2021 African University Day Report

Day One (1) featured a Members Only Session with a welcome remark by the Director of ICT, Communications and Knowledge Management at the AAU, Madam Nodumo Dhlamini. The coordinators of the North Africa and East Africa Regional Offices also delivered their welcome remarks to participants, calling for collaboration towards achieving the target of this year's theme, as well as other continental blueprints such as Agenda 2063. Professor Olusola Bandele Oyewole, Secretary General of the AAU, gave a high-level address to participants and shared his broad vision for all AAU Members. This was followed by a presentation by the Membership Officer at the AAU, Miss Edith Laari, who introduced new members of the AAU, highlighting the key benefits of being a member as well as the various opportunities available for partnerships. Madam Nodumo Dhlamini wrapped up with a presentation on the theme "Promoting Collaborations Among AAU Member Institutions". This session was moderated by Miss Naomi Darko, Communications Assistant at the AAU Secretariat.

Day two (2) of the Africa Universities' Day celebrations featured an event hosted by the AAU eLearnAfricaLMS team on "How to Create A Course Using The AAUeLearnAfrica Learning Management System". The AAU eLearnAfricaLMS platform is supporting the efforts of higher education institutions in Africa, through the provision of FREE eLearning tools to make online education accessible, while generating income for schools, universities, and institutions. The events threw more light on key issues concerning the platform including ways of uploading and accessing courses on the platforms. Further details on the AAU eLearnAfricaLMS can be accessed from here https://www.elearnafricalms.com/.

Day three (3) of the Africa Universities' Day featured two events. The first was hosted by the North Africa Regional Office (NARO) of the AAU in Cairo, Egypt. This session featured a high-level panel discussion on the theme for this year's celebration and was moderated by Professor Amany El-Sharif, Coordinator of the North Africa Regional Office. The second session featured

an event organized by the Nexus International University and the AAU eLearnAfricaLMS team on "How Digital and Online will Exponentially Grow Education Access in Africa and Support Sustainable Growth".

Day four (4) of the Africa Universities' Day celebrations featured two (2) parallel sessions. The first session was an event hosted by the East Africa Regional Office (EARO) of the AAU, moderated by Professor Faiza Osman Mohamed, Coordinator of EARO. Insightful presentations and remarks were made by experienced personalities. The second parallel session was an event hosted by the AAU and the African Network Information Centre (AFRINIC). This was moderated by Mr. Abednego Corletey, Senior IT Officer at the AAU Secretariat.

Day five (5) the climax of the weeklong celebrations was the event hosted on the fifth day, the main Africa Universities Day (12th November, the date for the establishment of the AAU). This session started with a welcome address by Madam Nodumo Dhlamini, Director of ICT, Communications and Knowledge Management. Professor Saeed Bakri Osman, President of the AAU and Professor Olusola Bandele Oyewole, Secretary General of the AAU, delivered key messages of hope and encouragement, calling on African Universities to work closely with the AAU in achieving the targets of the theme. The keynote speaker for the event, Professor Karen Ferreira-Meyers through her presentation, laid the foundation for the discussion on this year's theme, "Building Technology Based Resilient Universities, Now!". The session was wrapped up with closing remarks from the Secretary General of the AAU, Professor Olusola Bandele Oyewole.