





## Achievements of Agenda 63 & African Youth Charter



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this piece is to provide an eagle eye view on the achievement of Agenda 2063 and African Youth Charter and a further view on the region efforts through SADC reporting and also at global scale through the Sustainable Development Goals which are also a vital element when observing youth development legislative framework milestone in the continent.

As South Africa is member state to African Union it is part of Agenda 2063 which is Africa's blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future. It is the continent's strategic framework that aims to deliver on its goal for inclusive and sustainable development and is a concrete manifestation of the pan-African drive for unity, self-determination, freedom, progress and collective prosperity pursued under Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.

African Youth Charter on the other hand is a direct intent to respond to continental youth challenges, with 27 articles as areas of priority.

All these prescripts in this piece are observed at an eagle view in terms of efforts towards operationalisation and implementation.

For the continent to measure progress, it is important to under understand current milestones to be able to map the way forward.

## 2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Both the African Youth Charter and AGENDA 63 acknowledged the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which after reviewal, became the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) has achieved the Goal set, such as Goal 8b from the SDG Report. This shows commitment by the organisation to constantly make strides toward South African youth empowerment and even by global standards.



## 3. SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) REPORTING.

Furthermore, the SADC region has reported that the international obligations included the African Youth Charter (Targeted 80% by 2020). SADC Ministers for Employment and Labour and Social Partners recommended the prioritization of the following:

- a) Policy for youth employment.
- b) Strategies and policies for decent work, for youth and women in particular
- c) Implementation and monitoring of SADC labour market information systems.
- d) Policies and programmes facilitating the transition from informal to formal economy.
- e) Employment schemes that will assist the absorption of unemployed youth.

4. AGENDA 63 SETS OUT ITS OBJECTIVES THROUGH THE ASPIRATIONS THEME THAT ARE ACHIEVED.

- ASPIRATION 1 – A Prosperous Africa Based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.
  - African trade agreements
  - Production of African products
  - Although Blue Economy, SA has not yet invested as much in the sector and currently is a focus area.
- ASPIRATION 2 – An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’ s Renaissance
  - Not much has been achieved regarding the aspiration of a united Africa. Lately, the African states have been regressing and functioning in silos without working together to build an integrated and united Africa. It has been witnessed as well that the Regional Economic Communities (RCCs) have been not working in unison, and this includes all the regions of Africa.
- ASPIRATION 3 – Good Governance
  - Free and fair elections occur in every voting cycle as part of democratic practice and rights.
- ASPIRATION 4 – Peace and Secure Africa

- Decision on the Russia and Ukraine war position of South Africa as a measure to keep peace and security for citizens.
- ASPIRATION 5 – Africa with strong cultural identity common heritage and values and ethics
- Facilitation of African heritage celebrations through the Department of Art and Culture
- ASPIRATION 6 –Africa’ s development is people driven by relying on people’ s potential, especially Women youth, and children.
- A Department of youth women and People with a Disability was established to address challenges and capacitate women youth and children.
- Special intervention to promote employment for vulnerable groups and persons with disabilities with a long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairment which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. The programmes may include those of persons with permanent disablement as defined in the Compensation for Occupational Injuries legislation, in the light of their evolving needs in the changing economy.
- ASPIRATION 7- Africa is a strong united and resilient influential global player and partner.
- Transforming Education Summit was held, with objectives to promote 4IR and to curb the impact of Covid 19 among youth including in Continue.

### 5. SOUTH AFRICA EFFORTS TOWARD AFRICAN YOUTH CHARTER

The Charter Outlines that 27 Articles seek to drive the agenda of youth development in the Continent as resolutions of the Head of State in the Algier’ s Summit 1999 in the Pan African Charter.

ARTICLES BY THE AFRICAN YOUTH CHARTER	ACHIEVEMENT SINCE SIGNATURE
Article 1. Obligation of State Parties	Bilateral at Continental Level Partnerships
Article 2. Non-Discrimination	Amongst many government inventions, the country has seen a rise in the emphasis on implementing 7% intervention for all persons with disability and youth.
Article 4. Freedom of Expression	In the previous year the country has seen the voices of youth change the status quo through the #Fees Must Fall, through that campaign policy change took place as youth are now not obligated to repay the subsidies by the government through the NSFAS funding programme.
Article 5. Freedom of Association	The youth of today are participating in political space through being members of their chosen political parties without fear and are not compelled to affiliate should they feel not



