

# Making AFRICA Fit For Me

A Child Friendly Version of the African Agenda 2040 for An Africa fit for Children





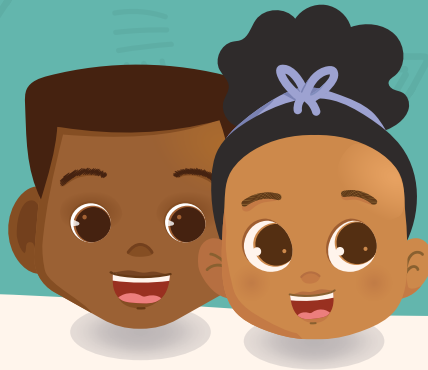
# Acknowledgement

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Finally, we also want say a big thank you to the team who worked on this booklet. Constance Ndeleko and Liz Busisa for the Script, Jennifer Kaberi for Child Friendly Language and Chris Wanjagi for the design and layout.

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*This booklet belongs to*

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Hello children! We are going to learn a bit about Africa!



Did you know that Africa has **55** countries?



My country is



Which country do you live in?

Great! Now find your country on the map and colour it!



Can you try and name all the other 54 countries?



Here are all the **55** countries in Africa!

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, the Kingdom of Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Kingdom of Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.





All these countries joined together to form an organization known as the African Union (AU).

African Union 



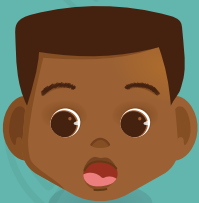
Do you know why our leaders joined to form the African Union?

Yes! African leaders felt that coming together would benefit everyone in Africa.

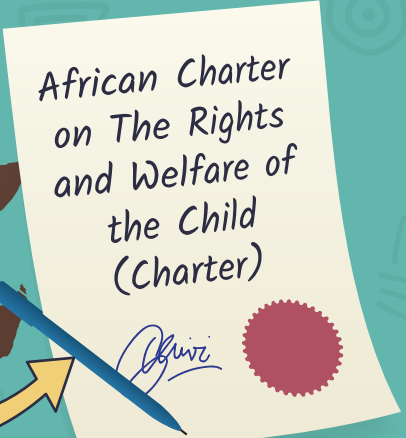

That's right! The African Union's work is to make sure all people in Africa, including children, live a prosperous and peaceful life.

The headquarters of the African Union is in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.






In 1991, the African Union developed a document that has rights for children

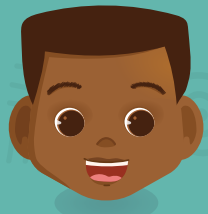


African Charter on The Rights and Welfare of the Child (Charter)


The document is known as the African Charter on The Rights and Welfare of the Child (Children's Charter).



The Children's Charter is an important agreement by countries who have promised to protect the rights of all children in Africa.

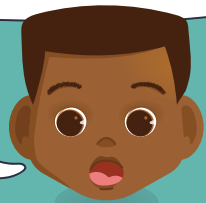


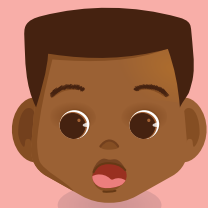
The charter explains who children are, all their rights, and the responsibilities of the government to help protect children and their rights.



The charter also protects vulnerable children like orphans, children with disabilities, intersex children, migrant children and the marginalised.

The charter also states that where there are rights there are responsibilities. Children have the responsibility to respect their parents and elders, to uphold their cultural values and promote family and community cohesion.





How does the AU make sure that African Countries are protecting children and their rights?

The AU have selected a group of **11** people from all over Africa who have been given the responsibility to check what each country is doing to protect children



This group of people is known as the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of Children.



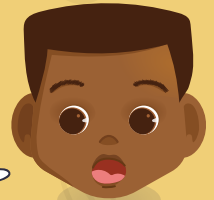
They meet twice a year to listen to Countries/Governments, Human Rights Commissions, NGOs and children about how the rights of children are being protected.





*In 2016, during the 25th birthday of the Charter, the African Committee of Experts developed 10 goals.*

*The goals are meant to check whether Governments are meeting their promises to children so they can grow up happy, healthy, and enjoy their rights.*



*These 10 goals are in a document called Agenda 2040.*



*Agenda 2040 calls for each government to make progress for children. Every five years, the Government needs to tell the African Union its progress in meeting its promises for children.*



# TRIVIA TIME!



*It's time for a few questions!*

*Let's see if you can remember some of the things we have learnt so far!*

1. How many countries are in Africa?

2. African countries joined to form which organization?

3. The Children's Charter is a document that has the rights of

4. How many people are in the African Committee of Experts?

5. How many goals are in the Agenda 2040?

6. What are the responsibilities of children?



We are now going to look at each of the **10** goals in Agenda 2040. We call them aspirations because it is hoped that they will be met by 2040.



