

25th-27th
May
2025

Africa Day Accelerating Africa's Growth

Conference
Winning with Women & Youth





**Accelerating
Africa's Growth**
Conference

Prepared by
**Timeless Women of
Wonder (TWOW)**

Prepared for
AAGC



GHANA-2025-REPORT

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LETTER FROM HOST

H.E NYAKAN JUNE

*ACCELERATING AFRICA'S GROWTH
CONFERENCE (AAGC)*



Dear Partners, Visionaries, and Friends,

Welcome to AAGC Ghana 2025—a bold platform for accelerating Africa’s growth. This is not just a conference; it’s a commitment to action.

What sets this convening apart is the narrative we’re laying down: one of momentum, accountability, and inclusion. We’re bringing together the people who truly drive transformation—women, youth, and SMEs—alongside the leaders who shape policy and allocate resources. This is where vision meets decision.

Our theme, **“Celebrating Our Heritage, Building Partnerships, and Empowering Women & Youth,”** reflects our belief that cultural pride and strategic collaboration are key to sustainable development. But belief alone is not enough. We must move from talk to action—making real commitments and holding ourselves accountable long after the conference ends.

We are intentional about creating a space where voices are not only heard but amplified. AAGC 2025 is designed to foster intergenerational dialogue, cross-sector partnerships, and practical solutions that reflect the lived realities of African communities. We are not here to admire potential—we are here to activate it.

As hosts, we carry a deep sense of responsibility—not just to convene, but to catalyze. We invite every delegate, speaker, and partner to bring their full selves to the table: their expertise, their stories, and their bold ideas. Together, we will shape a future that honours our heritage and accelerates our shared progress.

With purpose and partnership,



Accelerate Africa's Growth Conference (AAGC) 2025 is a premier initiative dedicated to advancing inclusive and sustainable economic development across Africa and its global diaspora

AAGC serves as a strategic convening platform that brings together high-level stakeholders from government, private enterprise, development institutions, community and faith-based organizations, and diaspora networks.

The initiative is rooted in the belief that Africa's growth must be driven by collaborative action, cultural pride, and the empowerment of its most dynamic agents—women, youth, and small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Through curated dialogue, policy innovation, and cross-sector engagement, AAGC 2025 aims to unlock Africa's economic potential while fostering partnerships that extend beyond borders.

The conference reflects a commitment to long-term impact, positioning itself as a catalyst for investment, capacity-building, and shared prosperity among nations of African descent.

AAGC 2025: A New Day in Africa – Empowering Citizens, Redefining the Continent’s Future

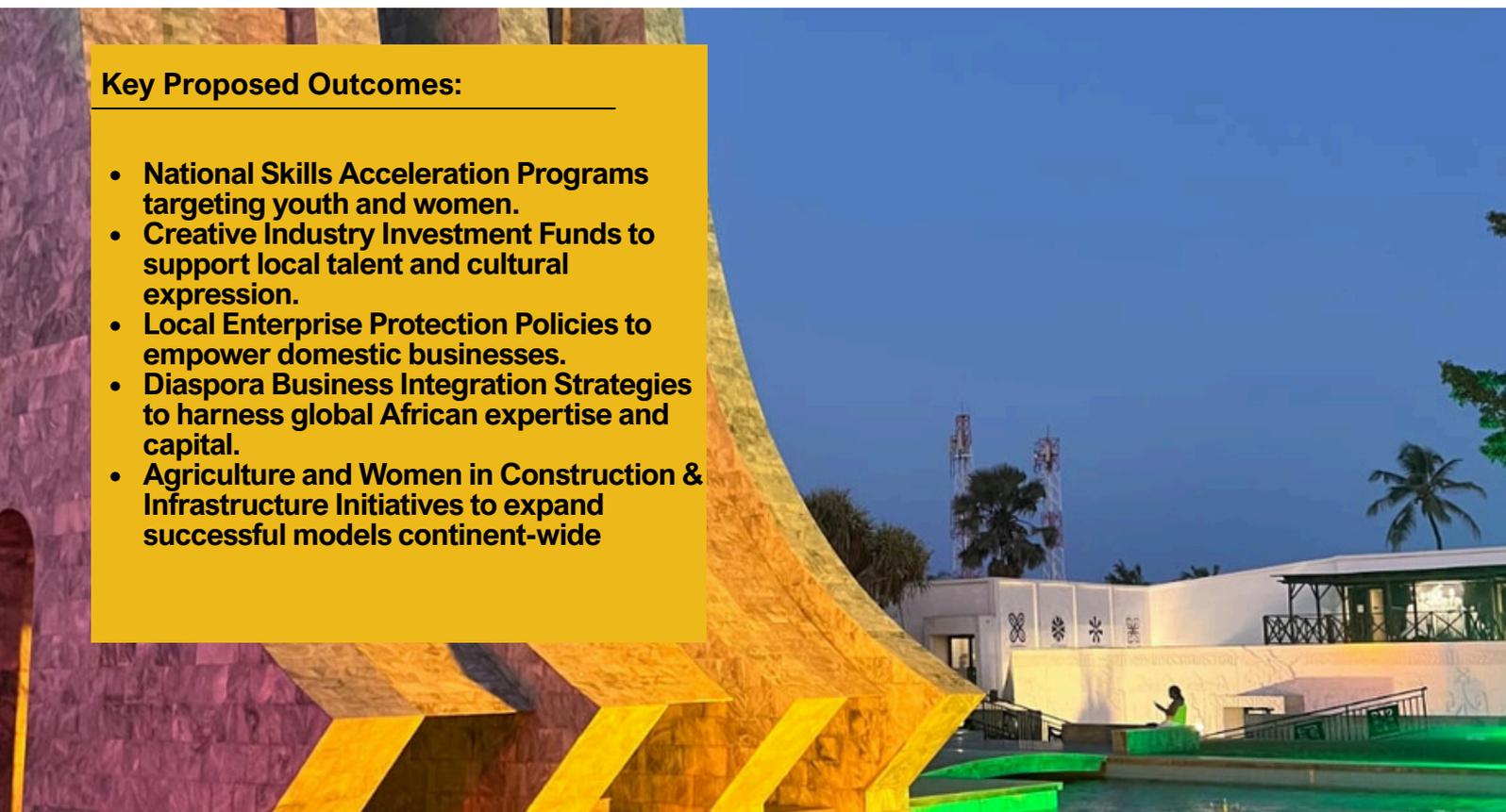
This was the resounding message from the Africa Advancement & Growth Conference (AAGC) 2025, which brought together visionary leaders, policymakers, investors, entrepreneurs, and changemakers from across the continent and the diaspora. With the theme focused on empowering the African citizen—especially youth and women—through future-ready skills, the conference emphasised the urgent need to shift Africa’s development narrative from aid dependency to innovation, enterprise, and inclusive leadership.