<p>Article 11. Youth Participation</p>	<p>There is a relative increase in youth representation in Parliament and at high strategic levels.</p> <p>Establishment of Local Youth Development Forum as a model for inclusive participation of youth in the local sphere of government.</p> <p>Article 15 Youth and Employment</p> <p>Under very tough conditions, the government continues to strive in creating measures to address youth employment or unemployment. Through the design of programs seeks to address youth through a massive intervention such as a teacher assistance program</p> <p>The Implementation of NYP 2030</p> <p>Implementation of IYDS 2025</p> <p>Implementation of National Youth Services National Pathway Program</p> <p>Presidential Youth Initiative</p>
<p>Article 13. Education and Skills Development</p>	<p>Review policy of matric pass rate</p> <p>Increase in TVET enrolment.</p> <p>Increase in higher education up-taking!</p> <p>focus on amongst others the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of work school-to-work transitional programs such as</p>

	<p>Apprenticeships, Learnerships, Traineeships, Internships, and Craftsmanship. Experiences will be exchanged on the existing policies and strategies in relation to funding models and resources allocation; participation rates, employer, and learners' incentives; Basic conditions of employment; and impact on employment.</p>
<p>Article 14. Poverty Eradication and Social-economic Integration of Youth</p>	<p>addressing youth employment in the SADC Region. Non-financial and Financial Programs for youth entrepreneurship.</p>
<p>Article 16. Health</p>	<p>From a policy perspective, health is a priority focus of the government, and as such young people are beneficiaries of available solutions to health care such as family planning, and the availability of contraceptives at public health centres.</p> <p>The Availability of Male and Female condoms in public areas where youth are found to reduce the infection rate.</p> <p>Increase in an output rollout for ARVs among youth to curb the scourge of HIV.</p>

<p>Article 17. Peace and Security</p>	<p>Civic education through the National Youth Service program is conducted as an intervention.</p>
<p>Article 18. Law Enforcement</p>	<p>The Youth in Conflict programs implement to address the reintegration of juvenile youth into society.  Bill review (proposal) on youth criminal record for employment</p>
<p>Article 19. Sustainable Development and Protection of the Environment</p>	<p>Environmental Impact Assessment and Social Impact Assessment conducted where industrialisation affects youth population</p>
<p>Article 20. Youth and Culture</p>	<p>Celebrations of Cultural ceremonies according to diverse SA culture</p>
<p>Article 21. Youth in Diaspora</p>	<p>Exchange student programs in countries such as Russian and many other countries have been implemented</p>
<p>Article 23. Girls and Young Women</p>	
<p>Article 24. Mental and physical challenges with youth.</p>	<p>Mental and physical health subject are priority areas for the government when it comes to human right and has formed part of policy provision which now receives the attention it deserves.</p>

<p>Article 25. Elimination of Harmful and Cultural Practice</p>	<p>Minimising the stigma between ARVs and traditional solutions for HIV.</p>
<p>Article 26. The Responsibility of Youth</p>	<p>Social Cohesion and Nation building programs have been implemented such as the Voter Education program to inculcate the culture of patriotism.</p> <p>Social Compacting for youth through Civil Society, to air out their voice. The increase in NPO registration of youth is a perfect example.</p> <p>National Drug Master Plan to reduce the level of substance abuse as policy provision. The establishment of Drug Rehabilitation Centres increased.</p> <p>Youth attending Rehabilitation Centres and reintegration into social programs.</p> <p>Youth partake in safe sex practices.</p>
<p>Article 27 Popularising the Charter</p>	<p>Through the African Youth Charter, the NYDA held a Mandela Dialogue through which African countries deliberated on Africa Trade, and a Scholarship was announced as a feasible intervention effort. This is to popularise the Charter and find</p>

	<p>common solutions through legislation provisions.</p>
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6. CONCLUSION.

In the South African context, it could be argued that over 65% of baseline work has been done by the head of State although the issue of unemployment is still rearing its ugly head. For instance, in this quarter as it ends, the total employment has decreased by -0.2 percentage points, that is from 32.7% to 32.9%. This is among the highest unemployment rate in the world, and thus, this is a gloomy situation to note at this juncture. The realisation of the aspirations contained in Agenda 63, in cognisance with the youth charter, shall indeed take this continent into greater strides.

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