Africans Rising ANNUAL REPORT 2019



@AfricansRising







GIVE JUSTICE PEACE DIGNITY A VOICE































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PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS





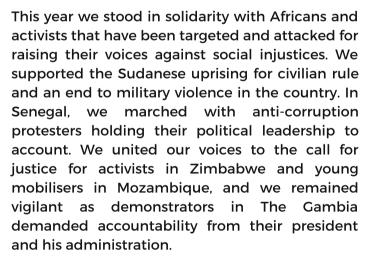
MOVEMENT COORDINATORS' MESSAGE

ON BEHALF OF THE CORE TEAM

Where there is injustice, there is resistance. Resistance takes different forms: from individuals breaking cultural norms by refusing to submit to unjust customs, to larger movements bringing down oppressive dictators by challenging prevailing state systems which may seem impossible to change.

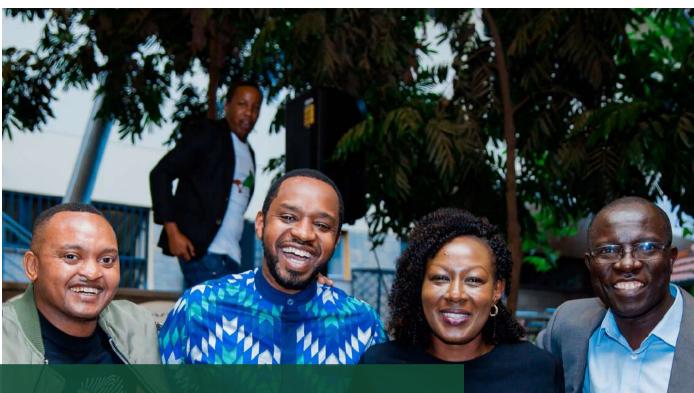


In 2019, we witnessed Africans rise for Justice, Peace, and Dignity, and persist in the unfinished business of their liberation struggles. As we advance towards the true liberation of all African people, Africans Rising continues to support, enable, connect, and amplify the struggles of grassroots movements on the continent and within the Diaspora.





Until every African rises, we will focus on reclaiming our collective dignity and address the injustices perpetrated against Africans everywhere. We will continue to stand up for the struggles of our people in the years to come. Our movement is built on the premise of identifying localised hot spots, and building individual, organisational, national, and regional capacity to confront challenges.



Your support and engagement has been critical to our growth as we come closer to our vision of Africa-wide solidarity. This year we have strengthened our advocacy work for feminist leadership through events like our mission to empower women at the center of conflict in Cameroon, Our series of Invisible Giants celebrations has recognised the women working tirelessly for positive change in their communities. We supported artists and their creative efforts to campaign for human rights through our Artistic Activism programs. With our second Activists in Residence training, we have helped activists defend their movements, applying their work through digital and civic spaces. This year, we also launched our Individual Civing campaign to support our movement growth plan of being fully self funded in the next 10 years. We brought together leaders and thinkers with events like our South Africa retreat supporting Pan-African solidarity.

Most importantly, we launched #ThePeoplesCampaign to ensure that all of our members can contribute their ideas and voices to the development of the #AfricaWeWant through events such as our regional convenings. Thank you for being a part of Africans Rising. We look forward to your continued support as our movement grows in the new year. Our work is about you, it's about us, it's about Africa!

Africanly,
Muhammed Lamin Saidykhan & Coumba Toure
Movement Coordinators



COORDINATING COLLECTIVE'S MESSAGE

It has been an honour to be of service to members of Africans Rising. It was a year of intense reflection, learning, and growth. As members of the Coordinating Collective, we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to support the leadership of Africans Rising to achieve their annual objectives.

It is clear that the task at hand is daunting, but we are encouraged by the passion and commitment of our colleagues, the Ambassadors, Leadership, foot-soldiers of the movement, and more importantly the people of Africa. As we, peoples of Africa, continue to be disproportionately affected by the climate crisis, bad governance, racism, and a global economic order that puts too much wealth in the hands of a few while leaving the vast majority to wallow in lack, we are called upon now more than ever to push for greater solidarity among ourselves.

The way to meaningful progress for us, we say, is that we work together under the umbrella of a Pan-African movement to make justice, peace, and dignity a reality for us all. None of us can afford to sit and do nothing at this critical moment. Africans Rising, as a Pan-African movement of people and movements, with its founding charter, the Kilimanjaro Declaration, commits to take the frontline in this cause and is rightly placed to serve as this umbrella movement.

