socio-Economic Development of the Countries in West Africa. Whenever opposition parties and the populace of a country as a whole is treated fairly, they feel appreciated and dignified to also contribute their quota to Rational Development, for the smooth Development of our countries. Africa can thrive when we promote Equitable Development that allows the masses, the Majority and the Minority, to walk and live in the Freedom, they deserve and that our forefathers have fought for. We must promote Political Participation in Governance in every country for Sustainable and Equitable Development in the African Anatomy.

5. INDEPENDENCY OF PRESS

The Media institutions in Africa, can thrive where they are independent and void of various Political limitations that serve as a canker to their smooth operations and services for the Freedom of their countries. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** believes that the Press is one of the best institutions to eschew corruption in the world. This can only thrive when the Press have the Freedom to operate as Media Systems and not “Political Parties”, favouring the cause of only their parties. Media Institutions that operate well are grounded on the Principles of Neutrality and Fairness for the smooth operation of our countries. This is the only way, Africa can thrive; when we have Independent Press Systems who services, are not validated based on Political Chauvinism but on their Fairness and Neutrality in their various Reportages. Let us give our Press Systems the Freedom, they need to carry out their operations fairly to promote the Dignity and Integrity of our African Countries.

IMPORTANCE OF DEMOCRACY IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

1. DEMOCRACY ENSURES ORDER IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF OUR COUNTRY

Democracy ensures that fairness and order thrives in the administration of the country right from the metropolitan level to the district level. Democracy ensures that no arms, sectors, units or departments in Government are superior to each other. Democracy ensures that there is order in the operation of services in the country, and there is fairness and transparency. Democracy lays all services to the heart of the nation, and ensures that all services are geared towards protecting the laws of the land, for the proper handling of services in the country. A proper democratisation of the nation will ensure that all civil servants and private workers, adhere strictly to the rules and laws of the land, so that no one takes the laws into their own hands or manipulates things into favouring their parochial desires. Democracy ensures that all things are critically working for the judicious course of the nation’s development in all sectors of Governance. This puts everyone; from the child to the teenager to the adult and the aged in national concern, since the laws preserve each age sector from having their rights being infringed on.

2. DEMOCRACY PROMOTES EQUALITY IN THE NATIONAL CAKE DISTRIBUTION

Democracy promotes a fair share of the nation’s development cake, and ensures that no region, society, institution or group of people are left behind, in the distribution of the nation’s

development agenda. Democracy ensures that no group or sector in government or region is given a higher attention to other regions. Democracy ensures that the nation as a whole has an equal representation of development in all her regions, down to the district level. Democracy puts the individual citizen as highly esteemed, and ensures that the individual citizen, must have and enjoy life to the brim, have maximum sufficiency and comfort anywhere, he or she decides to reside in the country to live. This promotes Freedom everywhere, and ensures that no group of people are living mediocre lives wherever they are, because they are provided with the same kind of resourced in any other region or city in the nation. The same kind of hospitals and health centres, public transport systems, shopping centres, academic institutions, luxuriant centres, airports, and all other necessities to good and quality lives in our nation are all at our immediate disposal.

3. DEMOCRACY SAFEGUARDS THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS.

Democracy safeguards the rights of individuals in every community and town in every nation. This is because under the Democratic system of Government, individuals are treated fairly and do not have their rights infringed upon. Everybody is supposed to live a life worth living that brings happiness, joy and sufficiency to themselves and their families. Under the Democratic system of Governments, no sector, region or group of people are left untreated by the government, undermined, abused or maltreated. The constitution in every democratic government ensures that each individual is able to voice out his or her views on national issues, where deemed necessary, vote during general and district elections where qualified to vote, live freely without being threatened, be able to move freely to and fro in the country, be able to access and acquire education to the highest degree, be able to operate business once qualified and live as a citizen of their respective nation without any intimidation from any foreigner or fellow citizen.

