



AFRICAN REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT / 2022-2024

Introduction :

The African Regional Council of the International Theatre Institute, following its prerogatives, has continued to work towards the prominence of ITI and the development of performing arts in Africa.

From 2022 to 2024, despite various challenges, the ARCITI undertook numerous initiatives to foster collaboration among African centres. These efforts aimed to enhance the skills of professionals, promote cultural exchange, and increase public awareness of the significance of performing arts in Africa. Inclusive activities were organized to meet these goals.

Main Activities:

- World Theatre and Dance Days:

From 2022 to 2023, World Theatre and Dance Days were celebrated annually in our various countries in diverse ways to highlight and promote the performing arts in Africa. From Burkina Faso to Congo Brazzaville, and including Chad, Ivory Coast, Togo, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Central African Republic, Uganda, Madagascar, Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon, Mali, Niger, and Guinea Conakry, artists from these different countries took advantage of these special occasions to showcase their artistic skills. The reports sent to the secretariat by the centres attest to these vibrant celebrations.

The Regional Council has consistently supported these activities through meetings and messages of encouragement and awareness.

- Meetings of the African Regional Council of the International Theatre Institute

From 2022 to 2023

The ARCITI held 13 Zoom meetings to address not only the third edition of Emerging Scenes in Africa but also to discuss charter-related issues and the future of our organization.

Following the second edition of Emerging Scenes in Africa held in Accra in 2022, African centres convened via Zoom to discuss the possibility of organizing the third edition of this artistic event. To this end, a planning committee was formed with five members from centres in Mali, the Central African Republic, Ghana, and Zimbabwe. This committee was assigned the task of proposing artistic content and issuing a call for countries interested in hosting the third edition of Emerging Scenes.

- The Charter Issue

The issue of the charter was a central topic of discussion during the Zoom meetings of the African centres.

The Fujairah Congress concluded without the executive council elected by the General Assembly appointing a President for the ITI. In response, the African centres, through the African Regional Council, condemned this situation and advocated dialogue and adherence to our shared organizational texts. After several letters sent to the secretariat, the African centres, through the regional council, finally secured a Zoom meeting with the secretariat and members of the executive committee for a candid and straightforward discussion. Despite some opposition to the idea of dialogue, the ARCITI decided to keep the doors open for continued dialogue.

As a result, following an internal session with all the centres, the ARCITI decided to suspend its directive in order to explore, together with all ITI members, appropriate solutions that would ensure the future of our organization.

- **Cooperation Projects:**

The ARCITI has established cooperation projects with other artistic organizations in Africa. These collaborations have facilitated connections between various sector stakeholders and led to the creation of capacity-building and networking workshops, known as **Arts – liances**, targeting directors, venue managers, and set designers in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Togo.

Subsequently, technicians in sound and lighting, as well as young female playwrights, were trained and networked. This was followed by an advocacy campaign and masterclasses aimed at public and private stakeholders in the cultural and artistic sectors.

Then, the ARCITI and its partners embarked on the final phase of the project, which involved touring performances within the **Arts – liances** network. The tour caravan began in Abidjan, Ivory Coast and travelled to Accra, Ghana, where it was hosted by the Ghanaian centre for a week. It then continued to Benin and Togo before concluding at the FITMO 2023 in Burkina Faso. In total, 107 performances were presented across 13 venues.

Conclusion :

The African Regional Council has played a crucial role in promoting the performing arts in Africa from 2022 to 2024. Despite the challenges faced, the ARCITI has remained committed to enhancing the value of Africa's artistic heritage. The Council will continue to work towards the development of the performing arts sector in Africa and the promotion of the International Theatre Institute across the continent.



2022 : Launch of Arts-liances



2023 : World Theatre Day



2023 : World Theatre Day



2022 : Scenography Workshop in Adzopé



2022 : Scenography Workshop in Adzopé



2023 : Arts-liances Tour / Ouaga Stage



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