We therefore call upon all Africans, citizens and descendants, and all individuals of goodwill and understanding, to join us as we work to establish justice, build peace, and secure dignity for all. The collective camaraderie and quest to see our continent fulfill its potential only means Africans will continue to rise beyond and above our imaginations! We personally invite you to join us in this movement because your voice, your support, your participation, and your presence is needed in our movement to make human rights a reality in Africa.

As we move into the new year, let 2020 be our year of excellence in word and in deed!













Aluta Continua!



AFRICANS RISING
COORDINATING COLLECTIVE



23,000 Individual Members **400**Organisational Members

20Liberation
Movements
Supported

56Countries
Represented

49 Countries In Africa Represented



Africans Rising promoted alliance building for women's rights movements in Cameroon and Senegal; leading to a key win of the Senegalese government announcing a law to criminalise rape.

For our May 25th mobilisation on "Africans Not for Sale, Stop Slavery and Human Trafficking!", we planned more than 10 activities and our members organised hundreds of actions in 56 countries across the continent and in the diaspora. The mobilisation engaged 1.2 million Twitter followers and increased media coverage on slavery and human trafficking across the continent from May to October.



Africans Rising for Justice, Peace, and Dignity implements its work under the following five pillars:

- 1. Expanding civic and political space
- 2. Women's rights and freedom for all societies
- 3. Promoting good governance, ending corruption & impunities
- 4. Promoting equity and dignity
- 5. Promoting climate and environmental justice

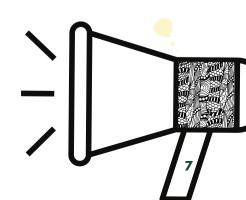
THEMATIC FOCUS

Africans Rising implements its pillars through five programmatic approaches which underpin all activities:

Advocacy
Knowledge Curation
Leadership Development
Alliance Building
Strategic Convening

This annual report highlights Africans Rising's activities implemented under the focus areas and programmatic approaches.





























ADVOCACY

AFRICAN UNION PRE-SUMMIT

The Pan-African Civil Society Alliance working convening on the promotion of implementation of The African Charter on Democracy, Election and Governance (ACDEG)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Africans Rising was invited by ActionAid and partners to participate in a two-day meeting which was a space created to hold governments accountable for the slow ratification, implementation, and reporting of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance ahead of the AU summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Africans Rising contributed in this session and coordinated the drafting of the communiqué presented to AU after the CSO pre-summit meeting.

April 2019 NATIONAL ANTI-SLAVERY & COMMEMORATION DAY

■ Dakar, Senegal

The National Anti-Slavery Day is an annual occasion to commemorate the abolition of slavery while remembering the victims of the illicit slave trade and those who fought against it. Africans Rising used this occasion to highlight modern-day human trafficking and slavery that is currently ailing the African people across the continent and the Diaspora. We invited two guests, Ms. Fatou Jagne from The Gambia, who was herself a victim of slavery in Kuwait, and Mr. Soumaguel Oyahit from the Mali Association to share experiences with our broader network. We were also able to table our plans for Africa Day and seek partnerships to ensure we have a strong footing towards the event themed to end modern-day slavery and human trafficking.

LAUNCH OF THE PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Continent-wide & Online

"The People's Campaign" was launched to put a spotlight on community challenges and triumphs throughout the African continent and all around the world. The aim of the campaign is to bring together communities across the continent and in the diaspora by mobilizing the masses to speak on issues that jeopardize the well-being of every citizen on the African continent and deprive them of their right to live a prosperous life. Inaugural activities of The People's Campaign were: a registration drive to bring in new members to Africans Rising; regional conferences in Accra, Ghana and Kinshasa, DRC to discuss pertinent issues like youth, development, and climate change with local communities; and the creation of a new award initiative called the "Africans Rising Activist of the Year", to recognize young grassroots organizers working for change in their communities.





























AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY 2019 #25MAY



May 25TH MOBILISATION

Everywhere, Anywhere!

May 25th mobilization is a signature campaign where Africans Rising's diverse membership implements various advocacy events and campaigns. This themed annual mobilization moment connects different CSO players' work and also create the broader Pan-African solidarity for our struggles. Also, we get to reflect, have a dialogue with leaders, and celebrate our gains in the fight for true liberation of Africa. The theme of 2019 mobilization was Human Trafficking and Anti-Slavery. The 2019 mobilization occurred in 56 countries with 137 simultaneous events. This mobilisation included 49 countries in Africa. Africans Rising members raised their voices at the grassroots level and held leaders accountable to take actions and make decisions to end human trafficking and modern day slavery. The 2019 mobilisation serves as an example for collective Pan-African solidarity in actions on issues of common concern and interest. The movement has engaged regional bodies like African Union to take action by sending letters demanding an end to human trafficking and slavery post mobilisation day.





