Drawing inspiration from the legacy of the founding father of Pan-Africanism, Dr Kwame Nkrumah, AAGC 2025 echoed his vision of a self-determined and economically independent Africa. Speakers championed a united call for visionary leadership, inclusive policies, and homegrown innovation to drive the continent’s transformation.

At the heart of the conference was a spotlight on skills development in technology, green energy, and the creative sectors, which are seen as critical levers for empowering youth and women. One standout example of this vision in action is the work of the Timeless Women of Wonder (TWOW) organisation. Through the leadership of Founder H.E. Madam Nyakan, TWOW has trained over 35,000 women in the construction sector, offering a scalable model for economic inclusion and gender equity.

Key Proposed Outcomes:

- **National Skills Acceleration Programs targeting youth and women.**
- **Creative Industry Investment Funds to support local talent and cultural expression.**
- **Local Enterprise Protection Policies to empower domestic businesses.**
- **Diaspora Business Integration Strategies to harness global African expertise and capital.**
- **Agriculture and Women in Construction & Infrastructure Initiatives to expand successful models continent-wide**





AFRICA UNION DAY

MAY 2025

CONFERENCE GUIDE

**SAT
24TH**

African Women of Influence
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
University of Professional Studies, Accra

**SUN
25TH**

Grand Opening Ceremony- Africa Day
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park

**MON
26TH**

Main Conference Day 1
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
CEDI Conference Centre, Accra

**TUE
27TH**

Youth Day
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
University of Professional Studies (UPSA), Accra

05

Africa Day
**Accelerating
Africa's Growth**
Conference

Winning with Youth & Women

Africa Women of Influence Breakfast

24th May 2025

9:00am - 12:00pm



The breakfast for the Women of Influence meeting discussion was very enriching in terms of African culture and identity.

We can only influence affairs of the continent by first understanding who we are and taking pride in our identity; this was the best topic to kickstart the conference.

Speaking our vernacular languages, our dress, our culture, our poems and songs, and understanding our origin/history. It's only when you realise who you are that you can know how to be treated and what to demand as a people.

Reminded of Marcus Garvey's quote;

"A people without the knowledge of their history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."

"The Black skin is not a badge of shame but rather a glorious symbol of national greatness."

We can only accelerate our growth when we know our IDENTITY.



The session began with a warm and respectful welcome to our esteemed guests. Attendees were called to rise in honour of the dignitaries present. Welcoming the audience, the host graciously acknowledged the presence of:

- Her Excellency Nyakan June,
- Rev. Dr Joyce Aryee
- Reverend Dr Hannah Atassi
- Toucy Tjjombo



Rev. Gloria Benefo: Moderator

The audience included guests from across Africa and beyond, representing a diverse and powerful network of changemakers.

Toucy Tjjombo warmly introduced the speaker who would deliver the opening remarks, Her Excellency Nyakan June, whom she described as a person with passion, a tireless work ethic, and a fearless spirit.



Her Excellency is a visionary leader and a true trailblazer. She is:



- CEO of Global Timeless Dynamic Services Ltd.
- Founder of Timeless Women of Wonder Africa, the platform from which the Accelerate Africa's Growth Conference was birthed.
- Chairperson of the Innovation Society of Kenya

Her many accolades include:

- **Prestige CEO Award (2012)**
- **Chairperson of the Year (2015)**
- **Presidential Candidate in Kenya (2022)** – a bold and historic move that demonstrated her unyielding commitment to leadership and transformation.

Her Excellency is a woman of courage, resilience, and deep compassion, with over 27 years of experience across public and private sectors. She exemplifies purpose-driven leadership in transformation, innovation, and women's empowerment. Her influence extends beyond boardrooms and policy tables to grassroots initiatives, inspiring countless women through her unwavering commitment to Africa's advancement. She proves that African women carry the continent not only on their heads but in their hearts, through dreams and decisive action. Dedicated to driving impact, she champions collaboration, prosperity, and bold change. Beyond business and policy, she is also a spiritual and social transformer, showing that true leadership touches every sphere of life.



"This is not just a conference—it is a movement. A call to action for Africa's daughters and sons to rise and lead with purpose, integrity, and unity."

Her Excellency opened the session with heartfelt gratitude, emphasizing the intimate and sacred nature of the gathering. She shared that this side session was intentionally created ahead of the main Accelerate Africa's Growth Conference to provide a safe, reflective space for women to connect and ignite the movement from the grassroots.

Key Highlights

- **Origin of the movement:** This initiative builds on over a decade of Timeless Women Conferences held across Africa, now evolving into a broader, transformational movement focused on ". . . building something that doesn't just transform systems, but unlocks people—starting with ourselves."
- **The power of love:** She spoke passionately about unconditional love, especially for those we do not yet know, as the true fuel behind the movement
- **Inclusive empowerment:** She acknowledged the men in attendance, affirming that true empowerment of women cannot happen without the partnership of men. She emphasized that divine purpose is expressed through both male and female, and only together can we fulfil our collective potential.
- **A call to unity and purpose:** She made a powerful call to unity, collaboration, and shared vision—not competition—as the foundation for sustainable growth across Africa.



Rev. Dr Joyce Aryee, affectionately known as Mama Joyce, as our keynote speaker. A distinguished figure in Ghanaian public life, Mama Joyce has served across multiple political parties, including the PNC, NDC, and MPP, earning respect as a unifying and maternal presence in national leadership.

Beyond politics, she is a woman of faith, a corporate leader, and a trailblazer who has contributed significantly across various sectors in Ghana. Her outstanding service has been recognised with one of the nation's highest honours, the Order of the Volta, awarded in 2006. It was a privilege to have her—a grandmother, auntie, and mother to many—to deliver the keynote address.

Healing our African Culture

A powerful call to reclaim and heal African culture, emphasising that to do so, we must first understand what culture truly is—a way of life, a shared identity, and a foundation for unity.

Key Highlights

- **Africa as the Cradle of Humanity**

- If Africa is indeed the cradle of humanity, then Africans must take responsibility for the current state of humanity. Mama Joyce challenged the tendency to blame external forces, urging Africans to take ownership of their healing and progress.

