



## Keynotes

**Dr Monique Nsanzabaganwa**

**Vice-Chairperson of the African Union Commission**

- Hon Eugenia Cesar Laborinho, Minister of Interior of Angola (any representative of the host)
- Major General Dr. Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi, Interpol President
- His Excellency, Mr Jurgen Stock, Secretary General of INTERPOL
- Mr Garba Baba UMAR, Vice-President of Interpol for Africa and Chairman of this Conference
- Interpol Executive Committee Members
- Excellences Chiefs of Police
- Ambassador Jalel CHELBA, Acting Executive Director of AFRIPOL
- Distinguished Delegates
- Ladies and gentlemen

It is an honor for me to address this great assembly on this important occasion to commend the efforts of your organization in the fight against insecurities of all kinds. You are on the frontlines, at times of great personal risk to ensure the safety of the world's citizens. I commend you for that.

I also extend my gratitude to the INTERPOL Secretary General who invited me to attend this esteemed Conference of African Chiefs of Police. Your Excellency Secretary General Jurgen Stock, the African Union thanks you for your steadfast leadership of INTERPOL since 2014. African Union is a witness of the efficiency of the organization you head. In March this year 2023, when a Malware attacked the African Union system, the INTERPOL team under your leadership arrived the following day after we called upon them through AFRIPOL, and in a record time got us off the hook of the cyberattack. We will forever be grateful for the moral, technical and financial support you extended to us during that crisis.

It is an immense pleasure and honor for me to be with you in this continuing celebration of the Centenary anniversary of the founding of INTERPOL. I commend our gracious host, Angola, for making the Centenary celebration colorful in style and meaningful in substance.

100 years on 1923 - 2023, from mail, telegram, and telephone, today, through a dedicated 24/7 web-based communications system, police agencies around the world can easily exchange information by

a simple click. Through interoperability of partnerships and technology, INTERPOL is making it almost impossible for criminals to travel undetected.

Interpol is a benchmark for successful cooperation. Because without cooperation and without exchange of information, global security and stability are threatened.

The implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area requires the free movement of people and goods. These facilities can be accompanied by threats which must lead us to be more vigilant to reduce risks and ensure a secure environment for our populations.

Excellencies,

I have just come from Kigali where from the 1st to the 3rd of October, the African Union (AU) hosted a Retreat of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Planning and Finance on the evaluation of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) and the validation of the incoming Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan (STYIP) of Agenda 2063.

Agenda 2063 is a people-centric development blueprint for Africa, motivated by a vision of peace, shared prosperity and integration of our continent, while increasing agency and influence of Africa on the global scene.

The Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan will focus on the seven moonshots, which are:

1. Every Nation in Middle-Income category;
2. Africa is more integrated and connected;
3. Public institutions more responsive to citizen's needs;
4. Africa resolves conflicts amicably;
5. Africa values are explicit and promoted;
6. Africa citizens are more empowered and more productive; and
7. Africa is a strong and an influential global player.

Implementing this plan will require secure and well-governed Member States, and the Police will have a paramount role to play in each of these seven moonshots. The nexus - peace, security and development, perhaps, is more critical today than it has ever been before.

The Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan will cost \$8.9 Trillion. This is triple the size of combined African economies' GDP today. It may sound like a huge amount, but not as huge if we leveraged the collaborative power of national, regional and global platforms through AFRIPOL and INTERPOL enough to crack down the leakage.

Every year Africa loses on average \$60 billion in illicit financial flows, more than \$140 billion to corruption, and about \$220 billion in unjustified tax subsidies.

How much in carbon credits potential is lost due to unlawful and selfish exploitation of nature, biodiversity and environmental resources?

The leakage has a human face too: brain drain, human trafficking, gender- based violence, child abuse, substance abuse, and other forms.

