

Preliminary Options (brainstormed by the PM) for the Voluntary Contribution to the Africa Hall Project

a) Art works Restoration (project budget offset)

In the frame of the heritage conservation objective and the approved project scope, seven (7) important art pieces have been identified for preservation and restoration to eventually form part of the Visitor's Experience.

The entire cost of restoration is estimated at USD 900 thousand.

The potential contributions could be dedicated to the restoration of either of the 5 main piece of art or a select set of pieces (e.g., small stain glass or paintings) whose restoration cost vary from 50 thousand to half million.

Direct beneficiaries of the intervention will be both the United Nations as custodian of the Africa Hall and the art works and the visitors (presently estimated at 200 per week in the initial phase) as well as the delegates attending events especially in the Plenary Hall and its hallways where some of the artworks are located.

The design, including description of the works to be performed, as well as technical specifications, have already been completed. Procurement of services for the works is scheduled to start in 2019 and last less than nine (9) months. Execution of the works will start when the main renovation works are completed, probably in the first half of 2020 and expected to last for less than six (6) months.

b) Upgrades for High-tech Equipment for the Permanent Exhibition (partially offsetting project budget)

The idea behind a Permanent Exhibition, as core part of the Visitor's Experience, is to create a flexible and interactive space, where visitors can deepen their research (e.g. view historical videos broadcast in different languages or peruse through publications on specific topics using modern technology) or the public can perform their cultural events at the Africa Hall site (e.g. presentation of a book). Work is currently underway to identify enabling means and tools to perform the above (i.e. video catalogues, instant translators, movable partitions and related technologies for audio performance, etc.).

The contribution could be dedicated to special devices with high-tech components to be used to enhance the Visitor's Experience, to the extent made possible by the amount of voluntary contribution to be provided.

The direct beneficiaries of the intervention will be both the United Nations and the visitors as well as the general public interested to stage performances in the renovated Africa Hall spaces. Embassies of all United Nations member States will also be welcome to host events in the Africa Hall.

The design, description and specifications are presently under definition and expected to be completed in 2018. Procurement scheduled is expected to start in 2019 and last less than nine (9) months. Delivery and installation is planned for the late stages of the works, and probably late 2020 and last less than three (3) months.

The implementation may become part of the project activities.

c) Digitalization of existing historical archives for the permanent exhibition (partially offsetting the project budget)

Africa Hall Project, in the frame of the research aimed to define the features of the permanent exhibition, is collecting a vast selection of historical materials, from photos to video, from script to prints, up to original objects. Many of them are not fit for purpose without being “treated” to make them compatible with current technologies.

Even if the funds of the Project might partially cover this cost, additional funds may guarantee better results, more comprehensive works and almost all continuous research out of the frame of ECA and AUC (e.g. in the archive of the member states itself)

The contribution may serve to

- i. “digitalize” or make compatible archives with state of the art technologies, enabling their fruition within the permanent exhibition
- ii. Promote research out of the “local” context to compile additional material
- iii. Finance temporary events to be organized to launch the exhibition or in its initial period of functioning on some specific themes

The feasibility studies for point 1 and 2 are starting and will be completed in 2018/beginning of 2019.

With regards to the third point, it shall be implemented in the frame of the visitor center functioning (when the project will be completed).

d) Installation of sustainable energy production

The Africa Hall project currently does not foresee any source of sustainable energy production.

The contribution may focus on the installation of a solar system aimed to reduce dependency by the electrical network and/or diesel generator actually installed in the compound.

The scale of the project may vary from 15 kw up to 50 kw, feeding vital circuit and avoiding diesel consumption in particular situation.

The Africa Hall functioning will directly benefit by reducing running cost and increasing efficiency in term of environment.

The feasibility and design should start when funds will be confirmed, last less than six months, follow by 9 months procurement and 6 months implementation. The implementation may become part of the project activities.

e) Support to the “equitable access” component (offsetting actual budget) and campaign

The Africa Hall Project -since its feasibility and all along the design phase- has placed the accessibility at the center of the requirements priorities, as one of the transversal and guiding principle. The development of the design has brought to a large range of solutions, some of them physical, some technological and others operational (i.e. linked to the building use / method of functioning). The Team has involved experts from different disciplines as well as institutions operating at local level to facilitate growing of culture on this matter. It might be worth to foresee how to pursue outstanding solution as well as continuing focusing on

this not only during the project execution but more and more during its future functioning.

The contribution(s) may be split in two main scopes;

- i. Providing state of the art technologies and devices to ensure all aspects of accessibility are covered (mostly already foreseen by the design / budget offset)
- ii. Financial support to the accessibility campaign, through deeper involvement of local institution as well as through materials to be used by delegates (as part of the running cost for the AH after the project completion), making Ah as a pilot project promoting these themes at pan-African level.

The first may include costs varying from few thousand dollars (i.e. small devices for delegates), to hundreds of thousands of dollars (e.g. stretch compliant elevator).

The second shall be developed and cannot be quantified at this stage.

Design for the “technical” solution has been already included in the project and implementation will be following the actual schedule (i.e. construction starting by the end of 2018 and ending beginning of 2021).

For the second component, preliminary studies are starting and should be completed by the end of 2018. The implementation shall involve conference management.

f) Consultancy Services to cope with Team expertise gaps (partially offsetting project budget)

The Africa Hall dedicated Project Team presently doesn't include as part of the regular budget all needed specialized expertise that are crucial for effective execution of the project. These include, amongst others, curatorial experts for the setup of the Permanent Exhibition spaces; translation for the materials to be displayed in the Permanent Exhibition spaces; communication experts to ensure adequate information, reporting (and advertisement) of the Africa Hall project itself; and specific engineering disciplines (such as high-tech related to broadcasting and conferencing).

The contributions could be dedicated to contracting one or a combination of these required expertise, to the extent made possible by the amount of the voluntary contribution to be provided, and based on prior agreement on the nature of services, fees and duration of engagement. Some of the experts will be engaged for short-term periods, while others will be retained to deliver the required services to the end of project implementation. The experts would be contracted directly and managed through ECA, while accounting modalities would be agreed in a manner that satisfies the requirements of both the United Nations and Swiss authorities.

The Africa Hall project will directly benefit from the services performed by the experts, in terms of quality assurance of the products delivered (depending on the discipline chosen).

The recruitment for some of the expertise (curatorial and communication) have already been completed. For some of the others, the ToRs have been drafted and recruitment for the services is underway; services will on as-needed-basis during the project implementation schedule.