- **Ending the Blame Game**

- A call to stop blaming colonialism and external influences for Africa's challenges. Instead, we must “wash ourselves” of the mental conditioning and take proactive steps towards change.

- **Rediscovering unity through culture**

- True unity comes from recognising what binds us together, not what separates us. Diversity should be seen as a beautiful expression of unity, much like the human body—diverse in parts but functioning as one.

- **The role of research and knowledge**

- Africans must invest in research about their own cultures and histories. Collaboration with researchers is essential to rediscover and document African identity from within.

- **Cultural identity and indigenous language loss**

- Many Africans no longer speak their native languages or teach them to their children. This loss of indigenous language is a loss of identity, and reclaiming it is vital to cultural healing.

- **Threefold call to action**

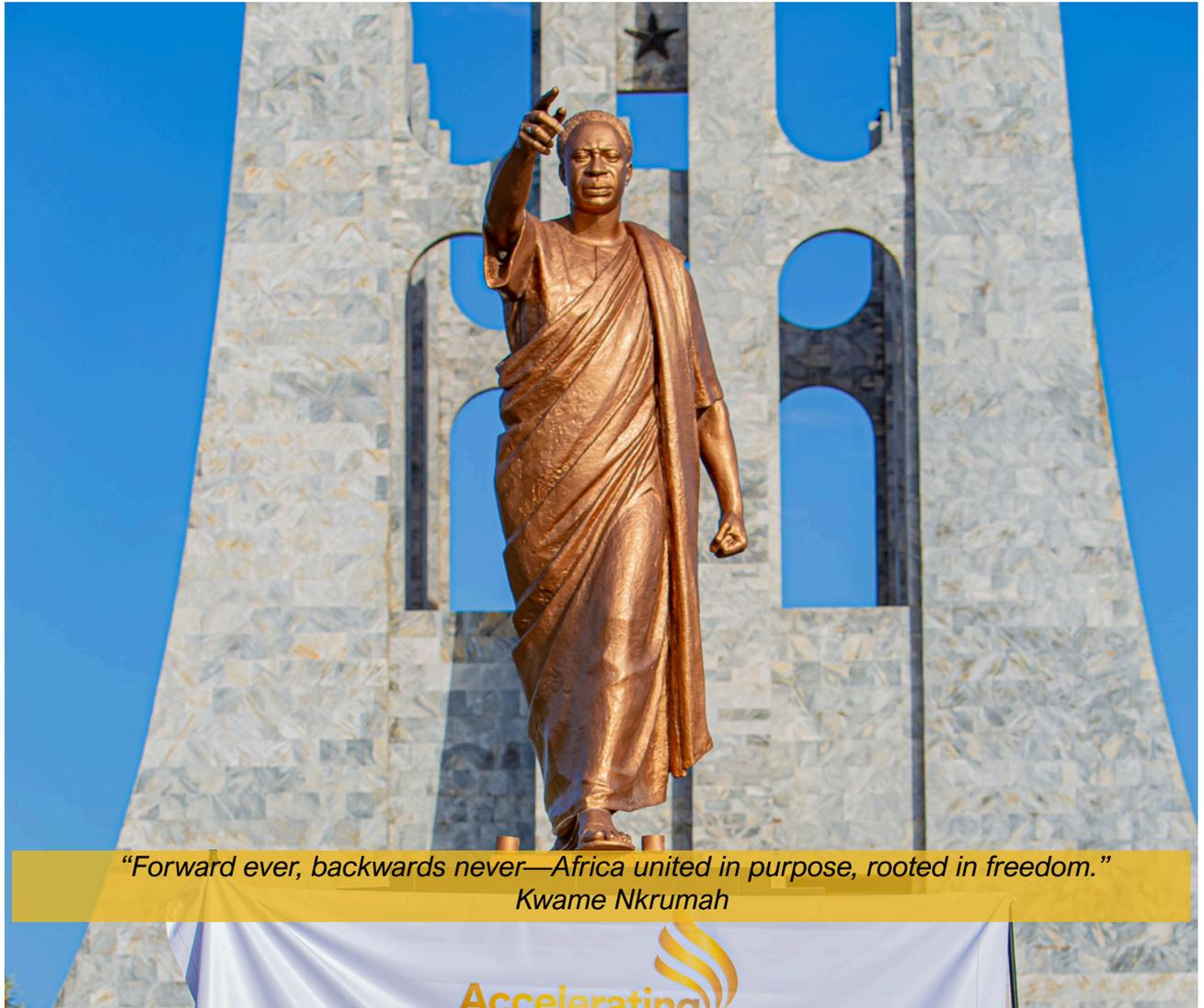
- Confront the wounds inflicted on African cultural identity.
- Embrace rediscovery and revitalisation of traditions and values.
- Commit personally and collectively to the healing process.



From Left: H.E Nyakan June, Dr Joyce Aryee, Rev Dr. Hannah Atassi & Toucy Tjijombo







Event Sequence

- **Opening prayer:** Apostle Augustine Baku, General Overseer, Gloryfield Tabernacle
- **Master of Ceremony:** Toucy Tjijombo



Contributors:

- Mr Kofi Okyere Darko - Head of Diaspora
- H.E. Nana Frimpongmaa - CPP Presidential Candidate, Republic of Ghana
- Mr Mawuse Oliver Barker-Vormawor - Governance Advisor - Republic of Ghana

The launch of the conference at the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park and Mausoleum, located in downtown Accra, Ghana.

It was a powerful and symbolic choice of venue selected to launch the conference on Accelerating Africa's Growth, as the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial carries deep historical and cultural significance.

Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park and Mausoleum is an enduring symbol of African unity, liberation, and visionary leadership. This moment marks more than just the beginning of a gathering; it is a call to action. In the spirit of Nkrumah's Pan-Africanism, the youth are empowered as equal architects of our continent's future.



MC: TOUCY TJIJOMBO

Here, where the legacy of liberation echoes, we rise to build a new legacy—one where women's and youth's voices, leadership, and innovations drive inclusive growth, sustainable development, and a united, thriving Africa.

It was clear that the transformation of our continent hinges on two powerful forces: the leadership of women and the potential of our youth.

Women are not just participants in Africa's development; they are architects of change – driving innovation, building communities, and shaping policy. Empowering women is not optional. It is essential.

Equally, the energy and creativity of Africa's youth must be matched with real opportunities. Creating meaningful employment, nurturing entrepreneurship, and investing in skills are critical to unlocking sustainable growth. When women lead and youth thrive, Africa rises.