The Africa Continental Free Trade Area has been a promising flagship of Agenda 2063. A study estimated that the AfCFTA will boost Africa's income by \$450 billion by 2035, increase Africa's exports by \$560 billion mainly in manufacturing, creating millions of jobs and lifting 68 million Africans out of poverty, half of them from extreme poverty. This promise will not fully materialize if we do not unlock ratification of Free Movement of Persons Protocol, hence yet another source of leakage.

At the closing of the Kigali retreat on Agenda 2063, Ministers handed us an access CARD or key ushering us on accelerating the implementation of Agenda 2063. CARD stands for Commitment, Alignment, Resourcing, and Direction.

My humble message to you, Law enforcers, is that the African Union is relying on your contribution on the R-part of CARD, namely Resourcing, of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063. We need you to make Free Movement of people, goods and services a reality for the success of Africa Continental Free Trade Area. We need you to prevent crimes of all kinds and support domestic resource mobilization through effective tax administration and other measures. We need you to stop the leakage and unlock the \$8.9 trillion needed to give dignity to the citizens and diaspora of Africa.

Excellencies,

INTERPOL and the African Union have been collaborating on number of programs related to combating both conventional and unconventional threats to protect our citizens, namely the program to combat the threat of Narcotic Drug to African youth and AU Plan of Action on Drugs. AU will continue to rely on African Police through AFRIPOL, INTERPOL and Police at Member States level to respond to these threats.

The threat of Human trafficking is increasing and many of unemployed youth are being tricked and taken to different corners of the globe for abuse varying from slavery, prostitution and even some have been found mercilessly killed without protection and even no investigation after such ignoble crime. AU counts on you Chiefs of Police and your bodies AFRIPOL and INTERPOL to assist in addressing this threat.

AFRIPOL and INTERPOL have been working closely together to strengthen security and combat transnational organized crime on our Continent, through the INTERPOL Support Program for the African Union in relation to AFRIPOL (ISPA).

The extension of this program, initiated in 2020 and extended for a second phase until 2026, means a lot to us. This program plays a pivotal role in developing AFRIPOL's operational capacities.

On the ground, this translates into concrete actions, such as successful joint cross-border operations, in-depth technical knowledge sharing among Member States, and powerful tools to enhance their investigative and evidence-gathering capabilities, including devices such as SPEKTOR and other software.

I pledge my support to accelerate full operationalization of AFRIPOL in order to grant ISPA the chance to realize its full potential and deliver value for money in benefit of African citizens.

I also renew to you the commitment of the African Union Commission to deepen and widen the scope of our collaboration with INTERPOL in light of current opportunities and challenges, including areas

such as Cybersecurity, African Union Passport, Climate Action, Data and Reporting, to name but a few. I believe that with our collective effort we shall move the needle on Africa's share of information to much higher than the 2-3% current level.

Excellencies,

As I conclude, I wish to underscore the following. Unprecedentedly, the continent is facing the threat of terrorism and mushrooming armed groups result of various parameters such as inefficient and bad governance, poverty, climate change and its subsequent consequences, terrorism, and marginalization. African Union expects to collaborate with the Police not only in handling the crisis, but also at preventive level by advising Heads of States and Government to take informed decisions and stop crises before it is too late.

Threats are metamorphosing as the globe is changing, technology improving and the world is becoming a village. But whatever forms of threats, we trust in our political and security institutions and believe that they are armed with tireless spirit to fight and win over the forces of the evil. No force of the enemy can dominate you Chiefs of Police and your colleagues in Security institutions.

I argue that we should not lose sight of unprecedented opportunities presented to Africa today. Africa is a solutions powerhouse for global issues. Her admission among the G20 speaks loud on this. Your other target over the coming ten years of Agenda 2063 will be to safeguard these opportunities, seal the resourcing leakage, and enforce accountability we owe to the African citizen.

As African Union, we will not spare any efforts in protecting our citizens. Lets' join hands together for the Africa we Want.

A prosperous Africa,

A Well governed Africa,

Africa with an important role in the international community,

Africa that is peaceful ad secure above all.

I thank you for your kind attention.

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