KNOWLEDGE CURATION

FINANCING THE FUTURE CONFERENCE

Cane Town, South Offica

Africans Rising partnered with Divest-Invest to attend and promote our movement's during the first edition of their Financing the Future Summit. At the sidelines of this conference, we launched our Individual Giving Campaign. Africans Rising also attended the press conference organised by Financing the Future and had the chance to speak directly with journalists and media representatives

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI GATHERING GO DEEP HOUSE

- Amsterdam Netherlands

As a learning exchange programme for a collective of professionals, the Go Deep Open House seeks to create spaces for critical dialogue on radical inclusion while embracing different perspectives and uniting struggles as one voice. Through this programme, Africans Rising was able to forge connections with Lebanese activists advocating for the abolishment of the Kafala system and learned from the experiences of the Beirut Migrant Community Centre.









March - December 2019 INVISIBLE GIANTS

■ Dakar, Senegal

Throughout the year, Africans Rising held its Invisible Giants events to celebrate African women on the continent and in the Diaspora doing outstanding work without the usual recognition or celebratory remarks. We celebrate our Invisible Giants to recognise the women at the forefront working tirelessly for social change in their communities. In total, 27 women were celebrated in 2019 in Dakar and nationwide in various parts of Senegal. Women celebrated at the events included: Germaine Acogny, professional dancer & founder of the professional dance school École des Sables; Patricia Gomis, comedian-actor & founder of the Association Djarama; Tiné Ndoye, farmer & chairwoman of the National Rural Women Network; Hadj Fatou Dramé, community mobiliser & chairwoman of the Women's Association of Toubab Dialaw; Mrs. Binta Sarr; Kathy Ndione; Fatou Samba; Astou Diop Diagne; Gnilane Ndiaye; Rama Thiam; Hulo Guillabert; Fatime Faye; Suzanne Badiane; Madeleine Devès Senghor; Marie Delphine Ndiaye; Safiétou Diop; Christine Agboton Johnson; Ndéye Fatou Touré; Penda Seck Diouf; Mrs Diao Baldé Gueye and Penda BA. We also paid a tribute to a lost shero, Ms. Binta Sarr who passed away in 2019. Madame Sarr was an unsung hero who contributed tremendously to the movement as the former president of APROFES, a women's association based in Kaolack working to ensure women empowerment in the field of sustainable development.































BEADE DEVEL

RSHIP OPMENT

MOVEMENT BUILDING & HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH (HRBA) TRAINING FOR ACTIVISTS

Bujumbura, Burundi

Movement Coordinator Muhammed Lamin Saidykhan was part of a training and mentoring program on social movement building and HRBA in Burundi. The training benefited 40 young activists affiliated with Activista Burundi. It also helped the Activista network lay the groundwork to start building a grassroots movement of young people who will roll out youth-led campaigns for peaceful elections. We appreciated ActionAid Burundi's efforts in supporting the movement building and collaboration with Africans Rising towards building the capacity of young people.



* Accra. Ghana

Artistic Activism project engagement in collaboration with movement partners Global Platform Ghana and ActionAid Ghana. The project's objective was to train and tap into the potential of young artists to use their voices against inequalities for social justice in West Africa. The project had two project coordinators, one based in Ghana and the other in Senegal. The very first induction meeting occurred in April in Dakar. Subsequently, the trainers meetings occurred in Chana during the month of May. These meetings brought together a select group of artists from Anglophone and Francophone countries in West Africa. Out of these meetings, the groups created The West Africa Creative Action Team (WACAT) in Chana and Senegal as the working group of implementers. The WACAT in both Ghana and developed Senegal have context-specific training curriculum on Artistic Activism and implemented key benchmarks of the program with 15 artists activists in each country.