I was clear that it is a movement toward an inclusive, prosperous, and united Africa



True freedom requires more than independence—it demands sovereignty in decision-making, economic self-reliance, and accountable leadership."

Kwame Nkrumah passionately argued for immediate and total political and economic unity of Africa. He warned that fragmentation would leave African nations weak and vulnerable to external control and exploitation—especially from neocolonial powers. Nkrumah believed that only a United States of Africa could safeguard the continent's independence, foster development, and give Africa a strong voice on the global stage.

He emphasised that political independence was meaningless without economic independence, and that African nations, if divided, would continue to be manipulated through aid, trade, and military interference. Nkrumah urged leaders to put aside national interests and act decisively in forming a continental government, with shared institutions such as a common army, currency, and economic planning bodies.

In essence, he made a call for urgent Pan-Africanism, warning that failure to unite would lead to continued underdevelopment and domination.

"Africa is politically free, but not truly free. Though colonial rule has ended, many African nations remain bound by economic dependency, weak institutions, and internal mismanagement.

Representing the Minister of Youth, the CEO of the National Youth Authority reflected on Kwame Nkrumah's vision of African unity and the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in 1963.

The speaker posed a critical question: *“Do we still possess the dream of African unity?”*



Mr. Osman Abdulai Ayariga

The goals of the OAU—cooperation, self-reliance, integration, and global significance—were reaffirmed. The speaker commended the current President of Ghana, H.E. John Mahama, for his commitment to youth and women empowerment through policy and action.

Key initiatives highlighted included:

- National Apprenticeship Programme (2025 budget): Training 100,000 youth in vocational skills by 2026
- ICT as a catalyst for digital transformation
- Mental health support for youth
- Community participation in national development
- Youth leadership and mentorship programmes

These initiatives were presented as part of a broader strategy to unlock Africa's potential through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and inclusive development frameworks.



H.E Nana Frimpongmaa

The first speaker invoked the legacy of African icons—Kwame Nkrumah, Patrice Lumumba, and Nelson Mandela—calling on participants to continue the unfinished work of African liberation. Emphasising the importance of economic freedom, the speaker quoted Nkrumah: “Political independence without ownership is dependency.”

Pan-Africanism was described not just as an ideology, but as a practical blueprint for unity and justice. The speaker challenged Africa to confront poverty, youth unemployment, and the colonisation of contracts, and to embrace bold programmes for transformation. TWOW (The Women of Worth) was highlighted as a modern oracle of Pan-Africanism, recognising women and youth as central to the movement

The African voice, once silenced and its promise postponed, must now rise again. The celebration of African Union Day at the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park was described as a symbolic moment—the torch has been passed. The speaker concluded with a rallying call:

“Let Africa arise again through systems that lift us out of poverty. We are not too small or too poor. Let us live the spirit of our African heroes.”



The second speaker, **Ms Lindiwe Mtshali Makubu**, introduced by the coordinator of the Women's League and Hon. Bate of the Umu Clan, emphasised that Africa's liberation must begin with spiritual sovereignty—a deep understanding of the continent's soul and identity.

Echoing Nkrumah's vision, the speaker stressed that political independence without economic freedom remains a form of dependency.

She called for individual responsibility in advancing the dream of freedom and urged strategic efforts to create sustainable opportunities for women and youth.

The speaker advocated for economies built on justice, the preservation of natural resources, and the rightful ownership of African assets.

She also highlighted the importance of leveraging African heritage and local languages as tools for empowerment and unity.









Opening Remarks & Welcome Address



Master of Ceremony:
Toucy Tjijombo

→
Host & Executive
Producer, *The Toucy T
Show* – Namibia
Broadcasting Corporation
(NBC)

Toucy welcomed attendees with warmth and enthusiasm, setting a tone of unity, purpose, and transformation. She acknowledged the diverse presence of participants from across Africa and the diaspora, emphasising that this gathering was not just about networking but about co-creating a thriving future for Africa.

She paid tribute to Her Excellency Nyakan June, the visionary founder of AAGC and Timeless Women of Wonder Africa, whose leadership has inspired a movement rooted in empowerment, innovation, and inclusive transformation.

Key Messages from the Welcome Address:

- Collaboration over competition: The conference is a space to build together, not in silos.
- Women as pillars of transformation: African proverbs shared by H.E. Nyakan June highlighted the central role of women in shaping nations:
 - “If you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate an entire continent.”
 - “A mother is like a school—if you prepare her well, you prepare a great and united nation.”
 - “The house does not rest on the ground, but on a woman.”

Toucy also shared her personal journey—from media and film to agripreneurship—highlighting her recent collaboration with H.E. Nyakan June and her commitment to bringing the AAGC vision to life in Namibia.

“Let us make this conference not just memorable but transformational.”



Opening Prayer

Prophet Amos opened the day with a prayer, seeking divine guidance, unity, and clarity for the sessions ahead.



National Anthem & Cultural Welcome

A warm greeting followed the anthem: “Good morning, Akwaaba, Karibu”—welcoming all in the spirit of Pan-African hospitality, by **Co-MC: Giji, Communications Student (PR Major), Wisconsin International University College, Ghana**

Presidential Representative Address

Speaker: Mr Osman Abdullahi Ayariga

Role: CEO, National Youth Authority

Representing: H.E. John Dramani Mahama, Former President of Ghana

Mr. Ayariga delivered an energizing address on behalf of President Mahama, focusing on youth empowerment, policy reform, and sustainable development.

His message emphasized that Africa's future hinges on strategic investment in its young population.

Key Highlights:

1. Creation of a Ministry for Youth Development & Empowerment.

- A bold step towards institutionalising youth-focused governance and policy.

• 2. Launch of Major National Initiatives:

Jumeria Programme: Supports 10,000 youth-led businesses annually.

National Apprenticeship Programme: Offers vocational training to 500,000 young people.

1 Million Coders Programme: equips youth with digital skills for global competitiveness.

• 3. Promotion of a 24-Hour Economy

A strategic move to boost employment, productivity, and innovation across sectors.

Call to Action:

“African youth must move from spectatorship to leadership. You are not just the future—you are the present. Build, innovate, and lead Africa's transformation.”

Mr Ayariga's address was a powerful reminder that youth are central to Africa's growth, and that governments must create enabling environments for them to thrive



Session 1: Apostle Michael Adeyemi Adefarasin Founder, Kingdom Lifeline Apostolic Ministries International



Though unable to attend in person, Apostle Adefarasin sent a video message that resonated with the audience. His background spans aeronautics and ministry, and he is known for his apostolic mandate to reform the church and empower leaders to influence society for positive change.

