

**DECLARATION OF THE COALITION OF AFRICAN NGO'S**  
*Together for peace, justice and dignity*

**Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire**  
**13-15 September 2017**

NGO representatives from the regions of Western, Southern, Eastern and Central Africa convened to formally establish the Coalition of African NGO's (CoAN) and to formulate a strategic plan and finalize the constitutive documents. The NGOs present at the founding meeting came from Cote d'Ivoire, Benin, Chad, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal and South Africa and were aided by UNHCR Geneva Headquarters.

The Coalition evolved from the African Humanitarian NGO Platform/Taskforce which was formed in 2005 by African NGOs with the support of UNHCR.

CoAN joins together African NGOs from all corners of the continent working together to address the impact of forced displacement due to disaster, conflict and to advocate for development and human rights in sub-Saharan Africa.

The mission of the CoAN is to bring together African NGOs to share ideas, experience and knowledge in shaping the response to the humanitarian and developmental challenges; disaster displacement and conflict. We will use our unique identity to influence national, regional and global policies, working in close partnership with local communities, affected populations, global actors and governments.

Based on the CoAN vision to build an inclusive community based on African values of dignity, justice, respect, positive change and human rights the Coalition's strategic direction will focus on the following areas:

- Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF);
- Mixed migration;
- Implementation of the recommendations of the World Humanitarian Summit regarding localization; and
- Assisting members to formulate common positions and develop coordinated voice in international, African and sub-regional debates on pertinent issues.

In pursuing our aims we look forward to working in collaboration with other regional and global actors pursuing similar objectives.

The Coalition would like to sincerely thank UNHCR and in particular the Bureau for Africa for its ongoing support.

The Secretariat is based in Chad under the leadership of ADES.

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