August 2019

SOLIDARITY RESIDENCY ON PEACE MEDIATION FOR CAMEROONIAN ACTIVISTS

Nairobi, Kenya

Africans Rising and ActionAid Global Platforms held a fiveday solidarity residency training workshop on conflict management, reconciliation, negotiation, and mediation skills for Cameroonian women peace activists. The training was held over the course of one week at ActionAid Global Platforms in Nairobi, Kenya. It brought together 16 peacebuilding and human rights NGO leaders from 10 regions of the Republic of Cameroon. This training platform for knowledge-sharing between participating organisations. Participants appreciated the relevance and timeliness of the workshop, as well as the knowledge and skills provided. They noted the importance of convening diverse organisations and bilingual participants from different regions of Cameroon to share and learn from one another. Many noted that the solidarity residency program was useful and provided them with deep insights into human rights, mediation, and conflict management. Also, they felt equipped with knowledge and skills in mediation as this was the first time for some of them who attended such a program. In addition to using the knowledge and skills gained during the training, participants indicated that they will share the knowledge gained in their respective organisations or communities.







ACTIVISTS IN RESIDENCE II

Mrusha, Tanzania & Dakar Senegal

Activists in Residence (AiR) is a residency programme that was developed as a practical response to the multiple struggles and demands on activists and other human rights defenders in their day-to-day efforts. The residency brings together activists working on a diverse range of social issues in risky environments for 10 days at MS TCDC to network and acquire technical tools that they can use to organise and mobilise more efficiently and safely. This year Africans Rising partnered with MS TCDC and The Fund for Global Human Rights for the second iteration of AiR, which hosted a cohort of nine activists from across the continent. Residency sessions were organised and led by professional trainers, guest speakers and facilitators who addressed issues of digital activism and security, defending civic space, and non-violent mobilisation strategies. In a three-month post-residency period, the activists, supported by AiR facilitators, planned and implemented actionable campaign strategies to protect digital space in their respective home countries.







Aluta Continua!

























ALLEANCE BUILDING

May 2019 ITUC-AFRICA NEW SCHOOL

Lome, Togo

The ITUC-Africa is a member of Africans Rising. We were, therefore, invited to share our perspectives on alliance building and networking for effective trade union influence. This presented an opportunity for Africans Rising to strengthen our relationship with various trade unions from across the continent. Participants generally observed and agreed that it was time for trade unions to embrace change, unite, and reposition themselves to effectively deal with challenges arising from transformations in the work world. There was also the call for trade unions to connect in a more deliberate manner to other citizens' groups that are also advancing social and economic justice. From this, we learned that Africans Rising needs to position itself to engage more strategically with trade unions. The movement will benefit from the influence and sheer numbers of union memberships across the continent.



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Africans Rising was invited to participate in the Global Perspective Conference where member Tobias Wanyoike represented our movement. Tobias joined leaders of national and international Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and passionate individuals working to achieve social good. Key learnings from this conference emphasised on the shrinking civic spaces and how we can overcome specific challenges in the sector to maintain or gain legitimacy with key constituents.



































INAUGURATION OF THE COORDINATING COLLECTIVE

Arusha, Tanzania

Africans Rising held its very first Coordinating Collective (CC) meeting to officially inaugurate its board. During this meeting, the 13 CC members met each other face-to-face. Africans Rising's core team introduced the CC members to the work of the movement and its future objectives. Key outcomes from this meeting included the creation of subcommittees and the formalisation of the CC code of conduct, roles, and responsibilities. There was also a decision on co-opting two elected members to the board to ensure gender balance. This now brings the CC membership to 15 diverse individuals (from the continent and the diaspora with 11 females and 4 males)

November 2019 DIASPORA GATHERING

New York, USA

Africans Rising hosted a gathering with Diaspora members in Harlem, New York. This event was led by Co-Coordinator, Coumba Toure and consisted of a film screening of Kemtiyu Cheikh Anta Diop. This event engaged the Diaspora members about the work of Africans Rising and its connection to the struggles in the Diaspora. The event was attended by 30 individuals and the movement received donations towards the Individual Giving campaign. The interest in Africans Rising's work resulted in a few youth members starting a chapter with a committee of volunteers in New York.

COORDINATING COLLECTIVE GATHERING

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Africans Rising's Coordinating Collective (CC) members along with Core Team (CT), stakeholders, and consultants met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to review the movement's performance over the last two years (from its inception to present), discuss opportunities for improvement, and evaluate the strategic framework moving forward. Over the course of six days, meeting attendees mapped out a way forward to build more solidarity with grassroots movements across the continent as we resist oppression and amplify movements for justice, peace, and dignity. Members also took the opportunity to learn from country historian Mr. Bahru Zoro who provided perspectives on the rich history of Ethiopia.