Keynote Focus: Accelerating Africa's Growth and Prosperity

Apostle Adefarasin's message centred on transformational leadership and the urgent need to redefine power and governance across Africa.

Key Points:

- **Shift in Leadership Paradigm**
Moving from hierarchical models to servant leadership, collaboration, and empowerment.
- **Inclusive & Adaptive Leadership**
Leaders must be transparent, inclusive, and responsive to the complex challenges they face.
- **Collaborative Governance**
Emphasizing shared ownership of solutions and amplifying diverse voices.
- **Empowerment Over Control**
Rejecting institutional dependency in favour of community-driven empowerment.
- **Reevaluating Power Structures**
Embracing governance models that prioritise equity, diversity, and justice.
- **Representation & Inclusion**
Actively dismantling systemic barriers to ensure marginalised voices are heard.
- **Stewardship & Trust**
Leaders are stewards of public trust, called to serve with integrity and dignity.

“We are not stewards of ourselves. We are stewards of people's trust. Entrusted to lead with dignity and integrity. A leadership that privileges all, not just a privileged few.

- **Gender Equality as a Priority**
Gender equity must be central—not optional—in leadership and governance.

Session 2: Mr Michael Leslie Bartlett-Vanderpuye (Nilante)



Mr Bartlett-Vanderpuye delivered a compelling address focused on the urgent need for job creation and wealth generation across Africa, with a particular emphasis on Ghana. Drawing inspiration from China's strategic approach to internal wealth creation, he challenged African governments to adopt deliberate, scalable, and inclusive economic strategies

“Africa’s dream of prosperity begins with deliberate steps today. Wealth creation, job growth, and youth empowerment are not optional—they are essential. The future of Africa must be built by Africans, using African resources, talent, and innovation. The time to act is now.”

Key Points:

1. **Urgency of Action**

- Africa’s youth population is the largest globally, yet unemployment remains alarmingly high.
- Despite abundant natural and human resources, poverty persists due to underutilisation.

1. **Shift from Dependency to Productivity**

- Citizens must transition from a state of aid dependency to one of local innovation and self-reliance.
- Community-based solutions, such as backyard farming and micro-enterprises, are vital.

1. **Skills and Entrepreneurship**

- Investment in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) is essential.
- Governments must support entrepreneurship through funding, mentorship, and enabling policies.

1. **Maximising Cultural and Creative Assets**

- Africa’s rich cultural heritage—textiles (e.g., Kente), film, and herbal medicine—holds untapped economic potential.
- These industries must be developed, protected, and globally marketed.

1. **Strategic Partnerships and Inclusive Leadership**

- Move beyond event-based networking to long-term business partnerships.
- Women and youth must be active participants in decision-making, not passive beneficiaries.
- Governments must deliver measurable outcomes, not just promises.

Recommendations:

- Prioritize local industry ownership and reduce foreign dominance in key sectors.
- Use tax incentives to stimulate job creation and business expansion.
- Promote Made-in-Africa products and encourage local consumption.
- Integrate skills training into all levels of education.
- Leverage digital innovation to create modern economic opportunities.

Session 3:

Keynote Address: Accelerating Africa's Growth

Speaker: Her Excellency Nyakan June

Convener, AAGC; CEO, Timeless Dynamic Services Ltd



Her Excellency Nyakan June delivered a visionary and passionate keynote, declaring:

“It’s a new day in Africa.”

She called for bold leadership, inclusive policies, and collective responsibility to shape Africa’s future. Her message was a rallying cry for Africans to author their own narrative, reform systems, and embrace innovation.

Key Themes:

1. **Bold Leadership & Policy Reform**

- Leadership must be visionary, accountable, and people-centred.
- Policies should reflect the aspirations of citizens, not external agendas.

1. **Skills Development**

- Africa must invest in future-ready skills: technology, AI, green energy, and creative industries.
- Her organization has trained over 35,000 women in construction, showcasing scalable empowerment.

1. **Knowledge & Trade Exchange**

- The AfCFTA offers immense potential, but it requires the removal of barriers and active engagement with the diaspora.

1. **Job & Wealth Creation**

- Africa’s future lies in SMEs and enterprise, not aid.
- Economic empowerment must be inclusive and locally driven.

Call to Action:

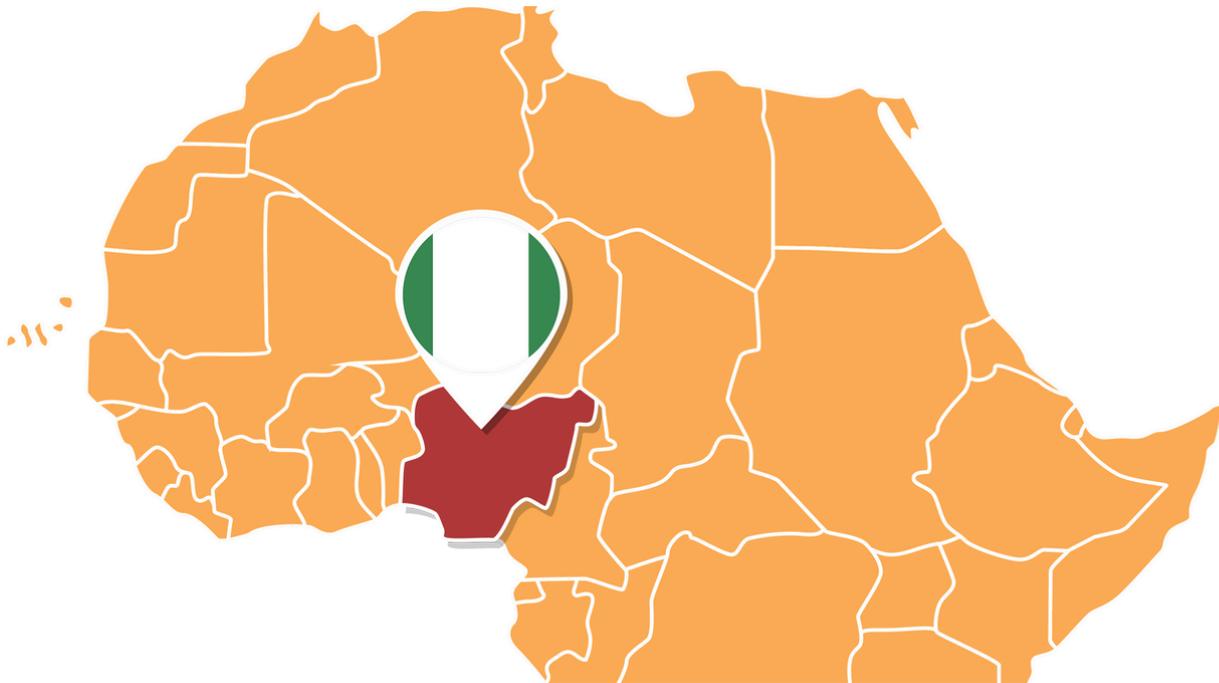
- To policymakers: Enact policies that enable skills development and economic inclusion.
- To investors and partners: View Africa as a partner in innovation, not just a market.
- To citizens: Seize the moment— “take your place at the table.”

