

# 11th General Assembly Concept

## Introduction

Article #25 of the Africa Alliance of YMCAs stipulates that the Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) will be called after every 4 years. During the 10th OGM held in Dakar Senegal in 2015, a resolution was passed under business agenda min/OGM/ 12/6/2015:

### ***Renaming of the Ordinary General Meeting***

*Taking into account the current trends and our purpose and meeting time, it is proposed that we rename our ordinary General Meeting to General Assembly which will be held every four years.*

The 11th General Assembly (GA) will be held from 4th to 8th June 2019 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The GA will bring together the Africa YMCA Fraternity, Staff and Volunteer leaders including international Partners to celebrate the successes, purposes and impact of our existence referencing the last 4 years.

## Theme of the 11th General Assembly

The theme for the 11th G.A. is "Powered for the Renaissance; Youth in the driving seat". This theme speaks to the "technology" that now enables our work, the Power Space, and to our ultimate goal which is youth in the driver's seat of the Africa renaissance. The theme is further backed by the scripture in Ephesians 6: 10-20 that speaks of our reliance on God's mighty power. In this scripture, we are charged to put on the full armour of God and in this way we are equipped for the work and the challenges that lay ahead.

## What to expect

### **The setting**

The 2019 General Assembly is expected to be a blend of Post Modernism (Future) and contemporary African ambience. The experience will be a dramatic recap of the 2015 Dakar, journey "The Point of No Return", progress to date and an exploration of the future scenarios for Africa. The General assembly will provide a safe and innovative space for designing, repositioning and setting the strategic direction for the YMCAs contribution to the African Renaissance, the Africa We Want.

The process will unfold with session leaders and participants in symbolic African garb, imagery, music, dance and décor with a dash of futuristic themes and décor. The narratives will highlight the past, the present and the future within the contexts of Agenda 2063 – AWW, the Africa Youth Scenarios and YMCA 3.0 Framework. The outcome will be the unveiling of the expected strategic milestones for the Africa YMCA for the next 4 years.

At the end of 2019 General Assembly participants will be reenergized with a new sense of purpose in our core identity- Africaness, youthfulness and ecumenism- and with capacity to implement the Power Space within their local context.



# The Agenda:

The General Assembly 2019 is envisioned to be a space for ;

**1. Learning, sharing and capacity building:** Participants will have the opportunity to share from their unique and collective experiences in the youth empowerment cause and the pursuit for institutional sustainability. This is expected to impact on the capacity to continue to grow as strong movement that is producing citizens to drive the Africa Renaissance Agenda. This will be achieved through staff and volunteer caucuses, exhibition, excursions and seminar discussions.

**2. Experiencing the Power Space;** Participants will have a first-hand interaction with the power space with the anticipation that as individuals they will experience self-discovery, unlock potential and connect with opportunity. At the same time it is expected that participants will get skills to replicate this experience in their YMCAs

**3. Participatory Governance:** Voting delegates will have the opportunity to elect new leaders for the Alliance of YMCAs in Africa. In addition to these delegates and the Executive Committee will make important decisions on the governance of the movement in Africa including the Strategic direction for 2019 to 2023 including a continental advocacy strategy and Theory of Change.

**4. Inspirational Devotions and Key note addresses:** The General Assembly is an opportunity to reflect on our faith and belief in our Christian calling as a movement. In addition to this we will have individuals who will share inspirational addresses to stir up hope and challenge us our cause for youth empowerment and sustainability.

This General Assembly will also receive the new General Secretary and also be the culmination of the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Africa Alliance of YMCAs. In addition to this 22 National Movements will receive their full charter as a result of the on-going assessments and capacity building by the AAYMCA

## Who will participate

According to Article 24/1 of the constitution each National Movement will nominate 3 voting delegates or their proxies (Article.24/2) but is invited to send as many participants as possible for this empowering experience. Only National Movements who will be up to date on the payment of their Fair Share to the AAYMCA will be eligible to present voting delegates. In this regard NMs can begin to prepare their delegates for the assembly. The General Assembly will also have as participants Regional and international in total the General Assembly 2019 is expected to attract 250 delegates.

## Planning Team

A team is already in place working on the various aspects of the General Assembly. At present the team leaders are as follows;

1. Rev. Sipho Ssokhela, South Africa YMCA- Host Team Leader
2. Mr. Lloyd Muriuki, AAYMCA – Programme Management
3. Ms. Elizabeth Nanjala, AAYMCA – Financial Management
4. Ms. Shillah Raymond, AAYMCA- Communications

These will be supported by a team of staff and volunteers who will be communicated in due time.

## How to be part of the preparation

1. Review the concept and give us any feedback or expectations you or your National Movement may have for the General Assembly. Please share your thoughts by email to [generalassembly@africaymca.org](mailto:generalassembly@africaymca.org)
2. Begin to consider your delegates for the assembly as well as nominees for elections with the guidance of the Elections Nominations Committee whose communication has already been shared with the National Movements.

AAYMCAs in its part will work to keep all member movements and partners well informed on the preparations. We therefore intend to share two more communiques before the end of the year to enable you prepare for your participation and travel.