September 2019 STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

Rustlers Valley, South Africa

Members of Africans Rising core team and facilitators convened for the movement's strategic retreat. The objectives of the meeting were: to review the vision and mission of Africans Rising while updating on successes and lessons learned to date; to develop a framework for the next two years and the following five years; to consolidate deliverables under pillars of the existing and future strategic frame; to agree on activities and expectations moving forward; and to train on the general concepts and principles of feminism and equality and how they relate to Africans Rising's work. From the six days of the meeting, team members learned that Africans Rising is building a movement and advocating for the oppressed and creating alliances on the way. Through the rich discussions, the movement is creating the #AfricaWeWant. Given our innovative approaches, we are strongly looking to build our community through rituals rooted in Pan-African cultures. This includes the way in which we open up our meetings as well as traditional attires worn. The way Africans build community is the way Africans Rising will be thinking about building this movement.



Eape Town, South Africa

As part of Africans Rising's movement growth plan, we launched our Individual Giving campaign with the aim of raising \$12M from Africans over the course of 10 years. The idea is to create regular fundraising events throughout the continent and Diaspora to raise awareness and funds for the movement and our objectives.. The launch's theme was under the banner of #AfricaWeWant. Africans Rising collaborated with Financing the Future organizers (Divest/Invest) to engage their participants. We also invited our 166 Africans Rising members in South Africa. From this invitation list, we had 80 attendees and 3 pledges for donations. Our core team attendees were able to implement productive networking to increase the interest of attendees to join the movement and to collaborate with Africans Rising in the near future.







CONGO REGIONAL CONVENING

Kinshasa, Democractic Republic of Congo

Over 400 activists, youth leaders, and community organisers attended the **Africans** Rising regional convening in Kinshasa. We celebrated the important role of vouth in developing the #AfricaWeWant and engaged in conversations important on immigration, climate change, and gender inequality that we will continue in our newly-launched #ThePeoplesCampaign.



















December 2019
GHANA REGIONAL CONVENING

📩 Accra, Ghana

Africans Rising's members in Ghana hosted a Regional Convening to provide a space for civil society actors in this region to reflect on the movement's journey so far, with particular regards to the fulfilment of the commitments co in the Kilimanjaro Declaration. The theme of this Convening was "No One But Us Will Build Africa" and it provided an avenue for activists leading struggles to share their knowledge and experience in order to create space for learning and innovation to bring social change faster. The Convening also created the opportunity to raise awareness about the role of the youth in building the #AfricaWeWant. The event was attended by 160 activists, mobilizers, grassroots movement leaders, entrepreneurs, and artists from Ghana, Nigeria, The Gambia, Democratic Republic of Congo, and USA.

AFRICANS RISING ACTIVIST The "A OF THE YEAR the Y initiat 2019 Africa outst:



The "Africans Rising Activist of the Year" award is a new award initiative presented by the Africans Rising community to an outstanding individual who has demonstrated sterling leadership in their work as a selfless advocate for the rights of people on the continent. Jean-Marie Kalonji, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, was named the 2019 Africans Rising Activist of the Year.

KEYWINS



Congratulations to Movement Coordinator Coumba Toure and Core Team **Farida** Member **Nabourema** Bemba who were nominated by Avance Media for being among the 100 Influential Most African Women 2019.



Congratulations to Movement Coordinator **Muhammed Lamin Saidykhan** who was nominated as one of the 100 Most Influential Young Africans by the African Youth Awards.





400 Organisational Members

Countries
Represented

20 Liberation Movements Supported

Countries
In Africa
Represented



CORE TEAM



Movement Coordinator
MUHAMMED LAMIN
SAIDYKHAN

• The Gambia



Finance & Admin Coordinator

OUSMAN SARR

• The Gambia



Movement Coordinator
COUMBA TOURE

Senegal & Mali



FATOU JAMMEH

• The Gambia & Canada



Assistant Coordinator
MAURICE
SAMBA

Senegal



Digital and Social Media Assistant
TOBIAS
WANYOIKE

© Kenya



Head of Operations

MOSES ISOOBA

○ Uganda & Kenya



Artistic Activism Project Coordinator

MARIE HÉLÈNE

NDIAYE

Senegal



Collaboration & Engagement Coordinator
FARIDA NABOUREMA

© Africa



Engagement and Collaboration Assistant

PATRICIA SERVANT

O DRC & USA

VOLUNTEERS



Regional Mobiliser - West Africa PRINCE
AKPAH

© Ghana



Regional Mobiliser - North Africa

RIM MENIA

Pilgeria



Regional Mobiliser - Southern Africa
SAMUEL JOSÉ
SENTINELA

Mozambique



Communications Intern

ALEESA MANN

• USA

AMBASSADORS



Movement Founding Chair

KUMI NAIDOO

The former Executive Director of Greenpeace International, Secretary General of CIVICUS and Secretary General of Amnesty International.