Closing Message:

“Africa’s story will not be written by chance, but by choice. Let us be the generation that turns promise into reality—through dignity, partnership, and bold action.”

Workable Outcomes

1. National Skills Acceleration Programs
 - Launch government-backed initiatives to train youth and women in high-demand sectors.
2. Creative Industry Investment Funds
 - Establish funding mechanisms to support film, fashion, storytelling, and indigenous medicine.
3. Local Enterprise Protection Policies
 - Enact laws that prioritise local ownership and reduce foreign retail dominance.
4. Diaspora Business Integration Strategy
 - Create platforms for diaspora-led investment and mentorship in African SMEs.
5. Women in Construction & Infrastructure Initiative
 - Scale successful models like H.E. June’s training program across African nations.



The Accelerating Africa's Growth Conference 2026 will be held in Nigeria on May 25, 2026.

A representative (**Miss Achuonye Vivian Amarachi**) from the Nigerian delegation received the symbolic conference torch, expressing deep excitement and commitment to hosting the next edition.



Delegation Message:

“My name means ‘God brought me joy’, and my middle name means ‘Come home’. It is my purpose and mission—Africa is coming home to NIGERIA. We are ready to unite and do the work together!”

The announcement was met with applause, affirming the conference’s Pan-African mission to foster collaboration, innovation, and transformation across borders



1. Youth Empowerment & Skills Development

- Scale Digital Skills Training: Expand Ambassador Bennett’s training model and the “1 Million Coders” initiative across African regions to equip youth with digital literacy and employment-ready skills.
- Pan-African Apprenticeship Network: Establish a continent-wide vocational exchange to promote best practices, resource sharing, and hands-on training opportunities.
- Mentorship & Ethical Leadership Development: Launch the Legacy Leadership Fellowship inspired by Rev. Dr. Aryee to mentor and cultivate ethical, purpose-driven leadership among young African women.

2. Diaspora Engagement & Community Development

- Diaspora-Led Skills Transfer Initiatives: Leverage diaspora expertise and networks to deliver training, mentorship, and technical support across sectors.
- Veteran-Led Development Projects: Support Mr. Hammond’s vision through partnerships that focus on land reclamation, sustainable infrastructure, and local economic development.
- Deepen collaboration with the African Diaspora through policy roundtables, technical exchanges and knowledge-sharing platforms that channel diaspora expertise into national development

3. Policy & Governance Innovation:

- Youth-Led Policy Advocacy Platforms: Establish national and regional platforms to engage young people in shaping public policy and governance agendas.
- 24-Hour Economy Pilot Projects: Launch and evaluate sector-specific pilots to test the viability of a 24-hour economy in selected African urban centres.

4. Recognition & Institutional Legacy

- Annual African Heroes Recognition Platform: Institutionalize an annual celebration to honour African changemakers, inspire future generations, and reinforce a culture of excellence.
- AAGC 2026 Planning Committee Formation: Initiate early collaboration with Nigerian stakeholders to ensure a coordinated, high-impact conference execution.







Opening Remarks

H.E. Nyakan June opened the session with a address on the transformative potential of Africa’s youth. She emphasized that identity is dynamic and purposeful, and that being born in Africa is intentional. Her message called for a shift in mindset—from entitlement and poverty consciousness to possibility, creativity, and agency. She urged youth to embrace cultural pride, act with resilience, and become problem solvers and wealth creators.

Moderator

→ **H.E NYAKAN JUNE**

Members of the Panel:

1. **PROPHET PRAKASH – LEADERSHIP COACH, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS ADVISOR**
2. **MS HELLEN MALECHE – EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION CONSULTANT & AFRICAN STUDIES, HOWARD UNIVERSITY**
3. **MR THABO MAHLOBO -TNE AGRI GROUP, SOUTH AFRICA**



Key Themes and Insights

1. *Faith and Marketplace Leadership*

Panellists challenged traditional boundaries between ministry and business, advocating for multi-dimensional leadership that integrates spirituality, strategy, and entrepreneurship.

2. *Capacity, Responsibility, and Emotional Intelligence*

Success requires emotional, intellectual, and relational capacity. Youth were encouraged to seek mentorship, build resilience, and learn through apprenticeship and service. Emotional intelligence was highlighted as essential for navigating intergenerational relationships and leadership roles.

3. *Purpose-Driven Education and Growth*

Education was framed as both formal and informal. Panellists emphasised purpose-driven learning, where individuals acquire skills aligned with their unique wiring and calling. Repetitive or mundane tasks were reframed as opportunities for developing discipline and character.

4. *Strategic Identity and Nation Building*

Mr Thabo Mahlobo described his role as a nation builder, helping construct societal frameworks that connect infrastructure, entrepreneurship, and economic development. His “wisdom portfolio” of over 100 authored books was presented as a model for credibility and influence.

5. *Agriculture, Climate Justice, and Education Reform*

Agriculture was framed as a strategic sector for Africa’s future. Panellists emphasised its role in food security, economic empowerment, and climate resilience. Youth were urged to reframe agriculture as a noble and profitable pursuit. Education reforms proposed included:

- Capstone curricula in African history, finance, and entrepreneurship as mandatory for all African children.
- Promotion of African languages for regional integration. For example, Swahili is the official working languages of the African Languages.
- Gender-sensitive and industry-aligned education strategies



Key Themes and Insights

6. Time as a Universal Commodity

Time was presented as a universal economy. Youth were urged to manage time intentionally, aligning daily actions with long-term purpose. Delegation, prioritisation, and strategic planning were emphasised as tools for success.

7. Digital Presence and Personal Branding

Youth were encouraged to curate their digital profiles to reflect their values, skills, and aspirations. “Showing up” with clarity—both online and in person—was presented as a gateway to opportunity.

