



Africa Union of Architects
(AUA)

Uniting the Professional Bodies
of architects across Africa

Central Region

Cameroon
Central African Republic
Chad
Congo Republic
Democratic Republic of Congo
Gabon

East Region

Ethiopia
Kenya
Mauritius
Madagascar
Rwanda
Sudan
Tanzania
Uganda

North Region

Algeria
Egypt
Libya
Mauritania
Morocco
Tunisia

South Region

Angola
Botswana
Lesotho
Malawi
Mozambique
Namibia
South Africa
Zambia
Zimbabwe

West Region

Benin
Burkina Faso
Cabo Verde
Cote d'Ivoire
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**"BEYOND COVID-19"
CALL FOR MOBILISATION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL ORDERS, INSTITUTES AND ASSOCIATIONS OF ARCHITECTS
ACROSS AFRICA**

To: AUA Member Section Presidents

The **AFRICA UNION OF ARCHITECTS (AUA)**, established since May 23, 1981 (Lagos, Nigeria), is the Pan African confederation of more than 40 professional orders, institutes and associations representing architects across the continent. The AUA hereby recalls the one of core spirits of its constitution, which is to act in unity, regardless of nationality, race, religion or doctrine.

Humanity is currently going through a difficult moment in the course of its history. The COVID-19 pandemic has reached practically all countries and territories across the world, infecting as at date above 1.7 million people including the death of above 100,000. The COVID-19 is a major challenge for many African states and their capacities to response to the emergency needs so as to limit the damages (both human and economic). This is a real-time test for Africa to adopt a resilient approach for its economic, social and cultural development while putting "health" of its people as the key asset for its success.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has alerted African states of the need to prepare for the worst case scenario, taking into account the precariousness of health systems, lack of adequate equipment and services, limited means to empower the populations amongst other. It is fact that Africa generally depends on external aids on many aspects but in the current crisis, it is fundamental to go for local solutions as far as possible.

In this context, the AUA urges its member sections to mobilise their efforts and formulate proposals to mitigate impacts of the Covid-19 in their local communities, cities and country, and share their experience so as to help other nations with similar context.

Architects have always played a key and leading role in problem solving of the society. Along with urban planners, designers, engineers and all actors of the built environment, architects across Africa are invited to join their hands and come forward with creative and innovative solutions in a contextualized manner from small to large scale (ranging from hygiene devices, emergency equipment for accommodation, social isolation and health facilities to the temporary adaptation for basic needs).

This is a moment of deep reflection on societal, sanitary, economic and environmental problem. A paradigm shift is obvious. There is a fundamental need to define new policies to face the post-pandemic phase and anticipate any similar sanitary issues in future.

Undoubtedly, we need to act selflessly and responsibly. We need to uphold our dignity while persevering to achieve the set objective to think and act BeyondCovid19 with optimism. This is rooted in the African culture and the acting for a common cause.

Ubuntu - "I am because we are all of us".

Victor Leonel
AUA President