• South Africa



AJA FATOUMATA C.M. Jallow-Tambajang

Ms.Tambajang is a politician and activist. She served as vice-president of the Gambia and minister of Women's Affairs.

• The Gambia



BONIFACE MWANGI

Boniface is a renowned photographercum-activist.

Kenya



JAY NAIDOO

Former Minister under Mandela's government

O South Africa



NUNU KIDANE

Director of Priority Africa Network and Editor at Africa Moves, a Pan African Migration Platform which hosts regular consultations on migration policy in Africa and the Diaspora.

♀ Ethiopia & USA

COORDINTATING COLLECTIVE



CC Chair
CATHERINE
RODGERS

• Uganda



RHODA BOATENG

• Chana & Togo



SODFA DAAJI

• Tunisia & Italy



DOMANI DORE• Guinea





GIDEON ADEYENI • Nigeria



ABIGAIL STEVENS

Sierra Leone



DUDUZILE NYIRONGO © Zimbabwe



cc chair
MARCIA
THOMAS



CHARLES KOJO VANDYCK



CIDIA CHISSUNGU • Mozambique



SOPHIE KANZA South Africa & DRC



DAVID SHAMALA • Kenya



OPAL
TOMETI

Nigeria & USA



ROKHAYA DIEYE • Senegal



TOUCH POINTS

• Arusha, Tanzania

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African Liberation Day



























URGENT ACTION FUND FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

PARTNERS



































































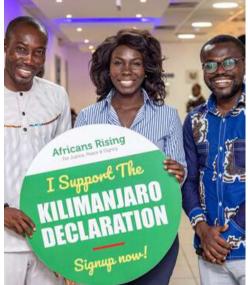










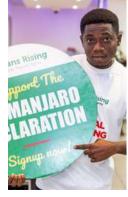






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- 1. Africa is a rich continent. That wealth belongs to all our People, not to a narrow political and economic elite. We need to fight for economic development that is just and embraces social inclusion and environmental care. We have a right to the 'better life' our governments have promised.
- 2. Africans have a diverse, rich and powerful heritage that is important to heal ourselves and repair the damage done by neoliberalism to our humanity and environment. Being African, embracing the philosophy of Ubuntu should be a source of our pride.
- 3. African Youth are a critical foundation of building the success in our continent and must play a central role in building Africans Rising.

Therefore, We Resolve That our

Work should Build

a Local, National,

Continental and

Kilimanjaro Declaration

We, the citizens and descendants of Africa, as part of the Africans Rising Movement, are outraged by the centuries of oppression; we condemn the plunder of our natural and mineral resources and the suppression of our fundamental human rights.

We are determined to foster an Africa-wide solidarity and unity of purpose of the Peoples of Africa to build the Future we want – a right to peace, social inclusion and shared prosperity.

1. Expanding space for civic and political action

Global Campaian that is:

- 2. Fighting for women's rights and freedoms across society
- Focussing our struggles on the right to Equity and Dignity
- Demanding good governance as we fight corruption and impunity
- 5. Demanding climate and environmental justice

- 4. Africa's Diaspora whether displaced through slavery and colonialism or part of modern day migration are part of Africa's history and future. They are a reservoir of skills, resources and passion that must be harnessed and integrated into our movement.
- 5. We are committed to a decentralised, citizen-owned future that will build support and solidarity for local struggles, empower local leadership and immerse our activists in grassroots work of building social movements from below and beyond borders.
 - 5. We are committed to building a citizens movement that is accountable to the constituencies we represent and enforcing the highest standards of ethical behaviour.

Join Africans

mobilise our people

Rising and

around this shared vision; organise and connect local strugales under this umbrella: galvanise solidarity with all African struggles. This movement is committed to peace and non-violent action. We assert our inherent rights as Africans and invite our governments, leaders, other stakeholders and institutions to join us in pursuing the Future We Want to leave our future generations. We commit to mobilising our people on the African Liberation Day to deepen the meaning of African Liberation Day and call on all sectors of our society to organise events in every African country which will build the momentum towards the genuine liberation of

Join the movement www.africans-rising.org

our beautiful continent.