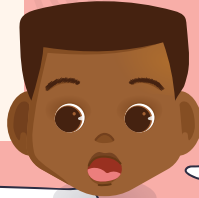
# Aspiration 1

Countries in Africa have made the charter as part of their laws and all children know about the charter.

*This goal is about the children's charter. The Charter is made up of children rights.*



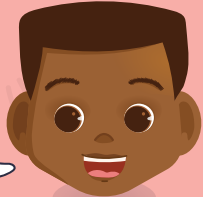
*Some of the children rights in the Charter are Right to life, Right to quality health, Right to education, Right to justice and Right to play.*



*This goal also includes the African Committee of Experts who ensure children rights are promoted and protected.*



*It also ensures that when children's rights are violated then we can report to the committee and seek justice by submitting a communication procedure.*



*African Charter  
on The Rights  
and Welfare of  
the Child  
(Charter)*

*Akwiri*



## Call To Action

I am an African Child. I will educate my fellow children about our rights and how we can protect ourselves.



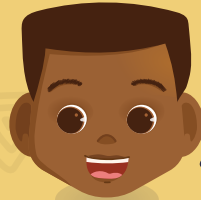
## Find Out

So, what is my government and your government, organisations, and the society doing in protecting children's rights?



## Aspiration 2

An effective child-friendly national legislative, policy and institutional framework is in place in all Member States.



*This goal is important so that children can understand the laws that protect and serve them.*



*Children have the right to know and understand what these rights are in a simpler language that is child friendly.*



## Call To Action

I understand most of our rights but the rights need to be simplified in all languages for all children to know them. I will ensure that all children in my community and school know about their rights.



## Find Out

So, does every child know and understand their rights?





## Aspiration 3

Every child's birth and other vital statistics are registered.



*This goal shows that every child has a right to belong and their information recorded.*

*This means that every child has a Right to have a birth certificate and a Right to nationality*



*This is important so that children can be protected and their future can be planned out better with the right numbers.*



*It helps in keeping record of children that have been born and those who unfortunately die. It also ensures that children born intersex are not left out by the registration regime.*



## Call To Action

I have my birth certificate and I believe my data has been recorded. I will tell other children including those that are not in school to go and get their birth certificates so that they can belong.



## Find Out

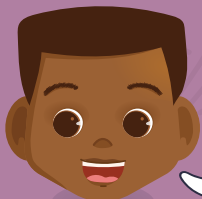
Do all your friends and relatives have birth certificates? If not, why?





## Aspiration 4

Survival of every child and a healthy childhood.



*Children should therefore have access to basic needs such as Clean Water; for good hygiene and sanitation and Enough Food for all children.*



*It means that every child has a right to life and good quality health care.*

*Childrens' access to basic needs also include a good environment; to help them especially in their early years of development, and Health; getting the right medicine, getting vaccinated and low death rates.*



### Call To Action

I enjoyed my rights as a child and I will do the same for other children to survive too. I will teach them about good clean hygiene and sanitation and tell them to go the hospital when they are sick.



HOSPITAL



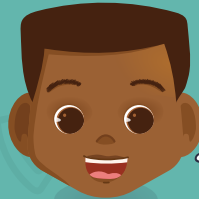
### Find Out

What are you doing to ensure children are healthy, survive and thrive?



## Aspiration 5

Every child grows up well-nourished and with access to the basic necessities of life.



*For a child to survive they need a sufficient nutritious meal that is well balanced.*

*It means children should access a clean and healthy environment, get proper medical care when sick, get parental care and protection from discrimination or stigma.*



## Call To Action

I will tell everyone in my society, including other children, about eating a balanced diet. I will teach them about healthy eating so that they can grow and become stronger. I will encourage them to join and learn from the 4k club.



## Find Out

How do you keep children healthy?

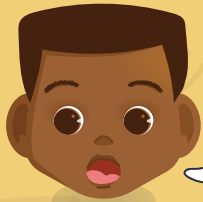


## Aspiration 6

Every child benefits fully from quality and equitable education.