4. DEMOCRACY SUTAINS A PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN A NATION.

Democracy plays a crucial role in sustaining a progressive development in a country. This is because, democracy provides security for citizens and boosts their confidence to be able to do more to help their nation. When people's rights are being secured in a nation, citizens know they are really included in the governance of the country. They become elated with the peace and unity in the country and contribute their quota toward where they feel necessary to do, towards national development. Democracy also encourages foreign investors to invest in a country. This eschews stagnation in country's economies and promotes a progression in their economies since there is persistent productivity in the nation. Whenever people know Political leaders are not dictatorial and are practicing Democracy practicality and not "oligarchic" governments, they become passionate about nation building, since they know they will not be cheated and give in their all towards National Development. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** recommends every

african to be nationalistic and this is why we center on Governments to be pragmatically democratic all their time in their modes of governance.

5. DEMOCRACY PROMOTES POLITICAL STABILITY IN NATIONS.

Democracy promotes stability in Governance and ensures that all processes and services in the nation, handled by the government are carried out in a just manner and in dignity. Democracy ensures that no one goes above the laws of the land and mishandles power in the nation, but works in alignment with the laws of the land. In such a democratic government, human rights are secured and all kinds of kleptocratic, dictatorial, "oligarchic" governments, and all kinds of oppressive leaderships do not thrive in the nation. Democratic governments always promote peace and unity in a nation, which fosters national development. Democratic governments are always within the reach of their citizens, and pay heed to the plea and needs of the populace, since they come into power to serve themselves and not to fulfil their parochial desires. Democracy always keeps the Government, public and private sector under check, and this promotes stability and the security of a nation from imperialists and from corruption.

HOW WE CAN ENSURE A DEVELOPED DEMOCRACY IN THE AFRICAN ANATOMY

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL has classified Africa's state of democracy, as a Growing Democracy. In General, countries in Africa do not have facade democracies or poor democracies and neither do african countries also operate in developed democracies. There is still more room for improvement, and we can do more to take our countries to another level of democracy. The following are remedies, **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** is recommending to Governments of Africa to adopt in order to have matured or developed democracies for the Freedom of humanity, in Africa.

1. ENGAGING OF THE YOUTH IN DECISION MAKING

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL is calling on the various governments of african countries to place greater emphasis on engaging the youth in the course of decision making for our countries, in Africa. The youth must not be spectators whenever the meetings concerning national issues are going on. The youth must be active stakeholders in contributing towards the direction their countries, should take. The youth are the future of the country, and must taken into consideration in the National Agenda. They must engaged on issues that showcases their opinions about National Agendas, the reforms they want and the kind of remedies they need in their society and nation. The strength of a nation depends on the youth. The capacity and quality of skilled youths and literates within the youth range, determines the strength of the country's

future. This is because the youth are those who will handle the affairs of the nation, in future. As a result, greater emphasis must be placed on the youth for the safety and security of the nation's future.

2. ENSURING A PRACTICAL MULTI-PARTY DEMOCRACY

Multi-Party Democracy must be pragmatically felt within the populace and all representatives and members of various political parties, civil society organisations and associations within a country. The governance of the nation must have all concerned stakeholders included so that we have a balanced growth that considerably favours the entire citizenry within a country. Just as each part of the human anatomy is significant in total functioning of the human anatomy, so is every political party essential in the contribution of ideas towards the development of a country, as a whole. The party in power must not have a dictatorial leadership which prohibits the consideration of the minority and other opposition parties during parliamentary meetings and national discourses. There must be enough room for the consideration of their views and where they are beneficial, they are implemented. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** entreats the presence of ministers appointed from various political parties in a government, in the political anatomies of Africa. These collaborative efforts will play a critical role in promoting National Equity and spearhead transparency and accountability in governance.

3. INDEPENDENCE OF THE PRESS IN THEIR SERVICES

The Press is a major pillar in the sustenance of National Integrity in a country. Every country must grant the Press, the freedom for them to carry out their activities, irrespective of which political party is in power. They must be able to carry out their services without any limitation to their general responsibility of providing quality news concerning the state of affairs in a nation. The Press play a critical role in maintaining the integrity of a nation. This is because their mode of reportage, will always keep governments under check, in order for them to carry out their services excellently, void of corrupt practices. Corruption has been on the high in Africa, because the Press in Africa have been manipulated to be silent about matters at stake, whilst touching only on "soft" issues and issues that promote the reputation of the government in power. The Press are given "gifts and tokens" so as to be circumspect in their reportage to avoid reporting bad governing practices by the government in power. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** is entreating every citizen in Africa, to raise their voices where they see the Press, are being infringed of their rights, to act responsibly as a neutral body, for order, accountability and cleanliness to thrive in both the public and private sectors in their respective nations.

