Friend,

One Africa Campaign

The United African Organization has launched a petition on Change.org, lobbying the U.S. Department of State to include the whole African continent under its Bureau of African Affairs.

View and Sign!

Why are we petitioning?

The State Department’s Bureau of African Affairs, led by Assistant Secretary Johnnie Carson, currently excludes Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Western Sahara from its agenda.

Instead, the aforementioned countries are grouped with the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, together with Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia and others.

This distinction is based on false labels and outdated racist categorization with no empirical validity. The artificial distinction between North Africa and the rest of Africa could be perceived as a balkanization scheme, which negatively impacts US foreign policy relations throughout the entire continent of Africa.

North Africa is geographically and historically part of the African continent, and all fifty-three (53) independent African states, including North African countries, are represented in the African Union (AU).
We strongly believe that it would be far more productive for the State Department to engage with the entire continent of Africa, including North Africa, under its Bureau of African Affairs.

We are one Africa, from the Cape to Cairo, indivisible and bound together! Therefore, no square inch of African land should be excluded from African affairs.

What can we do?

Join the UAO in petitioning the U.S. Department of State to include the entire continent of Africa under its Bureau of African Affairs!

**View and Sign the Petition!**

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**United African Organization presents:**

6th Annual Chicago Summit on
**African Immigrants & Refugees**

**+**

**Community Resource Fair**

Schultz Auditorium,
IIT Tower Building
10 West 35th Street, Chicago, IL 60616

Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 9:00am - 5:00pm

For more information, email: summit@uniteafricans.org

To register online, [click here](#).
Join us, Saturday Feb 4th!

ILLINOIS IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION SUMMIT

ONE NATION, ONE DREAM
EDUCATION IS POWER

DATE & TIME:
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012
9AM - 1PM (DOORS OPEN AT 8AM)

PLACE:
MALCOLM X COLLEGE
1900 W VAN BUREN, CHICAGO

FREE WORKSHOPS
- BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN! FREE WORKSHOP
- STOPPING DEPORTATION/IMMIGRATION:
  Free Workshop on Keeping Your Family Together
- UNITING AMERICA THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM
- HEALTHCARE REFORM / EDUCATION / JOBS
- GET OUT THE VOTE 2012!!
- RUNNING FOR YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL
- YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT WWW.ICIRR.ORG

Event sponsored by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. Contact aarreea@icIRR.org for any questions.

ICIRR: Education is Power!

UAO event to mark ANC’s centenary

To mark the 100th anniversary of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa

The United African Organization invites you to a panel discussion and multimedia presentation on:

The ANC and African Liberation Struggles

Panelists:
- Fekre Nesbitt (Nzambique & Angola)
- James Thidiwa (Zimbabwe)
- Joshua Nkgoza (Zambia)
- Fatuma Keruma (Tanzania)

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2012
Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm
Venue: Bronzeville Room, 6th floor
1797 S. Layton Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53207

RSPV: (312) 949-9690 events@uniteafricans.org

UAO’s ANC Centenary Event

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOP

Next Citizenship workshop:

Date: Saturday, February 18
Time: 9:00am-12:00pm
Venue: Indo-American Center, 6328 N.
California Avenue, Chicago, IL 60659

To register or for more information, contact Cheikh Diop:
Phone: (312) 949 9980
Email: cheikhtdiop@uniteafricans.org

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Next Leadership workshop:

Date: Saturday, Feb 25, 2011
Time: 9:00am-1:00pm
Venue: 10 West 35th Street
6th floor, Chicago, IL 60616

Topic: Grant-writing II
Speaker: Maria Gay

You MUST register in advance for the workshop in order to attend for free - email:
training@uniteafricans.org or call
Phone: (312) 949 9980

ICIRR 2nd ANNUAL ILLINOIS IMMIGRATION INTEGRATION SUMMIT

"Education is Power"

Date: Saturday, February 4, 2012
Time: 9am-1pm
Venue: Malcolm X College
1900 W Van Buren,
Chicago, IL

Registration information available on ICIRR website.

UAO DISCUSSION / FILM ON ANC & AFRICAN SOLIDARITY
As part of its contribution to mark the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa’s 100th birthday, the UAO will host a panel discussion and film screening.

We hope to use this event to reflect upon liberation movements across the African continent, and the solidarity that was built between countries in Africa and the ANC during the anti-apartheid struggle. These lessons from our history can inform how we build links and organize today!

Join us for a panel discussion and film screening on:

The ANC’s links to other liberation struggles in Africa, and the contributions of African countries to the struggle against apartheid.

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2012
Time: 3:30 pm-6:00 pm
Venue: Bronzeville Room
6th Floor, IIT Tower Building
10 West 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

We will open the event with some clips from Have You Heard from Johannesburg, a series of documentaries by Connie Fields about the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa.

Our panelists are: Prexy Nesbitt (on Mozambique and Angola), James Thindwa (on Zimbabwe), Joshua Ngoma (on Zambia) and Fatuma Karuma (Tanzania).

There will be time for questions and comments from the audience.

Please RSVP:
Get your tickets online!
Or via email: events@uniteafricans.org
Or via phone: +312-949-9980

NEWS ROUND-UP

Money matters: Leadership workshops focus on the ABC of fundraising

Panel discussion and film screening on the ANC’s links to other liberation struggles in Africa, and the contributions of African countries to the struggle against apartheid.