*Every child has a right to quality basic education. No child should be out of school. Even children with disabilities should have access to education and the right services and tools to learn.*



*No child should be discriminated against and thus education is equally important to boys, girls and intersex children..*

*School is important for a child's development mentally, physically and emotionally. It helps them build their identities and abilities.*



## Call To Action

Education is important for every child and I will tell other children to go to school as it is a right they should be enjoying.



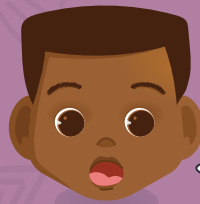
## Find Out

Are all children in your community going to school?



## Aspiration 7

Every child is protected against violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse.

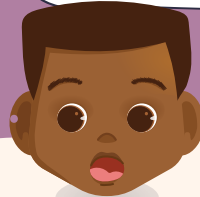


*Children should not face violence, exploitation, abuse or neglect.*



*Children should be protected at all cost from:*

- 🚫 Being recruited as child soldiers*
- 🚫 Forced labor and corporal punishment,*
- 🚫 Child trafficking and child pornography*
- 🚫 Sexual exploitation and abuse*
- 🚫 Harmful cultural practices e.g FGM and child marriage*
- 🚫 Gender Based Violence and child torment and torture*
- 🚫 Societal stigma due to their disability or medical condition*



*Incase you are abused or know of a friend who is being abused, **CALL 116** using any line to get help.*



### Call To Action

I will urge all children to report about violence, neglect and abuse because they deserve to be protected.



### Find Out

How are you protecting children?



## Aspiration 8

Children benefit from a child-sensitive criminal justice system

*We should stop imprisoning children. We should adopt diversion and mediation and find alternative rehabilitation measures.*

*Children who are in contact with the law or under the justice system also have rights and they should be protected.*

*All countries should set the minimum age for criminal responsibility to be 12 years.*

*The African Children's Charter requires all children in the criminal justice system to be treated with dignity and respect for their human rights.*



## Call To Action

As a child I will take the responsibility to educate other children about the law and how to stay out of trouble. When I am in trouble I will call 116.

## Find Out

How are you protecting children in the judicial system?



## Aspiration 9

Every child is free from the impact of war and other disasters or emergency situations.



*Every child should live free from conflict. This means war has to be stopped in Africa because it is harming children.*

*It means children should not be recruited as soldiers. Armed soldiers should be trained about child protection. Children's needs should be prioritised during emergencies like pandemics, wars and natural disasters*



*Children living in conflict areas should be supported and cared for. Children should be involved in peace building and preventive initiatives*



## Call To Action

I am a child advocate. I champion for children's rights even in conflict and disaster areas. I advocate for a peaceful Africa free from violence/conflict and war. I will teach my fellow children about peace.



## Find Out

What are you and your friends doing to bring peace among children in the community?



## Aspiration 10

African children's views matter.

*Child participation is important to honor and respect. They need access to information.*

*Children have a right to give an opinion on issues affecting them. They have the right to be involved in the decision making process.*

*The Children's Charter protects children's rights to freedom of expression and freedom of association.*

## Call To Action

My opinion matters so does every child's. I will participate in children's forums to ensure that children are being heard and their voices are being amplified.

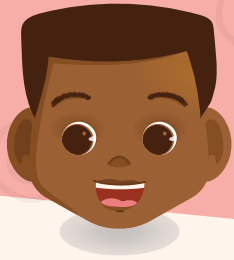
## Find Out

What are you doing to ensure children's voices are being heard in your community?





*The aspirations are very important to all African children. It is important also that every African child has access and knowledge of their rights.*



# TRIVIA TIME!



It's time for a few questions!

Let's see if you can remember some of the things we have learnt so far!

1. What is another name for the 10 goals in Agenda 2040?

2. Which document do you get if your birth has been recorded?

3. What is the minimum age for criminal responsibility?

4. Children should not face violence or abuse.(tick one) True

False

5. What should a child do if his/her rights are not respected?

6. Write down the different types of vulnerable children.





*In order to allow Children to take charge of Africa's future, their full potential has to be unlocked by fully protecting and realising their rights.*

*By 2040, the rights of Africa's children should be firmly protected, with full effect being given to the priorities in this Agenda. This is the Africa we aspire to.*



Africa is set on a course towards a different and better Africa. We cannot achieve this overnight; thus, it calls for our collaborative effort as young people – and children in particular, to be the drivers of Africa's revival. Securing future progress, peaceful co-existence and welfare lies in their hands.

Developed with support from



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