8. Trade, Value Creation, and Entrepreneurship

Youth were urged to start with what they have, whether a cracked phone or a single outfit, and begin creating value. The greatest product to sell is oneself: through attitude, reliability, and service.

9. Initiative and Leadership

Youth were challenged to take initiative, like recruit peers, build networks, and contribute meaningfully. Don’t just attend—activate. Don’t just consume—contribute.

10. Learning from Elders and Managing Influence

Youth were encouraged to learn from elders’ successes and mistakes and to manage parental influence with wisdom and empathy. Emotional intelligence and respectful engagement were emphasised.

11. The Eagle Metaphor

Leadership and excellence can be isolating. The metaphor of the eagle—flying alone, seeing far, and soaring above the ordinary—was used to inspire youth to remain focused and aspirational.



Audience Reflections and Questions

Participants raised thoughtful questions on:

1. *Balancing career, passion, and purpose*
2. *Navigating parental influence vs. youth agency*
3. *Identifying authentic internship programs amid misinformation*

Panellists responded with practical advice:

1. *Start with what you have*
2. *Sell your skills, attitude, and service*
3. *Take initiative and build networks*
4. *Show up with clarity*
5. *Reflect and audit your growth regularly*

Final Reflections and Commitments

Panellists emphasised the importance of reflection, self-auditing, and storytelling. Mr Thabo highlighted the need to consolidate insights and document Africa's transformation through collective narratives or stories.

Participants were encouraged to:

- Build networks and partnerships
- Profile and share African success stories
- Recognise the wealth of skills, relationships, and insights already present
- Take ownership of Africa's narrative and future

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.” – Prophet Prakash



Post-Conference Action Priorities

Following the conference, participants and stakeholders are encouraged to focus on the following strategic areas to advance youth empowerment and African development:

1. Youth Activation and Engagement
2. Empower youth to begin with available resources, cultivate initiative, and build visibility through personal branding and digital presence.
3. Education Transformation
4. Collaborate with institutions to implement African-centered curricula, expand experiential learning, and align education with market and entrepreneurial needs.
5. Support for Youth Innovation
6. Mobilize resources for youth-led ventures through the proposed Continental Acceleration Fund, including mentorship, training, and regional incubators.
7. Cultural and Identity Empowerment
8. Promote African languages, document success stories, and foster intergenerational dialogue to strengthen cultural pride and emotional intelligence.
9. Leadership and Governance Pathways
10. Position youth as strategic contributors to governance and development through internships, civic engagement, and policy innovation.
11. Growth Monitoring and Accountability
12. Encourage youth to audit their progress, engage in peer mentorship, and use storytelling to track and share transformation journeys.

Mr Thabo gave out 5 of his books to participants who asked questions.

Ms Hellen asked the youth from Ghana to volunteer to become a dream team dubbed the AAGC Country Caucus, and 11 participants signed up



CLOSING REFLECTIONS

Introduced by H.E. Nyakan June, the final speaker of the conference was Vuyokazi Charity 'Joseph' Matu, a distinguished media executive, entrepreneur, and transformational speaker. Her address marked a powerful conclusion to the event, offering a visionary perspective on Africa's future through the lens of media, leadership, and purpose.

Vuyokazi carries over 18 years of experience in the film and television industry; she is the founder and president of Voice of Africa Global Media, a company dedicated to amplifying African narratives and fostering cultural intelligence across the continent and beyond.

As a certified leadership coach and influential speaker, Vuyokazi has engaged audiences across education, business, government, and faith sectors. Her expertise has been recognised internationally, having served as a judge for prestigious media awards, including the International Emmy Awards, AIBs (London), and SAFTAs. She also co-founded and led Okuhle Media.

Her passion for human transformation continues through her inspirational media work, including the weekly radio show "Show Me" and the business television programme "Dream Again Africa". Her leadership is deeply rooted in empowering individuals and nations to fulfil their divine purpose, making her a beacon of hope and strategic influence in Africa's creative and developmental landscape.



Vuyokazi Charity 'Joseph' Matu (*Voice of Africa*)

Creative Leadership and the Restoration of Africa's Identity

Leadership in Africa is entering a new era – one that was once only imagined. Things will never be the same again. One person, aligned with divine purpose, can change the world. The approach to storytelling on the continent is shifting towards wealth creation, and new gates are opening to Africa.

A wave of productions will be birthed—rooted in arts, entertainment, and media—and they will not only generate revenue but also reshape global perceptions of Africa. Creatives are called to take up space in every sphere of influence. We are creative, intelligent, and divinely assigned to specific roles. This is a gate of transformation – a gate that has not existed for 400 years.

Our forefathers exited the African continent through this gate as slaves, through a point of no return. Today, a date of return has been declared. A restoration of identity is underway. Portals are open. Creative Africa is rising to restore the commonwealth that was lost.

From the beginning of time, constraint – posture, limitations, and fear – have blocked progress. But what we are creating now – will last. We are entering a decade of significance. Voices of Africa will rise through productions that restore the altar of Africa. We are generational thinkers, focused on transformation, legacy, and redemption.



Voice of Africa: Reshaping Destiny Through Storytelling

We are reshaping destiny; we are birthing generals.

Through the power of storytelling and documentary filmmaking, rural children will rise, capturing Africa through their own eyes. Their voices, once overlooked, will now shape narratives, spark ideas, and bring visions to life. This is how a new Africa is being born, one story at a time. We will interview children living in rural communities and create documentaries that reflect their perspectives. These stories will be told through their eyes, capturing the world as they see it. To reach the destiny we desire, we must return to the One (God) who enabled us.

This begins with:

- Listen to the Holy Spirit, even during storms.
- Embrace diversity—different people, tribes, religions, skills, and pressures.
- Resist surrender to pressure and intimidation.
- Cultivate spiritual intelligence to restore Africa's wealth and position.

Keep calm. Cross over. Fear causes us to shrink, but we are called to operate in fullness. We can restore the authenticity of love and power. These are forces that influence change.

What are you selling? There is power in you to partner with others. You need a new narrative, a story that reflects truth, purpose, and love.

"This is my neighbour, whom I love."



Conclusion by H.E. Nyakan June

Her Excellency Nyakan June closed the session with appreciation for the team's resilience and unity amid pressure. She acknowledged the cultural differences, particularly in time management, and emphasized the importance of understanding local contexts to improve execution.

She reaffirmed AAGC's vision as relevant and transformative, noting validation from participants and stakeholders. Reconciliation was already underway with those affected by challenges, reflecting a commitment to relationship stewardship.