Date: Sat, February 11, 2012
Time: 3:30 pm-6:00 pm
Venue: 6th Floor, IIT Tower Building
10 West 35th Street

HUGH MASEKELA CONCERT IN CHICAGO

Legendary South African musician Hugh Masekela is in Chicago in February to give a concert:

Date: Sat, February 18, 2012
Time: 7:30 pm
Venue: Pick-Staiger Hall,
Northwestern University, 50 Arts Circle Drive Evanston, IL 60208
Tickets: VIP tickets through ANC 100 committee: $25 for adults and $10 for students. RSVP by 2/2 to: vickie.casanova@yahoo.com
Other tickets: buy online via Northwestern

TUNE INTO ALIE KABBA’S AFRICA SPEAKS ON:

Sat, February 25, 2012 from 2:00 pm–3:00 pm (CT)
on WVON AM1690

GIVING BACK

Each African Advocate, we feature a member of our community who is ‘giving back’

Mombasa Relief Initiative

UAO supporter Amania Drane is part of an organization called Mombasa Relief Initiative (MRI).

Founded in 1993, MRI came about through the combined efforts of 2 Kenyans and 7 Americans. The group wanted...
At the UAO's latest Leadership Workshop on January 21, 2012, participants learned about fundraising strategies. Maria Gray facilitated the workshop. Ms. Gray has spent many years in the non-profit sector working on bringing in grants.

The next Leadership Workshop, on February 25, will continue the discussion on fundraising.

The UAO's African Leadership Development Program is targeted at African community leaders in and around Chicago.

Leadership workshops take place every month and cover a range of topics. The workshops are free but you must register in advance to attend. The next workshop will be:

**Date:** Saturday, February 25, 2012  
**Time:** 9:00am-1:00pm  
**Venue:** 6th Floor, 10 West 35th Street, Chicago IL 60616

**Topic:** Grant Writing 2

**Facilitator:** Marcia Lipetz

Marcia Lipetz, PhD, has spent her career in Chicago's philanthropic, nonprofit, and academic communities, primarily in leadership positions. Lipetz is currently consulting with foundations and corporations on grantmaking and community involvement. She was the first full-time Executive Director of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, the founding Executive Director of the WPWR-TV Channel 50 Foundation (now known as the Alphawood Foundation), and the President & CEO of the Executive Service Corps of Chicago. Lipetz is a past Board Chair of the Donors Forum.

E-mail training@uniteafricans.org to register or call (312) 949-9980 for more information.

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**African Voices in January**

January's African Voices Podcast featured:

- News and events from the African community in Chicago
- News from the African continent
- How to get employment advice from the UAO
- Africans in Chicago interviewed Fatimata Traore, President of Illinois Association of Hair Braiders
- Music from Chicago-based duo Survivors, made up of Johnny T from Rwanda and Jeani from Haiti

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Today, MRI serves the children of Mombasa through three key initiatives: (1) Health Care (2) Education and (3) Economic Empowerment.

Their initiatives include:
- Sponsorship of 25 Kenyan students' school fees
- A nutrition program that provides lunches at two locations (Pwani & Kilifi) and feeds over 300 children
- Food First program, which helps Kenyan farmers to increase their yield with a long-term goal of them assisting to feed children in the schools they support
- Teacher's program, which provides annual salaries of two teachers at Mmazi Moja primary school in Mombasa.

One way to get involved with MRI's work is to attend their Annual Packing Party:

**Date:** Sat, March 3, 2012  
**Time:** 11:00am-2:00pm  
**Venue:** Palmer Park Fieldhouse 201 E. 111th St  
Chicago, IL 60628

Click for larger image  
For more on MRI, visit their website
If you would like to contribute news, events, issues, interviews or music to our podcast:

Email: podcasts@uniteafricans.org

Call: (312) 949-9980 between 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri.

Click to listen!

Survivors Music

UAO interviews Funeka Sihlali about ANC 100

Immigration Issues (312)738-1060

CAN TV - January 2012: 100th anniversary of ANC

In January, UAO Executive Director Alie Kabba interviewed Funeka Sihlali, a South African who has been living in Chicago in the 1970s. In this fascinating interview, Funeka talks about how she left South Africa due, in part, to her involvement in protests as a nursing student.

She speaks about the solidarity she found among the African-American community in Chicago, and the role African-Americans played in the struggle against apartheid.

She also talks about the African National Congress' centenary celebrations this weekend and events planned throughout the year to celebrate its 100th birthday.

CLICK TO WATCH
What is the proposed Family Unity Waiver?

In early January, the Obama administration announced that it would propose a Family Unity Waiver. What does this mean?

The waiver would make it possible for some close relatives of US citizens who qualify for legal status to process their applications more quickly and easily.

Under the current system, relatives of US citizens have to return to their home countries in order to apply for legal status. As a result, many people face long term separation from their family members who are citizens in the US.

However, ICIRR warns that the Family Unity Waiver is a proposal and not law. There is still work to be done to make proposals like this reality and improve the lives of countless immigrants to the United States.

For more info on the Family Unity Waiver, check out ICIRR’s fact sheet and attend ICIRR’s Annual Illinois Immigration Integration Summit on Saturday, February 4, 2012, at Malcolm X College from 9am-1pm.

United African Organization
3424 South State Street, Ste 3C-2
Chicago, IL 60616
USA 312-949-9980
www.uniteafricans.org