4. SUSTENANCE OF INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS

Individuals in every country must be able to live and express themselves freely without any intimidation or abuse on their rights. They must be able to live confidently as citizens of their respective nations and contribute their quota to national development where necessary, and towards the progress of their lives. Individuals must be able to vote freely for the presidential candidate they want without being humiliated or abused, live freely in the nation, express their views in a respective manner freely, have access to quality education, be able to join any political party, non-governmental or civil society organisation or association of their choice and be able to move freely in their nations. They must be able to operate and carry out their activities freely in their nations. There are basic rights, everyone must be able to operate in. No individual must be discriminated, looked down upon, abused or enslaved because of his race, gender, partisan interests or political affiliations, academic background or any basis that despises and degrades the human standard or living. Africa will thrive when we are able to walk and live the best of our lives without anyone's rights, being infringed upon.

5. A CREDIBLE RULE OF LAW

The Rule of law must be practiced with credibility and in genuity, in every country and must be neutral in its application to everybody, no matter their social status, race, gender, academic qualification or political affiliation. Everyone who goes against the laws of the land, must be dealt with, without partiality. Fairness and Justice must be the order of the day in every dealing and daily practice, in which the law has her operative power, enforced. This will always ensure that people live disciplined and serve their nations in dignity, which will protect the integrity of the nation. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** is entreating all individuals, institutions and leaders to walk in honour, and perform their services in adherence to the rule of law. No one must manipulate the laws of the land, to favour a group of people. There must be justice everywhere and this is how posterity can proceed to walk in Freedom and live with a progressive development in their various countries. Let us all adhere the rule of law, and live as dignified citizens in our various countries . Let us not sway to the left or right, but follow strictly the laws of our land.

WORD FROM PRESIDENT ISAAC KWABENA BOADU; PRESIDENT OF AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL

Africa has come a long way, to where she is now Post-Colonisation, and I must commend the african anatomy and leadership for being very determined and staying on course to sustain her freedom, she already had pre-colonisation. We; Africans, are a special people and I believe it is

only when we walk unitedly as one people, that we can realise our goal of sustaining freedom in this part of the continent.

Let us keep on fighting for our freedom. Let us never settle for less. I always say Africa is not a place, but a state of mind. We are a people of Freedom. We were born as free beings, and we must always make sure we live as free ones. We cannot fight for our freedom, and live in the opposite direction

Let us continue to move forward and create a formidable ground for posterity to live and thrive in Freedom, in this part of the continent.

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL is elated to have you all, and we know together as one, the continent shall be transformed. Let us always hear your voice, in the continent. Make an impact. Transform the continent. Be a front liner. Revolutionize Africa. Make it happen.

Isaac Boadu

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL
(President)

CONCLUSION

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL is fully confident of a transformed Africa, that will be self-reliant and governed. We have always been a people of Excellence and we can only continue in Excellence. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** believes, we can walk the talk of Freedom, when we act proactively and promote an all inclusive democracy, where the entire african citizenry feels at home, no matter where they are.

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL believes that this conference has gingered a lot of africans to be optimistic about the future of Africa, voice out their views and take action, as they invest in Africa for a blessed posterity of Africa.

Let us go further. Let us cause changes everywhere we are. Let us be agents of change, from where we are. Let us start from where we are, and make changes where we are.

Africa is blessed with people, with a Freedom mindset. We will never allow ourselves to be enslaved. We will change the settings of things everywhere. We will ensure a transparent and credible Governing Sector. We will ensure dignity everywhere in Africa, so our economies can thrive for the change, we need. Let us transform Africa. Let us revolutionize Africa. Let us make it happen.

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL
FREEDOM IN AFRICA

ABOUT AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL is a Socio-Political Non-Governmental Organization and Civil Society, committed to promoting Democracy as a means of sustaining Freedom in the hearts and minds of Ghanaians and Africans in the continent and around the world.