Strategic directives for Nigeria 2026:

- Strengthen communication via updated websites, social media, and structured monthly meetings.
- Submit full documentation and reporting by June 30th.
- Build on Ghana outcomes in sectors like women in construction, youth in tech/agriculture, creative economy SMEs, and diaspora engagement.
- Nigeria 2026 Theme: "Industrialising Africa's Way."

The team concluded by reaffirming its commitment to learning from Ghana and delivering an even more impactful event in Nigeria.



1. Women's Economic Empowerment

- Empower and inspire women to rise with skills that unlock access to meaningful jobs and thriving businesses.
- Form collaborative ecosystems to design and deploy actionable, sustainable initiatives that champion women in high-value, low-barrier sectors – including construction, infrastructure, recycling, technology, and the creative arts.
- Simplify initiatives and ignite pilot programmes within the first year after AAGC by working through a multi-sectoral approach.
- Celebrate diversity and inclusion by ensuring that every woman's unique needs, within her own context, are honoured with dignity and opportunity.
- Ensure efficiency and scalability of project models, creating replicable pathways for women's empowerment.

2. Youth Economic and Leadership Empowerment

- Believe in the youth by entrusting them with responsibility and equipping them with the transformative skills they need.
- Shape mindsets and attitudes that align with innovation, resilience, and leadership.
- Open doors to opportunities through internships, ideation labs, production hubs, and spaces that foster bold experimentation and the assimilation of solutions.
- Inspire courage in youth to invent, innovate, and lead Africa's next breakthroughs.
- Invest in mentorship and support, nurturing a generation of leaders who thrive on collaboration.
- Challenge youth to embrace volunteerism as a powerful way to gain experience, build skills, and demonstrate value.



3. Diaspora Engagement in Africa's Development

- Deepen strategic collaboration with the diaspora to accelerate Africa's economic transformation.
- Champion diaspora-led innovation in trade, entrepreneurship, and development initiatives.
- Harness diaspora entrepreneurship as a bridge between Africa and the world, fueling growth and opportunity.

4. SME Development and Support

- Increase entrepreneurship training and value chain development to strengthen the country's economic backbone.
- Unlock opportunities in high-impact, easy-access sectors for youth- and women-led enterprises, including creative industries, technology, and sports.
- Co-create with youth, ensuring policies and initiatives reflect their voices, ideas, and aspirations.

AWARD GIVING CEREMONY

Honoree: Ambassador Dr. Erieka Bennett

Award: Sustainable
Administration Leadership
Award

Honoree: Rev. Dr. Joyce Aryee

Award: Pioneering
Transformation Award

Honoree: W0 Joseph Ashitey Hammond

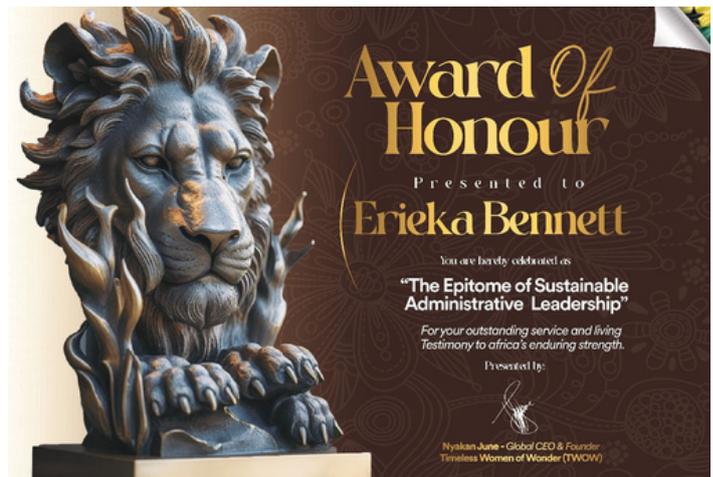
Award: Multi-Generational
Roar of Liberty Award

In a moving and celebratory moment, the AAGC Secretariat paused to honor exceptional individuals whose work exemplifies selfless leadership, visionary impact, and unwavering commitment to Africa's transformation.

The ceremony was designed to acknowledge outstanding leadership that has often gone unrecognized despite its significant contributions to Africa's growth. It aimed to address the tendency to overlook the continent's own heroes by publicly celebrating those who have played a vital role, often behind the scenes, in shaping Africa's progress..



Honoree: Ambassador Dr Erieka Bennett



→ Citation

For over 25 years, Ambassador Bennett has led with distinction in Pan-African diplomacy, diaspora advocacy, and sustainable governance. As Head of Mission of the Diaspora Africa Forum, she has built bridges between Africa and its global diaspora, fostering transformative collaboration and inspiring future leaders.

Acceptance Speech Highlights:

- Ambassador Bennett emphasised the unique mission of her organisation, the first diplomatic mission connecting the African Union with the diaspora.
- She clarified the two diaspora categories:
 - Historical diaspora: descendants of enslaved Africans.
 - Continental diaspora: Africans who migrated for work or education.
- She urged the diaspora to “look back” and contribute, even if they don’t return physically.
- Praised H.E. Nyakan June’s leadership, calling AAGC “hard, hard work” and worthy of applause.
- Announced a direct impact initiative:
 - Two training centres (Accra Digital Centre & Osu) focused on youth skills and job placement.
 - Goal: Train 1,000 individuals as a direct outcome of AAGC 2025.
- Shared success stories of Kai and Betty, illustrating the power of mentorship and opportunity.



Honoree: Rev. Dr. Joyce Aryee



→ Citation

Rev. Dr. Aryee is honored for her lifelong commitment to principled leadership, national transformation, and faith-based service. As the first female president of Ghana's Chamber of Commerce in the 1980s, and a mentor to over 100,000 women, her legacy is one of ethical, inclusive, and visionary progress.

Though absent due to travel, Ambassador Bennett accepted the award on her behalf, celebrating her enduring impact.

**Honoree: W0 Joseph Ashitey Hammond**

→ Citation

A World War II veteran, Mr. Hammond is celebrated for his courageous service, patriotism, and intergenerational leadership. At 100 years old, he continues to inspire with a 50-year vision to reclaim land and build hospitals, schools, and markets for community dignity and progress.

Acceptance Speech Highlights:

- Reflected on his journey, beginning military service at age 16.
- Honored the bravery of African women leaders.
- Expressed gratitude and shared blessings for Africa's future.
- His message was one of resilience, faith, and hope across generations.

**Accelerating
Africa's Growth**
Conference

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