Africa has experienced a consistent trend of enslavement for a long period of time, even after several years of post-independence from her colonial masters in the various African countries. This has brought and left a scar of hopelessness in the African society. The various kinds of enslavement meted out on our African forefathers and mothers has brought about various challenges in the African continent. This has brought about a culture of political biasness, gender inequalities, superiority and inferiority complexes, leadership challenges, corruption, dictatorship, child abuse, imperfection in our way of doing things and mental servitude in the minds of Africans. AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL has realised this problem, and has come at a point in time of world history like this, to create platform for the youth to stand out and bring a revolution from enslavement to freedom where all humanity, both in Africa and outside of Africa can live in Peace, Justice and Equity and thrive under fair and Good Quality lives.

OBJECTIVES

1. To serve as an anchor for Good Governance in Africa and promote respect for the constitutional laws in the various African countries.
2. To promote Nationalism and create the sense of awareness for nation building amongst youth in Africa.
3. To raise awareness concerning the rights of individuals as citizens of their various countries in Africa, to live in freedom and peace in the African anatomy.
4. To promote National Conscientisation amongst the youth towards engaging in National Projects for the Socio-economic Development of the country.
5. To promote self confidence in the youth of Africa, to take up individual initiatives to promote the development of the country.
6. To promote Pan- Africanism and dignity of the African Continent.
7. To promote liberation of the African Populace whose hearts have been troubled by the various forces of oppression, pre and post-independence of African countries.
8. To promote Democracy for the freedom of humanity in Africa.

SOLUTIONS

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL has these modules as centres to enlighten the youth and the society as a whole on their rights, who they are and the freedom they have, for the liberation we want in our society. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**, will be having conferences and summits as well as special projects aimed at impacting the youth with strategical African mindsets to make Africa, a hub of Freedom.

The following are Modes of Specialities in **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**.

1. **THE AFRICAN CULTURE** 2. **DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE** 3. **GENDER EQUALITY** 4. **BUSINESS ANATOMY** 5. **THE POLITICAL ANATOMY** 6. **HUMAN RIGHTS** 7. **YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP** 8. **EDUCATION** 9. **NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CORE VALUES OF AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL, has certain tenets, we believe are foundational principles for humanity to live freely and thrive well, in Africa. We believe, the right set of values will strengthen equip **THE BLACK MAN** and **THE BLACK WOMAN** to shine in all areas of life, and make impact in Africa, and the world.

NATIONALISM

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL, believes every individual in Africa must have his or her nation at heart. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**, believes that the affairs of the nation must be the concern of each and every individual in the country. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**, believes there is greatness in everybody and therefore, their opinions, views, concerns and partnerships with the Government and individually in contribution, will add greatly to the development of their individual country and the great continent, Africa, as a whole.

EXCELLENCE

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL, believes there can be perfection in everything that is done. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** imbibes in individuals, to be perfect in all their activities at work, home, at church and in all that calls to nation building. God created man to be perfect and **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** believes that, excellence attached to everything particularly in Africa, will bring forth tremendous results from around the world.

JUSTICE

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL , believes in the equitable administration of various shares in a Political Anatomy. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** , believes that, with Justice, the continent can thrive on higher grounds of Democracy and be void of corruption. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** entreats Governing Bodies, institutions and individuals to be just in all their operations. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**

, believes that with Justice, we can live in Solidarity, Peace and Unity, as a nation and a continent.

DISCIPLINE

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL believes that the tenet Discipline, is one of the most effective values in building a strong Democratic Anatomy. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** , believes that if people are able to abide by the laws, codes an etiquettes and rules and regulations of the land, there will fast growth and development in the continent. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** , entreats all individuals to be disciplined in their way of living.

PATRIOTISM

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL , believes that every individual must be devoted to his or her country totally for the advancement of the country. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL** , believes that patriotism serve as an anchor, for honesty and decency in every individuals way of life towards national projects and matters that affect the nation's welfare indirectly or directly. **AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL**, believes that as a nation, we must cherish our cultures, traditional symbols, values, rich history, our products and our champions. This will push the young at heart to go in for greater things, to make the continent always transformed and better and better.

AFRICAN VOICES INTERNATIONAL

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